



भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण
TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA
भारत सरकार /Government of India



No.: R-3/5/(4)/2021-BBPA

Date : 31 August, 2021

To

The Secretary,
Department of Telecommunications,
Ministry of Communications,
Sanchar Bhawan, 20 Ashoka Road,
New Delhi-110 001.

Subject: **Recommendations on “Roadmap to Promote Broadband Connectivity and Enhanced Broadband Speed” - reg.**

The Department of Telecommunication (DoT) vide its letter No. 4-1/2018-Policy-I dated 26.04.2019 has requested the Authority to furnish its recommendations as per Section 11(1)(a) of TRAI Act 1997, as amended, on the following points:

- i) *“Different speeds for different categories i.e. fixed vs Mobile with upload/download speeds defined;*
- ii) *How different categories of broadband speeds such as basic broadband, high broadband & Ultra-High Broadband etc. can be defined as in Europe; and*
- iii) *The roadmap to enhance Broadband speed to achieve the NDCP-2018 objective of 50 Mbps.”*

2. DoT has also, through two other references viz. No.20-281/2010-AS-I Vol.XII (pt.) dated 08.05.2019 and No..4-27/NDCP2018-NT dated 06.06.2019 has sought the recommendations of the Authority for implementing NDCP-2018 strategies “By encouraging innovative approaches to infrastructure creation and access including through resale and Virtual Network Operators (VNO)” and “Promoting broadband connectivity through innovative and alternative technologies”, respectively. Both strategies are part of the mission “Connect India: Creating a Robust Digital Communication Infrastructure”.

3. Subsequently, a reference has also been received from DoT through letter No. AS-15/1/2020-AS-V dated 12.03.2021 regarding proliferation of Fixed-line Broadband Services in the Country. In this letter DoT has raised certain new issues like exemption of the license fee on the revenues earned from fixed line broadband keeping in view the current factual matrix and relevant issues, likelihood of misuse

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by the licensees through misappropriation of revenues due to the proposed exemption of the License Fee on the revenues earned from Fixed-line Broadband services, and promoting proliferation of fixed-line broadband by providing direct benefits to consumers for usage of fixed-line Broadband services. Through this letter DoT has requested TRAI to provide consolidated and updated recommendations in light of the Consultation Paper on 'Roadmap to Promote Broadband Connectivity and Enhanced Broadband Speed' dated 20.08.2020.

4. Pursuant to these references, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued a Consultation Paper on 'Roadmap to Promote Broadband Connectivity and Enhanced Broadband Speed' dated 20.08.2020, and a Supplementary CP dated 19th May 2021, wherein various issues were raised for seeking comments and counter comments from the stakeholders. Subsequently, two Open House Discussions were also held on 18.02.2021 and 23.06.2021.

5. Based on the comments received and its own analysis, the Authority has finalized its recommendations on **“Roadmap to Promote Broadband Connectivity and Enhanced Broadband Speed”**. The same is enclosed herewith. These recommendations broadly cover the following topics:

- i. Revised definition of Broadband,
- ii. Broadband Proliferation,
- iii. Broadband Speed Enhancement,
- iv. Infrastructure Creation, and
- v. Incentives for Proliferation of Fixed Line Broadband.

6. Since, a wide range of issues related to broadband and infrastructure creation have been deliberated with international experience, the recommendations have become slightly voluminous.

7. In keeping with practice, a copy of this letter, along with recommendations, is being placed on the website of TRAI (www.trai.gov.in).

V. Raghunandan
31/8/2021
(V. Raghunandan)

Secretary

Tel: 23237448

Email : secretary@trai.gov.in