

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



Dated: 20.02.2023

F. No. C-2/3/(2)/2021-QoS

To

The Secretary,
Department of Telecommunications
Ministry of Communications, Sanchar Bhawan,
20 Ashoka Road,
New Delhi-110001.

Subject- Recommendations on "Rating of Buildings or Areas for Digital Connectivity" - regarding.

The demand for digital connectivity has increased many folds in the recent years. The crucial role of digital connectivity was very much acknowledged in the context of COVID-19, witnessing a surge in the demand across all segments of users, irrespective of their locations.

2. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been monitoring the quality of service of telecom services across the country by conducting detailed studies and issuing appropriate directions to the stakeholders, to improve the quality of service. While there have been significant improvements in coverage of telecom services on the street, there are still huge gaps in meeting the expectations of the users in respect of telecommunication services, especially inside and across the buildings/ residential or commercial areas. The rollout of 5G network has further stimulated the need of seamless experience of the 5G services, specifically inside the buildings or areas. These gaps are required to be bridged by implementing technological solutions in holistic ways by stakeholders, wherein end-users can take call on the quality of services needed inside their complexes, premises, or areas.



- Accordingly, the Authority had issued a Consultation Paper (CP), on "Rating of Buildings or Areas for Digital Connectivity" on 25th March 2022. The CP discussed various issues relating to in-building solutions and creating an enabling environment for development of an ecosystem for Digital Connectivity Infrastructure (DCI) in buildings or areas. Any such ecosystem should cover design, implementation, operation, maintenance as well as upgradation and expansion of existing DCI. The CP has further highlighted the importance of collaborative partnerships among all relevant stakeholders including the endusers in decision making processes from an early stage of building construction for designing and creation of the DCI. Further, it also mentioned details on the existing provisions in various laws, bye-laws, and guidelines etc., relating to the DCI in the buildings and asks for suggestions to include DCI as an essential component in the designing and development of buildings. The CP also sought suggestions from stakeholders for introduction of Rating of Buildings or areas for digital connectivity by using objective and subjective assessment methodologies.
- 4. The last date of submission of comments and counter comments was 30th June 2022 and 07th July 2022 respectively. Thirteen comments and one counter comment were received from various stakeholders. Subsequently, the Open House Discussion [OHD] was held on 29th August 2022 through virtual mode. TRAI also organized a Conference on 16th November 2022 at New Delhi, wherein all the relevant stakeholders were invited to deliberate on the new ecosystem envisaged in the consultation paper.
- 5. Based on the comments received and deliberations held in the Conference and its own analysis, the Authority has finalized its recommendations on "Rating of Buildings or Areas for Digital Connectivity" and the same is enclosed herewith.
- 6. Authority has also recommended to modify "Addendum to Model Building Bye Laws 2016" titled "Provisions for In-Building Solutions Digital Communication Infrastructure" issued by TCPO, MoHUA in March 2022 and proposed a new



draft chapter on Digital Connectivity Infrastructures in Buildings, to be included in Model Building Bye Laws 2016.

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

Enclosure: As above.

(V. Raghunandan)

V. Rayhward

Secretary, TRAI

