Dear Madam,

The present Licensing framework permits Basic Service Licensee, Unified Access Service Licensee (UASL), Cellular Mobile Telecom Service (CMTS) licensees and Unified Licensee (access service authorisation) to provide unrestricted Internet Telephony. These licences further permit that while providing Internet Telephony service, the licensee may interconnect Internet Telephony network with PSTN/PLMN/GMPCS network. Despite the fact that these licences were allowed to provide unrestricted Internet Telephony, the service did not take off in the country.

2. In order to address the concerns of the stakeholders, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has suo-motu issued a Consultation paper on ‘Internet Telephony (VoIP)’ on 22.06.2016. The Consultation paper invited comments and counter comments from stakeholders on many of the important issues in respect of Internet Telephony. Subsequently, a letter dated 26.12.2016 was received from DoT with a request to expeditiously submit the recommendations on Internet Telephony. An Open House Discussion was also held on 12.01.2017.

3. The Authority, after carefully examining various issues emanating from the written submissions of the stakeholders and the discussions in the open house, in-house analysis & research arrived at its recommendations on "Regulatory framework for Internet Telephony". In keeping with practice, a copy of this letter, along with the Authority’s response, is being placed on the website of TRAI (www.trai.gov.in).

4. This letter issues with the approval of the Authority.

With Warm Regards,

Encl.: as above

Yours sincerely,

(S.K. Gupta)

To,
Smt. Aruna Sundararajan,
Secretary, Department of Telecommunications,
Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashoka Road,
New Delhi-110001