



भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण



TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

E-NEWSLETTER

October 2024



**Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI addressed as
Chief Guest at the ET's 5G Industries Innovation
Summit 2024, on 20th September 2024.**

Consultations

TRAI released a Consultation Paper (CP) on “Terms and Conditions for the Assignment of Spectrum for Certain Satellite-Based Commercial Communication Services” on 27th September 2024

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), through a letter dated 13.09.2021, requested TRAI to provide recommendations, inter-alia, on the auction of spectrum for space-based communication services.

In this regard, a Consultation Paper on “Assignment of Spectrum for Space-based Commercial Communication Services” was released on 6th April 2023 for seeking comments/ counter-comments from stakeholders. Written comments on the issues raised in the Consultation Paper on 'Terms and Conditions for the Assignment of Spectrum for Certain Satellite-Based Commercial Communication Services' were invited from the stakeholders by 18th October 2024 and counter-comments by 25th October 2024 respectively.

https://traigov.in/sites/default/files/CP_27092024_0.pdf



TRAI released a Consultation Paper on “Formulating a Digital Radio Broadcast Policy for private Radio broadcasters” on 30th September 2024

TRAI released a Consultation Paper on “Formulating a Digital Radio Broadcast Policy for private Radio broadcasters” 30th September 2024 for seeking comments from the stakeholders. Written comments on the consultation paper were invited from the stakeholders by 28th October 2024. Counter comments, if any, were to be submitted by 11th November 2024.

Digital Radio broadcasting will provide a number of advantages over analogue radio broadcasting. The major advantage of Digital

Radio broadcasting is capability of broadcasting three to four channels on a single frequency carrier, while ensuring excellent quality of audio for all the channels, whereas in the analogue mode only one channel broadcasting is possible on a frequency carrier. In a competitive environment, digital radio broadcasting can provide exciting new opportunities to radio broadcasters as well as a host of value-added-services to the listeners

https://traigov.in/sites/default/files/CP_30092024_0.pdf



Recommendations

TRAI released Recommendations on “Connectivity to Access Service VNOs from more than one NSO” on 13th September 2024.

Department of Telecommunications (DoT), through its letter dated 07.07.2023 on the subject - 'Connectivity to Access Service VNOs from more than one NSO', sought recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India under Section 11(1)(a) of the TRAI Act, 1997.

In this regard, TRAI issued a Consultation Paper on 'Connectivity to Access Service VNOs from more than one NSO' on 23.02.2024 for soliciting the comments and counter-comments of stakeholder. In response, 09 stakeholders submitted their comments, and 04 stakeholders furnished their counter comments. An Open House Discussion on the Consultation Paper was held on 8th May 2024 through virtual mode.

Based on the references received from stakeholders and on its own analysis, TRAI released its Recommendations on the Connectivity to Access Service VNOs from more than one NSO.

Through these Recommendations, the Authority recommended that there should be no cap on the

number of Network Service Operators (NSOs) from whom an Access Service Virtual Network Operator (VNO) can take connectivity for providing wireline access service in a Licensed Service Area (LSA).

The Authority also recommended that an Access Service VNO, intending to provide both wireless and wireline access services in an LSA, should be permitted to take connectivity from one NSO for wireless access service and other NSO(s) for wireline access service in the LSA. This flexibility should be given in addition to the extant regime under which an Access Service VNO, intending to provide both wireline and wireless access services in an LSA, is permitted to take connectivity for both wireline and wireless access services from the same NSO in the LSA.

The Authority is of the view that the implementation of these recommendations would give a boost to the quality of service of wireline access services in the country. It would also provide a flexibility to Access Service VNOs to obtain connectivity for wireless access service and wireline access service from different NSOs. This would enable Access Service VNOs to provide better service offerings to telecom consumers in the country

Detailed key recommendations can be accessed from the following link or QR code.

https://traf.gov.in/sites/default/files/Recommendation_13092024_0.pdf



TRAI released Recommendations on "Framework for Service Authorisations to be Granted Under the Telecommunications Act, 2023" on 18th September 2024.

Department of Telecommunications (DoT), through its letter dated 21.06.2024 under Section 11(1) (a) of the TRAI Act, 1997 (as amended), requested TRAI to provide recommendations on terms and conditions, including fees or charges, for authorisation to

provide telecommunication services as per the provisions of the Telecommunications Act 2023.

In this regard, TRAI issued a Consultation Paper on "Framework for the Service Authorisations to be Granted Under the Telecommunications Act, 2023" on 11.07.2024 providing the background information, and seeking comments and counter comments from stakeholders on 61 issues raised in the consultation paper. In response to the issues raised in the consultation paper, 48 stakeholders furnished comments, and 17 stakeholders furnished counter comments. An Open House Discussion on the Consultation Paper was held on 21st September 2024 through virtual mode.

Based on the references received from stakeholders and on its own analysis, TRAI released its Recommendations on the 'Framework for Service Authorisations to be Granted Under the Telecommunications Act, 2023'. The recommendations aimed at a significant revamp of the existing telecommunication service licensing regime in the country and at fostering growth and enhancing ease of doing business in the sector. Through these Recommendations, the Authority recommended a new service authorisation framework, apart from detailed terms and conditions of various service authorisations to be granted under the Telecommunications Act, 2023

The recommendations on the 'Framework for Service Authorisations to be Granted Under the Telecommunications Act, 2023' consist of four chapters, running into over 350 pages. The terms and conditions to be included in the different Rules for different service authorisations have also been recommended. In total, there are 14 Rules for recommended service authorisations running into 440 pages.

Detailed key recommendations can be accessed from the following link or QR code.

https://traf.gov.in/sites/default/files/Recommendation_18092024_0.pdf



Seminars

➤ **Seminar on "Telecom Networks Quality of Service Understanding Connectivity Experience & In building Solutions" at Meerut (UP) on 24th September 2024**

TRAI regional office, Bhopal organized a Seminar on " **Telecom Networks Quality of Service Understanding Connectivity Experience & In building Solutions** " " at Meerut (UP).

Shri Sanjay Kumar Gupta, Advisor TRAI RO Bhopal while welcoming all the guests, speakers, and participants said that the mission of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India is to create and sustain conditions for the growth of telecom services in the country in such a manner and at such a pace, which can enable India to play a leading role in the emerging global information society. One of its main objectives is also to provide a fair and transparent policy and environment, which encourages equal opportunities for all and facilitates fair competition. Under these objectives, various offices of TRAI continuously interact with all the stakeholders in the telecom and broadcasting and cable sectors through seminars, customer interaction programs, open house sessions, etc. This seminar is focused on the discussion regarding Telecom Networks Quality of Service: Understanding connectivity experience and In building Solutions.

Chief guest Shri Rajat Agrawal, HOD, Dept. of Management Studies, IIT Roorkee in his keynote address informed about the Trade-offs between QoS and network resource usage, TQM (Total quality management), 6 Sigma, utilization in telecom sector for quality improvement, DMAIC, DMADV & LEAN practices. Challenges in implementing QoS, best practices for quality-of-service management.

Shri Ashok Kumar, DDG, DOT, UP West LSA & OSD to Secretary DoT in his inaugural

address emphasized on evolution of mobile technology, standards of quality of service and worldwide best practices thereof.

Shri Managovinda Mishra, Managing Director, NEMHANS Solutions Private Limited, informed about creating an ecosystem to adopt digital connectivity. Indian perspective and worldwide best practices.

Shri Ajay Kumar Mittal, Advisor-Networks, Systems and Technologies, TSDSI addressed about the Digital Connectivity: Solutions for In-Building. Aspects of Telecom Connectivity, need for rating framework of buildings or area of Digital Connectivity, Expected Benefits of Rating of Buildings for Digital Connectivity, Global rating frameworks and Key provisions of the current NBC.

Shri Sandeep Saini, Expert RAN Architecture, Ericsson focused on why IBS are becoming important, Indoor planning concept, Indoor coverage solution: Small cell/Femto cell/Micro cell solutions, DAS (distributed antenna system) concept, passive DAS, active DAS, DAS limitations, Indoor propagation model, planning indoor DAS, DAS installation, use of street furniture for small cell deployment, Case study of an indoor solution.

Shri Vivek Khare, DDG(QoS) DOT HQ, briefed about the Quality of Services-Understanding Consumers Experience. Overview of Telecom QoS and its Impact on Consumers, Consumer Expectations and Perceptions of QoS, Analysing Consumer Behaviour through Data, Methodologies to access consumer experience.

Shri H.S.Jakhar, DDG (Tx & NGS), NCA informed about the Digital Connectivity an Essential Need: Digital connectivity as a fundamental need, Digital divide, Key enablers of digital connectivity, India's Revolutionary Journey towards Digital Inclusion, Challenges in Ensuring Universal Digital Connectivity, Rural-Urban Gap, Emerging technologies, Future Trends and Opportunities in Digital Connectivity.

Joint Advisor TRAI, RO Bhopal presented the vote of thanks and concluded a seminar on a positive note.

➤ **Seminar on "Digital Connectivity Infrastructure for QoS Improvement in Buildings and Housing Complexes" at Ranchi (Jharkhand) on 26th September 2024**

TRAI regional office, Kolkata organized a Seminar on "**Telecom Networks Quality of Service Understanding Connectivity Experience & In building Solutions**" at Ranchi (Jharkhand).

Dr. S.K. Samanta, ITS, Advisor, TRAI R.O. Kolkata in his brief address welcomed Shri Ashok Kumar, Chief Guest of the occasion, Shri Apurb Minz, Vice President, Institute of Architecture, Jharkhand Chapter as the guest of honour and Dr. Manjari Chakraborty, Professor of Dept of Architecture, BIT Mesra as special guest, distinguished guests from the State Governments, esteemed Speakers, senior officers of DoT, BSNL, TSPs/IPs/ISPs/ MSOS, Press & Media and other attendees from the industry and general public etc.

Shri Apurb Minz, Vice President, Institute of Architecture, Jharkhand Chapter in his address applauded TRAI for organizing the seminar in the state of Jharkhand for enlightening the role of his member architects and highlighted the role of TRAI is playing an active part in the ecosystem for a good digital infrastructure in the country. He stated that with active cooperation of all stakeholders, digital connectivity in building and areas will definitely improve.

Sh. Ashok Kumar, ITS, DoT, Govt. of India delivered his keynote presentation emphasized on the need for good quality of telecom service in our day-to-day life and mentioned the recent policy initiatives of the Government of India for the improvement of indoor coverage in building and area.

Dr. Manjari Chakraborty, Professor of Dept of Architecture, BIT Mesra through her presentation informed the audiences Role of Designer of Building & Housing Complex in ensuring next-generation Digital

Connectivity Infrastructure in Building & Housing Complexes. She also deliberated on the need for accommodating a module on DCI in the curricula of architecture engineering.

Sh. Manoj Kumar Mishra, Director (Regulatory Affairs), Indus Tower Ltd., in his presentation highlighted the power of digitalization and the role of Infrastructure Providers [IP] in building telecom infrastructure throughout the length and breadth of the country. He stressed upon the requirement of collaboration of various stakeholders and policy initiatives to be taken to reduce the digital divide.

Shri Chakrapani K, M/s Nokia India in his presentation elaborately discussed regarding various models of implementation of infra-sharing among telecom service providers and urged the real estate developers present in the audience to adopt various technological solutions available to boost their business opportunities. He also shared experiences of some live implementation of infra- sharing models in the country.

Ar. Gajanand Ram, Vice president, Council of Architecture, New Delhi in his short but captivating presentation deliberated on the need for effective implementation of the bye-laws at the state level through incorporating changes required at various stages of granting building sanction. He also emphasized that the provisions in the bye- laws about building digital connectivity infrastructure needs to be followed for ensuring seamless connectivity inside building.

Shri Mrinal Kant, CTO Airtel Jharkhand in his presentation tried to deliberate on various issues the telecom service providers are facing for getting access for deployment of telecom equipment and cables for wireless as well as wireline services. He also touched upon the areas of telecom equipment security as well as charges being asked by the property owner from the service providers as urged that providing access should not be seen as a source of revenue generation.

In the final session of the seminar a lively panel discussion moderated by Shri VV Prasad Pandey,

DDG Jharkhand DoT wherein Shri Sanjiv Verma PGM BSNL Jharkhand, Shri Ritesh Batsa CEO Indus Towers Ltd, BR&JHK, Shri Mrinal Kant CTO Airtel Jharkhand, Ar. Rajeev Chadda, Member, IIA Jharkhand and Dr S K Samanta, Advisor, TRAI RO participated. The panelists deliberated on various issues being faced by the telecom service providers in providing telecom services in residential complexes and efforts required by all stakeholders to maintain quality of telecom services. It was also felt that awareness as well as expertise is required to be developed among the building designers and sanctioning authority and architects as well as TSPs need to come forward for collaboration.

On 20th September 2024, Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI addressed as Chief Guest at the ET's 5G Industries Innovation Summit 2024.



ET's 5G Industries Innovation Summit 2024 held on 20th September 2024.



Events

On 19th September 2024, Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI felicitated TRAI officers for formulating of Recommendations on the 'Framework for Service Authorizations to be granted Under the Telecommunications Act, 2023' in record time.



On 25th September 2024, Glimpses of Media Briefing on TRAI's Recommendations on the Framework for Service Authorizations to be Granted Under the Telecommunications Act 2023 New QoS Regulations 02 Aug 2024 & recent steps taken to stop Spam Calls and to prevent misuse of SMS Headers and Content Templates.



Miscellaneous Activities



From 30th September to 3rd October 2024 Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI participated as a Speaker in Policy Leaders' Forum's Panel on Strategies for incentivizing investment in digital infrastructure at GSMA M360 conference in Seoul.



➤ On 20th August 2024, TRAI issued Direction under TCCCPR-2018 to all the Access Providers for enforcement of measures to curb the misuse of messaging services and protect consumers from fraudulent practices. Through this Direction, TRAI has mandated all Access Service Providers to ensure the following:

- a. TRAI has mandated the Access Providers to migrate telemarketing calls starting with 140 series to online DLT platform latest by 30th September 2024 for better monitoring and control.
 - b. Effective from 1st October 2024, all Access Service Providers will be prohibited from transmitting messages containing URLs, APKs, OTT links, or call back numbers which are not whitelisted by the Senders. The above Directions have been implemented by the Access Providers as per the timelines indicated above.
- TRAI released direction on 19th September 2024 prescribing formats and timeline for submission of compliance report in respect of access (wireless), access (wireline), broadband (wireline) service and significant network outage in accordance to the provision of the Standards of Quality of Service of Access (Wireline and Wireless) and Broadband (Wireline and Wireless) Service Regulations, 2024 dated 02nd August 2024. This direction has come into force with effect from 1st October 2024.
- During the month of September 2024, Independent Drive Tests were conducted in Delhi LSA from 17th September 2024 to 1st October 2024. During these drive tests, total distance of around 600 kms of New Delhi and Central Delhi were covered. In addition to this, five Metro routes (Red Line, Yellow Line, Blue Line Violet line and Airport Express line) were also covered.

Telecom Subscriptions

Telecom Subscription Data as on 31st August 2024

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	Total
Urban Telephone subscribers (in Million)	633.21	33.37	666.58
Rural Telephone subscribers (in Million)	530.63	2.86	533.49
Total Telephone subscribers (in Million)	1163.83	36.23	1200.07
Overall Tele-density (%)	82.85	2.58	85.43
Share of Urban Subscription (%)	54.41	92.09	55.54
Share of Rural Subscription (%)	45.59	7.91	44.46
No. of Broadband Subscribers (in Million)	906.37	42.84	949.21

Active wireless subscribers on the date of Peak VLR in August 2024 were 1061.48 million.

In August 2024, 14.66 million subscriber requests were made for MNP. By the end of August 2024, a total of 1025.78 million consumers availed the MNP facility since its implementation.

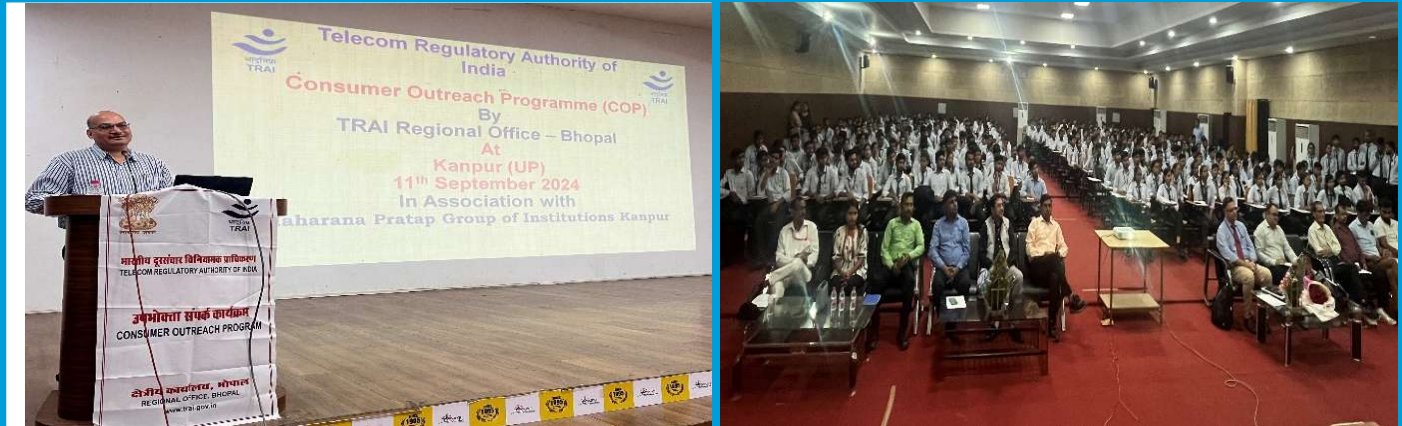
Consumer Outreach Programs

TRAI conducted Special Consumer Outreach Programmes (SCOPs)/ Consumer Outreach Programme (COPs) for different sections of the society as under:

Sl. No.	Place	Date
1.	Kanpur (UP) by TRAI RO, Bhopal	11 th September 2024
2.	Gautam Budh Nagar (UP) by TRAI HQ, New Delhi	13 th September 2024
3.	Berhampur (Odisha) by TRAI RO, Hyderabad	19 th September 2024
4.	Devbhumi Dwarka (Gujarat) by TRAI RO, Jaipur	20 th September 2024
5.	Kannur (Kerala) by TRAI RO, Bengaluru	25 th September 2024
6.	Medak (Telangana) by TRAI RO, Hyderabad	27 th September 2024

Photo Gallery

TRAI Regional Office, Bhopal conducted a COP at Kanpur (UP) on 11th September 2024



TRAI HQ, New Delhi conducted a COP at Gautam Budh Nagar (UP) on 13th September 2024



TRAI Regional Office, Hyderabad conducted a COP at Berhampur (Odisha) on 19th Sept. 2024



TRAI Regional Office, Jaipur conducted a COP at Devbhumi Dwarka (Gujarat) on 20th Sept. 2024



TRAI Regional Office, Bengaluru conducted a COP at Kannur (Kerala) on 25th Sept. 2024



TRAI Regional Office, Hyderabad conducted a COP at Medak (Telangana) on 27th Sept. 2024



Full details of the Directions/Orders/Consultation Paper/Report, Subscription Data, etc. mentioned in this newsletter are available on TRAI's website www.traigov.in

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