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New Delhi

**Subject: Comments on consultation No 9 of 2010
Submitted by CONSUMERS' Protection Association, Agartala**

5.1 What should be done to increase broadband demand?

(Reference Para 2.23)

Affordable price, reliable standard quality of service, on demand connection shall help increase demand

5.2 What, according to you, will improve the perceived utility of broadband among the masses? (Reference Para 2.23)

Demonstration and awareness programme shall help.

5.3 What measures should be taken to enhance the availability of useful applications for broadband? (Reference Para 2.23)

Panchayets, Village level workers, schools should be used for his purpose.

5.4 How can broadband be made more consumer friendly especially to those having limited knowledge of English and computer?

(Reference Para 2.23)

Contents in local language shall help.

5.5 Do you agree with projected broadband growth pattern and futuristic bandwidth requirements? (Reference Para 2.35)

No

5.6 Do you agree that existing telecom infrastructure is inadequate to support broadband demand? If so what actions has to be taken to create an infrastructure capable to support futuristic broadband? (Reference Para 2.35)

Yes. Govt Investment should be adequate. Planning Commission should consider for necessary fund allocation.

CHAPTER 3: National Broadband Network

5.7 What network topology do you perceive to support high speed broadband using evolving wireless technologies? (Reference Para 3.22)

No technical knowledge.

5.8 What actions are required to ensure optimal utilization of existing copper network used to provide wireline telephone connections? (Reference Para 3.22)
Incentive to subscribers and service providers may be considered.

5.9 Do you see prominent role for fibre based technologies in access network in providing high speed broadband in next 5 years? What should be done to encourage such optical fibre to facilitate high speed broadband penetration? (Reference Para 3.22). No comment

5.10 What changes do you perceive in existing licensing and regulatory framework to encourage Cable TV operators to upgrade their networks to provide broadband? (Reference Para 3.22)
TRAI should be authorized to give directions to all licensees.

5.11 Is non-availability of optical fibre from districts/cities to villages one of the bottlenecks for effective backhaul connectivity and impacts roll out of broadband services in rural areas? (Reference Para 3.39)
Certainly.

5.12 If so, is there a need to create national optical fibre network extending upto villages? (Reference Para 3.39)
Yes

5.13 In order to create National optical fibre core network extending upto villages, do you think a specialized agency can leverage on various government schemes as discussed in para B? (Reference Para 3.39)
Multiplication of agencies not preferable. Rather single window service is desirable

5.14 Among the various options discussed in Para 3.35 to 3.37, what framework do you suggest for National Fibre Agency for creating optical fibre network extending upto village level and why? (Reference Para 3.39)
NO COMMENT.

5.15 What precautions should be taken while planning and executing such optical fibre network extending upto villages so that such networks can be used as national resource in future? What is suitable time frame to rollout such project? (Reference Para 3.39)

HAVE A DISCUSSION ON THIS SUBJECT.

CHAPTER 4: Regulatory Challenges and Future Approach

5.16 Is there a need to define fixed and mobile broadband separately? If yes, what should be important considerations for finalizing new definitions? (Reference Para 4.18)
BROADBAND MUST BE RE-DEFINED TO SUPPORT MINIMUM DOWNLOAD SPEED OF ATLEAST 2 MBPS OR MORE PER SUBSCRIBER.

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5.17 Is present broadband definition too conservative to support bandwidth intensive applications? If so, what should be the minimum speed of broadband connection? (Reference Para 4.18)
BROADBAND MUST BE RE-DEFINED TO SUPPORT MINIMUM DOWNLOAD SPEED OF ATLEAST 2 MBPS OR MORE PER SUBSCRIBER

5.18 What specific steps do you feel will ease grant of speedy ROW permission and ensure availability of ROW at affordable cost? (Reference Para 4.30)
No idea.

5.19 Does the broadband sector lack competition? If so, how can competition be enhanced in broadband sector? (Reference Para 4.42)
YES. THERE MUST BE COMPETITION AND REGULATION.

5.20 Do you think high broadband usage charge is hindrance in growth of broadband? If yes, what steps do you suggest to make it more affordable? (Reference Para 4.42)
YES. TRAI MAY TAKE MEASURES ON THE BASIS OF ITS SUCCESS IN MOBILE USAGE CHARGE.

5.21 Do you think simple and flat monthly broadband tariff plans will enhance broadband acceptability and usage? (Reference Para 4.42)
THERE SHOULD BE MORE ADDITIONAL OPTIONS.

5.22 Should broadband tariff be regulated in view of low competition in this sector as present? (Reference Para 4.42)
YES.

5.23 What should be the basis for calculation of tariff for broadband, if it is to be regulated? (Reference Para 4.42)
NO IDEA

5.24 How can utilization of International Internet bandwidth be made more efficient in present situation? (Reference Para 4.42)
WISH TO SEE OTHERS SUGGESTIONS FIRST.

5.25 How can use of domestic and international internet bandwidth be segregated? Will it have direct impact on broadband affordability? If so, quantify the likely impact. (Reference Para NO DATA. TRAI SHOULD CONSIDER.

4.42)

5.26 What steps should be taken to bring down the cost of international internet bandwidth in India? (Reference Para 4.48)

TRANSPARENCY, COMPETITION AND REGULATION.

5.27 How can competition be enhanced in the International bandwidth sector? (Reference Para 4.48)

TRANSPARENCY, COMPETITION AND REGULATION.

5.28 QoS of broadband, availability of bandwidth, adherence to given contention ratio, affordability, availability and spread are some intricately linked parameters. In your opinion what should be done to ensure good quality broadband to subscribers?

(Reference Para 4.59)

THESE MAY BE THE INITIAL CRITERIA.

5.29 Do you think that bad quality of broadband connection is impacting the performance of bandwidth hungry applications and hence crippling the broadband growth? If so, please suggest remedial actions. (Reference Para 4.59)

QoS of broadband, TRANSPARENCY, COMPETITION AND REGULATION

5.30 Is there a need to define new/redefine existing quality of service parameters considering future bandwidth hungry applications, time sensitivity of applications and user expectation? What should be such parameters including their suggestive value and should such parameters be mandated?

(Reference Para 4.59)

REQUIRES CONSTANT UPGRADATION

5.31 What measures do you propose to make Customer Premises Equipment affordable for common masses? Elaborate your reply giving various options. (Reference Para 4.64)

SERVICE PROVIDERS CAN ALSO COME UP WITH SCHEMES TO BUNDLE PC/LAPTOP/NETBOOKS WITH BROADBAND SUBSCRIPTIONS AND PROVIDE IT ON INSTALLMENT BASIS.

5.32 What measures are required to encourage development of content in Indian vernacular languages? (Reference Para 4.68)

SOFTWARE FOR TRANSLATION, CONTENTS IN LOCAL LANGUAGES ARE NEEDED.

5.33 Do you perceive need for any regulatory or licensing change to boost broadband penetration? (Reference Para 4.71)
REGULATION IS ALWAYS REQUIRED.

5.34 Are there any specific competition and market related issues that are hindering growth of broadband? (Reference Para 4.71)
TRAI, INVESTIGATION WING OF MRTP COMMISSION AND THE COMPETITION COMMISSION MAY UNDERTAKE INVESTIGATION TO FIND OUT IF THERE IS ANY MONOPOLISTIC CARTEL BETWEEN SOME SERVICE PROVIDERS.

5.35 What other fiscal/non-fiscal measures should be considered to boost broadband penetration? (Reference Para 4.71)
INITIALLY THERE SHOULD BE SUBSIDY. PLANNING COMMISSION MAY BE INVOLVED WITH THE ISSUE.

Regards

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