Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

TRAI issues Consultation Paper on "Review of the Regulatory Framework for Interconnection"

New Delhi, 30.05.2019 - The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today issued the Consultation Paper on "Review of the Regulatory Framework for Interconnection".

- 2. Interconnection is the lifeline of telecommunication services. Subscribers of telecommunication services cannot communicate with each other or connect with services they require unless necessary interconnection arrangements are in place. Availability of effective and expeditious interconnection plays an important role in the growth of the telecommunication services sector. In order to ensure that interconnection arrangements are finalized in timely manner, a number of issues are required to be agreed upon by TSPs or determined by the sector regulator.
- 3. TRAI had issued "The Telecommunication Interconnection Regulation, 2018 (1 of 2018)" dtd 01.01.2018 on Interconnection agreement, bank Guarantee, provisioning & augmentation of port at POIs, interconnection charges, disconnection of POIs and financial disincentive on interconnection matters. However, on the issue of review of the Level of Interconnection the Authority observed that there is a need for further deliberations. The present Consultation paper is proposed to address the issue of fixed to fixed Point of Interconnection.

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- 4. The Consultation Paper has been placed on TRAl's website www.trai.gov.in. The Authority would take a decision on the subject matter after considering the views of the stakeholders. Written Comments on the issues raised in the Consultation Paper are invited from the stakeholders by 27.06.2019 and Counter-Comments by 11.07.2019.
- 5. The Comments and Counter-Comments may be sent, preferably in electronic form at <u>ja.nsll@trai.gov.in</u> with a copy to <u>div.nsll@trai.gov.in</u>. Comments and counter comments will be posted on TRAl's website www.trai.gov.in. For any clarification/information, Shri S. K. Singhal, Advisor (BB&PA) may be contacted at Tel/Fax No. +91-11- 23221509.

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