

Report from TRAI Regional Office Kolkata
On
TRAI Seminar on
RATING OF BUILDINGS FOR DIGITAL
CONNECTIVITY

1. Place and date of Workshop:

Guwahati, Assam on 19.03.2026

2. Venue:

Novotel, Guwahati

3. Brief description of the Workshop:

TRAI organize different seminars in the spirit of its pro-active role to work in collaboration with the industry, academia and other stakeholders and ensure that regulatory framework fosters new technological developments and trends. This seminar was intended to create awareness among the stakeholders about the rating framework of properties for digital connectivity, regulations of TRAI in this regard and other associated issues.

4. Participant details: Total no. of participants registered was 101. It included senior officers from state government departments, DoT, TRAI, Consumer Organisations, TSPs/ ISPs, academic institutes, North Eastern Council, RERA, AREIDA, Builders, general consumers, and others. Few snapshots of the event are shown in **Annexure-II**.

5. Printed materials distributed to the participants: A folder containing notebook, pen, program schedule, and a write-up on the subject.

6. Proceedings:

Inaugural session:

6.1. Welcome Address by Shri Kaushik Mukherjee, Advisor, TRAI Regional Office, Kolkata:

Shri Mukherjee, in his brief address welcomed **Sh. K. S. Gopinath Narayan, Principal Secretary, Department of IT, Government of Assam- Chief Guest** of the event, other distinguished guests from the TRAI, DoT, Government of Assam, RERA, AREIDA, Association of Architects, esteemed Speakers, senior officers of TRAI, DoT, BSNL, TSPs, Press & Media and other attendees from the industry, general telecom consumers etc. While appreciating the rapid rollout of 5G service in India by the TSPs he stated that full potential of it is yet to be realized in the indoor environment due to high signal

loss. Sh. Mukherjee apprised the audiences about the very purpose of this seminar and how such seminar provides a platform for deliberation amongst various stakeholders. He then briefed the audience about the session plan, Speakers, and topic details.

6.2. Address by other distinguished guests:

The distinguished guests of the event, namely, Sri Pranab Kumar Sharma, President AREIDA, Sri Pradyut C. Moral, President, Association of Architects, Assam, Smt Barnali Sharma, Secretary, RERA, Assam, Sri Rajendra Mesram, Addl DGT, Deptt. of Telecom, Assam and Sri Pushpendra Kumar Singh, Pr. Advisor, TRAI HQ, New Delhi, all explained the importance and significance of the subject matter of the seminar i.e. Rating of buildings for digital connectivity in their own distinctive styles.

6.3. Keynote Address by Sh. K. S. Gopinath Narayan, Principal Secretary, Department of IT, Government of Assam:

Sh. K. S. Gopinath Narayan, Principal Secretary, Department of IT, Government of Assam in his keynote address gave utmost importance on the implementation of rating of buildings for digital connectivity to ensure high quality telecom connectivity inside the buildings, particularly in the era of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in all facets of life.

He also mentioned that while implementing the scheme attention is to be given to the aspect of equitable and non-discriminatory access to digital connectivity by all classes of citizens.

He concluded his address hoping that implementation of the scheme will lead to a smarter, faster, and a seamlessly connected world.

Session-2:

6.4. Presentation by Shri Tejpal Singh, Advisor, TRAI, HQ, New Delhi:

Sh. Tejpal Singh in his presentation highlighted the salient points of the Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity Regulation 2024, process of DCRA Empanelment and process of Registration of Builders.

6.5. Address by Shri Jitendra Sarma Kakoty, Special Director, Town & Country Planning, Housing and Urban Affairs, Assam:

Sh. Kakoty, in his speech informed the audience on the aspect of building Digital Connectivity Infrastructure in Housing Projects in Smart City

6.6. Presentation by Shri Gajanand Ram, Vice President, Council of Architecture:

Sh. Gajanand Ram, presented on *DigitalConnectivity Infrastructure (DCI) in Model Building Bye Laws and NBC – Role of Building Planners in design of building for DCI installations.*

6.7. Presentation by Shri. Vighnesh Taunk, Director, Informatic Computech Pvt Ltd:

Sh. Taunk, in his presentation on *Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity: Processes, Scope and Challenges* explained the processes involved in getting any property rated by any Digital Connectivity Rating Agency (DCRA).

Session-3:

6.8. Presentation by Shri Dhananjoy Gawanday, Director, Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI):

Sh. Dhananjoy, presented from the perspective of the Telecom Service Providers about the Opportunities and Challenges in Providing In-building Solutions associated with Rating of Buildings for Digital Connectivity.

6.9. Presentation by Shri Manoj Mishra, Director Regulatory Affairs, Indus Towers (IP):

Sh. Mishra, on the other hand, presented from the perspective of the Infrastructure Providers about the Opportunities and Challenges in Providing In-building Solutions associated with Rating of Buildings for Digital Connectivity

6.10. Presentation by Shri. Chakrapani K, RAN Solution Expert, M/s Nokia:

Sh. Chakrapani presented on *Enhancing digital connectivity infrastructure in Building areas - Active DCI Sharing Model*.

7. At the end, **Sh. Ashim Dutta, Joint Advisor, TRAI RO Kolkata**, placed on record a vote of thanks to the Chief Guest, distinguished guests from State Governments (Assam and others), DoT, TRAI, RERA, AREIDA, Association of Architects, Council of Architecture, esteemed Speakers, senior officers of TRAI, DoT, BSNL, TSPs, Press & Media and other attendees from the industry, general telecom consumers etc. and the organizer, including the representative officers from the TSPs who volunteered in organizing the seminar.

8. Conclusion:

The Seminar organized by the TRAI has been a very successful one with active participation from all the key stakeholders like the telecom regulator (TRAI), policy maker, and adopter (Government departments/ Builders Association/ RERA etc.), academia etc. Other than the real time issues discussed and ideas exchanged, the seminar was also successful in sensitizing and creating awareness amongst the people in the state of Assam about the rating of buildings for digital connectivity. Substantial media coverage of the event (PIB Release/ Times of India publication/ The Assam Tribune- attached in **Annexure-I**) has also helped in the above process.


(Ashim Dutta)

Joint Advisor, TRAI RO Kolkata

FRIDAY, MARCH 20, 2026

GUWAHATI

THE ASSAM TRIBUNE, GUWAHATI 5

WEATHER GUWAHATI

Generally cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain or thunder showers. Maximum and minimum temperatures are most likely to be 28°C and 17°C respectively.

TEMPERATURE:
Max: 28.7 °C
Min: 17.4 °C

RSS calls for 100 per cent voter turnout

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 19: The Uttar Assam Front of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has called upon citizens to ensure 100 per cent voter participation, placing national interest above all.

Addressing a press conference here today, RSS Assam Unit's In-charge, Pradyuman Choudhary, said the current year marks several significant historical and cultural milestones. These include the 150th anniversary of the national song 'Vande Mataram', the 250th independence year of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur and the 600th birth anniversary of Sant Chandroddhar Baidya.

Dr Mohanty further stated that the current year marks several significant historical and cultural milestones. These include the 150th anniversary of the national song 'Vande Mataram', the 250th independence year of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur and the 600th birth anniversary of Sant Chandroddhar Baidya.

Vultures bred in captivity released into the wild

ANNOUNCEMENT

AMINGAON, March 19: It was a landmark moment for vulture conservation when MR Yadav, Special Secretary, Forests and Environment, Assam, released five white-rumped vultures into the wild today.

Dr Vinay Gupta, Chief Wildlife Warden of Assam, Kishor Ratha, Director BNHS, Dr Sachin Ranade, Centre Manager BNHS and Dr Charu Bowden, Area Manager (vulture programme) of RSPB accompanied him. They quietly lifted the gates of the release aviary with the help of a pulley located about 100 metres away from the aviary. Cameras were installed to record the movement of the vultures without disturbing them.

This is the first of its kind release of any captive bred vulture in Assam. The vulture breeding centre was established at Rani in Assam in 2007 and today the centre has 133 WRV and 56 slender billed vultures. There are a total of 194 vultures, and now the centre has reached

where the Forest department can release 20 to 25 vultures every year.

The release aviary is located at Nalpara, under the Rani range of Kamrup nest division. The vultures were



transferred in aviary for acclimatisation. Out of the ten vultures, six are hatched and grown up in captivity at VCBC Rani. Four vultures were rescued, treated and now healthy to return to wilderness. Their health was checked by a veterinarian and all of them appeared fit. All of the vultures

for identification and monitoring. The tags are solar powered and will give information of whereabouts of the birds. In a few months they are expected to move around and later visit the

neighbouring States like West Bengal, Meghalaya, and countries like Bangladesh, Nepal and Bhutan. The next six months will be crucial for the birds and will also tell how safe is the surroundings.

"This is the first reintroduction of white-rumped vultures in Northeast India. The released vultures were about 2 to 4 years old, of sub-adult age group. They were kept in pre-release aviary for interaction with the free ranging birds. "We are hopeful that they will now join the free ranging wild birds and learn to defend themselves and find food. The VCBC will continue to provide food to the vultures just outside the aviary to keep their movement confined close to the centre," informed an official.

"We are thankful to the Royal Society for Protection of Birds for financial support so far for this project in Assam. Thanks are due to Adnan LGEI for supporting financially for 2025-26. We thank and congratulate our supporting agencies - Centre for Wildlife Studies, Oriental Bird Club, Darwin Initiative, Nuffield Mammal Living Foundation and Votwork. We are thankful to all those who showed faith in this conservation initiative and supported the programme. We are thankful to Bolgan village and all the people of Assam," a press

statement said. The VCBC will continue to provide food to the vultures just outside the aviary to keep their movement confined close to the centre," informed an official.

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Digital connectivity issues across State, NE discussed

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 19: The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), Kolkata regional office, organized a daylong seminar on 'Rating of buildings for digital connectivity' in Guwahati today.

TRAI Advisor Kaushik Mukherjee set the tone of the seminar by narrating the initiatives taken by TRAI in the path of digital connectivity across the

country with special emphasis on robust digital connectivity inside the dwelling and commercial buildings.

While inaugurating the seminar, Principal Secretary, IT, Govt of Assam, KS Gopinath Naranya put special emphasis on the need of the seamless digital connectivity across Assam and other States of the Northeast to break communication bottlenecks of the area. The IT secretary as-

sured all the support from the government towards ease of doing business and approval mechanism in the goal towards rapid digitalisation.

The seminar was attended by the Penningal Advisor TRAI HQ, New Delhi; ADOT, DeT, Assam LSA, secretary, RERA, Assam; president of the Association of Architects, Assam along with the officials of telecom service providers.

Basanta Utsav celebration on March 24

STAFF REPORTER

GUWAHATI, March 19: Ashadheep, a Guwahati-based non-profit organisation working for persons with intellectual disabilities and mental illness, will celebrate Basanta Utsav on March 24 with a vibrant cultural programme showcasing inclusion, creativity and resilience.

The event will be held

at Sri Madhadeva International Auditorium in Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra premises, Panbazar. The event, themed 'Unleashing ability in all bloom', will feature performances by participants from Ashadheep's rehabilitation initiatives, highlighting their talents through dance, music and storytelling.

A major highlight of the programme will be the dance performance by participants.

to be performed by young day-residents of the day rehabilitation centre. The event will also include a Bollywood dance presentation, a chorus performance and an Assamese dance segment.

Organisers said the performances reflect months of preparation and aim to celebrate the abilities and aspirations of the individuals while promoting dignity, confidence and community participation.

(The Assam Tribune- Edition of 20.03.2026, page-5)

Ministry of Communications



TRAI conducts seminar on “Rating of Buildings for Digital Connectivity” in Guwahati

प्रतिष्ठित तिथि: 19 MAR 2026 7:41PM by PIB Guwahati

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), Regional Office Kolkata, organized a seminar on “Rating of Buildings for Digital Connectivity” in Guwahati today. The seminar was held in the backdrop of the “Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity Regulations” issued by TRAI on 25 October 2024, with the objective of creating awareness among stakeholders about the subject and its implementation.

The seminar was inaugurated by Shri K. S. Gopinath Narayan, Principal Secretary, Department of IT, Government of Assam, who attended as the Chief Guest. Shri P. K. Singh, Principal Advisor, TRAI; Shri R. Meshram, Additional DG (T), DoT, Assam LSA, Smt. Barnali Sharma, Secretary, RERA; Shri P. C. Moral, President, Association of Architects, Assam and Shri P. K. Sharma, President, AREIDA were the Guests of Honour in the seminar.

The event witnessed participation from senior officers from TRAI, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of Assam (Departments of IT and DoHUA), North Eastern Council, RERA, AREIDA, builders, academia, telecom and internet service providers (TSPs/ISPs), consumer organizations and other stakeholders.

Shri K. S. Gopinath Narayan, in his address, appreciated the initiatives taken by TRAI and highlighted the importance of implementing these regulations to ensure high-quality telecom connectivity within buildings, especially in the era of artificial intelligence influencing all aspects of life.

Other Guests of Honour also deliberated on the need and importance of digital connectivity ratings for buildings. Shri Kaushik Mukherjee, Advisor, TRAI RO Kolkata, delivered the welcome address.

The seminar deliberations were divided into two sessions. The forenoon session focused on the regulations related to Digital Connectivity Rating (DCR), incorporation of regulatory provisions in building bye-laws, and the process, scope, and challenges involved in rating properties for digital connectivity.

(PIB Guwahati Press Release dated 19.03.2026)

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2242692>

Subansiri hydro project powers ahead, reaches 750 MW operational capacity

Rajib Datta / TNN

Dibrugarh: NHPC Limited has declared the successful commercial operation of the third unit of India's largest hydropower project, the 2000 MW Subansiri Lower Hydroelectric Project (SLHEP), straddling the Arunachal Pradesh-Assam border, marking a significant step forward in the country's clean energy ambitions.

The newly commissioned unit — Unit 1 of 550 MW capacity — began commercial operation on Friday, injecting an additional 250 MW of clean hydropower into the National Grid. Its successful launch follows the completion of a trial run on Feb 27, which had served as a key precursor to full commercial operation.

With this milestone, the Subansiri Lower Hydroelec-



TOTAL CAPACITY 2000 MW

tric Project has now achieved a cumulative operational capacity of 750 MW out of its total planned capacity of 2000 MW, which will eventually be generated through eight units of 550 MW each. The project, widely regarded as a crown jewel of India's hydropower sector, is expected to play a transformative role in grid stabilisation, peak power supply, and the seamless integration of renewable energy into the nation-

al power network.

NHPC Limited, a Navratna PSU under the ministry of power, has been at the helm of executing the ambitious project that has seen years in the making, navigating complex terrain, ecological challenges and logistical hurdles unique to the northeastern Himalayan frontier.

Expressing his satisfaction at the achievement, Himanshu Gupta, chairman and Managing Director of NHPC, extended his gratitude to key stakeholders.

"The successful commissioning reflects NHPC's strong technical expertise and execution capability and reinforces its pivotal role in enhancing national energy resilience in line with the Government of India's vision of a sustainable and self-reliant power sector," he said.

TRAI's meet on smart buildings held in Guwahati

TNN News Network

Guwahati: The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), regional office Kolkata, has successfully organised a seminar on "Rating of Buildings for Digital Connectivity" in Guwahati.

The event, held on Thursday, was inaugurated by Assam IT principal secretary KS Gopinath Narayan and it aimed to raise awareness about TRAI's 2024 regulations on property ratings for telecom access.

Senior officials from TRAI, DoT, RERA, ARIE DA, architects, builders, academia, and telecom ser-



One of the speakers during the event in Guwahati

vice providers attended the event. Speakers highlighted the importance of integrating digital connectivity into building bylaws to ensure seamless telecom services, especially in the era of AI. The seminar featured sessions on regulatory provisions, challenges, and industry perspective.

Missing man found dead on GU campus

Guwahati: The body of a man, who reportedly went missing for the last three days, was recovered from the premises of Gauhati University on Saturday. Police said the body was found floating in a pond located within the university campus, reports Tirthagata Bhattacharjee.

Officers from the Jalukbari outpost and personnel from the SDF reached the spot after reports alerted them. Rescue teams from Panda Fire and Emergency Services retrieved the body and handed it over to the police. Jalukbari OP in-charge Mityunjoy Das said, "We have identified the person as Miralul Ali. He used to run a small business and was addicted to drugs. The cause of death has not been established yet, and the body has been sent for post-mortem examination."

Mizoram sets up panel to redraft Household Registers Bill, says CM

HC Vaidyanathan / TNN

Aizawl: Mizoram government has constituted a drafting committee for the Mizoram Maintenance of Household Registers Bill, 2019, on Feb 25, CM Lalkhuma informed the assembly. The move comes after the earlier Mizoram Maintenance of Household Registers Bill, 2019 — passed by the state assembly on March 13 2019 — was rejected by the central government.

In a written reply, Lalkhuma, who also holds charge of the general administration department (GAD), said the 539 Bill was withheld by the then governor and not given assent. The

then governor with additional charge, English Mukihi (also serving as Assam governor), referred the Bill to the President of India on Sept 12, 2019, under Article 200 of the Constitution.

Mukihi had opined that the legislation was beyond the purview of the state legislature, as it could be used to detect foreigners illegally residing in the state — a matter considered outside state powers. Legal experts also echoed this view.

The state government pursued the matter with the MHA, sending four demerit (DO) letters to the Union home minister requesting assent.



(Times of India-Guwahati, Edition of 22.03.2026, page-4)

TRAI's meet on smart buildings held in Guwahati -

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/guwahati/trais-meet-on-smart-buildings-held-in-guwahati/articleshow/129723455.cms?utm_source=whatsapp&utm_medium=amp_social&utm_campaign=social_share



