TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

TRAI

E–NEWSLETTER FOR TRAI REGISTERED CONSUMER ORGANISATIONS FOR JUNE, 2018

Chairperson, TRAI sharing his thoughts on "Regulators and Policy Makers Perspective for Technology" during '12th International Electronic Regulators Conference' organised by ICT Authority of Turkey in Ankara, 9-10th May 2018. The theme of the Conference was 'Technology Shaping Social Life: Threats and Opportunities '

1. Direction

1.1 Direction under section 13, read with section 11 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 to all Access Service Providers regarding online filing of tariff offers.

A direction has been issued on 23rd May, 2018 to all Access Service Providers for online filing of tariff offers; wherein all the Access Service Providers have been directed to submit their tariff offers to the Authority in addition to the existing Tariff Reporting requirements through XML API web- services with effect from 30th June 2018

2. Regulations

2.1 TRAI issued Draft Regulation on The Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2018 on 29.5.2018, for seeking the comments of the stakeholders.

The important new features proposed in this draft regulation are:

a) Adoption of Distributed Ledger Technology (or blockchain) as the RegTech to enforce regulatory compliance while allowing innovation in the market.
   Blockchain has proven useful where the objective is to cryptographically secure information and make it available only on need to know basis. Yet none may deny their actions or tamper with records, once recorded on the distributed ledger, which uniformly enforces compliance.
   It appears to be the first instance anywhere in the world to use this technology at such a scale in the telecom sector.

b) Co-regulation where Telecom Service Providers/ Access Providers establish and arrange framework, which is legally backed by regulation.
   Since the telcos can be expected to guard the interests of their subscribers, TRAI has opted for co-regulation to develop the solutions that can better serve the needs of all stakeholders. This would, of course, be allowed only within the framework prescribed in the regulations.

c) Enabling compliance through innovation in technology solution that are demonstrated in a regulatory sandbox.
   Since the Authority has opted for a technology driven solution and allowed continual development, it's been decided to permit a regulatory sandbox where these solutions can be demonstrated to everyone, including the regulator, before they are deployed.

d) Provision of better control over all entities in the ecosystem and in the flow of commercial communications.

e) Detection of unregistered telemarketers through collaboration and in a more intelligent manner.

2.2 Conducting of Drive test to assess Network quality

TRAI has been regularly conducting the Independent Drive Tests (IDTs) through its appointed agency in cities, Highways and rail routes. Independent Drive Tests (lDTs) on four highways and six rail routes were conducted during the period 5th October 2017 to 16th March 2018, to assess the network quality provided by cellular mobile telephone service providers. The Key Performance Indicators (KPls) were assessed for the networks of all telecom service providers operating in the region. KPls for voice services were Coverage; Call Setup Success Rate; Drop Call Rate; Block Call Rate, Handover Success Rate; Rx Quality.

The details of lDTs are given below.-
Cities:-
- Jamshedpur from 15th January to 19th January, 2018
- Ahmadabad from 29th January to 2nd February, 2018
- Kolkata from 29th January to 7th February, 2018
- Belgaum from 29th January to 31st January, 2018
- Rajkot from 12th February to 16th February, 2018
- Nashik from 13th February to 17th February, 2018
- Aurangabad from 19th February to 23rd February, 2018
- Trivandrum from 19th February to 23rd February, 2018
- Imphal from 24th February to 26th February, 2018
- Lucknow from 26th February to 3rd March, 2018
- Agar from 12th March to 16th March, 2018

Highways:-
- Patna to Ranchi from 5th October to 6th October, 2017
- Lucknow to Allahabad 16th October to 17th October, 2017

Jaipur to Kota 26th October, 2017

2.3 TRAI issues "The Draft Telecommunication Interconnection (Amendment) Regulations, 2018"

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) brought out "The Draft Telecommunication Interconnection (Amendment) Regulations, 2018" on 08.05.2018 which prescribes amendment in Regulations 6,8 & 9 of "The Telecommunication Interconnection Regulations, 2018" dated 01.01.2018. The last date for receiving comments from stakeholders was 18.05.2018. Comments of 8 stakeholders have been received in TRAI.

The main draft amendments in the Regulations are as follows:

a) A service provider may request the other service provider for additional ports at a Point of Interconnection (POI), if the projected utilisation of the capacity of such POI at the end of **sixty days** from the date of placing the request, is likely to be more than **eighty-five percent** and such projected utilization of the capacity of POI shall be determined on the basis of the daily traffic for the preceding **sixty days** at the POI during busy hour: Provided that the service provider shall request for such number of additional ports which is likely to

bring the utilization of the capacity of such POI, at the end of **sixty days** from the date of making request, to less than **seventy-five percent**.

b) The time-frame for provisioning of ports for initial interconnection and augmentation is proposed to be increased to maximum **42 working days**.

c) Each service provider shall provide its forecast of busy hour outgoing traffic for each POI, **at intervals of every six months**, to the interconnecting service provider and the first such forecast shall be provided within sixty days of the commencement of "The Telecom Interconnection (Amendment) Regulations, 2018" and thereafter on the 1st April and 1st October every year.

d) The port charges and infrastructure charges for all ports provided before the 1st February, 2018 shall continue to be payable as per the terms and conditions which were applicable to them before the 1st February, 2018

3. Open House Discussions

3.1 Open House Discussion was held on 16th May 2018 at New Delhi on the Consultation Paper on 'Method of allocation of Spectrum for Public Mobile Radio Trunking Service (PMRTS)'

3.2 Open House Discussion on Consultation Paper on "Issues related to Placing of Television Channel on Landing Page"

An Open House Discussion (OHD) on Consultation Paper on "Issues related to Placing of Television Channel on Landing Page" was held on 28th May 2018 at TRAI Headquarter, New Delhi.

4. Other Information

4.1 Telecom Subscription Data as on 30 April, 2018

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	624.52	19.34	643.87
Rural Subscription	500.55	3.30	503.84
Total Subscription	1125.07	22.64	1147.71
Overall Tele-density	86.52	1.74	88.26
Share of Urban Subscription	55.51%	85.43%	56.10%
Share of Rural Subscription	44.49%	14.57%	43.90%
No. of Broadband Subscribers	401.82	17.97	419.79

Active wireless subscribers on the date of Peak VLR in April, 2018 were 1,010.58 million.

In the month of April, 2018, 6.73 million requests were made for MNP. Till the end of April18, a total of 377.55 million consumers have availed MNP facility since its implementation.

4.2 Report on Activities for the year 2017 :

TRAI release a report on activities for the period 1st January 2017 to 31st December, 2017. During the calendar year 2017, all the Recommendations, Regulations, Orders and Directions referred to in the report. It is hoped that this report gives the stakeholders a broader view and better understanding of the initiatives taken by the Authority to enhance the growth of telecom and broadcasting sectors.

5. Consumer Outreach Programmes

Consumer Outreach Programmes

1	Baran (Rajasthan)	03.05.2018
2	Bilaspur (Chattisgarh)	10.05.2018
3	Machilipatnam (Andhra Pradesh)	17.05.2018
4	Kathua (Jammu & Kashmir)	23.05.2018
5	Mount Abu, Distt.Sirohi (Rajasthan)	25.05.2018
6	Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh)	31.05.2018

CoP at Bilaspur (Chattisgarh) held on 10.05.2018

CoP at Machilipatnam (Andhra Pradesh) held on 17.05.2018

CoP at Kathua (Jammu & Kashmir) held on 23.05.2018

CoP at Kanpur (Uttar Pradesh) held on 31.05.2018

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

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