

Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 79 / 2012)

For Immediate release

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

TRAI releases Recommendations for Prescribing Minimum Channel spacing, within a License Service Area, in FM Radio Sector in India

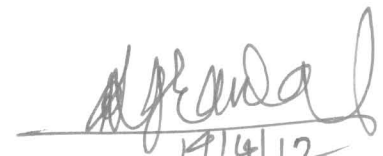
New Delhi, 19th April, 2012 - The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released the recommendations on “**Prescribing Minimum Channel spacing, within a License Service Area, in FM Radio Sector in India**”.

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting vide DO letter No. 102/2/2008-FM(Vol. IV) dated 8th Aug.2011, had requested TRAI to reconsider the issue of minimum channel spacing within a license service area in the FM radio sector. The minimum channel spacing i.e. the frequency separation between the adjacent channels' carrier frequencies is an important parameter which determines faithful reception of individual channels at the listener's FM radio receiver set. With the improvement in the quality of Radio receivers, penetration of digital devices such as mobile sets among the masses and alternate designs of the FM Radio transmitter setups, it is now technically feasible to transmit more FM Radio channels with reduced channel spacing in a given license service area. This would ensure effective utilization of scarce radio frequency spectrum. Keeping this in view, TRAI has come up with its recommendations. The key features of these recommendations are:

- (a) Frequencies for FM Radio channels, within a license service area, may be released with a minimum spacing of 400 KHz.
- (b) The FM channels, operating with channel spacing of 400 KHz, should be radiated from effectively co-located sites and transmitted with equal power.
- (c) The exact allocation of frequencies may be done taking into account the frequencies and power of the existing setups/already allocated frequencies in the adjacent license service areas so that the criteria for frequency re-use are satisfied. All the future planning of allocation of frequencies and development of the infrastructure should be done accordingly.

The full text of the recommendations is available on TRAI website: www.traigov.in

For any clarification/ information, Shri Wasi Ahmad, Advisor (B&CS), TRAI, may be contacted at Telephone No. +91-11-23237922, Fax No. +91-23220442 or email at advbcs@traigov.in.


19/4/12
(Rajeev Agrawal)
Secretary, TRAI