Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 34/2020) For Immediate Release

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Clarification regarding TRAI recommendations on 'Ensuring Adequate Numbering Resources for Fixed Line and Mobile Services' issued on 29th May 2020

New Delhi, 31st May 2020 – The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) released its recommendations on 'Ensuring Adequate Numbering Resources for Fixed Line and Mobile Services' on 29th May 2020. A press release was also issued on the same day.

- 2. In this regard, it is observed that some media houses have reported that TRAI has recommended 11-digit numbering scheme for mobile services. It is complete misinterpretation of the aforesaid recommendations. TRAI has not recommended 11-digit numbering scheme for mobile services.
- 3. In fact, as per the TRAI recommendation the country will continue to follow a 10-digit numbering for mobile services. We have categorically rejected shifting to an 11-digit mobile numbering plan.
- 4. Further, TRAI has recommended a dialling prefix '0' while making a call from a fixed line number to mobile number. The introduction of a dialling prefix for a particular type of call is not akin to increasing the number of digits in the telephone number. This change in dialling pattern will generate 2544 million additional numbering resources for mobile services to cater to the future requirements.
- 5. It is worthwhile mentioning in this regard that in the existing dialling scheme, the dialling prefix '0' is mandatory while making inter-SDCA¹ call from a fixed line number to fixed line number. This dialling prefix '0' is also mandatory when calls are made from a mobile number to any fixed line

¹SDCA stands for Short Distance Charging Area, equivalent to a Taluka. The country is divided into 2645 SDCAs for the basic/fixed line services. Each SDCA has a unique SDCA code e.g. 11 for Delhi, 22 for Mumbai, 522 for Lucknow

number. Therefore, the current recommendation suggests a minor addition in the dialling pattern.

6. The recommendations have been placed on TRAI's website: www.trai.gov.in. For any further clarification/information, Shri U.K. Srivastava, Pr. Advisor (NSL) may be contacted at Tel/Fax No. +91-11-23233291

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