

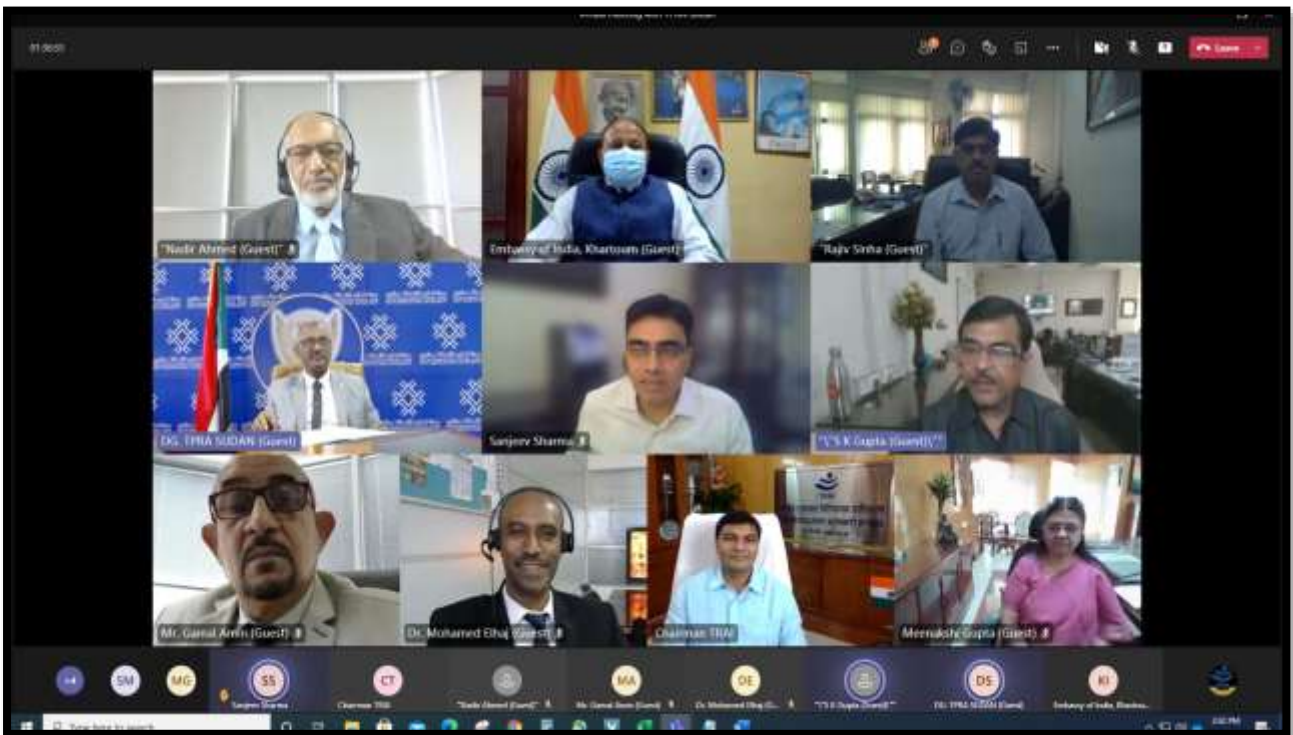
# TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA



भादूविप्रा TRAI E-NEWSLETTER



**APRIL 2021**



**A Letter of Intent (LOI) was signed between the Telecom Regulators of India and Sudan on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021**

# 1. Consultation Paper

## 1.1 TRAI released a Consultation Paper on "Licensing Framework for Satellite-based connectivity for low-bit-rate applications."

With the evolution of Satellite communication technologies, new types of applications based on low bit rate are emerging. These applications provide benefits to numerous sectors such as agriculture, smart farming, deep-water applications, mission-critical services, oil and gas, fisheries, forestry, logistics, mining, industrial logistics, railways, remote utilities, disaster preparedness, etc.

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), through its letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2020, has requested TRAI to furnish recommendations on "Licensing Framework to enable the provisioning of Satellite-based low-bit-rate applications for both commercial and captive usage" considering the constraints of the existing provisions of licences in respect of such Satellite-based low-bit rate services.

In this regard, a Consultation Paper on "Licensing Framework for Satellite-based connectivity for low-bit-rate applications" was released on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2021 seeking inputs from the stakeholders.

The consultation paper discussed various Satellite Connectivity models for low-bit-rate applications, type of satellite constellations, possible frequency bands, use of foreign satellites, current licensing framework for satellite services, issues related to ease of doing business and making satellite-based services affordable in India, etc. The consultation paper is accessible from the following link:

[https://traigov.in/sites/default/files/CP\\_12032021.pdf](https://traigov.in/sites/default/files/CP_12032021.pdf)



## 2. Webinar

### 2.1 Webinar on "5G-Introduction, Eco System Development, Applications & Regulatory Aspects".

TRAI conducts seminars on important topics of consumer interests related to telecom services. Domain experts are invited to speak on the topics to provide insights to participants. In the prevailing pandemic situation, such programs are being held online.

In this series, TRAI conducted a webinar on "5G-Introduction, Eco System Development, Applications & Regulatory Aspects" through Regional Office, Kolkata, on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021.



### **Webinar on “5G-Introduction, Eco System Development, Applications & Regulatory Aspects” held on 5<sup>th</sup> March' 2021**

The webinar was started with a welcome address by Sh. A. Munisekhar, Advisor, Kolkata. Sh. Sanjeev Banzal, Advisor, (IT & CA) delivered a keynote address on the occasion. He highlighted the importance of 5G technology in today's mobile communication, its impact on individual and Industry verticals.

Dr. Sandip Chakraborty, Asst. Professor, IIT Kharagpur, explained different transformational changes that this technology would bring. Sh. Subrata Kumar Mitra, Vice President-Ericsson India, discussed different types of applications in 5G and their impact on daily life. Sh. V. Raghunandan, Deputy Director General (International Relations), DoT, spoke on 5G readiness in India, the Test bed preparation of 5G, role of DoT in building the infrastructure for 5G rollout. Sh. Syed Tausif Abbas, Advisor (NSL), TRAI, explained the details of spectrum requirement in 5G rollout in India, the use cases of 5G and regulatory aspects.

The webinar was attended by large number of participants from Universities, Engineering colleges, business chambers, representatives of Telecom Service

Providers, senior officers of BBNL and DoT, Govt. officers, Consumer Advocacy Groups (CAG) of TRAI and general consumers. During the event, many enthusiastic young students interacted with speakers to understand the newer aspects of this technology.

## **2.2 Webinar on "Artificial Intelligence & uses in Telecom":**

In the series of seminars on important topics of consumer interests related to the telecom services, TRAI conducted a webinar on "Artificial Intelligence & uses in Telecom" through Regional Office, Bangalore, on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

Shri Shreenivas S. Galgali, Advisor, TRAI, Bangalore, welcomed participants and gave an overview of the event. The webinar was inaugurated by Sh. Sanjeev Banzal Advisor (IT & CA), TRAI. In his address he highlighted the importance of Artificial Intelligence, and its usage in various sectors.



### **Webinar on “Artificial Intelligence & uses in Telecom” held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

Smt. Shikha Srivastav, Sr. Manager, C-DoT, Delhi, spoke on “Introduction to Artificial Intelligence and Applications”. Shri Robert Ravi, DDG, spoke on “Standardisation in AI – Building the Indian AI Stack”. Shri Sri Subrata Kumar, VP Ericsson India, spoke on “Artificial Intelligence in Telecom”.

The webinar was attended by over 300 participants – Faculty members, students from reputed Engineering Colleges, Consumer Advocacy Groups (CAGs), Officers from Government departments, Telecom Service providers, and consumers.

### 3. Other Information

#### 3.1 Telecom Subscription Data as on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2021.

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	Total (Wireless + Wireline)
Urban Telephone subscribers (Millions)	639.24	18.47	657.72
Rural Telephone subscribers (Millions)	528.47	1.71	530.18
Total Telephone subscribers (Millions)	<b>1167.71</b>	<b>20.18</b>	<b>1187.90</b>
Overall Tele-density (%)	85.78	1.48	87.26
Share of Urban Subscription (%)	54.74	91.52	55.37
Share of Rural Subscription (%)	45.26	8.48	44.63
No. of Broadband Subscribers (Million)	725.12	22.29	747.41

Active wireless subscribers on the date of Peak VLR in February 2021 were 981.92 million.

In February 2021, 11.68 million subscriber requests were made for MNP. By the end of February 2021, a total of 563.92 million consumers has availed MNP facility since its implementation.

#### 3.2 **Panel of Auditors (Updated List) to carry out audit of Digital Addressable Systems (DAS) dated 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

TRAI releases updated list of panel of auditors to carry out digital addressable systems from time to time. In this context, TRAI released the updated list for panel of auditors on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

## 4. Events

4.1 The following Consumer Outreach Programmes were organised during March 2021 through the online platform:

Sl. No.	Place	Date
1	Haryana	4 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
2	Maharashtra LSA	9 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
3	Madhya Pradesh	18 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
4	Andhra Pradesh	23 <sup>rd</sup> March 2021
5	Bangalore	24 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
6	Bihar and Jharkhand	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
7	Punjab	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2021

## PHOTO GALLERY

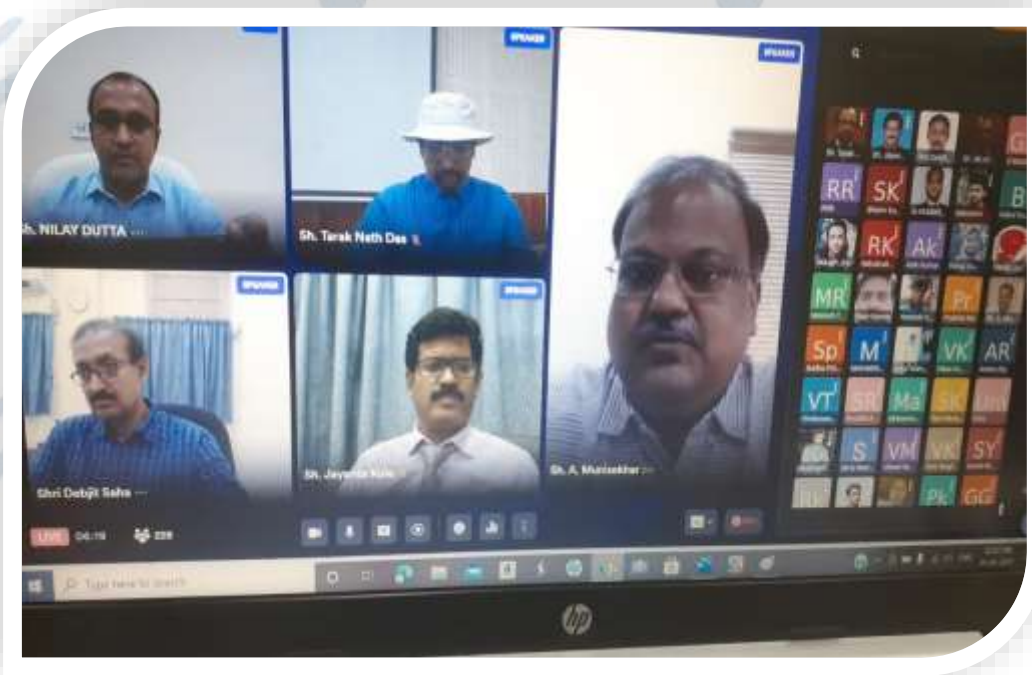
8	Telangana	26 <sup>th</sup> March 2021
---	-----------	-----------------------------



CoP for Haryana held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021



**CoP for Madhya Pradesh held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021**



**CoP for Bihar and Jharkhand held on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021**




**CoP for Punjab held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**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)**

**Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhawan, Jawahar Lal 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! follow us!  [TRAI@TRAI](https://twitter.com/TRAI@TRAI)**

