

# TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA



E-NEWSLETTER



**DECEMBER 2022**

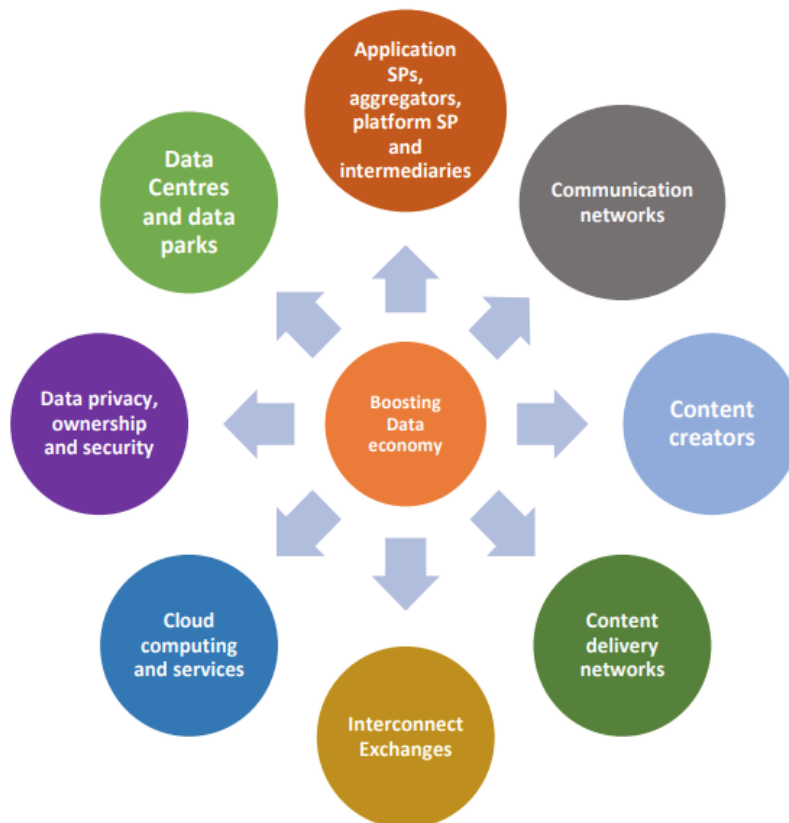


**Dr. P.D. Vaghela, Chairman, TRAI in Inaugural Session of “An All Day knowledge workshop on the Metaverse” organized jointly by TRAI and FICCI at New Delhi on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

ANNIVERSARY

## Recommendations

TRAI has issued Recommendations on 'Regulatory Framework for Promoting Data Economy Through Establishment of Data Centres (DCs), Content Delivery Networks (CDNs), and Interconnect Exchanges (IXPs) in India' dated 18<sup>th</sup> November 2022.



### Boosting data economy

National Digital Communications Policy (NDCP) 2018 envisages "Evolving enabling regulatory frameworks and incentives for promoting the establishment of International Data Centres, Content Delivery Networks, and Independent Interconnect exchanges in India".

In line with this policy, the Authority suo-moto issued a consultation paper on the subject and after considering the comments/inputs received from the stakeholders, further analysis of the issues, the Authority has finalized these recommendations to boost digital infrastructure ecosystem in the country.

## The salient features of the recommendations

### A. Data Centres

#### Facilitating & Incentivizing establishment of Data Centres (DCs) and DC Parks

- To bring out *Data Centre Incentivization Scheme (DCIS)* for establishing Data Centres (DCs) and Data Centre Parks
- Recommended Operationalizing a *Data Centre specific portal on National Single Window System (NSWS)* for -
  - a. Time-bound single window clearances
  - b. Mandatory online registration of new DCs/DC Park operators
- A *national level DC Readiness Index (DCRI) framework* to be implemented by Central Government to rank Indian states.

#### Developing India specific building norms, standards, and security certification framework

Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) should be entrusted upon for developing different *India-specific building standard* for construction of DCs and to develop *India specific standard-based certification framework for the DCs.*

### Connectivity to Cable Landing Stations (CLS)

For coastal states intending to promote setting up of new CLS, it has been recommended that they may consider incentives and facilitations of CLSs as has been undertaken by State of Gujarat in its IT/ITeS Policy 2022-27. For laying and maintaining OFC infrastructure to CLS, RoW charges may be waived off.

### Power related

DoT to take up with Ministry of Power to look into the submissions made by stakeholders for formulation of a DC conducive yet simplified framework for power addressing the issues that have been flagged in the recommendations, inter-alia, including:

- a. Energy banking provisions for DC/ DC park operators who opt to produce renewal energy for consumption for DC/ DC Parks should be extended to yearly basis.
- b. Providing land on priority and on concessional rates to DC/ DC park operators for establishing solar power plants.

DC and DC Park sites should be allowed to operate as backup power infrastructure without any hindrance from state pollution control boards (SPCB) or Central pollution control board (CPCB).

## Promoting Green DCs

Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) along with Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) should be entrusted with task of framing *certification standards of green DCs* in India.

## Capacity Building

Recommended that National Telecom Institute for Policy Research 85 Training (NTIPRIT) under Department of Telecommunication (DoT), MeitY, All India Council for technical Education (AICTE) and Telecom Sector Skill Council (TSSC) should closely collaborate with DC industry to develop tailor-made short and long-term courses. A suggestive list of DC related *courses at diploma, undergraduate and post-graduate level* has also been recommended.

## Addressing demand side issues of Digital Data Infrastructure –

- Recommended that for *Data digitization, sharing and monetization*, a statutory body *Data Digitization and Monetization Council (DDMC)* for steering the data digitization drive be prescribed at the Centre.
- Recommended that DDMC should also be entrusted with responsibility of putting in place an *overarching framework for ethical use of data* both by Government as well as by corporate in India.

## B. Content Delivery Networks (CDNs)

CDNs play an important role in the value chain of the content delivery ecosystem. TRAI has recommended that CDN players should be registered with DoT through a simple online registration process.

The incentives recommended for DCs should also help in the proliferation of CDNs in the country and this would in turn provide the boost to digital infrastructure ecosystem, including CDNs and IXPs.

## C. Interconnect Exchanges Providers (IXPs)

A separate authorization in Unified License may be created for IXPs with terms and conditions that are much less onerous than ISP license authorization.

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**Recommendation on " Use of Street Furniture for Small Cells and Aerial Fiber deployment" dated 29.11.2022.**

As India is rolling out 5G, small cells play a pivotal role in network upgradation and expansion. Use of higher frequency bands for 5G rollout will have shorter coverage as signals in these bands cannot travel through buildings or obstacles. Therefore, the macro cells will be required to be complemented with extensive deployment of small cells so as to support all kinds of uses and applications, at all locations. Small cells will also be used for traffic offloading since the carrying capacity of lower frequencies, used by macro radio sites, are limited. Use of already available street furniture like poles etc. for mounting 5G Small Cells can obviate the need for erecting thousands of new towers resulting in economical and fast deployment of small cells. The Small cells will require backhaul connectivity which again can be provided very fast through aerial fibre deployment using street furniture.

The deployment of small cells and aerial fiber on street furniture can face many issues like identifying the suitable street furniture based on availability of backhaul, power, capabilities of street furniture for mounting suitable equipment,

scalability, and concerns related to local approval, and safety. The right of way procedure, sharing of the street furniture amongst various users, permissions needed for power supply under state electricity laws, exemptions or bulk permissions for small cell deployment will also be required to be addressed. To seek inputs from stakeholders on these issues, the Authority issued a Consultation paper on "Use of Street Furniture for Small Cell and Aerial Fiber Deployment" dated 23.03.2022.

With the objectives of developing cross sectoral framework which promotes sharing of street furniture infrastructure among various central, state and municipal authorities to develop state of the art 5G network, TRAI had simultaneously initiated pilots at Bhopal Smart City, GMR International Airport New Delhi, Deendayal Port Kandla and Namma Metro Bengaluru on use of street furniture for Small Cells and aerial fiber deployment. Based on the consultations process and learning from these pilots, TRAI has prepared its comprehensive recommendations.

The recommendations broadly cover the following topics:

- a) Right of Way (RoW) Issues and adequacy of current provisions in ROWrules 2016.
- b) Infrastructure sharing by the Controlling Administrative Authorities (CAA) with TSPs and IP1s
- c) Street furniture and small cell sharing among TSPs and IP1s
- d) Process simplification, Permission Exemption for small cells and standardization of small cells and installation practices
- e) Power related issues and solutions
- f) Institutional mechanism for enabling Collaboration between Controlling Administrative Authorities and TSPs/IP1s



[https://traf.gov.in/sites/default/files/Recommendations\\_29112022\\_0.pdf](https://traf.gov.in/sites/default/files/Recommendations_29112022_0.pdf)

### **Recommendation on "Licensing framework for establishing and operating Satellite Earth Station Gateway (SESG)**

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), through their letter dated 10.09.2021 had sought the TRAI's recommendations on licensing framework for establishment of satellite gateway.

In this regard, a Consultation Paper on 'Licensing Framework for Establishing Satellite Earth Station Gateway' was issued on 15.11.2021. An Open House

Discussion (OHD) with stakeholders was held on 25.02.2022.

#### The salient features of the recommendations

- a) There shall be a separate Satellite Earth Station Gateway (SESG) License under the Section 4 of Indian Telegraph Act.
- b) The SESG Licensee may establish, maintain, and work SESGs anywhere within the territory of India for all types of satellite systems for which the Government has given the permission.
- c) The SESG Licensee may provide satellite-based resources to any entity, which holds license/ permission granted by DoT or Ministry of Information & Broadcasting (MIB) and is permitted to use satellite media for the provision of services under its license/ permission.

- d) The SESG Licensee shall not be permitted to provide any kind of telecommunication service or broadcasting service directly to the consumers, for provision of which, a separate license/ authorization/ permission is required from the Government.
- e) The SESG license shall be valid for a period of 20 years with a provision of renewal for 10 years.
- f) A non-refundable one-time Entry Fee of Rs. Ten lakhs (Rs. 1,000,000) shall be levied for grant of SESG License.
- g) As the SESG licensees will not provide any service directly to end consumers, only a token License Fee of Re. 1 per annum shall be levied on SESG License.

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## Consultations Paper

### TRAI has issued a Consultation Paper on 'Introduction of Calling Name Presentation (CNAP) in Telecommunication Networks'.

The telephone consumers require that they should be able to correctly identify the calling party. Telephone consumers, at various fora, have raised a concern that in absence of the calling party name presentation facility, they prefer not to attend calls from unknown telephone numbers, as most of such calls are 3 unsolicited commercial communications (UCCs) from un-registered telemarketers. As a result, even genuine telephone calls go unanswered. Telephone consumers have also raised their concern in respect of robocalls, spam calls, and fraudulent calls.

At present, smartphone users make use of native smartphone tools and third-party apps 'Truecaller' and 'Bharat Caller ID & Anti-spam' also provide calling party name identification and spam identification facilities. The native smartphone tools and thirdparty apps, generally, provide name identification services based on crowd-sourced data. However, the crowd-sourced name identity information may not be reliable, in many instances.

Department of Telecommunications (DoT) through a reference dated 21.03.2022 requested the Authority to provide its recommendations on introducing the Calling Name Presentation (CNAP) facility in the Indian Telecommunication Network.

Presently, in Indian Telecom Networks, only the mobile/landline numbers are being displayed as Calling Line Identification (CLI) during incoming calls. There is no mandate in the license for providing CNAP services.

To discuss the issues in displaying CLI for consumers, a Consultation Paper on '**Introduction of Calling Name Presentation (CNAP) in Telecommunication Networks**', was released on 29.11.2022 seeking comments/counter comments from the stakeholders by 27<sup>th</sup> December 2022 and counter-comments by 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

[https://traai.gov.in/sites/default/files/CP\\_29112022.pdf](https://traai.gov.in/sites/default/files/CP_29112022.pdf)





## Regulations

### **TRAI released notification Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Eighth) (Addressable Systems) Tariff (Third Amendment) Order, 2022**

TRAI has notified amendments to the New Regulatory Framework for Broadcasting and Cable Services viz. the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Eighth)

(Addressable Systems) Tariff (Third Amendment) Order, 2022 and the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Interconnection (Addressable Systems) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2022 on 22nd November 2022.

The main features of the amendments are as follows:

- a) Continuance of forbearance on MRP of TV channels
- b) Only those channels which are having MRP of Rs. 19/- or less will be permitted to be part of a bouquet
- c) A broadcaster can offer a maximum discount of 45% while pricing its bouquet of pay channels over sum of MRPs of all of pay channels in that bouquet.
- d) Discount offered as an incentive by the broadcaster on the maximum retail price of a pay channel shall be based on combined subscription of that channel both in a-la-carte as well as in bouquets.



[https://traf.gov.in/sites/default/files/Regulation\\_22112022.pdf](https://traf.gov.in/sites/default/files/Regulation_22112022.pdf)

## Seminar

### Seminar on “Vision for Socio-economic Transformation in NE States – Role of 5G Technologies and Digital Infrastructure”



This Seminar was organized by Regional Office, Kolkata on 4<sup>th</sup> November 2022. Dr. P. D Vaghela, Chairman, TRAI delivered keynote address and stressed upon the importance of the digital economy and inclusion of the marginalised people. He also mentioned that TRAI has released multiple recommendations that, once fully implemented, will help develop a conducive ecosystem for the rollout of the next generation of technologies.

Sh. V. Raghunandan, Secretary, TRAI spoke about the role of TRAI in creating an ecosystem for a sound digital infrastructure in the country. He said that with the active cooperation of all the stakeholders, 5G technologies will reach every nook and corner of the country including the North Eastern States.

**TRAI has organized a seminar on “Emerging Trends in Telecommunications Sector”**



TRAI organized a Seminar on “Emerging Trends in Telecommunication” on 19th November 2022 at Hotel Hyatt Place Jaipur through its Regional office, Jaipur in collaboration with Institution of Engineers’ (IEI).

The Chief Guest of the occasion was Shri V. Raghunandan, Secretary, TRAI, New Delhi. Shri Siddharth Pokharna, Senior DDG, DoT Rajasthan LSA, Shri Gunjan Saxena DDG Admin and Chairman IEI & Shri Sandeep Govil, CGM BSNL, Jaipur were Special Guest for the Seminar.

In the seminar presentations were made by Er. Abhay Savargaonkar (Vice-President, Nokia), Dr. M M Sharma (Professor MNIT

Jaipur), Dr. Rajesh Bhadada (Professor MBM Engg College Jodhpur) & Dr. Manish Tiwari (Professor Manipal University, Jaipur). Sh. Abhay Savargaonkar spoke on Ecosystem required to monetise 5G while Sh. M M Sharma spoke on Evolution of Antenna and recent developments for 5G And beyond. Dr Rajesh Bhadada spoke on Metaverse (Digital Twinning) & Dr. Manish Tiwari presented Optical Communications.

Around 150 participants attended the seminar who gained a lot of insight through the proceedings, and it was an important step in highlighting the future of AI and Emerging Trends in Telecommunication.

## Workshops

### 1. Workshop on Capacity Building of Consumer Advocacy at Dehradun :



TRAI organised Regional Workshop on Capacity Building of Consumer Advocacy Groups (CAGs) on 11th November 2022 at Dehradun (Uttarakhand). Sh. A. K. Singh, Advisor (CA) delivered expert talk on the occasion.

## 2. TRAI conducted Workshop on Capacity Building of Consumer Advocacy Groups at Puri :

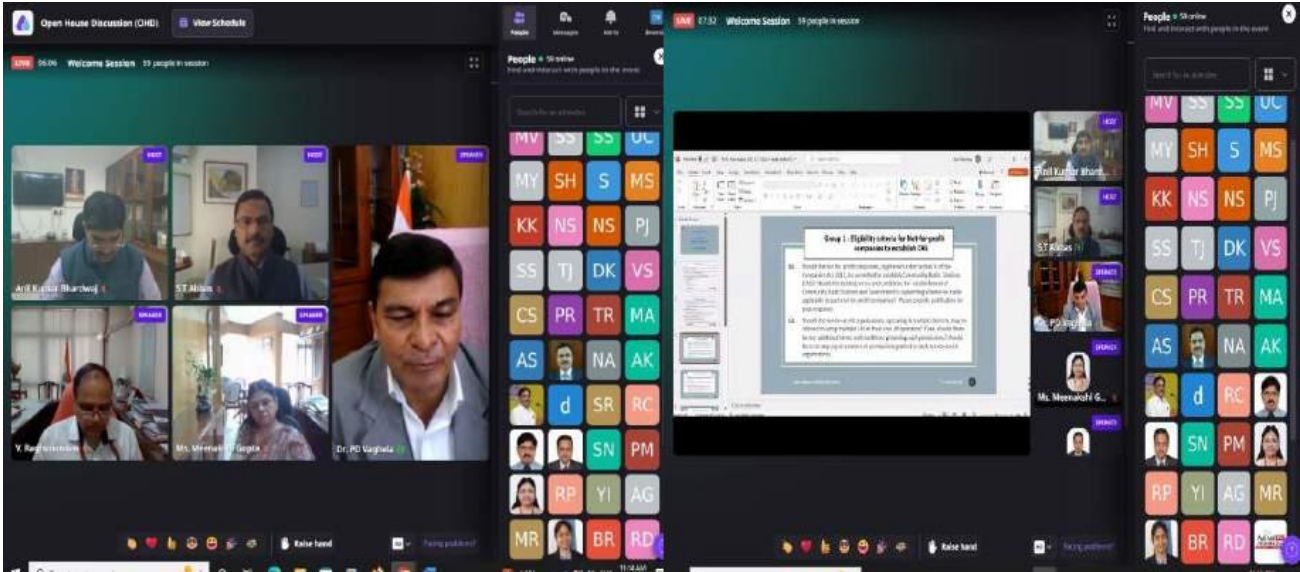


TRAI organised Regional Workshop on Capacity Building of Consumer Advocacy Groups at Puri, Odisha on 29th November 2022

During the workshop DoT, Odisha LSA gave presentation on Cyber Fraud, Security and other issues.

# Open House Discussion

TRAI conducted an Open House Discussion (OHD) through video conferencing on the Consultation Paper on “Community Radio Stations” on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2022



## Events

**Chairman TRAI had taken a detailed review on issues of network connectivity of Arunachal Pradesh (AP) in a meeting at Dirang. CGM BSNL& GM Bharatnet of NE circle, GM BSNL-AP, DC West Kameng Distt., Sr. officers of AP Govt., Comdt. SSB & ITBP, Senior executives of all TSPs were present on 1st November 2022.**



**Chairman TRAI addressed 23rd Meeting of South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC-23) virtually on 14th Nov 2022**



**Dr. P.D. Vaghela, Chairman, TRAI delivered the inaugural address and shares valuable information. Special Address was given by Ms. Meenakshi Gupta, Member-TRAI in the Conference on Rating of Buildings or Areas for Digital Connectivity commenced on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi**

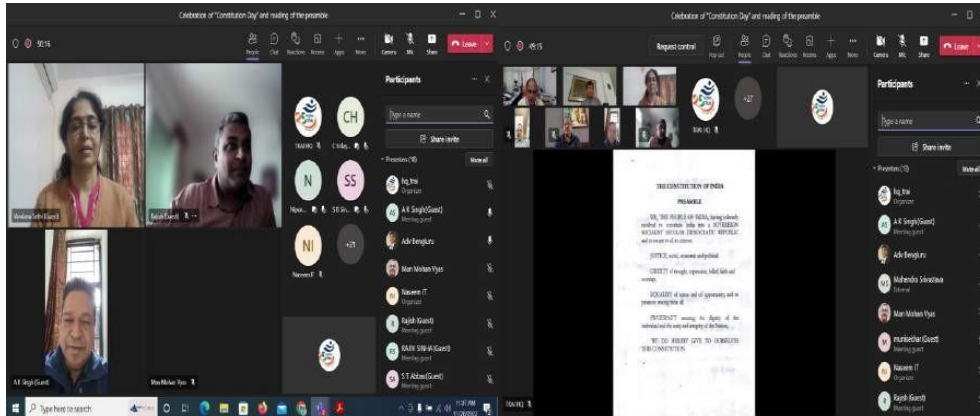


**Dr. P.D. Vaghela, Chairman, TRAI met a delegation from Swedish Government along with Secretary and Senior officers of TRAI. Many bi-lateral issues were discussed at TRAI, Hqrs on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022**





**Constitution Day was celebrated by reading of Preamble by Officers & Officials of TRAI HQ including ROs at TRAI Hqrs. on 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2022**



## Telecom Subscriptions

**Telecom Subscription Data as on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022:**

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	Total
Urban Telephone subscribers (Millions)	625.18	24.81	649.99
Rural Telephone subscribers (Millions)	518.45	2.01	520.46
<b>Total Telephone subscribers (Millions)</b>	<b>1143.63</b>	<b>26.82</b>	<b>1170.45</b>
Overall Tele-density (%)	82.75	1.94	84.69
Share of Urban Subscription (%)	54.67	92.50	55.53
Share of Rural Subscription (%)	45.33	7.50	44.47
No. of Broadband Subscribers (Millions)	790.14	31.35	821.49

Active wireless subscribers on the date of Peak VLR in October 2022 were 1016.81 million.

In October 2022, 11.81 million subscriber requests were made for MNP. By the end of October 2022, a total of 759.92 million consumers have availed the MNP facility since its implementation.

## Miscellaneous



**Dr. P.D. Vaghela, Chairman, TRAI in Inaugural Session of "11<sup>th</sup> (Confederation of Indian Industry) CII Big Picture Summit" on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

### **Panel of Auditors (Updated List) for the audit of Digital Addressable Systems (DAS) dated 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022**

TRAI released the updated list for panel of auditors on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022, Currently, the total number of auditors empanelled by TRAI to carry

out the audit of Digital Addressable Systems of DPOs is 56. An updated list of empanelled auditors is available in public domain of TRAI's website.

**Pilot Project Report on Use of Street Furniture for Small Cells and Aerial Fiber Deployment dated 29.11.2022**

Pilot Project Report released on Use of Street Furniture for Small Cells and Aerial Fiber Deployment on 29.11.2022.

With the objectives of developing cross sectoral framework which promote sharing of street furniture infrastructure among various central, state and municipal authorities to develop state of the art 5G network, in March, 2022 TRAI had initiated pilots at Bhopal Smart City, GMR International Airport New Delhi,

Deendayal Port Kandla and Namma Metro Bengaluru on use of street furniture for Small Cells and aerial fiber deployment.

The report is based on learnings from the pilots and expected to be able to bring together various industry and administrative stakeholders to develop consensus and strengthen the industry understanding of how these deployment practices can be used to enable proliferation of 5G small cells.

## Consumer Outreach Programmes

On the occasion of its Silver Jubilee, TRAI initiated special Consumer Outreach Programmes (CoP) for different sections of the society as under:

S. No.	Place	Date
1	Rampachodavaram (Andhra Pradesh)	10 <sup>th</sup> November 2022
2	Amravati (Maharashtra)	22 <sup>nd</sup> November 2022
3	Rewari (Haryana)	23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2022
4	Rajnandgaon, Chhattisgarh (Haryana)	23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2022
5	Churachandpur District (Manipur)	26 <sup>th</sup> November 2022

## PHOTO GALLERY



**Special Consumer Outreach Program for Tribals at Rampachodavaram, AP State held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2022 by Regional Office, Hyderabad**



**Consumer Outreach Program for students at Amravati, Maharashtra held on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 by Regional Office, Bengaluru**



**Special Consumer Outreach Program for awareness session on Cyber Hygiene at Rewari, Haryana held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022 by Regional Office, Jaipur**



**Special Consumer Outreach Program for the teachers & students from the tribal areas at Raj Nandgaon, Chhattisgarh held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2022 by Regional Office, Bhopal**



**Special Consumer Outreach Programme at Churachandpur District, Manipur on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022 by Regional Office, Kolkata**


**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](http://www.trai.gov.in)**

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