

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

TRAI releases recommendations on 'Allotment of spectrum to Indian Railways for Public Safety and Security services'

New Delhi, 25th October 2019 – The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released recommendations on '**Allotment of spectrum to Indian Railways for Public Safety and Security services**'.

DoT through its letter dated 27th February 2019 has informed that Indian Railways has proposed to install an Ultra-high-speed LTE based communication corridor along their network for Train-ground and Train-Train communication. In this connection Indian Railways has requested DoT to reserve 15 MHz of spectrum in 700 MHz band for the purpose and to begin with 10 MHz to be allocated free of cost as the proposal is devoid of any commercial gain, but only for enhancing security and passenger amenities. Through the said letter, DoT requested TRAI to provide its Recommendations on administrative allotment of spectrum to Indian Railways and the quantum, price, appropriate frequency band (including 450-470 MHz band) and any other related issue.

2. In this regard, a Consultation Paper (CP) on 'Allotment of spectrum to Indian Railways for Public Safety and Security services' was issued on 24th June 2019. Comments were received from 12 stakeholders and counter comments were received from 2 stakeholders. An Open House Discussion (OHD) was conducted on 26th August 2019 in New Delhi.

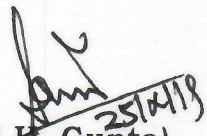
3. Based on the comments/inputs received from the stakeholders and on its own analysis, TRAI has finalized its Recommendations on 'Allotment of spectrum to Indian Railways for Public Safety and Security services'. The salient features of the recommendations are as follows:

- a) Out of the 35 MHz (paired) spectrum available in 700 MHz band, 5 MHz (paired) spectrum may be allocated to Indian Railways for implementing



ETCS Level-2, MC PTT + Voice, IoT based asset monitoring services, passenger information display system and live feed of Video Surveillance of few coaches at a time. The remaining 30 MHz (paired) in 700 MHz band may be put to auction in the forthcoming auction.

- b) To implement the Video Surveillance System for all coaches of the Train (Security services), Indian Railways may explore other communications means such as-
- (i) Dumping the Video Surveillance data to the system using high capacity WiFi when the train reaches a station.
 - (ii) Using Public Telecommunication Network (TSPs network) for sending continuous video surveillance data streams to its control center.
- c) Efficient and timely utilization of spectrum be ensured through a process of periodical monitoring. Further, the 1.6 MHz spectrum already assigned to IR in 900 MHz band may be taken back from IR upon migration to LTE based network.
- d) As Indian Railways would be using the assigned spectrum along its railway track network and stations only, DoT may explore the possibility of assigning the same spectrum in other areas for area-specific limited use to other entities for captive use. However, it should be ensured that there is no interference to the Railways' network from such use.
- e) Spectrum may be assigned to Indian Railways on administrative basis for captive use only and not to offer any commercial services such as Wi-Fi onboard.
- f) Spectrum charges may be levied based on formula basis as prescribed by DoT for Royalty Charges and License Fee for captive use.
4. The recommendations have been placed on TRAI's website www.trai.gov.in. For clarification/ information, if any, Shri S. T. Abbas, Advisor (Network Spectrum & Licensing), TRAI may be contacted at Telephone Number +91-11-23210481.


(S.K. Gupta)
25/12/19
Secretary, TRAI