

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA



E-NEWSLETTER FOR TRAI REGISTERED CONSUMER ORGANISATIONS FOR JULY, 2019



Dr. R.S. Sharma, Chairman, TRAI delivering the Keynote Address on "The Trusted Base for Digitization of Societies - Perspective from India" in the Annual Global Conference on Broadband for All from 24-27 June, 2019 at Stockholm, Sweden.

1. Directions

1.1 Direction dated 10th June 2019 to M/s TTSL to facilitate refund of unspent balance of pre-paid mobile subscribers and security deposit of the post paid subscribers

- M/s Tata Teleservices Limited informed that pursuant to surrender of administratively allocated spectrum in 800 MHz band they would be closing their services under the CDMA Technology in the service areas of Gujarat, Kolkata, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh (West), Uttar Pradesh (East), Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Himachal Pradesh, Bihar and Odisha.
- Accordingly, a Direction was issued on 10th June 2019 to M/s TTSL to furnish details with a view to facilitate refund of unspent balance of prepaid mobile subscribers and security deposit of the post-paid subscribers of these Licensed Service Areas.

2. Regulations

2.1 Notification on implementation of Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability (Seventh Amendment) Regulations, 2018 dated 12th June 2019

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had issued Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability (Seventh Amendment) Regulations, 2018 (9 of 2018) on 13th December 2018. As per these regulations, the revised Mobile Number Portability (MNP) process was scheduled to be in force w.e.f. 13.06.2019.

2. TRAI on 29.04.2019 issued a letter to all the Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and Mobile Number Portability Service Providers (MNPSPs) to furnish status of readiness of process developments and specifications so that adequate time is available for testing before the implementation.

- 3. In response to the TRAI's letter, most of the stakeholders (TSPs and MNPSPs) cited various reasons including significant changes in their network and IT elements. These stakeholders, therefore, requested to extend the timeline for implementation of Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability (Seventh Amendment) Regulations, 2018 (9 of 2018).
- 4. The responses provided by TSPs and MNPSPs were examined and upon considering the requests of stakeholders by the Authority, the timeline for implementation of Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability (Seventh Amendment) Regulations, 2018, was extended from 13th June 2019 to 30th September 2019 by a notification dated 12th June 2019.

3. Consultation Papers

3.1 Consultation Paper on "Allotment of spectrum to Indian Railways for Public Safety and Security services" on 24th June 2019

DoT through its letter dated 27th February 2019 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 has also requested TRAI to provide 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, under the TRAI Act, 1997 as amended.

2. A Consultation Paper on "Allotment of spectrum to Indian Railways for Public Safety and Security services" was accordingly released on 24th June 2019 to discuss the issues involved. The Consultation Paper is accessible in TRAI website at www.trai.gov.in.

4. Seminar

4.1 TRAI conducted Seminar on "Information, Protection and Rights for Telecom Consumers in Digital Era" at Shimla (Himachal Pradesh)

TRAI organized a seminar on "Information, Protection and Rights for Telecom Consumers in Digital Era" on 18th June 2019 at Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Rastrapati Niwas, Shimla.

- 2. The seminar was attended by Senior officers of TRAI, Department of Telecom, research scholars from Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Telecom Service Providers, Consumer Advocacy Groups, academia and consumers.
- 3. Dr. R.S Sharma, Chairman, TRAI delivered keynote address on the occasion. He spoke about transformational effects due to digital technologies, importance of Aadhaar and its benefits in various applications such as digital payments, implementation of various schemes of the Government for effective distribution of subsidies, etc. He also highlighted various consumer protection initiatives taken by TRAI for telecom consumers, viz net neutrality, Privacy, Security and Ownership of the Data in the Telecom Sector, etc.
- 4. Prof. Makarand R Paranjape, director of Indian Institute of Advanced Study, in his special address complemented TRAI for various initiatives in telecom sector especially in area of tariffs due to which the telecom tariff in India is the lowest in the world. He highlighted about growth of mobile services and its utility as compared to landline services.
- 5. Speakers from TRAI, Punjab Engineering College, National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI), consumers and Non-Governmental Agencies participated and delivered presentation in the seminar. The speakers on the occasion deliberated upon wide range of consumer centric issues, opportunities and challenges in the digital technologies, secured digital payments, tools & consumer centric regulations in digital age, etc. Participants have also been made aware about cyber security issues, ways and means of protection from cybercrimes.









Seminar on "Information, Protection and Rights for Telecom Consumers in Digital Era" held on 18.06.2019 at Shimla (Himachal Pradesh)

5. Open House Discussion (OHD)

5.1 OHD on draft "Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Register of Interconnection Agreements Regulations, 2019"

An Open House Discussion (OHD) on consultation paper on "Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Register of Interconnection Agreements Regulations 2019" was held on 10th June 2019 at TRAI headquarter, New Delhi.

5.2 OHD on consultation paper on "Entry Level Net worth requirement of Multi-system Operators in Cable TV Services"

An Open House Discussion (OHD) on consultation paper on "Entry Level Net worth requirement of Multi-system Operators in cable TV Services" was held on 11th June 2019 at TRAI headquarter, New Delhi.

5.3 OHD on consultation paper on the "Telecommunication Broadcasting and Cable Services Digital Addressable Systems Audit Manual"

An Open House Discussion (OHD) on consultation paper on "The Telecommunication Broadcasting and Cable Services Digital Addressable Systems Audit Manual" was held on 20th June 2019 at TRAI headquarter, New Delhi.

6. Other Information

6.1 Telecom Subscription Data as on 31st May, 2019.

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	Total (Wireless + Wireline)
Urban Telephone subscribers (Millions)	656.27	18.39	674.66
Rural Telephone subscribers (Millions)	505.59	2.90	508.49
Total Telephone subscribers (Millions)	1161.86	21.29	1183.15
Overall Tele-density (%)	88.31	1.62	89.92
Share of Urban Subscription (%)	56.42%	86.39%	57.02%
Share of Rural Subscription (%)	43.52%	13.61%	42.98%
No. of Broadband Subscribers (Million)	563.06	18.45	581.51

Active wireless subscribers on the date of Peak VLR in May 2019 were 989.60 million.

In the month of May, 2019, 4.18 million subscriber requests were made for MNP. Till the end of May, 2019, a total of 437.15 million consumers have availed MNP facility since its implementation.

7. EVENTS

7.1 The following Consumer Outreach Programmes were organised during the month of June, 2019

1 Panaji (Goa)	06.06.2019
2 Nongpoh (Meghalaya)	13.06.2019
3 Fazilka (Punjab)	14.06.2019
4 Nalgonda (Telangana)	17.06.2019
5 Haridwar (Uttarakhand)	20.06.2019
6 Shimoga (Karnataka)	21.06.2019
7 Ahmedabad (Gujarat)	22.06.2019
8 Srikalahasti (Andhra Pradesh)	27.06.2019
9 Hathras (Uttar Pradesh)	27.06.2019
10 Guwahati (Assam)	27.06.2019

PHOTO GALLERY





CoP at Panaji (Goa) held on 06.06.2019





CoP at Nongpoh (Meghalaya) held on 13.06.2019





CoP at Fazilka (Punjab) held on 14.06.2019





CoP at Nalgonda (Telangana) held on 17.06.2019





CoP at Haridwar (Uttarakhand) held on 20.06.2019





CoP at Shimoga (Karnataka) held on 21.06.2019





CoP at Ahmedabad (Gujarat) held on 22.06.2019





CoP at Srikalahasti (Andhra Pradesh) held on 27.06.2019





CoP at Hathras (Uttar Pradesh) held on 27.06.2019





CoP at Guwahati (Assam) held on 27.06.2019

Full details of the Directions/Orders/Consultation Paper/Report,
Subscription Data, etc mentioned in this newsletter are available on TRAI
website www.trai.gov.in

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