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To: "Sh. Sanjeev Kumar Sharma" <advbbpa@traigov.in>
Cc: "RAJENDRA KUMAR" <ja3-nsl@traigov.in>
Sent: Wednesday, June 2, 2021 5:22:08 PM
Subject: Comments on Roadmap to Promote Broadband Connectivity

To
Shri Sunil Kumar Singhal,
Advisor (Broadband and Policy Analysis),
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Respected sir,

I would like to give my opinion on promoting Broadband in India. My name is Paul Jose. I am 32 years old, living in Kerala. I am approaching this issue from a customer perspective. The main issues for the low number of Broadband users in India are **Affordability** and **Lack of Service** (Rural). The solution is **Sharing of connection** and providing wire/OFC **Infrastructure by State/Local Government**.

I would like to give my opinion on promoting Broadband in India. I am approaching this issue from a customer perspective. The main issues for the low number of Broadband users in India are **Affordability** and **Lack of Service** (Rural). The solution is **Sharing of connection** and providing wire/OFC **Infrastructure by State/Local Government**.

Affordability

A vast majority of Indian population cannot afford broadband. Families are unable to pay Rs300/500 per month for a "Luxury of Internet". If a single connection is shared by 2 or more families, the cost will come down drastically & more households subscribe Broadband connections. This is technically possible if houses are located close (15meters) to each other. Even a simple modem has provision for 3-4 Lan cable ports & 5-10 WIFI connections. I think the hurdle for this arrangement is Law. If TRAI/Government amends Law allowing sharing of connection, subscription will increase exponentially.

Lack of Service

Many ISPs are reluctant to start service in rural areas because of shortage of capital, financial unviability, uncertain subscription etc. These problems can be overcome by...

1. In Kerala, the state government is planning to provide infrastructure (Optical fibre connection) to all households (K Phone Project utilising electric poles). After setting up infrastructure, government is planning to Lease/Rent out it to Service providers. Some states can follow this model.
2. Another option is Local Self Government providing Infrastructure in its area of jurisdiction. Local governments know the area well & will lay infrastructure as per local needs. After putting up infrastructure, it can be rented to internet service providers. This will enable small service providers to enter the market and work cost effectively.
3. Another option is State/Central government provide infrastructure & Bandwidth up to a certain point in rural areas (Like Post Office, Panchayath office). From this point small ISPs will supply broadband to households. This will reduce capital required by ISP.

I am attaching a PDF file of above written matter.

Kochi, Kerala
Yours Faithfully
02/06/2021.
Paul Jose