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Subject: Response on the draft telecommunication (broadcasting and cable services) (eighth) (Addressable Systems) Tariff order, 2016.

To: pradybcs@traigov.in, vk.agarwal@traigov.in

Response on the draft telecommunication (broadcasting and cable services) (eighth) (Addressable Systems) Tariff order, 2016.

Dear Sir,

We are glad to know that TRAI has taken initiative to address / resolve the complication between channel and cable services. Our comments on draft Telecommunication (broadcasting and cable services) (eighth)(Addressable Systems) Tariff order, 2016 are given below :-

(i) Referring Para 6.5

1. The clause should mention that the distributor should not charge from the FTA broadcasters (from Free to air channels)
2. The final approval of bouquet(s) should be given by TRAI.

(ii) Reference Para 6.7

1. It is suggested that the number of channels should be increased from 100 to 200 and should be excluding all the channels notified by the Central Government.

2. There should be some clause regarding Regional FTA channels. Some percentage of reservation should be provided to protect FTA channels which are telecasting regional relevant / important contents.

(iii) Reference Para 7.1

If any FTA channel is excluded out of bouquet offered by the distributor, there should be a valid reason which is verifiable and justifiable. The reason should be presented in writing before TRAI within in 15 days.

(iv) Reference Para 7.2 and 3

a. It should be made mandatory on part of the broadcaster and distributor to display the information about each and every registered pay and FTA channels as per the category on their web sites.

b. All information regarding FTA and Pay channels, should be also available on TRAI website.

(v) Suggestions (following points should be addressed in the draft).

(a) No Carriage Charge for FTA.

No carriage Charges in any form should be charged from FTA channels by distributors/broadcasting services/MSOs

(b) TRAI Complaint Cell

It is proposed that TRAI should open a cell where in the affected parties can be heard in a time bound manner and directions can be issued as deemed fit.