Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 58/2014)

For Immediate release

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

TRAI Releases Pre-consultation Paper on "Delinking of licenses for networks from the delivery of services by way of virtual network operators(VNO)"

New Delhi, 3rd September 2014- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released a Pre-consultation Paper on "Delinking of licenses for networks from the delivery of services by way of virtual network operators (VNO)" for inputs/comments from the stakeholders.

The DoT, through its reference dated 7th July 2014 has sought recommendations of TRAI for delinking of licenses for networks from the delivery of services by way of virtual network operators including associated issues of definition of Adjusted Gross Revenue under the UL Regime.

The draft National Telecom Policy-2011 issued by the DoT, on 10th October 2011, envisaged two categories of licenses:

- (a) Network Service Operator (NSO) license; and
- (b) Service Delivery Operator (SDO) license.

NSOs would be licensed to set up and maintain converged networks capable of delivering various types of services e.g. Voice, Data, Video, broadcast, IPTV, VAS etc. in a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory manner. SDOs would be licensed to deliver the services e.g. tele-services (voice, data, video), internet/broadband, broadcast services, IPTV, Value Added Service and content delivery services etc.

Apart from seeking recommendations for delinking of licenses for networks from the delivery of services by way of virtual network operators, the DoT's reference also seeks recommendations on associated issues of definition of Adjusted Gross Revenue(AGR) under the UL Regime. On this issue, TRAI has already floated a Consultation Paper titled 'Definition of Revenue Base (AGR) for the Reckoning of Licence Fee and Spectrum Usage Charges' on 31st July 2014.

Inputs are invited from the stakeholders on any other issues in the proposed framework by 17th September,2014. Inputs may be sent, preferably in electronic form at advmn@trai.gov.in. For any clarification/information Shri Sanjeev Banzal, Advisor (Networks, Spectrum and Licensing), TRAI may be contacted at Tel. No. +91-11-23210481.

(Sudhir Gupta) Secretary, TRAI