

**TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA**

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**CN DIVISION**

**TRAI Recommends Technology Neutrality in Last Mile for ISPs; allowing ISPs to use any media (including copper) to establish their last mile.**

In order to provide an impetus to the growth of high-speed Internet access and make ISP Licence technology-neutral as far as last mile access is concerned, TRAI has recommended to Department of Telecommunication that ISPs should be allowed to use any media (including fiber, radio and copper cable), for establishing their own last mile to their customers.

The ISP Licence Agreement allows ISPs to use Optic fiber and Radio in the last mile but does not mention about copper cable explicitly. DSL is one of the most popular technologies for providing high speed Internet Access. ISPs need to obtain copper loop from the incumbent operators and other BSOs for this purpose.

For the ISPs to establish their own last mile on copper cable in case of non-availability of such capacities from BSOs and other service providers, DOT's permission is required on a case to case base. This involves a difficult and time consuming process, which delays the provision of high speed Internet service by ISPs to their customers.

The recommendation is given to encourage faster provision of High Speed Internet Services (Broadband) by stand-alone ISPs.

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