

To

भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण Telecom Regulatory Authority of India [भारत सरकार / Government of India]



F. No.: C-33/4/(1)/2024-B AND CS(1 AND 3)

Dated: 8th July 2024

The Secretary Ministry of Information and Broadcasting 'A' Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001

Subject: Recommendations on 'Listing of television channels in Electronic Programme Guide and Upgradation of DD Free Dish platform to an Addressable System'

TRAI has issued a Consultation Paper on 'Review of Regulatory Framework for Broadcasting and Cable services' on 8th August 2023, to address the issues raised by the stakeholders.

2. The questions raised in the Consultation Paper, *inter-alia*, also contain certain questions pertaining to listing of television channels in Electronic Programme Guide (EPG) and issues related to DD Free Dish. TRAI received comments from 86 stakeholders which included various associations, companies, service providers, individuals and consumer advocacy groups.

3. The Open House Discussion (OHD) was held on 18th April 2024. The comments received and OHD submissions were analyzed and it was found that the aforesaid two issues required consideration of the Government. Accordingly, the Authority has finalized its recommendations on the same besides amending and simplifying the extant regulatory framework.

4. The recommendations on 'Listing of television channels in Electronic Programme Guide and Upgradation of DD Free Dish platform to an Addressable System' are enclosed herewith, wherein the Authority has recommended MIB to seek information from broadcasters about primary language and sub-genre of the television channels and to display the same on Broadcast Seva portal to enable distributors in arranging television channels in the EPG for easy navigation by the subscribers. Additionally, it is recommended to notify the upgradation of Prasar Bharati's 'DD Free Dish' platform to an addressable system in a phased manner within a specified timeframe, to ensure quality of viewing experience, prevent unauthorized re-distribution of the television channels to combat piracy and maintain subscribers' records.

5. In keeping with the practice, a copy of this letter, along with recommendations, is being placed on TRAI website <u>www.trai.gov.in</u>.

This issues with the approval of the Authority.

Encl: as above

(Atul Kumar Chaudhary)

E-mail: secretary@trai.gov.in