

Counter comment

By Mohammed Asif Iqbal, blind citizen of India

Counter comment on associations (Broadcasting, Cellular Operators, etc)

- inaccessible set top boxes continues to hinder in accessing TV media contents.
- Beneficiary from broadcasting would also be person with blindness & low vision in addition to hearing impaired.
- Creativity will not be distorted for content to be accessible and service provider could follow international standard while designing content.

AS association feel that no regulation is required and they stress on self-regulations; TSP (Telecom service provider) Industry

- Continues to send eBills which are not in accessible format and can not be viewed by blind, low vision and seniors citizens.
- NO TSP has wheel chair accessible retail store in each locality. (At least one major retail store should be accessible in each zone of the city.

Assistive Technology enables person with disability to comply with billing payments independently and illuminates needs to rely on others to comply with this tasks of payment provided if TSP can make their portal/ mobile app / eBill accessible.

- Manufactures should follow the concept of universal design including citizens with disability rather than focusing on dedicated handset for PwD.
- Regulations is certainly required as it would lead to fair competition and it would lead to conducive environment where every consumer can access these services with ease including citizens with disability.
- CSR funds could be utilized for research & development but strongly oppose subsidy for service provider as it violates principal of equal access by all.
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