From: "shabbir abid" <shabbir.abid@gmail.com> To: "Akhilesh Kumar Trivedi" <advmn@trai.gov.in> Cc: savetheinternet@internetfreedom.in Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 3:21:38 PM Subject: Net Neutrality Cannot be Compromised - TRAI please act

It's not a good idea to mess with Over-The-Top (OTT) services like Netflix and WhatsApp. Trying to regulate or license them is just asking for trouble.

First, the whole idea of making OTTs pay for the internet infrastructure is a no-go. It could mess with net neutrality and end up costing users more. Plus, smaller services might get pushed out, stifling innovation.

Remember in 2016 when they stopped telecom companies from giving special treatment to certain websites? That was a win for net neutrality. Now, telecoms are trying to bring that idea back, and it's not cool.

And then there's this talk of licensing OTT communication services. They want to apply the same rules to WhatsApp as traditional telecom services. But that's like comparing apples to oranges. OTTs do all sorts of things, and putting them in the same box doesn't make sense.

The worst part is, if they start regulating OTTs, they might have to snoop on your messages and weaken your privacy. India's data protection laws aren't strong enough to protect against that.

Lastly, there's the idea of banning some OTT services. Telecoms want the power to block apps they don't like. But the hows and whys of doing this are still unclear. It could hurt small businesses and regular users, and it might not even stop bad actors.

So, in a nutshell, regulating, licensing, or banning OTTs isn't a great plan. It could mess up the internet, invade our privacy, and stifle cool new stuff. We hope the authorities think twice about it. Thanks!

--Regards Shabbir