All India Chamber Of Consumers (AICOC)

National Body for Consumer Protection

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Comments on Consultation Paper on "Green Telecommunications"

All India Chamber of Consumers appreciates the highly commendable efforts made by the TRAI, headed by Dr J.S. Sharma in the preparation of Consultation Paper on "Green Telecommunications". The paper is bound to generate awakening and interest in the Eco- friendly climate among stakeholders of Telecommunications. This CAG(AICOC) is in complete agreement with the TRAI in what we actually call "the Approach Paper for fighting the hazards of mindless emission of GHG".

We have a few points to add:

President(AICOC)

- 1)Rural areas of most of the states are grid power-deficient. Diesel generators being used recklessly day and night to power the cell phone towers are resulting in emissions of immeasurable quantity of pollutants, hence the overwhelming need to take to renewable source of energy.
- (2)In one of the fastest growing economy with teeming population that India is, We cannot assume reducing substantially the consumption of energy. The consumption of energy will also grow hand in hand with the health of the economy Under the circumstances we can at best motivate the important players in the telecommunication field to switch over to renewable source of energy as much as possible. Harnessing and using renewable energy being less expensive is the most dominant and motivating factor. There is need to routinely hold conferences and workshops not only to impress upon the need to go in for renewable energy but also to extract commitment of the vital players and monitor progress of its adoption.
- (3) There is no gainsaying that telecommunication gadgets aremostlynot switched off by the consumers of all kinds who are availing unlimited service packages even when they temporarily or for some time do not need to work on them. This happens in unlimited broadband services . By creating awareness among people to switch off such gadgets when there is no need to make use of them, we can reduce GHG emission considerably in view of more than 30 million internet connections across the country. Thus we can reduce consumption of energy as well. For this ads and hoardings could be very effective. And these workshops and ads and hoardings will send a loud message to the exponents of Kyoto Protocol 1997 as to India's in general and the RRAI's in particular sincere efforts to deal with concern on climate change.

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