CONSUMER GUILD **TRAI-CA/003/UP/04-2025**

To,
Shri Akhilesh Kumar Trivedi
Advisor (Networks, Spectrum and Licensing)
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
Email: advmn@trai.gov.in

Re: Consultation Paper on the Auction of Radio Frequency Spectrum in the Frequency Bands Identified for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT)

Sir, Being a consumer advocacy group, we will give our inputs in the response of following Question-

Q 20. Are there any other inputs/ issues related to the auction of spectrum in the upper 6 GHz band for the forthcoming auction? Suggestions may be made with detailed justifications.

As per TRAI, the upcoming auction will cover existing international mobile telecommunications (IMT) bands of 800-megahertz (MHz), 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz, 2500 MHz, 3300 MHz, and 26 GHz. Bands under consideration that are yet to be assigned for IMT in India include 600 MHz, 1427-1518 MHz, 6425-6725 MHz, and 7025-7125 MHz, which would be auctioned for the first time.

We fully support "hybrid" model where a portion of the bands is licensed and the other is unlicensed for fostering innovation and providing faster Wi-Fi speeds for consumers. Data speed is still a general problem of Telecom consumers in the country. By combining exclusive and shared access, regulators can encourage competition and prevent market dominance in certain frequency bands. We also in support of enabling regulatory framework that lowers entry barriers for access service providers, so new entities might obtain access service licences/authorisations and participate in IMT auctions. spectrum demand depends on multiple technical and economic factors,; pricing that is too high can deter participation and curb competition, while pricing that is too low is also undesirable so balance approach should be adopted. 6 GHz band support for consumer broadband in India is growing due to the government's May 2025 decision to delicense the 5925–6425 MHz portion of the spectrum for Wi-Fi 6E and Wi-Fi 7. This move allows for faster, less congested wireless connectivity for consumers. Dynamic sharing and allocation methods can help maximize the use of limited radio frequency spectrum resources and better consumer experience.