

**Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 12/2020)**

For Immediate Release

**Telecom Regulatory Authority of India**

**TRAI releases Consultation Paper on “Provision of Cellular backhaul connectivity via Satellite through VSAT under commercial VSAT CUG Service Authorization”**

**New Delhi, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020** – The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released a Consultation Paper on “Provision of Cellular backhaul connectivity via Satellite through VSAT under commercial VSAT CUG Service Authorization”.

2. Department of Telecommunications (DoT), through its letter dated 13<sup>th</sup> August 2019 has requested TRAI to furnish recommendations on terms and conditions of Unified License and Unified License VNO agreement for permitting backhaul links for mobile network via satellite through VSAT under the terms of the clause (a) of sub-section (1) of Section 11 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 (as amended) by TRAI Amendment Act, 2000. DoT has stated that there exists a requirement for utilizing VSAT capabilities and allowing cellular backhaul for connecting BTS/ Mobile network in far flung areas under Commercial VSAT CUG Service License to enhance provisioning of internet and voice services in the hitherto uncovered areas.

3. In this regard, a Consultation Paper on “Provision of Cellular backhaul connectivity via Satellite through VSAT under commercial VSAT CUG Service Authorization” has been released today seeking inputs from the stakeholders. Written comments and counter-comments on the issues raised in the Consultation Paper are invited from the stakeholders by 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 and 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2020 respectively.

4. The comments and counter-comments may be sent, preferably in electronic form at [advmn@traigov.in](mailto:advmn@traigov.in). For any clarification / information Shri S.T. Abbas, Advisor (Networks, Spectrum & Licensing), TRAI may be contacted at Telephone Number +91-11-23210481.

  
**(S.K. Gupta)**  
**Secretary, TRAI**