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## Answers to TRAI's Public WiFi Hotspot consultation note

1 message

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Hi,

I'm Ankit Verma, co-founder of BhaiFi providing legally complaint cloud-based WiFi management with Artificial Intelligence along with Marketing platform for better ROI in 17 cities from last 2 years. We have invented a way for providing seamless free-roaming across different & distributed WiFi hotspots running on any ISP & Access Points with our patented Auto-Connect technology.

Below are my thoughts on the consultation paper:

Q1. Is the architecture suggested in the consultation note for creating unified authentication and payment infrastructure will enable nationwide standard for authentication and payment interoperability?

Ans. **Unified authentication is good but it can be taken forward by auto-authenticating devices at the time user connects the device to WiFi network. No login page at all.** If we allow all the devices at the backend, user might still need to open the hotspot page once where he will be logged in automatically as at the backend MAC ID is allowed but this is in itself adds a step & hence friction. **We (BhaiFi - <http://bhaifi.com>) already have a patented way of auto-authenticating the user at the time they just connect to WiFi SSID. We have been doing it for our clients across India. We also provide same experience to have interoperability at gateway level where **Unified authentication with auto-authentication would provide seamless free roaming across India with interoperability amongst ISPs & Infrastructure used.****

Unified payment is good but making people pay for Internet is in itself a big task. We tried it & saw that until and unless better speed is not provided below the 3G/4G rates, no one seems to buy data over WiFi.

Q2. Would you like to suggest any alternate model?

Ans. **For making interoperability, YES. Auto-Connect like we have invented. This is how it works: User connect his device for the first time to any BhaiFi hotspot & logs in using his mobile number.**

Next time comes into the VICINITY of any BhaiFi network, Voila! he is connected. Moreover, he will receive an custom SMS informing him that he has free access to internet & get 10% by showing this SMS at the shopkeeper's counter. NO FURTHER ACTION is required. **This is what our patent provides: seamless experience, free roaming, auto-login, auto-authentication, interoperability, backhaul independent & Infrastructure (WiFi Access Points) independent across gateways.**

Q3. Can Public Wi-Fi access providers resell capacity and bandwidth to retail users? Is “light touch regulation” using methods such as “registration” instead of “licensing” preferred for them?

Ans. Registration will congest the market & licensing will keep the quality in control. If anyone without proper technical knowledge start putting WiFi Access Points, that would ruin the performance & increase the congestion in 2.4 Ghz band. Where 1 AP would have suffice, people will put 'n' number of APs without knowledge. Both have prose & cons.

Q4. What should be the regulatory guidelines on “unbundling” Wi-Fi at access and backhaul level?

Ans. Providing wifi is a child's play but providing WiFi (empahising on the word WiFi to denote the QoS) which actually works in terms of speed, experience & durability is tough. We should have regulation for Infra companies like, they should not more than 'n' number of APs in an area so as to avoid congestion. ISP should have regulation provide a minimum of 1Mbps of bandwidth per user to ensure Internet actually works. Content Providers should do more targeted ads but should not SPAM users. Any company playing any role in the "unbundled" WiFi should not play with user's privacy. This is a very crucial & important thing to take care of.

Q5. Whether reselling of bandwidth should be allowed to venue owners such as shop keepers through Wi-Fi at premise? In such a scenario please suggest the mechanism for security compliance.

Ans. Yes, security compliance should be equally on both the ISP & the owner so as to prevent cybercrime & ensure consistency in access logs from both the side. Like maintaining access logs, sending usage reports to end-customers & business owners to analyse if something is not hacked or being misused.

Q6. What should be the guidelines regarding sharing of costs and revenue across all entities in the public Wi-Fi value chain? Is regulatory intervention required or it should be left to forbearance and individual contracting?

Ans. Only guideline should be on the QoS eg. at least 1Mbps of bandwidth should be allotted. Let people do individual contracting.

We would love to take a step further & contribute our 100% to design & execute Public WiFi move under Digital India initiative. We have been doing that & have expertise to roll it out across India.

Regards,  
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Nasscom Emerge 50, 2015 Winner  
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