

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



F. No. 01-02/2020-B&CS

Dated : 13.02.2020

То

All Pay Broadcasters All DPOs

- Subject: Implementation of Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Eighth) (Addressable Systems) Tariff (Second Amendment) Order, 2020 (1 of 2020) dated 01.01.2020.
- Telecom Regulatory Authority of India ("TRAI") notified the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Tariff Order, 2017 ("Tariff Order 2017") dated 03.03.2017 (Tariff Order, 2017). Tariff Order 2017 has been amended and notified on 01.01.2020 vide the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Eighth) (Addressable Systems) Tariff (Second Amendment) Order, 2020 ("Tariff Amendment Order 2020").
- 2) Tariff Order 2017 (as amended), prescribes, *inter alia*, the following:
  - A) **Broadcasters**

"... any change in name, nature, language, maximum retail prices, per month, of channels and maximum retail price, per month, or composition of bouquets due to the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Eighth) (Addressable Systems) Tariff (Second Amendment) Order, 2020,

- (a) shall be reported to the Authority at least forty-five days prior to such change; and
- (b) shall also be simultaneously published on the website of the broadcaster." (Third proviso to sub-clause (1) of Clause 6 of the Tariff Order 2017)

## B) **Distributors (DPOs)**

"...any change in network capacity fee, name, nature, language, distributor retail prices of pay channels, distributor retail price or composition of bouquet of pay channels and composition of bouquet of free-to-air channels, network capacity fee for each additional TV connection beyond first TV connection in a multi TV home and long term subscriptions, as the case may be, due to the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Eighth) (Addressable Systems) Tariff (Second Amendment) Order, 2020, shall be

- (a) reported to the Authority at least thirty days prior to such change; and
- (b) simultaneously published on the website of the distributor." (Third proviso to sub-clause (1) of Clause 7 of the Tariff Order 2017)
- Accordingly, all pay Broadcasters were required to report to TRAI, and simultaneously publish on their website, any change in (a) retail prices, per month, of channels and bouquets; and (b) composition of bouquets by 15.01.2020.
- 4) Likewise, all DPOs were required to report to TRAI, and simultaneously publish on their website, any change in (a) network capacity fee; (b) distributor retail prices of pay channels; (c) composition of bouquets of pay channels; (d) composition of bouquets of free-to-air channels; (e) network capacity fee for additional connection beyond first connection in multi TV homes; and (f) network capacity fee for long term subscriptions, as the case may be, by *30.01.2020*.
- 5) However, it has been observed that so far many Broadcasters have neither reported, nor published the requisite information in terms of the Tariff Order 2017 (as amended by the Tariff Amendment Order 2020). It has also been observed from the information available on the websites of many Broadcasters that most of the existing bouquets of pay channels are not in compliance with the provisions of the Tariff Order 2017 (as amended by the Tariff Amendment Order 2020).
- 6) Similarly, quite a few DPOs have also not published the required information on their website nor composition of new bouquets compliant to Tariff Amendment Order (TAO) dated 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020 have been published.
- 7) Further, to ensure that consumers at large are kept fully appraised, all concerned are required to ensure that information about all such existing bouquets which do not conform to the provisions of Tariff Order 2020 and which shall not be available for the consumers on or after 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020 may be suitably indicated on their website.

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8) As you are aware, the provisions of the Tariff Amendment Order 2020 are to come into force from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020 and several preparatory activities are to be carried out by service providers in a time bound manner. This is to ensure that sufficient time is actually available to the consumers to exercise their choice of channels and bouquets before 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020. Therefore, all service providers concerned may take suitable steps to ensure that the consumers have enough time to make their choices of channels, so that the smooth transition takes place on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020.

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