

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

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TRAI's DRAFT REGULATION ON INTELLIGENT NETWORK SERVICES

. Consumers are today enjoying a number of facilities available through Intelligent Network (IN) Services. Some example are:

- Free Phone or Toll Free Number provided like Maruti help line 1600-11-15-15
- Virtual Calling Card (VCC).
- Premium numbers like service offered by Astrologer etc..
- Tele Voting Services.

Many of these services are operator specific – thus the Maruti helpline is available only to consumers of two service providers; the other services similarly can be accessed only by consumers of a particular operator.

To enable consumers of all service providers to obtain such IN services TRAI had constituted an expert committee to give recommendations. Based on the Committee's recommendations, TRAI has prepared a Draft Regulation that has been placed today on its Web Site. The Authority has sought feedback from stakeholders before it issues the Regulation formally.

Summary of the main items covered in the Draft Regulation are as follows

- All telecom consumers in the country shall have access to Multi-Operator Multi-Service Intelligent Network (IN) Platform of their choice and no Operator should be allowed to block his consumers from accessing IN platforms of his choice.
- It shall be the Access Providers' prerogative to deploy their Intelligent Network (IN).
- Out of three Intelligent Network Architecture considered by the Committee, the Authority has opted for the Option 1 which will give best results with implementation coverage of 100% of the subscribers in the country and without coming into conflict with the licensing conditions. Time frames for implementation also could be faster.

- Based upon the Services Features and Network Architectures, the Charging, Billing and Sharing of the Revenues may be decided by the concerned Operators through mutual commercial arrangement.

The Draft Regulation is available on TRAI's Web Site www.trai.gov.in and Stakeholders could give comments and observations over a period of 15 days i.e. till December 16, 2005. Based on consideration of the stakeholder response, the Authority should be in a position to issue the Regulation in January 2006.
