

For Immediate release

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

**TRAI releases the Consultation Paper on 'Regulatory framework for
Ground-based Broadcasters'**

New Delhi, 18 October 2024 - Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today issued the Consultation Paper on 'Regulatory framework for Ground-based Broadcasters'.

2. The Guidelines issued by MIB from time to time for Uplinking and Downlinking of Satellite Television channels in India, containing the terms and conditions for TV broadcasting services, make it mandatory for the broadcasters to use satellite medium i.e. uplinking and downlinking of television channels through satellite, for providing their channels to the Distribution Platform Operators (DPOs).

3. The advancement of technology has made it feasible for the broadcasters to provide their television channels to DPOs terrestrially also i.e. using ground-based technologies. Like traditional TV channels, which are uplinked and downlinked through satellite, the terrestrially transmitted channels may also be carried on multiple DPO networks simultaneously and the DPOs can retransmit them on commercial terms to the subscribers. Therefore, there is a need to have a regulatory framework enabling use of ground-based technologies.


4. TRAI had forwarded its recommendations on Regulatory Framework for Platform Services to MIB on 19.11.2014, which included certain recommendations related to 'Regulatory framework for Ground-based broadcasters'.

5. In this regard, vide its letter dated 22.5.2024, MIB has, inter-alia stated that the recommendations in relation to regulation of platform services have

been examined and the guidelines for the same have been issued with the approval of the Competent Authority on 30.11.2022. MIB has further mentioned that during the course of the examination of the recommendations of TRAI for the Ground Based Broadcasters in the Ministry, it was felt that the context in which the recommendations were made by TRAI may have changed since the year 2014 and there may be a need to look into the matter afresh. Vide the aforesaid letter, MIB has requested TRAI for fresh review and recommendations on “Regulatory Framework for Ground Based Broadcasters” under Section 11(1)(a) of TRAI Act, 1997.

6. Accordingly, the Consultation Paper on ‘Regulatory framework for Ground-based Broadcasters’ is being released for seeking comments from stakeholders. The consultation paper may be accessed on TRAI's website, www.trai.gov. Written comments on the consultation paper are invited from the stakeholders by 15.11.2024. Counter comments, if any, may be submitted by 29.11.2024. The stakeholders are requested to submit their comments and counter-comments, preferably in electronic form, on the email- ID advbcs-2@traai.gov.in and jtadv-bcs@traai.gov.in.

7. For any clarification/information, Shri Deepak Sharma, Advisor (B&CS) may be contacted at Tel. No.: +91-11-20907774.


(Atul Kumar Chaudhary)
Secretary, TRAI
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