



सत्यमेव जयते



भादूविप्रा
TRAI

भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

QUARTERLY E-NEWSLETTER

(January - March) 2026



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From the Chairman's desk

Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti
Quarterly Review:
January – March, 2026

Regulatory efforts in India's communications ecosystem continue to focus on ensuring transparency, fairness, and improved quality of service for consumers across telecommunications and broadcasting services.

During the first quarter of 2026, on the consumer front, initiatives were undertaken to enhance participation and improve service transparency. On the regulatory front, directions were issued to improve accessibility of grievance redress mechanisms by mandating clearer and more prominent customer care information across digital platforms of service providers.

The upgraded DND and MySpeed applications were introduced with enhanced functionalities for spam reporting, sender identification and real-time network performance assessment. These measures are intended to support informed consumer engagement and contribute to more effective monitoring of unsolicited commercial communications.

During the quarter, emphasis was also placed on the evolving nature of communications infrastructure, with increasing integration across telecommunications, broadcasting, artificial intelligence, cloud infrastructure, and satellite-based systems. In this context, stakeholder engagement was advanced on the role of artificial intelligence in telecommunications. Deliberations at the TRAI-STPI pre-summit event and the India AI Impact Summit 2026 focused on applications of AI in network optimization, service delivery and consumer interfaces. The need for governance frameworks addressing transparency, accountability, safety and explainability in AI-driven systems emerged as a key outcome of these engagements.

The quarter also saw progress in spectrum policy and future network preparedness. Recommendations were submitted on the auction of radio frequency spectrum across multiple frequency bands, including newly identified bands relevant for next-generation services. These recommendations are expected to support continued expansion of mobile broadband, facilitate network densification, and strengthen the foundation for emerging 5G use cases and future 6G developments.

Work on digital connectivity within buildings and properties was further progressed during the quarter. A consultation was initiated to review the Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity Regulations, 2024, incorporating stakeholder feedback and implementation experience. The proposed refinements aim to enhance granularity, improve transparency and support integration of digital infrastructure into planning and development processes.

Consumer awareness and stakeholder outreach activities continued across regions. Seminars and outreach programmes were conducted focusing on quality of service, infrastructure awareness and user rights, contributing to improved understanding of regulatory provisions and encouraging informed consumer participation.

Independent drive tests conducted across cities, districts and highways provided insights into actual network performance across technologies. These assessments continue to play an important role in benchmarking service quality and identifying areas for improvement in real-world usage conditions.

TRAI Foundation Day 2026 brought together stakeholders to examine issues such as television accessibility, network slicing, and net neutrality. These discussions highlighted the need to balance technological advancement with principles of openness, fairness, and equitable access.

Building on the progress of the quarter, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India will continue to focus on enabling forward-looking regulatory frameworks that support technological convergence, strengthen service quality and reinforce consumer trust. The emphasis remains on aligning infrastructure readiness, intelligent systems and regulatory coherence in an increasingly data-driven communications environment.

In-Focus

TRAI-STPI Pre-Summit Event on 'AI in Telecommunication' Explores Cutting-edge Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Network Transformation and Customer Experience

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), in collaboration with the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), organised a Pre-Summit Event of the India - AI Impact Summit 2026 on the theme "AI in Telecommunication" at the STPI Conference Facility in East Kidwai Nagar, New Delhi on 21st January 2026. The event brought together senior officials and representatives from telecom service providers, OEMs, startups and research institutions, to deliberate on how Artificial Intelligence (AI) is reshaping the future of telecom networks, service delivery, and customer engagement. The programme served as a platform to showcase real-world use cases, policy considerations, and implementation challenges as India transitions towards an AI-augmented digital infrastructure.



Special addresses were delivered by Ms. Kavita Bhatia, Scientist 'G', Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY); Lt. Gen. Dr. S.P. Kochhar, Director General, Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI); Dr. Rajkumar Upadhyay, Chief Executive Officer, C-DOT; and Professor Rajat Moona, Director, IIT Gandhinagar. The speakers noted the increasing integration of AI across telecom value chains and called for greater collaboration on secure deployment, indigenous AI research, and capacity building to support future ready networks.

https://trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-01/PR_No.08of2026.pdf

TRAI Hosts 'Responsible AI in Telecom' Session at India AI Impact Summit 2026, Focuses on Digital Resilience, Governance and Network Transformation.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) today organised a session at the India AI Impact Summit 2026, on the theme "Responsible AI in Telecom" at the Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi on 20th February 2026. The session brought together senior representatives from telecom service providers, global technology companies, industry associations and government institutions to deliberate on policy and operational approaches for deployment of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in telecom networks and consumer-facing applications. The session formed part of the broader summit programme and included participation from international industry bodies and global Stakeholders. The programme served as a platform for deliberations around governance priorities including trust, accountability, and safety, alongside innovative pathways for scaling AI responsibly in network operations, consumer protection and service delivery. The discussions recognised the growing convergence of AI and telecommunications as a foundational layer shaping network design, operations and customer experience.



The programme featured two focused panel discussions addressing imperative dimensions of AI integration in telecom - the first examining how networks must evolve to responsibly incorporate AI capabilities, and the second exploring the critical question of sustaining customer trust in AI-driven telecom operations. Together, the panels underscored the dual priority of strengthening network intelligence while ensuring consumer confidence in AI-enabled ecosystems.

The first panel discussion titled “Preparing Telecom Networks for AI Era” was chaired by Shri Ritu Ranjan Mittar, Member, TRAI. The panel comprised Mr Magnus Ewerbring, CTO, Ericsson; Mr Vinesh Sukumar, VP P M, Qualcomm; Mr Pasi Toivanen, SVP Strategic Government & Industry Initiatives, Nokia; and Mr Shantigram Jagannath, Sr VP and Head NMS, Tejas. The discussion focused on AI adoption in telecom networks and improving transparency and explainability in AI-driven systems. It also highlighted the need to embed responsibility by design, ensure environmental sustainability, and strengthen security and safety in AI

The second panel discussion titled “Building Customer Trust through AI-driven Operations” was chaired by Dr. M. P. Tangirala, Member, TRAI. The panel included Mr Julian Gorman, Head APAC, GSMA, Dr. Rajkumar Upadhyay, CEO & Chairman (Board), C-DOT; Mr Mathan Babu Kasilingam, CTSO & Data Privacy Officer, Vodafone India Ltd; and Mr Syed Tausif Abbas, Sr DDG & Head, TEC, DoT. The deliberations examined accountability in automated network decisions, transparency in AI-driven customer engagement, mechanisms for responsible AI in spam prevention, ethical governance frameworks for telecom service providers, and the need for standards to develop a comprehensive AI incident database for analysing AI-related failures, particularly in telecommunications and critical digital infrastructure. The panel also discussed scaling AI responsibly in emerging 5G and future 6G environments, especially for fraud detection and customer-facing analytics.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-02/PR_No.22of2026.pdf

TRAI Revamps DND and MySpeed Apps to Empower Telecom Consumers.



The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has introduced upgraded versions of its DND and MySpeed mobile applications to enhance consumer engagement, curb spam communications, and improve telecom service quality. With India’s telecom sector serving over 1.3 billion subscribers, these revamped apps aim to strengthen user participation in regulatory processes through simplified, accessible, and data-driven tools.

The updated DND app now features a multilingual interface, an intuitive design, and faster complaint registration with tracking via reference IDs. New functionalities such as “Know Your Sender” and enhanced preference management allow users to identify telemarketers and customize blocking of promotional communications. This is expected to significantly improve reporting of unsolicited commercial communications.

The MySpeed app enables users to assess real-time network performance using advanced parameters such as download/upload speed, latency, jitter, and packet loss. It also includes simulated tests for video streaming and web browsing, along with options for continuous and scheduled testing. Data collected is anonymized and supports TRAI’s regulatory oversight.

These initiatives reinforce TRAI’s commitment to transparency, improved Quality of Service, and a consumer-centric telecom ecosystem driven by active public participation

https://tra.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-02/PR_No.21of2026.pdf

TRAI Foundation Day 2026

TRAI Marks Foundation Day 2026 with High-Level Deliberations on Inclusive TV Access and Network Slicing or TRAI Celebrates Foundation Day, Reflects on Regulatory Journey Since 1997

25th February 2026: The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) today commemorated TRAI Day 2026, marking 29 years of the establishment of the TRAI on 20th February 1997. The event was attended by senior government officials, industry leaders, academia and technology experts to deliberate on emerging issues shaping India's digital communications landscape. The celebration combined reflection of outstanding work done by TRAI in shaping the Telecommunication and broadcasting landscape in all these years.

There were also technical discussions on two topics "Taking TV to all Homes: Policy, Technology and Business strategies for inclusion" and "Network slicing and Net neutrality". The event commenced with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp by Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairperson, TRAI, in the presence of Shri Ritu Ranjan Mittar, Member (M), Dr M.P. Tangirala, Member (T), and Prof. Ranjan Bose, Member (PT).

The first technical session, "Taking Television to All Homes - Policy, Technology and Business Strategies for Inclusion", was moderated by Shri Ashok Kumar Jha, Principal Advisor (B&CS), TRAI. The session examined strategies to enhance television accessibility, strengthen last-mile connectivity and bridge the digital divide, particularly in rural and underserved regions. Speakers included Shri Prabhat, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Mr. Padma Kumar, CEO KCCL and Prof. Vishwanath Pingali, IIM Ahmedabad. The deliberations highlighted the continuing relevance of broadcasting as a widely accessible medium and explored policy and technology interventions necessary for universal service delivery. Discussions also addressed sustainable business models to expand reach while ensuring affordability and service quality.

The second session, "Network Slicing and Net Neutrality", moderated by Shri Akhilesh Trivedi, Advisor (NSL1), TRAI, focused on the regulatory and technological dimensions of network slicing with the principles of an open and non-discriminatory internet. Speakers included Shri U.K. Srivastava, President, Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, Mr. Umang Jindal, Ericsson and Mr. Anil Tandon, Broadband India Forum. The discussion examined differentiated service provisioning in advanced networks and evolving network architectures. It also addressed the need to balance innovation with consumer rights and equitable access to digital services.



Brief of Activities

Consultation Paper

1. TRAI releases a Consultation Paper on "Review of Tariff for Domestic Leased Circuits".

TRAI issued a consultation paper regarding the "Review of Tariff for Domestic Leased Circuits" on January 23, 2026. The primary purpose of the present Consultation Paper is to seek stakeholders' comments regarding review of the existing DLC ceiling tariff framework in line with current market conditions and technological advancements, with an overall objective of promoting transparency and competition in the DLC market and facilitating equitable and affordable access to DLCs across regions and categories of users. This proposed ceiling tariff review also seeks to take into account the evolution of DLCs, including both P2P and VPN based DLCs, as a managed service carrying various service commitments such as bandwidth, uptime, latency, etc. Stakeholders are requested to provide their written comments by 22 February 2026.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-01/PR_No.13of2026.pdf

2. Extension of last date for submission of comments and counter comments on TRAI Consultation Paper on 'Review of Tariff for Domestic Leased Circuits (DLCs)'.

20 February 2026 - The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released a Consultation Paper on "Review of Tariff for Domestic Leased Circuits (DLCs)" on 23 January 2026. The last date for submission of inputs/comments from stakeholders was earlier fixed as 22 February 2026. Keeping in view the requests received from industry association and stakeholders for an extension of time for submission of inputs / comments on the above-mentioned Consultation Paper extended the last date for submission of written comments and counter comments up to 2nd March 2026 and 9th March, 2026, respectively.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-02/PR_No.23of2026.pdf

3. TRAI releases Consultation Paper on "Review of the Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity Regulations, 2024 (7 of 2024)"

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released a Consultation Paper on 'Review of Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity Regulations, 2024 (7 of 2024)' on 27th February 2026

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India released a consultation paper on the Review of Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity Regulations, 2024, proposing key refinements to strengthen in-building digital connectivity assessment.

With increasing reliance on 4G and 5G services, a significant portion of data consumption now occurs indoors. However, high-frequency signals often face attenuation due to building structures, making robust in-building digital infrastructure critical for ensuring Quality of Service (QoS).

To address implementation challenges and stakeholder feedback, TRAI has proposed the following enhancements:

- **Refined Rating Scale:** Expansion from a 5-star to a 9-level rating system (including half-stars) to enable better differentiation among properties.
- **Pre-Completion Assessment:** Introduction of a design-stage certification for under-construction properties, while final ratings will continue post completion.
- **Revised Property Categorisation:** Realignment of property categories to better reflect actual usage patterns and connectivity needs.
- **Optional Connectivity Audit:** Provision for voluntary audits to help property managers assess and improve digital infrastructure before applying for official ratings.

These proposed changes aim to enhance transparency, improve consumer awareness, and ensure that the framework remains practical, robust, and aligned with evolving digital connectivity requirements.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-02/PR_No.27of2026.pdf

4. TRAI releases "Draft Telecom Commercial Communication Preference (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2026" for Consultation

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued the draft "Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2026, for consultation on 13th March 2026.

To curb the menace of Unsolicited Commercial Communications (UCC). TRAI issued Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2018 (TCCCPR,2018) on 19th July 2018, which put in place a framework for regulating Commercial Communication. The TCCCPR, 2018 was amended on 21st December 2018 and subsequently, second amendment was issued on 12th February 2025.

Based on the feedback from stakeholders during various interactions well as in light of recent developments like implementation of AI-based detection of UCC, by major access providers, a need has been felt to make amendments in some of the existing provisions, and also to add some new provisions to make the regulatory framework more effective and efficient.

The written comments on the issues raised in the Draft amendment, and counter comments, if any, may be sent preferably by mail to advqos@traf.gov.in, in the specified format, by 12th April 2026, and 27th April, 2026, respectively.

https://traf.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.38of2026.pdf

5. Extension of last date for Submission of Comments on TRAI Consultation Paper on 'Review of Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity Regulations, 2024 (7 of 2024).'

23rd March 2026 the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released a Consultation Paper on 'Review of Rating of Properties for Digital Connectivity Regulations, 2024 (7 of 2024) on 27th February 2026. The last date for submission of Inputs/Comments from stake holders was earlier fixed as 23rd March 2026. Keeping in view the requests received from Industry Association and Stakeholders for an extension of time for submission of inputs/comments on above mentioned Consultation paper, it has been decided to extend the last dates for submission of comments up to 30th March 2026.

https://www.traf.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.40of2026.pdf



Recommendations

1. TRAI releases Recommendations on the Auction of Radio Frequency Spectrum in the Frequency Bands Identified for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT).

24th February 2026 The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released Recommendations on the Auction of Radio Frequency Spectrum in the Frequency Bands Identified for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT)

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), requested TRAI to provide recommendations under Section 11(l)(a) of the TRAI Act, 1997 (as amended) on the applicable reserve price, band plan, block size, quantum of spectrum to be auctioned, and associated conditions for auction of spectrum in the existing bands viz. 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300 MHz and 26 GHz. DoT also sought TRAI's recommendations on the feasibility and timing of auction of the newly identified 6425- 6725 MHz and 7025-7125 MHz bands, as well as fresh recommendations on the auction of spectrum in the 600 MHz band. Subsequently, DoT, requested TRAI to recommend a possible band plan for the 67 MHz spectrum between 1427-1518 MHz considering the need to assign a continuous 24 MHz block to the Government user.

In this regard, TRAI issued a consultation paper on the Auction of Radio Frequency Spectrum in the Frequency Bands Identified for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) on 30.09.2025 for seeking comments and counter comments from stakeholders on the issues raised in the consultation paper. Initially, the last dates for furnishing comments and counter comments were 28.10.2025 and 11.11.2025, respectively. However, considering the request of industry associations and stakeholders, the last dates for furnishing written comments and counter comments were extended to 04.11.2025 and 18.11.2025, respectively. In response to the issues raised in the consultation paper, 19 stakeholders furnished comments, and 12 stakeholders furnished counter comments. As part of the consultation process, TRAI conducted an open house discussion (OHD) on the consultation paper through virtual mode on 12.12.2025.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-02/PR_No.25of2026.pdf

2. TRAI issues the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Interconnection (Addressable Systems) (Seventh Amendment) Regulations, 2026

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Interconnection (Addressable Systems) (Seventh Amendment) Regulations, 2026 on 5th February 2026 for seeking comments from stakeholders. 64 comments and 03 counter comments received from the stakeholders

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-02/PR_No.17of2026.pdf

3. TRAI Releases amendments in provisions of Telecommunication Tariff Order and Accounting Separation Regulations

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 24th March, 2026 released the following amendments:

- (i) The Telecommunication Tariff (Seventy Second Amendment) Order, 2026
- (ii) The Reporting System on Accounting Separation (Amendment) Regulations, 2026

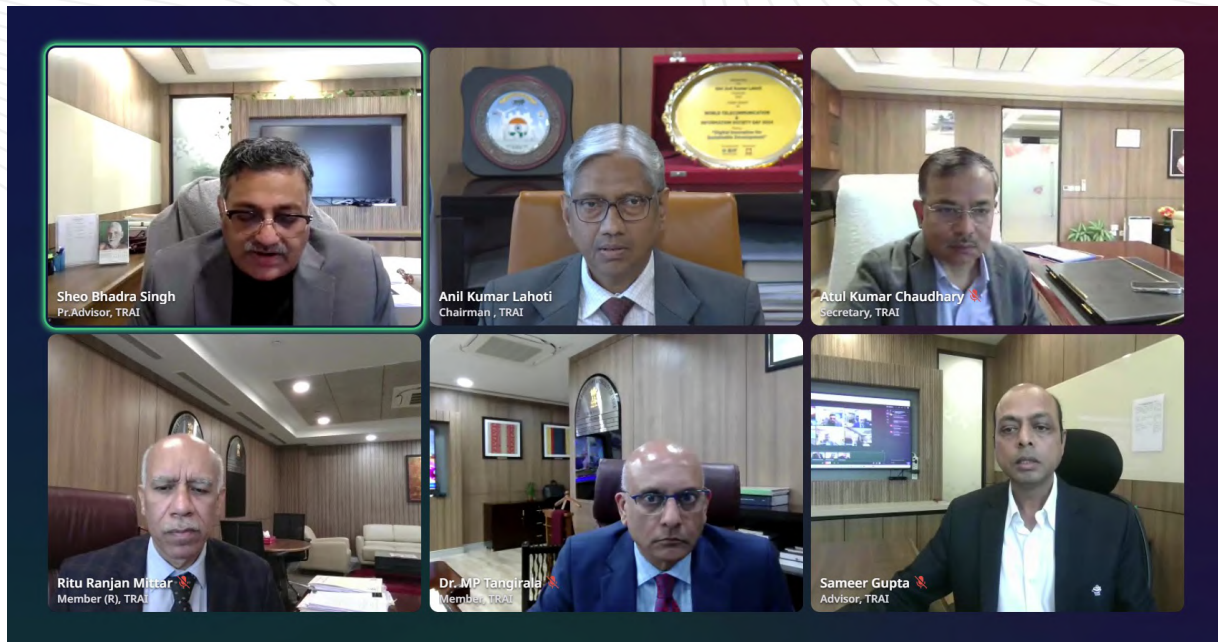
In this regard, the draft TTO (72nd Amendment), 2025 and the draft Accounting Separation (Amendment) Regulations, 2025 issued for consultation on TRAI's website on 16.10.2025. In response, TRAI received 08 comments from the stakeholders on each of the consultations.

Based on the comments received from the stakeholders and on its own analysis, TRAI has finalised the Telecommunication Tariff (Seventy Second Amendment) Order, 2026 and The Reporting System on Accounting Separation (Amendment) Regulations, 2026. Through these amendments, TRAI revised the existing provisions relating to financial disincentives under the Telecommunication Tariff Order, 1999 and the Reporting System on Accounting Separation Regulations, 2016. The amendments contain provisions for imposing the financial disincentives (i) in a graded manner to ensure compliance with regulatory provisions; (ii) revision in amount of financial disincentive prescribing a ceiling on the total financial disincentive amount; (iii) imposition of interest on delayed/non-payments of financial disincentives.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.43of2026.pdf

Open House Discussion

OHD on Consultation Paper on Review of existing TRAI Regulations on Interconnection matters held on 28.01.2026 through virtual mode:



Directions

- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued a [Direction on 27.01.2026](#) to strengthen monitoring, verification and enforcement of the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2018 by mandating revised, comprehensive and time-bound monthly submission of Performance Monitoring Reports by all Access Providers, incorporating enhanced reporting requirements introduced through the Second Amendment of TCCPR, enabling effective oversight of UCC control measures, real time regulatory access, and improved identification and accountability of senders.

- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has issued a [Direction on 12.03.2026](#) under the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 and the [Telecom Consumers Complaint Redressal Regulations, 2012](#) to improve accessibility of consumer grievance mechanisms. Service providers are required to display a prominent “Customer Care” link on the homepage of their websites and mobile applications, providing details of Complaint Centres, toll-free numbers, complaint procedures, timelines, and Appellate Authorities. Information must be updated, easily accessible, and available in multiple languages. Providers must submit compliance reports with evidence within fifteen days.



Advocacy Initiatives

Seminar on “Rating of Buildings for Digital Connectivity” by Regional Offices, TRAI

Regional Offices of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India conducted seminars on “Rating of Buildings for Digital Connectivity” to promote awareness on digital infrastructure standards. The seminar witnessed active participation from a diverse set of stakeholders, including representatives from State Governments, Town and Country Planning Authorities, Development Authorities, Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI), academicians from engineering and architecture institutions, rating agencies, infrastructure service providers, and telecom service providers, reflecting a comprehensive and collaborative approach to the discussions.

Sr. No.	Regional Office	City	Date
1	Hyderabad	Hyderabad	24 February 2026
2	Bhopal	Raipur	26 February 2026
3	Kolkata	Guwahati	19 March 2026
4	Delhi	Delhi	23 March 2026
5	Jaipur	Jaipur	24 March 2026
6	Bengaluru	Bengaluru	25 March 2026



TRAI Regional Office, Hyderabad conducted Seminar at Green Park Hotel Ameerpet Hyderabad on 24th February 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Bhopal conducted Seminar at Hotel Hyatt Raipur, Chhattisgarh on 26th February 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Kolkata conducted Seminar at Hotel NOVOTEL, Guwahati, Assam on 19th March 2026.



Regional Office, Delhi conducted Seminar at Andaz Delhi & Hyatt Delhi Residences, Aerocity on 23rd March 2026.



Regional Office, Jaipur conducted Seminar at international Centre Sansthan Path, JLN Marg, Jaipur on 24th March 2026.



Regional Office, Bengaluru conducted Seminar at Hotel Chancery Pavilion Bangalore on 25th March 2026.

Meeting with Joint Committee of Regulators (JCoR)

Meeting with Joint Committee of Regulators (JCoR) held on 14 January 2026 at TRAI Headquarters, New Delhi, with participation from key financial, telecom, and consumer regulators, government agencies, and special invitees including COAI, Meta, and GSMA, to review and strengthen coordinated efforts against spam, scams, and digital fraud. The Chairman, TRAI highlighted the successful rollout of the 1600-series numbering and reiterated that all commercial communications must be routed through designated 140 and 1600 series numbers, while emphasizing sector-wide adoption and operational readiness. The Committee reviewed the successful completion of the Digital Consent Acquisition (DCA) pilot and outlined its phased commercial rollout across banks, broader BFSI expansion, consent demand assessment for DLT scaling under TRAI-RBI oversight, and formation of a joint steering committee for effective implementation, along with the beta launch of the DND mobile application to enhance consumer participation. Deliberations also covered misuse of telecom resources, industry coordination, AI-based spam detection mechanisms, fraud pattern analysis using LEA and Chakshu inputs, KYC re-verification where necessary, and the need for structured intelligence-sharing frameworks between digital platforms and TSPs. The meeting concluded with an emphasis on time-bound, collaborative action and continued inter-regulatory coordination to safeguard consumers from fraudulent digital communications.

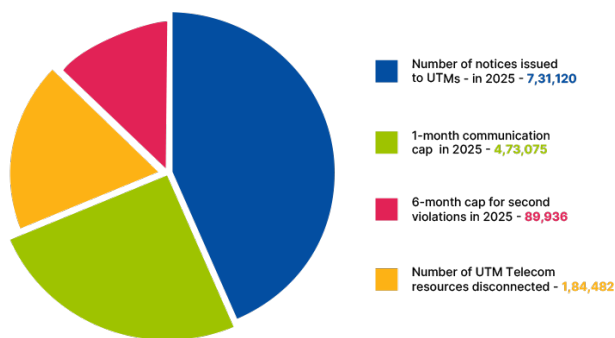


Action taken
on spam

TRAI releases Action Taken on Spam in 2025: Strengthening UCC Enforcement

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has intensified its crackdown on Unsolicited Commercial Communication (UCC), issuing over 7.31 lakh notices to unregistered telemarketers (UTMs) in 2025. Under its tightening enforcement framework, TRAI imposed one-month communication restrictions on approximately 4.73 lakh entities. Repeat offenders faced stricter penalties, with nearly 90,000 entities receiving six-month communication bans. Furthermore, over 1.84 lakh telecom resources were disconnected for non-compliance during the year.

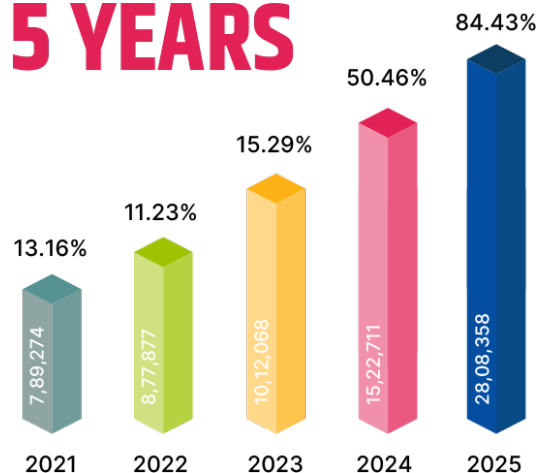
UTM ENFORCEMENT METRICS:



Consumer Engagement and DND Adoption A pivotal factor in these enforcement successes is increased consumer participation through the Do Not Disturb (DND) ecosystem.

- **Complaint Volume:** Total UCC complaints reached 31.09 lakh, with over 50% (17.06 lakh) filed via the DND app.
- **App Growth:** DND app installations surged by 84.43% year-on-year, reaching a cumulative total of 28.08 lakh.

DND ADOPTION TREND PAST 5 YEARS



TRAI Chairman Anil Kumar Lahoti emphasized that these efforts aim to provide consumers with "perceptible improvement" in controlling spam. Moving forward, TRAI continues to employ a two-pronged strategy involving AI-led detection and blockchain-based registration to eliminate unauthorized commercial communications.

https://traai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-02/PR_No.20of2026.pdf

TRAI at Events

International

1. Sh. Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI spoke at the Ministerial session “Ask the Regulator” at MWC26. Discussions covered spectrum policy, security safeguards & enabling satellite & direct-to-device connectivity under a tech-neutral framework.



2. Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI, participated in the Ministerial Roundtable “Towards a Harmonised Policy Framework for Satellite Services” at MWC26, that focused on regulatory preparedness for LEO satellite services & adapting frameworks to support innovation.



3. Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI participated in the roundtable “Accelerating AI Readiness: Collaboration for Global Impact” at MWC26 at Barcelona, highlighting India’s balanced approach to AI, enabling innovation with accountability & trust.



4. Mr. Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI along with TRAI delegation members held bilateral meetings at the sidelines of MWC-26 at Barcelona, as under:-

(a) Meeting with GSMA delegation led by Mr. Julian Gorman, Head of GSMA APAC



(b) Meeting with Federal Communications Commission (FCC) delegation led by Mr Brendan Carr, Chairman, FCC



5. Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI, engaged with ADIF. The interaction highlighted discussions on infrastructure planning, & railway communication systems. The delegation was also invited to visit the Atocha High-Speed Rail Control Center.



6. Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI, held a bilateral meeting with Ángel García Castillejo, Vice President of the National Commission for Markets and Competition (CNMC), Spain's telecom regulator, in Madrid. The interaction focused on telecom policy & regulatory frameworks.



National

1st Convergent Conference on Subsea Cables & Digital Cloud Infrastructure

The 1st Convergent Conference on Subsea Cables & Digital Cloud Infrastructure, organized by the Broadband India Forum, was held on February 24, 2026, in New Delhi. The conference focused on the critical role of subsea cable networks and digital cloud infrastructure in strengthening India's digital backbone, particularly in the context of the rapidly evolving AI-driven ecosystem.

Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI, emphasized the role of subsea cables and digital cloud as critical infrastructure for a resilient Digital India in the AI era.



DNPA Conclave 2026: Evolving Telecom & Digital Infrastructure Landscape

The DNPA Conclave 2026 was held on February 26, 2026, in New Delhi, featuring an engaging fireside chat with Puneet Singhvi. The conclave focused on the evolving telecom and digital infrastructure landscape in India, highlighting emerging trends, policy priorities, and the growing convergence of connectivity and digital services.

At DNPA Conclave 2026, Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI engaged in a fireside chat with Puneet Singhvi. As digital news, platforms and technologies continue to evolve, he highlighted that robust connectivity remains the foundation for ensuring consumer access, trust and innovation.



ETGovTech 2026: Telecom Driving India's Digital Transformation

ETGovTech 2026 was held on March 19, 2026, in Delhi, bringing together key stakeholders to deliberate on the role of telecom in accelerating India's digital transformation. The event focused on how robust telecom infrastructure, emerging technologies, and policy frameworks can enable efficient governance, digital inclusion, and innovation across sectors.

Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI, participated in ETGovTech2026 and highlighted the critical role of telecom in driving India's digital transformation. He emphasized the need for robust infrastructure, accelerated 5G expansion, and forward-looking policy frameworks to enable inclusive and future-ready governance.



Convergence India 2026: Enabling Future-Ready Digital Infrastructure

Convergence India 2026 was held on March 23, 2026, in Delhi, focusing on the role of emerging technologies in building inclusive and future-ready digital infrastructure. The event brought together stakeholders from telecom, AI, IoT, and satellite communications (Satcom) to explore innovations shaping India's digital ecosystem.

Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman TRAI, visited and spoke at Convergence India 2026, where stakeholders across telecom, AI, IoT, and satcom came together to deliberate on emerging technologies strengthening inclusive, future-ready digital infrastructure.



**भादूविप्रा हिंदी
राजभाषा कार्यक्रमः**

भादूविप्रा हिंदी राजभाषा कार्यक्रमः

भादूविप्रा के राजभाषा अनुभाग के द्वारा तिमाही मार्च, 2026 (01 जनवरी से 31 मार्च, 2026) तक की गई गतिविधियों का विवरण:-

(क) प्राधिकरण में जनवरी-मार्च 2026 के लिए दिनांक 10 मार्च 2026 को दोपहर 2.30 बजे से सायं 5.00 बजे तक भादूविप्रा में ऑनलाइन माध्यम से "कार्यालयीन हिंदी में करने हेतु विभिन्न टूल्स" विषय पर एक हिंदी कार्यशाला का आयोजन किया गया जिसमें श्री राकेश कुमार पाठक, पूर्व सहायक निदेशक' केन्द्रीय अनुवाद ब्यूरो, राजभाषा विभाग, गृह मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा हिंदी कार्यशाला में वक्ता के रूप में व्याख्यान दिया गया।

कार्यशाला से संबंधित फोटो :-



Drive Tests of Mobile Network

1. Across Delhi City

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released its Independent Drive Test (IDT) findings for the Delhi Licensed Service Area (LSA), covering extensive city routes during the month of Jan 2026. The drive tests, conducted under the supervision of the TRAI Regional Office, Delhi, designed to capture real-time mobile network performance across diverse usage environments - Urban Zones, Institutional Hotspots, Public Transport Hubs, and High-Speed Corridors. Between 06⁰⁰ January 2026 to 09⁰⁰ January 2026, TRAI teams conducted detailed tests across 249.1 Kms of City Drive Test, 08 Hotspot locations, 9.6 Kms of Walk test & Inter Operator Calling at 01 location. Technologies evaluated included 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G, reflecting the service experience of users across multiple handset capabilities.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-02/PR_No.24of2026.pdf

2. Across Samastipur district in the State of Bihar under Bihar Licensed Service Area (LSA)

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released its Independent Drive Test (IDT) findings for the Bihar LSA, covering extensive city routes of Samastipur district in the State of Bihar in the month of January 2026. The drive tests, conducted under the supervision of the TRAI Regional Office, Kolkata, were designed to capture real-world mobile network performance across diverse usage environments- Institutional Hotspots, secretariat areas, residential areas etc. Between 20th January 2026 and 23rd January 2026. TRAI teams conducted detailed tests across city routes of Samastipur district in the State of Bihar in Bihar LSA covering 272.2 Km of city drive test, 10 Hotspot locations, and 1.9 Km of walk test. Technologies evaluated included 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G, reflecting the service experience of users across multiple handset capabilities.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.29of2026.pdf

3. Across Saharanpur & Muzaffarnagar City and nearby area of UP(West) LSA.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has conducted Independent Drive Tests (IDT) covering Saharanpur & Muzaffarnagar Cities and nearby areas of UP(West) LSA during the month of January '2026. The IDT have been designed to capture real-world mobile network performance across diverse usage environments - Urban zones, hotspots, public transport hubs etc. TRAI, through its appointed agency, conducted detailed drive tests of 338.4 Kms of City test and 3.8 kms of walk test in Saharanpur & Muzaffarnagar Cities during 20th to 23rd January'2026. Technologies evaluated included 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G, reflecting the service experience of users across multiple handset capabilities.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.31of2026.pdf



4. Across Bikaner City, Nokha & Shri Dungargarh towns, Deshnok to Norangdesar Highway {Part of Amritsar to Jamnagar Bharatmala National Highway CNH 754A} & Pugal to Ranjeetpura National Highway CNH-911) in Bikaner District.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released findings of Independent Drive Test (IDT) conducted across Bikaner City, Nokha & Shri Dungargarh towns, Deshnok to Norangdesar Highway (Part of Amritsar to Jamnagar Bharatmala National Highway (NH 754A)) & Pugal to Ranjeetpura National Highway (NH-911) in Bikaner District in Rajasthan LSA, during the month of January 2026, for information of general telecom consumers. The purpose of this drive test is to assess and verify real world quality of mobile network services (both voice & data) provided by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs).

During the IDT, TRAI Captures live performance data of mobile network of all service providers on key performance indicators (KPIs) like Call setup success rate, data download and upload speeds, speech quality, etc. Multiple advanced test handsets are used and the sessions are monitored in real-time and analysed using advanced Software Systems. The results of the IDT are published on TRAI website and in newspapers to inform consumers and to encourage TSPs to improve their services.

TRAI Regional Office, Jaipur, through its appointed agency, conducted detailed drive tests in Bikaner district of Rajasthan covering distance of 293.8 KMs in Bikaner City, Nokha & Shri Dungargarh towns, 41.1 Km of Deshnok to Norangdesar Highway and 104.2 Kms of Pugal to Ranjeetpura National Highway (NH-911) during 13.01.2026 to 16.01.2026.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.28of2026.pdf



5. Coastal route in Sundarban area in the State of West Bengal

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released its Independent Drive Test (IDT) findings conducted in the coastal route along rivers Herobhanga, Bidyadhari and Datta in Sundarban area in the State of West Bengal in the month of January 2026. The drive tests, conducted under the supervision of the TRAI Regional Office, Kolkata, were designed to capture real-world mobile network performance across diverse usage environments village residential areas, tourist locations, and local businesses etc. On 29th January 2026, TRAI teams conducted detailed tests along rivers Herobhanga, Bidyadhari and Datta in Sundarban area in the State of West Bengal covering 41.0 Km of coastal drive test, and 1 Hotspot location. Technologies evaluated included 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G, reflecting the service experience of users across multiple handset capabilities.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.30of2026.pdf

6. Guna & Ashoknagar Cities and nearby areas and Guna to Bhopal Highway of MP LSA.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) conducted Independent Drive Tests (IDT) covering Guna & Ashoknagar Cities and nearby areas and Guna to Bhopal Highway of MP LSA during the month of January - February '2026. The IDT have been designed to capture real-world mobile network performance across diverse usage environments - Urban zones, hotspots, public transport hubs etc. TRAI, through its appointed agency, conducted detailed drive tests of 196.7 Kms of City test, 201.2 Kms of Highway test and 1.5 kms of walk test in Guna & Ashoknagar Cities and Guna to Bhopal Highway during 30th January to 02nd February '2026. Technologies evaluated included 2G, 3G, 4G; and 5G, reflecting the service experience of users across multiple handset capabilities

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.33of2026.pdf

7. Mumbai

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released its Independent Drive Test (IDT) findings for the Mumbai, Mumbai Licensed Service Area (LSA), covering extensive City/Railway/Coastal routes during the month of January 2026. The drive tests, conducted under the supervision of the TRAI Regional Office, Bengaluru, were designed to capture real-world mobile network performance across diverse usage environments – Urban Zones, Institutional Hotspots, Public Transport Hubs, and high-speed Corridors. Between 20th January 2026 to 23rd January 2026, TRAI teams conducted detailed tests across 214.8 Kms of Mumbai including 201.7 Kms of City drive, 7 Hot spots, 3.7 Kms Walk Test and Coastal drive of 9.4 Km. Technologies evaluated included 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G, reflecting the service experience of users across multiple handset capabilities.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.34of2026.pdf

8. Puducherry City and their adjoining areas in a Puducherry Union Territory (under Tamil Nadu Licensed Service Area)

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released its Independent Drive Test (IDT) findings for the Tamil Nadu Licensed Service Area (LSA), covering extensive city of Puducherry surrounding areas in the month of February 2026. The drive tests conducted under the supervision of the TRAI Regional Office, Hyderabad, were designed to capture realworld mobile network performance across diverse usage environments- Urban Zones, Institutional Hotspots, rural residential areas etc. Between 5th February 2026 to 7 th February 2026, TRAI teams conducted detailed tests for 313.2 Kms Puducherry City drive test and 8 Hotspot locations. Technologies evaluated included 2G, 3G, 4G, and SG, reflecting the service experience of users across multiple handset capabilities.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.35of2026.pdf

9. Jammu City and Highway Route from Delhi to Jammu

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released its Independent Drive Test (IDT) findings for the J&K Licensed Service Area (LSA), covering extensive city routes during the month of Feb 2026. The drive tests, conducted under the supervision of the TRAI Regional Office, Delhi, were designed to capture real-time mobile network performance across diverse usage environments Urban Zones, Institutional Hotspots, Public Transport Hubs, and High-Speed Corridors. Between 02 February 2026 to 05th February 2026, TRAI teams conducted detailed tests across 178.2 km of City Drive Test, 620.5 km of Highway Drive Test, 06 Hotspot locations, 3.5 km of Walk test & Inter Operator Calling at 01 location. Technologies evaluated included 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G, reflecting the service experience of users across multiple handset capabilities.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.41of2026.pdf

10. Kadapa City and their adjoining areas in a Andhra Pradesh State (under Andhra Pradesh Licensed Service Area)

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released its Independent Drive Test (IDT) findings for the Andhra Pradesh Licensed Service Area (LSA), covering extensive city of Kadapa surrounding areas in the month of February 2026. The drive tests conducted under the supervision of the TRAI Regional Office, Hyderabad, were designed to capture real-world mobile network performance across diverse usage environments- Urban Zones, Institutional Hotspots, rural residential areas etc. Between 17th February 2026 to 19th February 2026, TRAI teams conducted detailed tests for 395.6 Kms Kadapa City drive test, 5.1 Kms Walk Test and 8 Hotspot locations. Technologies evaluated included 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G, reflecting the service experience of users across multiple handset capabilities.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.44of2026.pdf

11. Kottayam, Kerala LSA

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released its Independent Drive Test (IDT) findings for the Kottayam, Kerala Licensed Service Area (LSA), covering extensive City/Railway/Coastal routes during the month of February 2025. The drive tests, conducted under the supervision of the TRAI Regional Office, Bengaluru, were designed to capture real-world mobile network performance across diverse usage environments – Urban Zones, Institutional Hotspots, Public Transport Hubs, and high-speed Corridors. Between 10th February 2026 to 13th February 2026, TRAI teams conducted detailed tests across 503.9 Kms of Kottayam including 306 Kms of City drive, 10 Hot spots, 9.2 Kms Walk Test, Coastal drive of 12.4 Kms, and Highway drive of 176.3 Kms. Technologies evaluated included 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G, reflecting the service experience of users across multiple handset capabilities.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.42of2026.pdf

12. Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar Cities & Vadodara to Ahmedabad Highway (Gujarat)

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released findings of Independent Drive Test (IDT) conducted across Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar Cities & Vadodara to Ahmedabad Highway (In Gujarat LSA), during the month of Feb 2026, for information of general telecom consumers. These IDT have been designed to capture real-world mobile network performance of all Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) across diverse usages environment -Urban zones, hotspots, public transport hubs, etc. In this type of Drive testing, live data and voice sessions are established using SIM cards from all TSPs over 2G, 3G, 4G, and 5G networks. Multiple advanced test handsets are used, and the sessions are monitored and analysed in real-time using advanced Software Systems. The data collected during the drive test is further analysed using specialized tools, and the final report is prepared based on this analysis. TRAI, through its appointed agency, conducted detailed drive tests across city drive of 462.4 Kms, 14 Hotspot locations, Walk Test of 2.5 Kms in Ahmedabad, Gandhinagar Cities & Vadodara to Ahmedabad Highway of 95 .3 Kms during 02-02-2026 to 06-02-2026 in Gujarat LSA. These tests were conducted under the supervision of the TRAI Regional Office, Jaipur.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.45of2026.pdf



Consumer Outreach Programs

Between January and March 2026, TRAI conducted 15 Consumer Outreach Programmes (COPs) across multiple states and union territories through its regional offices. These programmes covered diverse locations, including cities, districts, institutions, and remote areas. Regional Offices such as Kolkata and Bengaluru led in outreach efforts, reflecting TRAI's commitment to enhancing consumer awareness and engagement nationwide.

The theme for the quarter January to March for the COP focuses on **Quality of Service (QoS)**, covering key aspects such as

- QoS regulations in the telecom sector
- drive tests, audits In-building solutions
- building ratings
- Right of Way (RoW) rules
- QoS regulations in the broadcasting sector

Sr. no	TRAI RO	City	DATE
1	Hyderabad	Madurai	6 January 2026
2	Jaipur	Junagadh	22 January 2026
3	Delhi	Bilaspur	29 January 2026
4	Hyderabad	Bhubaneswar	29 January 2026
5	Kolkata	South 24 Parganas	5 February 2026
6	Bengaluru	Kottayam	10 February 2026
7	Jaipur	Jaipur	10 February 2026
8	Kolkata	North & Middle Andaman	25 February 2026
9	Kolkata	West Tripura	25 February 2026
10	Delhi	Srinagar	26 February 2026
11	Bhopal	Prayagraj	10 March 2026
12	Jaipur	Chandigarh	18 March 2026
13	Bengaluru	Kolar	26 March 2026
14	Delhi	Solan	27 March 2026



TRAI Regional Office, Hyderabad conducted COP at Madurai (Tamil Nadu) on 6th January 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Jaipur conducted COP at Junagadh (Gujarat) on 22nd January 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Delhi conducted COP at Bilaspur (Himachal Pradesh) on 29th January 2026



TRAI Regional Office, Hyderabad conducted COP at Bhubaneswar (Odisha) on 29th January 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Kolkata conducted COP at South 24 Parganas (West Bengal) on 5th February 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Bengaluru conducted COP at Kottayam (Kerala) on 10th February 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Jaipur conducted COP at Jaipur (Rajasthan) on 10th February 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Kolkata conducted COP at North & Middle Andaman (Andaman and Nicobar Island) on 25th February 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Kolkata conducted COP at West Tripura (Tripura) on 25th February 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Delhi conducted COP at Srinagar (J&K) on 26th February 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Bhopal conducted COP at Prayagraj (UP) on 10th March 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Jaipur conducted COP at Chandigarh (Chandigarh) on 18th March 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Bengaluru conducted COP at Sri Bhagawan Mahaveer First Grade College, Kolar, Karnataka on 26th March 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Delhi conducted COP at Solan-Oachghat-Kumarhatti Highway, Bohol, Himachal Pradesh on 27th March 2026.



TRAI Regional Office, Bengaluru conducted COP at Hotel Grace Inn, Amaravathi Maharashtra on 30th March 2026.

SUBSCRIBER BASE REPORT

Telecom Subscribers

Highlights of Telecom Subscription Data at the end of February 2026.

Particulars	Wireless*	Wireline	Total (Wireless + Wireline)
Broadband Subscribers (Million)	1013.03	46.02	1059.05
Urban Telephone Subscribers (Million)	730.75	42.91	773.66
Net Addition in February 2026 (Million)	5.08	0.32	5.40
Monthly Growth Rate	0.70%	0.75%	0.70%
Rural Telephone Subscribers (Million)	542.56	5.08	547.65
Net Addition in February 2026 (Million)	1.89	0.01	1.90
Monthly Growth Rate	0.35%	0.28%	0.35%
Total Telephone Subscribers (Million)	1273.31	47.99	1321.31
Net Addition in February 2026 (Million)	6.97	0.34	7.31
Monthly Growth Rate	0.55%	0.70%	0.56%
Share of Urban Subscribers	57.39%	89.41%	58.55%
Share of Rural Subscribers	42.61%	10.59%	41.45%
Overall Tele-density@ (with M2M cellular mobile connections)	89.30%	3.37%	92.66%
Urban Tele-density@	142.32%	8.36%	150.68%
Rural Tele-density@	59.46%	0.56%	60.02%
Tele-density@ (without M2M cellular mobile connections)	80.99%	3.37%	84.36%

- In the month of February 2026, 14.47 million subscribers submitted their requests for Mo bile Number Portability (MNP).
- The number of active wireless (mobile) subscribers (on the date of peak VLR#) in February 2026 was 1177.60 million.



Broadband Subscribers

As per the information received from 1472 operators for the month of February 2026, the total number of broadband subscribers increased from 1052.72 million at the end of January 2026 to 1059.05 million at the end of February 2026 with a monthly growth rate of 0.60%.

Segment-wise Broadband Subscribers and Monthly Growth Rate in the month of February 2026

Segment	Subscription Type	January Broadband Subscribers (in million) 2026	February Broadband Subscribers (in million) 2026	Percentage Change
Wired Subscribers	Fixed Wired Access (DSL, FTTx, Ethernet/LAN, Cable Modem, ILL)	45.83	46.02	0.42%
Wireless Subscribers	Fixed Wireless Access (5G FWA, Wi-Fi, Wi-Max, Radio/UBR, Satellite)	15.95	16.51	3.54%
Wireless Subscribers	Mobile Wireless Access (Handset/Dongle /M2M-based – 3G, 4G, 5G)	990.95	996.52	0.56%
Total	Total Broadband Subscriptions	1052.72	1059.05	0.60%

https://traf.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-04/PR_No.46of2026_0.pdf



Know Your Law Series: Establishment of TRAI

Know Your Law Series: Establishment of TRAI

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) is one of the oldest sectoral regulators of India and the cornerstone of India's telecommunications regulation. In 1995 Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of Ministry of I&B vs. Cricket Association of Bengal held that airwaves are public property and that broadcasting rights are part of the fundamental right to freedom of speech and expression under Article 19(1)(a). The judgment ended the government monopoly on electronic media, affirming that private entities have the right to broadcast, subject to reasonable restrictions and regulations. Liberalisation of the economy and the entry of private service providers brought with it the inevitable need for independent regulation. TRAI was thus, established with effect from 20th February 1997 by an ordinance to regulate telecom services, including fixation/revision of tariffs for telecom services which were earlier vested in the Central Government. The establishment of TRAI was later ratified and replaced on 28th March 1997 by an Act of Parliament, called the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997. The Act seeks to ensure efficient delivery of services such as mobile connectivity, broadband, and broadcasting to the consumers. Its establishment and functioning are governed by key provisions under Sections 3, 4, and 5 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997.

Section 3 of the Act provides for the establishment and incorporation of Authority. It states "(1) With effect from such date as the Central Government may, by notification appoint, there shall be established, for the purposes of this Act, an Authority to be called the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. (2) The Authority shall be a body corporate by the name aforesaid, having perpetual succession and a common seal, with power, subject to the provisions of this Act, to acquire, hold and dispose of property, both movable and immovable, and to contract, and shall, by the said name, sue or be sued. (3) The Authority shall consist of a Chairperson, and not more than two whole-time members and not more than two part-time members, to be appointed by the Central Government. (4) The head office of the Authority shall be at New Delhi."

Section 4 lays down the qualifications for appointment of the Chairperson and members. It states "The Chairperson and other members of the Authority shall be appointed by the Central Government from amongst persons who have special knowledge of, and professional experience in, telecommunication, industry, finance, accountancy, law, management or consumer affairs: "Provided that a person who is, or has been, in the service of Government shall not be appointed (a) as a Chairperson unless such person has held the post of Secretary to the Government of India or any equivalent post in the Central Government or the State Government; or (b) as a member unless such person has held the post of Additional Secretary to the Government of India or any equivalent post in the Central Government or the State Government: Provided further that a person who is, or has been, in a service other than that of Government, shall be appointed- (a) as a Chairperson if such person has at least thirty years of professional experience and has served as a member of the board of directors or a chief executive of a company in the areas as specified in this section; or (b) as a Member if such person has at least twenty-five years of professional experience and has served as a member of the board of directors or chief executive of a company in the areas as specified in this section".

Section 5 deals with the term of office and service conditions of the Chairperson and members, in order to ensure independence and integrity. Before appointment, the Central Government must ensure that the individual has no financial or other interests that could adversely affect their duties. The tenure is limited to a maximum of three years or until the age of sixty-five years, whichever is earlier. Members are required to retire from government service before taking up full-time roles in TRAI, reinforcing independence from executive influence.

The Act also safeguards service conditions by ensuring that salaries and allowances cannot be altered to the disadvantage of members after appointment. It provides for resignation, removal under due process, and timely filling of vacancies. Importantly, a "cooling-off" period of two years restricts former Chairpersons and whole-time members from accepting employment in government or telecom companies without prior approval, preventing conflicts of interest.

Thus, Sections 3, 4, and 5 establish TRAI as a statutory regulatory body. For the people at large, this translates into better governance of telecom services, improved quality, fair pricing, and protection of consumer rights in a fast growing and increasingly connected world.

Capacity Building

TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT

An Orientation Training Programme for the new Joinees was conducted at TRAI Headquarters during January to March 2026. Senior officers from TRAI were nominated as speakers for the said programme. The details are given below:

Sessions
Inaugural Session
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview & Organizational structure of TRAI• Roles and responsibilities of Regional Offices
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction• Functions and responsibilities of Legal division• Legal Framework for Transparency in Telecommunication Services• Brief of TRAI Act
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Process of Consultation Paper, Recommendation & Regulations• Functions and ongoing matters dealt with by NSL-II• Functions and ongoing matters dealt with by BB&PA• Consumer-centric activities• Functions and ongoing matters dealt with by CA• Implementation of Regulations and their Compliances• Functions and ongoing matters dealt with by QoS• Functioning and ongoing matters dealt by IT• Apps and Portals of TRAI
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overview of the broadcasting sector• Tariffs & Interconnection issues• Quality of Service
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introduction• Tariff-related issues• Financial Analysis• Budget & Accounts
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Valedictory Session

TRAI Centre of Studies and Research Activities

TRAI Organises Workshop on 'Quantum Safe Communication', Focuses on National Security, Standardisation and Migration Pathways

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) organised a Workshop on "Quantum Safe Communication" at the TRAI Headquarters, New Delhi. The workshop brought together senior representatives from national security institutions, scientific bodies, standardization organisations, industry associations, and emerging quantum technology enterprises to deliberate on policy, security, and operational approaches for strengthening the resilience of telecommunications networks in the quantum era. The programme served as a platform for structured deliberations on national security preparedness, postquantum cryptographic transition strategies, global standardisation initiatives, and ecosystem coordination required for migration towards quantum-secure communication networks. Discussions emphasised the importance of early and coordinated engagement to address long-term risks to conventional cryptographic systems used in telecom infrastructure.

https://www.trai.gov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.37of2026.pdf

TRAI Organized Training Program on "AI Upskilling and App Development" in Collaboration with M/s Qualcomm India Pvt. Ltd.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India organized a 2-day training program on "AI Upskilling and App Development" in collaboration with Qualcomm India Pvt. Ltd. at TRAI Headquarters from 17 and 18 March 2026. The program aimed to strengthen the technical competencies of officers in emerging domains such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, and mobile application development. Conducted over two days, the training combined theoretical sessions with practical, hands-on exercises, enabling participants to gain a deeper understanding of real-world applications of AI technologies. Experts from Qualcomm provided insights into industry trends, tools, and best practices, helping bridge the gap between policy and technology.

The initiative reflects TRAI's commitment to continuous capacity building and equipping its officials with advanced digital skills to effectively address the evolving challenges of the telecom and digital ecosystem.



TRAI Organized Lecture on "C-V2X Technology" on 27th March.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India organized a 2.5-hour lecture on "C-V2X Technology" on 27th March 2026, comprising three expert-led sessions. The first session, delivered by Punit Rathod from Qualcomm, covered global practices in Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS), technology ecosystem, and spectrum allocation for C-V2X. The second session by Prashant Banerjee from Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers focused on the status and adoption of V2X in the Indian automobile industry. The third session was delivered by Rojer Babu from Danlaw Technologies India Ltd, highlighting C-V2X applications, use cases, security aspects, and key learnings from field trials.



HR CORNER

Vacancy Circulars

- 4 Vacancy circulars for filling the positions of Secretary-TRAI, Advisors and Joint Advisor for Regional Office (Bhopal) on deputation on foreign service terms have been issued.
- 4 Vacancy circulars for filling the positions of Sr. Associate Consultant Grade-1, Associate Consultant and Consultant (Retired Govt. Servant) on contract basis have been issued.
- Transfer: - The transfer of five Officers/Officials at TRAI HQ has been executed.
- Superannuation: One officer has been retired from the services of TRAI on attaining the age of superannuation during the period.
- Appointment on Deputation and Engagement of Consultants on Contract basis at TRAI Head Quarter
- Appointment on Deputation: Two Officers have joined TRAI on deputation basis [One Principal Advisor/One Senior Research Officer).
- Engagement on Contract basis: One Consultant (Retd. Govt. servant), Two Senior Associate Consultants and Five Associate Consultants have been engaged in various divisions of TRAI during the period.
- Appointment on Deputation and Engagement of Consultants on Contract basis at TRAI at TRAI Regional Offices
- Appointment on Deputation: One Officer [Joint Advisor] has joined TRAI Regional Office - Bengaluru on deputation basis during the period.
- Engagement on Contract basis: - Three Consultants (Young Professionals) have been engaged in TRAI Regional Offices [Jaipur, Hyderabad and Kolkata) during the period.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

1. Annual Report of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India for the year 2024-25

The Annual Report of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India for the year 2024-25 detailing activities of the Authority, certified accounts and the audit report thereupon laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 17th December 2025 and Rajya Sabha on 18th December 2025.

The Annual Report of TRAI details the policies and programmes, review of General environment in the telecom sector and broadcasting sector, review of working and operation of TRAI, functions of TRAI in respect of matters specified in Section 11 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act 1997 and its organizational matters including financial performance.

A copy of the Annual Report of TRAI for the year 2024-25 has been placed on the website of TRAI (www.traigov.in) for information of the general public.

https://traigov.in/sites/default/files/2026-01/PR_No.03of2026.pdf

2. TRAI issues the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Digital Addressable Systems Audit Manual, 2026

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Digital Addressable Systems Audit Manual, 2026.

During various interactions with the Authority, the stakeholders had highlighted the need for:

- i. improving audit related provisions in the Interconnection Regulations 2017 (as amended) and the audit manual,
- ii. reducing repetitive audits of DPOs, resulting in resource wastage, operational disruption, and diminished stakeholders' confidence in the audit process,
- iii. incorporating provisions related to infrastructure sharing in the audit framework, and
- iv. enhancing the accountability of auditors and categorising auditors based on their experience to ensure credibility of auditors.

To enhance accountability and credibility of audit process, technical proficiency requirements, categorisation of auditors based on their experience and enhanced accountability provisions have been incorporated into the Expression of Interest (EOI) document issued by TRAI on 26th August 2025 for empanelment of auditors.

A draft will mandate the use of TSP URL shorteners to prevent misuse of third-party URLs and introduce a tagging system in SMS templates to scrub URLs and callback numbers effectively. TRAI aims to automate TAU report handling via the Chakshu portal and will look into disclosing blacklisted entities for enhanced transparency. A strict sunset date for full migration of the 1600-series will be established, and promotional calls must be made using the 140-series only. Collaboration discussions with Google, Meta, and GSMA will occur regarding scam initiatives and data sharing. Lastly, TRAI will contribute to consumer awareness campaigns by providing materials to DoCA.

https://www.traigov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.36of2026.pdf

Miscellaneous

Press release "Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicator Report" for the Quarter October - December 2025

TRAI released the "Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicator Report" for the Quarter ending 31st December 2025. This Report provides a broad perspective of the Telecom Services in India and presents the key parameters and growth trends of the Telecom Services as well as Cable TV, DTH & Radio Broadcasting services in India for the period covering 1st October 2025 to 31st December 2025 compiled mainly on the basis of information furnished by the Service Providers.

https://www.traigov.in/sites/default/files/2026-03/PR_No.32of2026.pdf

Full details of the Directions/Orders/Consultation Paper/Report, Subscription Data, etc. mentioned in this newsletter are available on



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TRAI

भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण
**Telecom Regulatory Authority of
India**

4th to 7th Floor, Tower - F
World Trade Centre
Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi (India) - 110029

