

NOBLE SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY

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To

Dr P. K Mishra
Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Prime Minister of India,
Prime Minister Officer, South Block
Government of India, New Delhi

Sub: TRAI consultation Process on Interconnection Usage Charges

Dear Sir

As you may be aware Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued an "Consultation Paper on to "Review of Interconnection Usage Charges" dated 18th September, 2019" and sought the opinion of different category of stakeholders including the consumers.

The principal regulation for IUC of voice calls was notified for the first time through "The Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (IUC Regulation), 2003 (4 of 2003)" dated 29/10/2003. This Regulation laid down uniform termination charge of 0.30 per minute. Its next review for call termination charges was undertaken in the year 2008-09 and termination charge of 0.20 per minute for local and national long-distance voice calls to fixed line and mobile (revised downwards from the erstwhile charge of 0.30 per minute.

Further, the domestic call termination charges were further revised, through the Regulation of 2015 to 0.14 per minute for wireless to wireless calls and 0 paisa for calls involving wireline telephony at either end of communication. Subsequently, the Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (Thirteenth Amendment) Regulations, 2017 dated 19.09.2017 [herein after referred to as IUC Regulations, 2017 brought down wireless to wireless domestic call termination charge to 0.06 per minute, effective from 1/10/2017 to 31/12/2019. It further prescribed Bill And Keep (BAK) regime i.e. zero termination charge, effective from 1/1/2020 for domestic call termination.

