TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

NEWSLETTER: Vol. XII/2016 December 2016

Newsletter for Consumer Advocacy Groups (CAGs)

This newsletter brings you information and developments that have taken place during the month of December, 2016.

1. OHD on the consultation paper on 'Infrastructure Sharing in Broadcasting TV Distribution System":

An Open House Discussion (OHD) on the consultation paper 'Infrastructure Sharing in Broadcasting TV Distribution System" was held on 19.12.2016 at New Delhi.

The consultation process is aimed at making recommendations to the government to formulate a policy framework for infrastructure sharing by Distribution Platform Operators (DPOs) on voluntary basis so as to optimally utilise the same and to identify consequent changes required in Cable TV Act and License/Registration conditions of Broadcasters and DPOs to facilitate the process.

Chairman, TRAI addressing the gathering in the OHD

Recommendations:

1. Recommendations on 'Encouraging Data usage in Rural Areas through Provisioning of Free Data'

The Authority has submitted its recommendations to DoT on 'Encouraging Data usage in Rural Areas through Provisioning of Free Data' on 19.12.2016. Summary of recommendations are as below:

a. In order to bridge the affordability gap for the persons residing in rural areas and to support Governments efforts towards cashless economy by incentivising digital means, the Authority recommends that a scheme under which a reasonable amount of data say 100 MB per month may be made available to rural subscribers for free.

b. The cost of implementation of the scheme may be met from Universal Services Obligation Fund (USOF).

c. To increase participation of other entities for incentivizing free data, there is a need to introduce third party (Aggregator) to facilitate schemes which are TSPs agnostic and non discriminatory in their implementation.

d. Scheme for free data must be TSP-agnostic, must not involve any arrangement between the TSP and the aggregator/content provider and should not be designed to circumvent the "The Prohibition of Discriminatory Tariffs for Data Services Regulations," notified on 8th February, 2016.

e. The following mechanism has been recommended in this regard:
- The Aggregators will need to register with DoT.
- The registrant must be a company registered under Indian Companies Act, 1956.
- The validity of registration shall be 5 years.
- The registrant shall not either directly or indirectly, assign or transfer the Registration in any manner whatsoever to a third party either in whole or in part.

2. Recommendations on "Licensing framework for Audio Conferencing/Audiotex/Voice Mail Services" :

TRAI received a reference from the Department of Telecommunications for review of the terms and conditions for issue of fresh licences for Voice Mail/Audiotex/Unified Messaging Services (UMS) and for migration of existing licenses.

Keeping in view the changes in technology and the resultant new user applications and service delivery scenarios, there was a need to review the technical specifications, financial terms and conditions, scope and guidelines for the Voice Mail/Audiotex/Unified Messaging Services (UMS) and the licence conditions.

TRAI issued a Consultation Paper on "Review the issue of Voice Mail" on 14.06.2016 and also an Open House Discussion held in Delhi on 30.09.2016. The Authority after carefully examining various issues emanating from the written submissions of the stakeholders and Open House Discussions made the following recommendations to DoT:

a. A new chapter for authorisation titled "Audio Conferencing/ Audiotex/Voice Mail services" should be added in the Unified Licence. However, licensees with Access Services licence authorisation should also be allowed to provide these services.

b. The latest TEC specifications on Audio Conferencing/Audiotex/Voice Mail should be specified in the technical conditions of the recommended chapter in UL subject to modifications or updations from time to time. However, Licence terms and conditions should override anything mentioned in the technical specifications.

c. The clauses in the 'Operating Conditions' of the existing Voice Mail/Audiotex/Unified Messaging Services licence should be made a part of the recommended chapter on Audio Conferencing/ Audiotex/Voice Mail in the Unified Licence. Dial out facility using resources of more than one access service provider may be allowed with the condition that STD/ISD traffic should not be bypassed.

d. The terms and conditions for providing these services under access service authorisation as well as under Audio Conferencing/ Audiotex/Voice Mail services authorisation recommended by the Authority, should be same.

e. Calls originating from PSTN/PLMN/GMPCS/Internet Telephony networks should not be interconnected with those from Private/CUG networks.

f. There should not be any standalone licence for Unified Messaging Service(UMS). The UMS service may be provided with access service authorisation or Internet Service authorisation under Unified Licence.

g. In the recommended chapter for Audio Conferencing/ Audiotex/Voice Mail services authorisation under UL the service area should be National Area only. The services should not be used in whatsoever manner for any illegal by pass of STD/ISD traffic of any licensed access service provider.

h. The financial terms and conditions for the recommended Audio Conferencing/Audiotex/Voice Mail authorisation under UL should be as follows:

Sl No.	Service	Minimum Equity (Rs. Cr.)	Minimum Net worth (Rs. Cr.)	Entry Fee (Rs. Cr.)	PBG * (Rs. Cr.)	FBG ** (Rs. Cr.)	Application Processing Fee (Rs. Cr.)
1	Audio Conferencing/ Audiotex/ Voice Mail (National Area)	Nil	Nil	0.100	0.100	0.010	0.0015

* *Performance Bank Guarantee*

** *Financial Bank Guarantee*

- The annual licence fee for the recommended Audio Conferencing/ Audiotex/Voice Mail Service authorisation should be made same as that in other licence authorisations in the Unified Licence (which is presently 8% of Adjusted Gross Revenue; inclusive of USO levy which is presently 5% of AGR).
- The definition of Adjusted Gross Revenue (AGR) for the recommended Audio Conferencing/ Audiotex/Voicemail service authorisation under Unified Licence should be made similar to that for access service authorisation under Unified Licence.
- The Authority reiterates its recommendations on "Definition of Revenue Base (AGR) for the Reckoning of Licence Fee and Spectrum Usage Charges" dated 6th January 2015.
- The duration of the recommended Audio Conferencing/ Audiotex/Voice Mail authorisation should be made twenty years similar to other authorisations under UL.
- Standalone Voice Mail/Audiotex/Unified Messaging Services licence should be discontinued. No, further renewal of these licences should be done.
- The existing Voice Mail/Audiotex/Unified Messaging Services licensees may be given the option to migrate to the recommended Audio Conferencing/ Audiotex/ Voice Mail authorisation under UL. There should not be any mandatory migration.
- The annual licence fee for existing standalone Voice Mail/ Audiotex/UMS licensees who do not migrate to UL should also be made equal to 8% of Adjusted Gross Revenue. The definition of AGR should be made similar to that for Access service authorisation under UL.
- The existing standalone Voice Mail/Audiotex/UMS licensees may be allowed to acquire customers only in the SDCA for which the licence has

been granted; as per the clause 2.1 of the existing licence agreement document.

- The terms and conditions for provision of these services under Basic Services Licence, UASL or CMTS may also be clearly specified and should be made similar to the terms and conditions in the recommended chapter on Audio Conferencing/Audiotex/Voice Mail Services in the UL.
-

Interactions

1. Lab Demonstration by C-DoT on framework for Interoperable STBs :

C-DoT, a government organization, has been working on technical interoperability of STB's. During the month of October, M/s C-DoT has communicated that significant progress has been achieved by them in term of implementation of a framework for interoperable STBs. A lab demonstration of framework for Interoperable STB based on Smart Card based approach in C-DoT Bangalore was organised on 24th December 2016. Main purpose of this demo was to exhibit C-DoT's progress on development of Interoperable STB framework & practical feasibility of Smart Card based approach of Interoperable STB.

Other Information:

1. Latest available telecom subscription data (as on 30th September, 2016):

Particulars	No. of Wireless subscribers (in Millions)	No. of Wire-line Subscribers (in Millions)	No. of Total subscribers (Wireless + Wire-line) (in Millions)
Urban Subscription	603.80	20.57	624.38
Rural Subscription	445.94	3.92	449.86
Total Subscription	1049.74	24.49	1074.24
Overall Tele-density	82.17	1.92	84.09
Share of Urban Subscription	57.52%	83.99%	58.12%
Share of Rural Subscription	42.48%	16.01%	41.88%
No. of Broadband Subscribers	174.47	17.84	192.30

Active wireless subscribers on the date of Peak VLR in September, 2016 were 949.17 million.

In the month of September, 2016, 5 million requests have been made for MNP. So far 239.46 million consumers have availed MNP facility.

2. Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicator Report :

TRAI has released the 'Indian Telecom Service Performance Indicator Report' for the quarter ending June, 2016 (period from 1st April, 2016 to 30th June, 2016) and September, 2016 (1st July,2016 to 30th September,2016) on 01.12.2016 and 30.12.2016 respectively. The report provides broad perspective of the telecom services as well as cable TV, DTH and radio broadcasting services in India.

TRAI EVENTS

1. Consumer Outreach Programmes:

TRAI organized 06 Consumer Outreach Programmes in the month of December, 2016 at the following places:

Raisen (Madhya Pradesh)	06.12.2016
Phootolao, Jaipur (Rajasthan)	09.12.2016
Mohali (Punjab)	15.12.2016
Bilaspur (Himachal Pradesh)	16.12.2016
Rajgir (Bihar)	19.12.2016
Chennai (Tamil Nadu)	21.12.2016

Full details of the Directions/Orders, Consultation Paper/Report, Subscription Data, etc mentioned in this newsletter are available on TRAI website www.trai.gov.in

MahanagarDoorsancharBhawan, JawaharLal Nehru Marg, (Old Minto Road), New Delhi-110 002.

We are also on Facebook! Join! Us!

https://www.facebook.com/TRAI/

We are also on Twitter! Join! Us!

TRAI@TRAI

PHOTO GALLERY

TRAI Interactions with Consumers/Consumer Groups

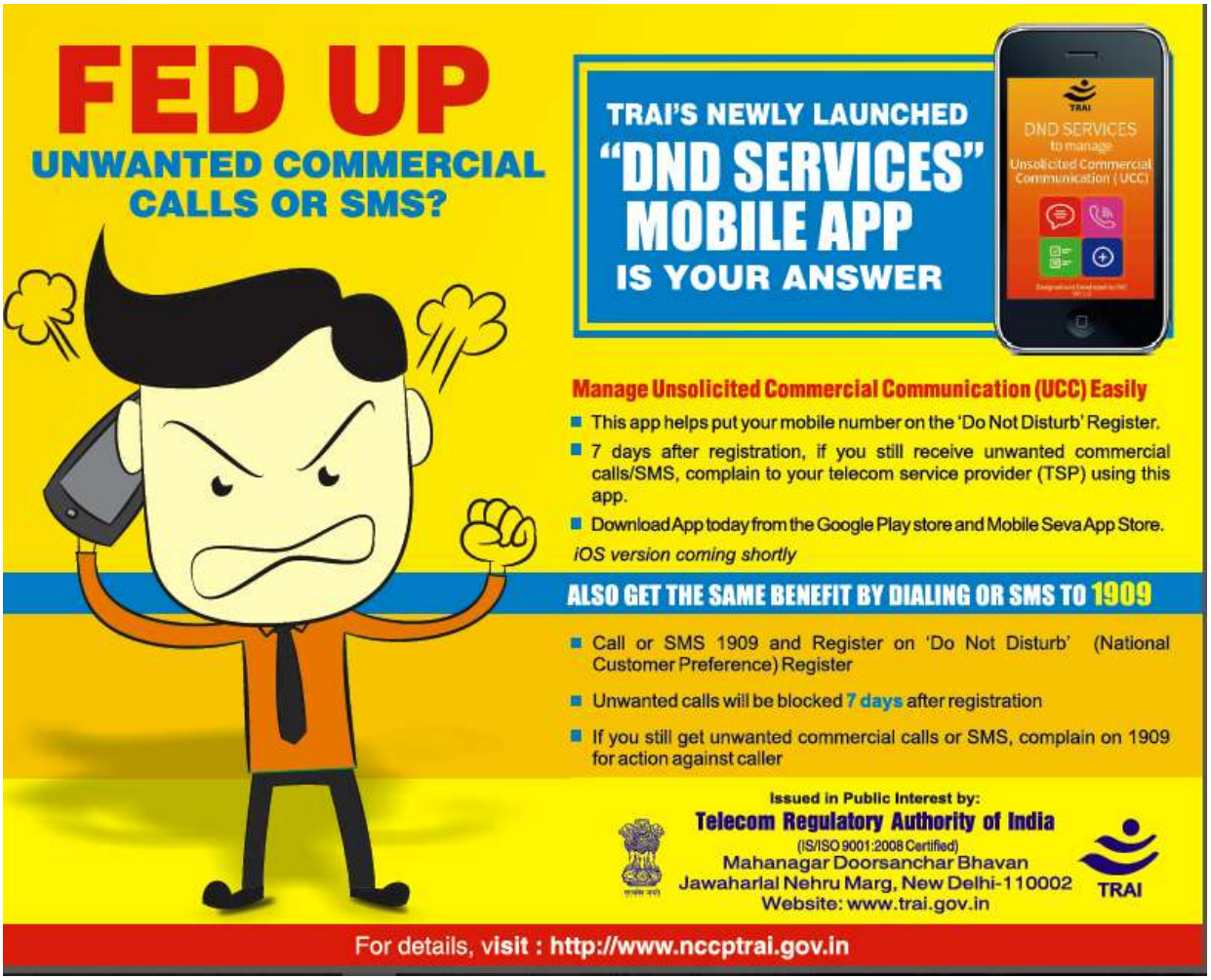
CoP at Raisen (Madhya Pradesh) held on 06.12.2016

CoP at Phootolao, Jaipur (Rajasthan) held on 09.12.2016

CoP at Mohali (Punjab) held on 15.12.2016

CoP at Bilaspur (Himachal Pradesh) held on 16.12.2016

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MOBILE APPS LAUNCHED BY TRAI FOR CONSUMERS


FED UP
UNWANTED COMMERCIAL CALLS OR SMS?
TRAI'S NEWLY LAUNCHED
"DND SERVICES" MOBILE APP
IS YOUR ANSWER
TRAI
DND SERVICES
to manage
Unsolicited Commercial Communication (UCC)
Manage Unsolicited Commercial Communication (UCC) Easily
This app helps put your mobile number on the 'Do Not Disturb' Register.
7 days after registration, if you still receive unwanted commercial calls/SMS, complain to your telecom service provider (TSP) using this app.
Download App today from the Google Play store and Mobile Seva App Store.
iOS version coming shortly
ALSO GET THE SAME BENEFIT BY DIALING OR SMS TO 1909
Call or SMS 1909 and Register on 'Do Not Disturb' (National Customer Preference) Register
Unwanted calls will be blocked 7 days after registration
If you still get unwanted commercial calls or SMS, complain on 1909 for action against caller
Issued in Public Interest by:
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
(IS/ISO 9001:2008 Certified)
Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhavan
Jawaharlal Nehru Marg, New Delhi-110002
Website: www.trai.gov.in
TRAI
For details, visit : http://www.nccptrai.gov.in