Information note to the Press (Press Release No226/2012)

For Immediate Release

Telecom Regulatory Authority Of India

TRAI releases draft "Registration of Consumer Organisations Regulations, 2012 (--- of 2012"

New Delhi, November, 2012- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released draft "Registration of Consumer Organisations Regulations, 2012 (--- of 2012" inviting comments from the stakeholders.

Through these Regulations the Authority seeks to review the existing framework for registration of consumer organisations notified through the Regulation on Guidelines for Registration of Consumer Organisations/NGOs and their Interaction with TRAI, 2001 in January, 2001. The review of the existing framework for registration of consumer organisations has become necessary with a view to bring in more transparency in registration process and to facilitate close and effective interaction with consumer organisations. Salient features of the proposed regulations are as under:

- Any organisation registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860 or any other act for the time being in force for promotion of education and protection of interest of consumers or any company registered under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 shall be eligible for registration;
- The consumer organisation should have experience of at least three years in the field of handling of consumer complaints, advocating cause of consumers, research and survey on consumer issues etc. to be eligible for registration;
- The organisation seeking registration shall have to submit an affidavit regarding the nonprofit and non political status of the organization;

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- Renewal of registration of consumer organisation based on performance;
- Defined role and obligations of consumer organisation.

The comments of the stakeholders are solicited on the draft regulations on "Registration of Consumer Organisations Regulations, 2012 (--- of 2012)". Full text of the draft regulations is available on TRAI's website (www.trai.gov.in).

Written comments on the draft regulations are invited from the stakeholders by ...Oth December, 2012. The comments may be sent, preferably in electronic form to Mr. A. Robert J. Ravi, Advisor (CA & QoS) on the e-mail address advqos@trai.gov.in. The comments can also be mailed to address given below or faxed to 011-23213036. Comments will be posted on the TRAI's website. For any further clarifications please contact Mr. A. Robert J. Ravi, Advisor (CA & QoS) on 011-23230404.

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