

Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 73/2007)

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

For Immediate release

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Sub:- TRAI issues Direction to access Service Providers on Caller Line Identity Presentation (CLIP) charges

- Need for enhanced transparency with regard to charging re-emphasized

New Delhi, 28th August, 2007 : It has come to the notice of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India that certain service providers are providing CLIP facility as a compulsory chargeable Value Added Service. Examination by the Authority showed that no significant amount of work is involved in presenting the caller line identity to the called subscriber and thus the incremental cost of providing CLIP facility is negligible. Thus the Authority finds no justification in making CLIP facility a compulsory chargeable item. The Authority recalled its earlier Direction issued vide F.No.301-49/2005 dated 16th September, 2005 that all monthly fixed recurring charges including CLIP which are compulsory for a subscriber under any given tariff plan shall be shown under one head to make it easier for the consumer to make a choice from among all tariff plans available in the market.

2. Though the Authority has refrained from mandating a cost based tariff for CLIP facility keeping in line with the policy of tariff forbearance, in order to protect the interest of consumers, the Authority has re-emphasized the need for enhanced transparency with regard to the charging for CLIP. ***Through a Direction the Authority has now mandated that Charges for CLIP facility cannot be made a compulsory item of tariff for the subscribers in any tariff plan.***

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Whenever CLIP charges are sought to be levied by Service Providers, this shall be optional for subscribers. The Operators have been given 15 days to restructure the existing tariff plans so as to make them consistent with the provisions of this Direction.

3. Full text of the Direction is placed in the website of TRAI www.trai.gov.in .

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Authorized for issue

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