

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA



E-NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2021



Dr. P.D. Vaghela, Chairman, TRAI, sharing views on the “Road to 5G – Challenges and Best Practices” virtually at the 21st APT Policy and Regulatory Forum (PRF-21) from 19-21 July 2021

1. Open House Discussion

1.1 TRAI conducted OHD on the Consultation paper: 'Validity period of Tariff Offers'

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) conducted an Open House Discussion (OHD) through Video Conferencing on the Consultation Paper on "Validity period of Tariff Offers" on 28th July 2021".



2. Public Wi-Fi Spots through PM-WANI (An Article for Information)

PM - WANI

Prime Minister's Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) to proliferate Broadband access through Public Wi-Fi Hotspots across the country

The scheme of the Government to proliferate Public Wi-Fi networks under the framework of the Prime Minister's Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PMWANI) is a step towards building public wi-fi hotspots in the country. The modus operandi of the scheme is as follows:

- I. The potential user who wants to access Broadband through Public Wi-Fi will need to download the relevant app, get authenticated, and thereafter access Broadband at any Public Wi-Fi Hotspot.
- II. When the user reaches a Public Wi-Fi Hotspot, the app on the mobile phone will show various available networks. The user can then choose the Public Wi-Fi network of choice, pay an amount – either online or through voucher – and use the network till the balance is exhausted. The entities involved in the scheme are as follows:
 - III. The **Public Data Office** (PDO) establishes, maintains, and operates WANI-compliant Wi-Fi access points and delivers broadband services to subscribers. These are the places where customers can access broadband services. The **public Data Office Aggregator** (PDOA) can manage many public data offices and perform authorisation and accounting of several PDOs.
 - IV. The App provider registered under this scheme develops an app to register users and discover WANI compliant Wi-Fi hotspots in the nearby area and display the same within App.
 - V. Central Registry will maintain the details of App providers, PDOAs, and PDOs.

This was a suo motu initiative of TRAI wherein the Authority made suo motu recommendations on 'Proliferation of Broadband through Public Wi-Fi Networks' on 9th March 2017, suggesting viable models that could be adopted towards rapidly deploying affordable and interoperable public Wi-Fi networks. Subsequently, a back reference was received from DoT on 29th May 2020 largely around the idea of bringing the smaller entities of the WANI architecture with licensing and regulatory obligations, vis à vis other integrated players/licensees. Authority sent its response to the back reference.

Finally, the Government approved and released the PM-WANI scheme on 9th December 2020.

3. Important Events



Virtual inaugural session of 5-days Capacity Building Programme for the officers of Bhutan InfoComm and Media Authority (BICMA), Bhutan. Mr. V. Raghunandan, Secretary, TRAI, and Mr. Jigme Wangdi, Director, BICMA, addressed the gathering on 26th July 2021

4. Telecom Subscriptions

4.1 Telecom Subscription Data as on 30th June 2021.

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	Total
Urban Telephone subscribers (Millions)	646.29	19.80	666.10
Rural Telephone subscribers (Millions)	534.54	1.93	536.47
Total Telephone subscribers (Millions)	1180.83	21.74	1202.57
Overall Tele-density (%)	86.48	1.59	88.07
Share of Urban Subscription (%)	54.73	91.11	55.39
Share of Rural Subscription (%)	45.27	8.89	44.61
No. of Broadband Subscribers (Millions)	769.26	23.52	792.78

Active wireless subscribers on the date of Peak VLR in June 2021 were 984.79 million.

In June 2021, 12.27 million subscriber requests were made for MNP. By the end of June 2021, a total of 605.88 million consumers have availed of the MNP facility since its implementation.

5. Events

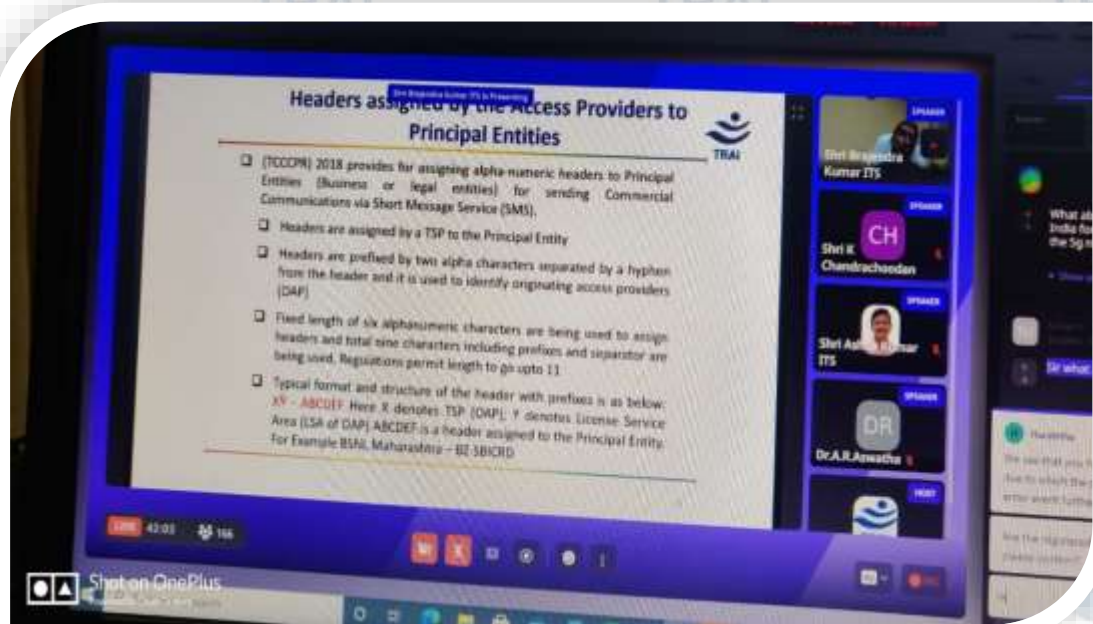
5.1 The following Consumer Outreach Programmes were organised during July 2021 through the online platform:

Sl. No.	Place	Date
1	Rajasthan	6 th July 2021
2	Karnataka	14 th July 2021
3	Chhattisgarh	15 th July 2021
4	Kolkata	16 rd July 2021
5	Andhra Pradesh	22 th July 2021

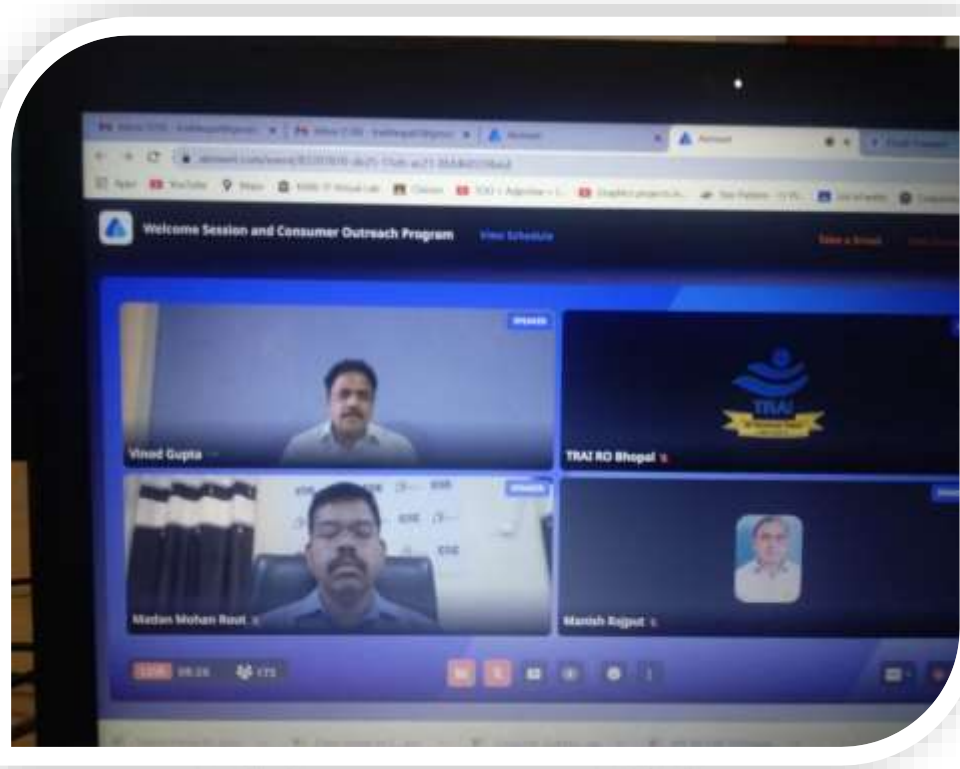
PHOTO GALLERY



CoP for Rajasthan held on 6th July 2021



CoP for Karnataka held on 14th July 2021



CoP for Chhattisgarh held on 15th July 2021




CoP for Kolkata, West Bengal, held on 16th July 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

**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)

