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Subject: COMMENTS ON PAPER-3/2023

With regards

Yours faithfully

Padam Mohan Misra

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**VIEWS AND COMMENT ON CONSULTATION PAPER NO-
BY UPOBHOKTA SANRAKSHAN SAMITI,KANPUR**

Q1. Whether the present laws are adequate to deal with convergence of

Carriage of broadcasting services and telecommunication services? If yes, please explain how?

OR

Whether the existing laws need to be amended to bring in synergies amongst different acts to deal with convergence of carriage of broadcasting services and telecommunication services? If yes, please explain with reasons and what amendments are required?

OR

Whether there is a need for having a comprehensive/converged legal framework (separate Comprehensive Code) to deal with convergence of carriage of broadcasting services and telecommunication services? If yes, provide details of the suggested comprehensive code.

Ans-media and telecommunications business, it may mean the tendency for services to merge into one offering that combines the features of the original services. In a transmission context, it may mean integrated delivery, via a single delivery channel, of voice and other services. From the perspective of a Regulator, convergence may mean integration into a single

regulatory framework of formerly separate responsibilities or the creation of explicit means of coordination among regulators concerned with similar sectors, issues, etc. From a user perspective, convergence is the ability to obtain multiple services on a single platform or device and obtain any given service on multiple platforms or devices.

Q2. Whether the present regime of separate licenses and distinct administrative establishments under different ministries for processing and taking decisions on licensing issues, are able to adequately handle convergence of carriage of broadcasting services and telecommunication services?

If yes, please explain how?

If no, what should be the suggested alternative licensing and administrative framework/architecture/establishment that facilitates the orderly growth of telecom and broadcasting sectors

While handling challenges being posed by convergence? Please provide details.

Ans-In the media and telecommunications business, it may mean the tendency for services to merge into one offering that combines the features of the original services. Convergence of services allows operators to offer bundles of services to the end-users. Converged services include at least two different

types of services, for example, double-play, triple-play, quadruple play bundled services.

Q3. How various institutional establishment dealing with –

- (a) Standardization, testing and certification.
- (b) Training and Skilling Research & Development; and (d) Promotion of industries

Under different ministries can be synergized effectively to serve in the converged era. Please provide institution wise details along with justification.

Ans-Double-play combines two of the following services: fixed-line telephone voice services, mobile telephone voice services, fixed television and radio services, mobile television and radio services, fixed-line broadband access and mobile broadband access services.

Q4. What steps are required to be taken for establishing a unified policy framework and spectrum management regime for the carriage of broadcasting services and telecommunication services? Kindly provide details with justification.

Ans-During the last three decades, the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) in the delivery and consumption of these services has considerably increased. Over

this period, there has been a massive increase in the storing, processing, and functional capabilities of the network systems and consumer devices. Digitalization of these services has resulted in the convergence of individual delivery networks as well as consumer devices. Digital transformation has drastically increased the computing and information delivery capabilities of communication networks. This has resulted in the development of global-scale digital platforms which are generally hosted in the Cloud and can deliver virtually any service to any person and at any place through the Internet. Now, instead of having vertically separate networks for each service, the digital platforms and networks have horizontal layers. Accordingly, there may be a need to reorient the applicable policies, laws, rules, regulations, and procedures from vertical to horizontal.

Q5. Beyond restructuring of legal, licensing, and regulatory frameworks of carriage of broadcasting services and telecommunication services, whether other issues also need to be addressed for reaping the benefits of convergence holistically? What other issues would need addressing? Please provide full details with suggested changes, if any.

Ans-No