DIRECTION

Subject: Amendment to Direction dated 24.07.2020 issued to all Broadcasters under Section 13, read with section 11, of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997

No. 1-4/2020-B&CS: Whereas, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (hereinafter referred to as “TRAI” or "the Authority"), established under sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 (24 of 1997) (hereinafter referred to as "TRAI Act"), has been entrusted to discharge certain functions, inter-alia, to regulate the telecommunication services; fix the terms and conditions of inter-connectivity between the service providers; ensure technical compatibility and effective interconnection between service providers; lay-down the standards of quality of service to be provided by the service providers and ensure the quality of service and conduct the periodical survey of such service provided by the service providers so as to protect interest of the consumers of telecommunication service;

2. And whereas, the Central Government, in the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (Department of Telecommunications), vide its Notification No.39, --

(a) issued in exercise of powers conferred by the proviso to clause (k) of sub-section (1) of section 2 of the TRAI Act, and

(b) published under Notification number S.O. 44(E) dated the 9th January, 2004 in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3 - sub-section (ii)--- has notified broadcasting services and cable services to be telecommunication service;

3. And whereas the Authority, in exercise of its power under TRAI Act, directed all the broadcasters on 24.07.2020 , to report to the Authority, by 10.08.2020. name, nature, language,
maximum retail prices per month of channels and maximum retail price per month of bouquets of channels, or composition of bouquets and also amend Reference Interconnected Offer (RIO) in compliance with the provisions of the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Eighth) (Addressable Systems) Tariff (Second Amendment) Order, 2020 and the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Interconnection (Addressable Systems) (Second Amendment) Regulations, 2020 dated 1st January 2020 and shall simultaneously publish such information on their websites;

4. And whereas the petitioners-broadcasters challenged the Direction dated 24.07.2020, by filing Interim Applications (IAs) in their respective Writ Petition pending before the Hon’ble High Court of Bombay;

5. And whereas two IAs filed in Writ Petition (L) Nos. 117 of 2020 and 147 of 2020 were listed and heard by a Division Bench of the Hon’ble High Court of Bombay on 07.08.2020, which passed an order directing that all the IAs filed by petitioners-broadcasters, be listed before the Division Bench which had heard the Writ Petitions;

6. And whereas all the IAs by the petitioners-broadcasters were accordingly listed before the concerned Division Bench of the Hon’ble High Court of Bombay on 12.08.2020 wherein during the course of proceedings before the Hon’ble Court, the Authority assured the Hon’ble Court that date of 10.08.2020, as prescribed in the direction dated 24.07.2020, would be extended to 26.08.2020;

7. Now, therefore, the Authority, in exercise of its power under section 13 of TRAI Act notifies that the direction dated 24.07.2020, stands modified to the extent that the date of 10.08.2020, as prescribed in the direction dated 24.07.2020, shall stand substituted by 26.08.2020.

To

All the Broadcasters