

Information note to the Press (Press Release No.23/2016)

For Immediate release

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

TRAI releases Consultation Paper on the “Register of Interconnection Agreements (Broadcasting and Cable Services) Regulations, 2016”

New Delhi, 23 March, 2016- The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released the Consultation Paper on the “Register of Interconnection Agreements (Broadcasting and Cable Services) Regulations, 2016”

2. The primary objective of register of Interconnect regulations is to formulate the contours of a reporting system for the service providers so that they can report details of interconnection agreements including commercial details to the Authority. It would enable the Authority to maintain register of interconnect as per provisions of TRAI Act. The existing regulation mandates broadcasters of pay TV channels, DTH operators, HITS operators and IPTV operators to report to the Authority, annually, the information relating to the interconnection agreements signed among them.

3. To simplify the process, avoid duplication of reports, and formulate its view on various issues such as accessibility of information of register, the Authority has come out with the consultation Paper.

4. The key issues raised in the consultation are:-

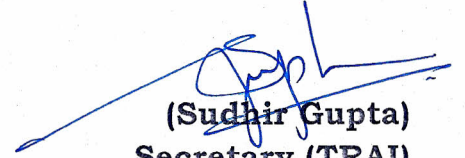
- (i) Accessibility of information including commercial portion of register to any interested stakeholder**
- (ii) Issues in disclosure of commercial details and its role in ensuring of non-discrimination and transparency**
- (iii) How to ensure accuracy of reports**
- (iv) Suggestions on periodicity, authentication, formats and method of reporting**

5. Accordingly, the Consultation Paper on “the Register of Interconnection Agreements (Broadcasting and Cable Services) Regulations, 2016” has been issued by TRAI for seeking stakeholders’ views on the above mentioned issues. Stakeholders are requested to offer their comments/ views latest by



25.04.2016. Counter comments, if any, may be submitted by **09.05.2016** 2016. The comments and counter comments may be sent, preferably in electronic form, on the email: **sksinghal@trai.gov.in** and **smk.chandra@trai.gov.in**.

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(Sudhir Gupta)
Secretary (TRAI)