

To:
Shri Akhilesh Kumar Trivedi
Advisor (Networks, Spectrum and Licensing)
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Dear sir/madam,

We are thrilled to share with you a comprehensive report on all the consultation feedback received on the Consultation Paper on Terms and Conditions for the Assignment of Spectrum for Certain Satellite-Based Commercial Communication Services by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India collected through [Civis.vote](https://civis.vote).

Civic Innovation Foundation (registered as a Section 8, non-profit company under the Indian Companies Act), through its platform 'Civis', provides targeted stakeholder engagement services to governments. At Civis, we have facilitated public feedback on **300+ draft laws**, gathering **20,780+ points of feedback** from citizens across **705+ cities** and towns in India. Our globally competitive civic-technology solutions, provide end-to-end support that encompasses creating content, conducting extensive outreach, and in-depth analysis of the feedback gathered to help provide constructive inputs on which effective policies can be built. **Our current government partners** include NITI Aayog, National Institute of Urban Affairs, Securities and Exchanges Board of India, Central Board of Secondary Education, Supreme Court E-committee, Government of Maharashtra, among others.

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We are pleased to inform you that we had 1 citizen/s participate in the consultation process through our platform and our team has created a short report on their responses which is attached to this email.

As a non-profit and non-partisan organization, we understand the importance of maintaining neutrality and integrity in the feedback collection process. Civis.vote meticulously aggregates all open public consultations by all Government ministries and departments, and the Consultation Paper on Terms and Conditions for the Assignment of Spectrum for Certain Satellite-Based Commercial Communication Services was also put up on our platform. A summary of the key questions and the affected legislations, drafted by our network of subject matter experts and lawyers, was created to help citizens deliberate on the nuances and legal implications of the **Consultation Paper on Terms and Conditions for the Assignment of Spectrum for Certain Satellite-Based Commercial Communication Services**. Comments and suggestions are collected from citizens on [Civis.vote](https://civis.vote) in two ways:

a. Registered Public User Response: These responses are submitted by users who consent to make their personal information public on the platform. Consequently, this information is shared with the concerned ministry/department.

b. Registered Anonymous Response: These responses are submitted by users who choose not to disclose their personal information publicly on the platform. As a result, their feedback is shared

with the concerned ministry/department as 'Citizen Leader' or 'Citizen Leader (Name undisclosed)'.

As part of this neutral and non-partisan process, Civis ensures that all feedback provided by citizens is communicated to the relevant ministry/department in the exact form in which it was submitted to Civis. As a result, feedback may often contain spelling or grammatical errors, but will always reflect a citizen's untempered and unedited response to a particular draft law/policy.

All content, including feedback provided by citizens is covered by our [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). As an effect, every citizen accessing the platform, consents that they will not violate any right of any third-party, including copyright, trademark, privacy, personality or other personal or proprietary right. They also agree that their comments will not contain libelous or otherwise unlawful, abusive and/or obscene material.

We are certain that you will consider the responses by concerned citizens aggregated through the Civis platform and we wish the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India success in drafting the final legislation.

Please write to antaraa.vasudev@civis.vote if you have any questions, comments, or thoughts.

Thank you for your unwavering support to the process of public consultations and democratic lawmaking in India.

Best,

Civis

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RESPONSES TO

Consultation Paper on Terms and Conditions for the Assignment of Spectrum for Certain Satellite-Based Commercial Communication Services



Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

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TOTAL RESPONSES

1

Consultation published on

Summary

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued this draft to outline proposals for the assignment and use of spectrum for satellite-based communication services in India. It aims to enhance connectivity particularly in remote areas and to address the growing demand for satellite-based communication services including broadband and IoT (Internet of Things) services.

Key Proposals:

1. Spectrum Assignment Methods:

- Spectrum for satellite-based communication services must be assigned through an administrative process rather than auction because unlike terrestrial telecom services, satellite-based services have a different business model and technical requirements and an auction-based approach may not be suitable for spectrum assignment in this sector.
- The administrative assignment should involve a transparent process where applicants would have to meet predefined eligibility criteria and technical requirements.

2. Eligibility Criteria for Spectrum Assignment:

- Only entities holding valid licences for providing satellite communication services in India, such as a Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) licence or other relevant telecom licences will be eligible.
- Entities must also demonstrate technical and financial capability to ensure that the spectrum is used efficiently. This includes submitting detailed business plans and technical specifications for the satellite services they intend to offer.

3. Spectrum Usage Charges:

- Spectrum Usage Charges (SUC) are introduced as part of the regulatory framework which will be levied on service providers using the satellite spectrum to ensure efficient use of the spectrum and generate revenue for the government.
- The SUC will be calculated based on the revenue earned by the satellite communication service providers.

4. Technology-Neutral Spectrum Assignment:

- The draft proposes a technology-neutral approach for the assignment of spectrum, meaning that satellite communication service providers can use any technology that meets the necessary regulatory and technical standards. This flexibility would allow providers to innovate and choose the best technology

5. Spectrum Bands for Assignment: The draft specifies spectrum bands that could be assigned for satellite-based services. These include L-band (1-2 GHz), S-band (2-4 GHz) and Ka-band (26.5-40 GHz). These bands have been internationally recognised for satellite communication and assigning them in India will facilitate the integration of Indian services with global satellite communication systems.

6. Coordination and Avoiding Interference:

- To avoid interference between satellite-based services and other telecom services (such as terrestrial mobile networks), robust coordination mechanisms between satellite operators and other service providers have been introduced.
- The spectrum assignments must be made with adequate safeguards to prevent harmful interference particularly in frequency bands shared between satellite and terrestrial services.

7. Duration of Spectrum Assignment: The draft proposes that spectrum for satellite-based services be assigned for a longer duration such as 20 years with provisions for periodic review and renewal. This longer duration is necessary given the high costs associated with launching and operating satellites which require longer time frames for providers to recover their investments and ensure service continuity.

8. Licence Conditions and Obligations:

- Spectrum assignees must be subjected to specific licence conditions including obligations to provide coverage to underserved areas particularly in remote and rural regions. This would help bridge the digital divide and improve access to satellite-based communication services in areas where terrestrial services are not viable.
- Licensees will also be required to comply with technical and safety standards set by the government to ensure service quality and user safety.

9. International Coordination: Recognising that satellite communication often involves international coordination, especially for geostationary satellites, the draft proposes that satellite service providers comply with international agreements and norms set by bodies like the International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

You can access the full draft [here](#).

Consultation satisfaction

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Citizen Leader [Name undisclosed]

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We're here to help. **Get
in touch**

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