

Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 14/2010)

For Immediate release

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TRAI releases consultation paper on -“Tariff Issues related to Cable TV Services in Non-CAS Areas”

New Delhi, 25th March, 2010- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released a consultation paper on-“Tariff Issues related to Cable TV Services in Non-CAS Areas”.

2. The present de novo tariff exercise for cable TV services in non-CAS areas is being carried out in pursuant to the Hon’ble Supreme Court order dated 13th May 2009.
3. Following issues have been covered in this consultation paper:
 - i) Wholesale tariff of channels from broadcasters to MSOs
 - ii) Retail tariff for cable TV services from cable operators to consumers
 - iii) A-la-carte provision of channels from broadcaster to MSO
 - iv) Carriage & placement fee paid by broadcasters to MSOs/cable operators
 - v) Tariff for commercial subscribers, and
 - vi) Digitization with addressability.

4. The consultation paper has been prepared based on (i) inputs on financial and operational information given by the stakeholders (broadcasters, MSOs, cable operators, DTH operators and consumer advocacy groups) (ii) information obtained during meetings with the stakeholders and their associations (iii) published secondary sources of information including annual reports and financial statements and (iv) interaction with international regulators.
5. The Authority has invited all stakeholders to respond to the issues raised in this consultation paper by 25th April, 2010. Comments will be posted on TRAI website as and when received. Counter comments, if any, to the comments received may be sent to TRAI by 5th May, 2010. The full text of the consultation paper is available on TRAI's website: www.traigov.in .

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