



भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण
TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA
भारत सरकार / Government of India



No. R-24/2/(4)/2025-NSL-II

Date:10.12.2025

To,

The Secretary,
Department of Telecommunications,
Ministry of Communications,
Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi – 110 001

Subject: TRAI's Recommendations on 'Assignment of the Microwave Spectrum in 6 GHz (lower), 7 GHz, 13 GHz, 15 GHz, 18 GHz, 21 GHz Bands, E-Band, and V-Band'– reg.

Earlier, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, Government of India, through a letter dated 12.08.2022, had requested TRAI to provide recommendations for the assignment of spectrum in E&V Bands and Microwave Access (MWA) & Microwave Backbone (MWB) spectrum in frequency bands of 6/ 7/ 13/ 15/ 18/ 21 GHz. In this regard, TRAI, on 27.09.2023, released a consultation paper on Assignment of Spectrum in E&V Bands, and Microwave Access (MWA) & Microwave Backbone (MWB) for soliciting comments and counter-comments of stakeholders.

2. In the meanwhile, the Telecommunications Act, 2023 was enacted in December 2023. In light of the provisions of the Telecommunications Act, 2023 in respect of radio backhaul for telecommunication services, TRAI, through a letter dated 20.02.2024, conveyed to DoT that *"the DoT's Reference dated 12.08.2022, requesting TRAI to provide its recommendations for (a) methodology of auction of E&V band spectrum and (b) allocation methodology of MWA and MWB RF carriers in 6/7/13/15/18/21 GHz bands, may require a review by DoT. Therefore, DoT is*

requested to provide the specific issues on which TRAI's recommendations are now required on the subject".

3. In response, DoT, through a fresh reference letter dated 13.09.2024, conveyed its agreement with the TRAI's observation that backhaul spectrum is a part of the First Schedule of the Telecommunications Act, 2023 for which the assignment method would be administrative. Through the said letter dated 13.09.2024, DoT requested TRAI to provide recommendations under Section 11(1)(a) of the TRAI Act, 1997 on the following aspects:

"

- (a) Demand assessment and scope of service/ usage for (i) 57-64/ 66 GHz (V-band) and (ii) 71-76 GHz/ 81-86 GHz (E-band) and accordingly methodology of assignment of spectrum and associated terms & conditions, in line with the determination of scope of services/ usages by TRAI i.e. "Access" or "Backhaul" or "Integrated Access & Backhaul (IAB)".*
- (b) Spectrum charges and related terms & conditions such as spectrum cap, carrier aggregation, etc. for assignment of spectrum in 6 (lower)/ 7/ 15/ 13/ 18/ 21 GHz bands for backhaul purposes of commercial telecom services.*
- (c) Any need for review in respect of use of 7/ 15 GHz bands in view of consideration of these bands for Access using IMT after WRC - 2027.*
- (d) Quantum/ band(s) of spectrum to be earmarked for last mile connectivity (Fixed Wireless Access) of commercial telecom services and methodology of assignment of spectrum and associated terms & conditions in non-IMT bands as referred to in Para 2.2 above.*
- (e) Quantum/ band(s) of spectrum to be earmarked for Backhaul purposes for non-commercial/ captive use and associated terms & conditions including charges as referred to in Para 2.3 above.*
- (f) Feasibility & technical parameters, for allowing low power, indoor, consumer device-to-consumer device usage on license-exempt basis in V-band as referred to in Para 4(d) of reference dated 12-08-2022.*

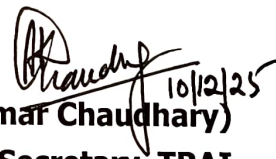
(g) Provide any other recommendations deemed fit for the purposes mentioned under (a) to (f) above."

4. In this regard, TRAI issued a consultation paper on Assignment of the Microwave Spectrum in 6 GHz (lower), 7 GHz, 13 GHz, 15 GHz, 18 GHz, 21 GHz Bands, E-Band, and V-Band on 28.05.2025 for seeking comments and counter comments from stakeholders. In response, 24 stakeholders furnished comments, and eight stakeholders furnished counter comments. An open house discussion (OHD) on the consultation paper was held on 11.08.2025 through online mode.

5. Based on the comments received from stakeholders during the consultation process, and further analysis, TRAI has finalized its **recommendations on Assignment of the Microwave Spectrum in 6 GHz (lower), 7 GHz, 13 GHz, 15 GHz, 18 GHz, 21 GHz Bands, E-Band, and V-Band**. A copy of the recommendations is enclosed herewith.

6. In keeping with the practice, a copy of this letter, along with the recommendations, is being placed on the TRAI's website (www.trai.gov.in).

Enclosure: As above


(Atul Kumar Chaudhary)
Secretary, TRAI
Tel: 20907748 / 20907749
Email: secretary@trai.gov.in