

Information note to the Press (Press Release No.35/2016)

For Immediate Release

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

TRAI releases "Pre-Consultation Paper on Net Neutrality".

New Delhi, 30th May, 2016: The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) today issued the "Pre-Consultation Paper on Net Neutrality" seeking comments of all stakeholders.

2. The proliferation of a vast variety of applications, websites, and other forms of content on the Internet, has enhanced user choice and paved the way for greater innovation and competition. The diverse range of services available on the Internet have varying characteristics, uses and bandwidth requirements. Increasing Internet usage, particularly of services that consume high bandwidth, may require TSPs to adopt certain reasonable measures to protect the integrity of the network and provide appropriate quality of services to their users, while working within the 'best efforts' design of the Internet.

3. This calls for a deeper enquiry into the various issues relevant to the subject of net neutrality, including determining the reasonableness of traffic management tools that may be adopted by TSPs; understanding the importance of unrestricted access to the Internet; transparency and informed choice by users; customer privacy and national security.

4. DoT has also sought the recommendations of TRAI on the subject of net neutrality, including traffic management techniques; the economic, security and privacy aspects of OTT services; and other relevant areas covered in TRAI's consultation paper dated 27th March 2015.

5. Hence, this pre-consultation paper is an attempt to identify the relevant issues in these areas, which will help TRAI in formulating its views on the way forward for policy or regulatory interventions on the issue of net neutrality.

6. Written comments on the Pre-Consultation Paper are invited from the stakeholders by 21st June, 2016. The comments may be sent, preferably in electronic form, to Mr. A. Robert J. Ravi, Advisor (QOS) on the e-mail address advqos@traigov.in. The comments

can also be faxed to 011-23213036. All comments will be posted on the TRAI's website.

7. For any further clarifications please contact Mr. A. Robert J. Ravi , Advisor (QOS) on 011-23230404.



Sudhir Gupta
Secretary, TRAI