

===== Forwarded message =====

From: consumer guild <[consumerguild@rediffmail.com](mailto:consumerguild@rediffmail.com)>

To: <[advmn@traigov.in](mailto:advmn@traigov.in)>

Date: Tue, 21 Apr 2026 20:41:00 +0530

Subject: Comments\_Consultation Paper on the Framework for Satellite Communication Network Authorisation, and Assignment of Spectrum to Satellite Communication Network Providers

===== Forwarded message =====

**To,**  
**Shri Akhilesh Kumar Trivedi,**  
Advisor (Networks, Spectrum and Licensing), TRAI

Greetings from Consumer Guild, Lucknow !

Respected Sir,

We are sending here with our comments on Consultation Paper on **on Consultation Paper on the Framework for Satellite Communication Network Authorisation, and Assignment of Spectrum to Satellite Communication Network Providers.**

***Yours Sincerely,***

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TRAI-CA/003/UP/04-2025

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CG Response-TRAI-CONSULTATION PAPER No/ 06/2026

Date – 21/04/2026

## **Comments : - Consultation Paper on the Framework for Satellite Communication Network Authorisation, and Assignment of Spectrum to Satellite Communication Network Providers**

Consumer Guild, Lucknow, a registered Consumer Advocacy Group (CAG) with the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), expresses its appreciation for the opportunity to submit comments on the Consultation Paper on the Framework for Satellite Communication Network Authorisation and Assignment of Spectrum to Satellite Communication Network Providers. Satellite communication technologies are expected to play a significant role in expanding connectivity, particularly in underserved and remote regions where terrestrial networks face limitations. From a consumer perspective, it is essential that the regulatory framework prioritizes affordability, transparency, quality of service, and protection of consumer interests.

Satellite communication services should be positioned as a complement to terrestrial networks, ensuring that regulatory frameworks do not create arbitrage opportunities that could distort the market. The approach adopted must balance innovation with safeguards against anti-competitive practices. It is important that the framework is designed in a manner that ensures equitable access while maintaining service reliability and affordability for end users.

The authorisation framework should be simple, transparent, and technology-neutral to encourage participation from multiple service providers. Excessive regulatory or licensing burdens may increase operational costs, which are likely to be passed on to consumers. Therefore, ease of entry and compliance should be ensured while embedding consumer protection obligations within the authorisation conditions. This would promote competition and result in better service quality and pricing outcomes for consumers.

With respect to spectrum assignment, it is important that the process ensures efficient utilization and prevents hoarding of this scarce public resource. While administrative allocation may be appropriate for certain satellite frequency bands, adequate safeguards such as periodic review of spectrum usage and “use it or lose it” provisions should be incorporated. Additionally, spectrum pricing should be carefully calibrated so that it does not lead to increased tariffs for consumers, thereby limiting accessibility.

Consumer protection must remain a central element of the regulatory framework. Service providers should be required to maintain transparency in tariff structures, ensure billing accuracy, and establish robust grievance redressal mechanisms. Further, clearly defined



Quality of Service (QoS) standards should be mandated, including benchmarks for latency, minimum download and upload speeds, and service uptime. Consumers should also be adequately informed about the inherent limitations of satellite communication services, such as potential latency issues and weather-related disruptions, to enable informed decision-making.

Satellite communication networks offer a valuable opportunity to bridge the digital divide, particularly in rural, remote, and disaster-prone areas. In this context, targeted policy support, including incentives and funding through mechanisms such as the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF), may be considered to promote deployment in underserved regions. Ensuring affordability for low-income users will be critical to achieving inclusive digital connectivity.

It is also important to maintain a competitive market structure that prevents concentration of market power in the hands of a few large players. A level playing field should be ensured for both domestic and international operators, with adequate encouragement for participation by Indian entities and startups. This will foster innovation, enhance resilience, and promote consumer choice.

In addition, satellite communication service providers must comply with applicable national security requirements and data protection norms. Adequate safeguards should be in place to ensure the privacy and security of consumer data, along with transparency regarding its collection and usage.

In conclusion, Consumer Guild, Lucknow submits that the regulatory framework for satellite communication networks should adopt a consumer-centric approach, ensuring fair competition, efficient spectrum utilization, robust consumer protection, and affordable access. A balanced and forward-looking policy will enable the sector to contribute effectively to inclusive digital growth while safeguarding the interests of consumers.

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