

Subject: **Review of IUC**

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Date: 11/01/19 08:46 PM

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To

The Chairman,  
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India,  
Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhawan Next to Zakir Hussain College,  
Jawaharlal Nehru Marg,  
New Delhi: 110 002

Sub: Comments on TRAI's Review of Interconnection Usage Charge

Dear Sir,

This is regarding Interconnection Usage Charges Regulations, 2017 where TRAI has categorically said it will dump IUC regime, make IUC fee, zero paise and move to Bill and Keep Regime.

Surprisingly, the TRAI now intends to review its decision and perhaps with the intention to continue with the regime to give benefit to telecom companies. The continuance of the said regime is anti-consumer and anti-national interests.

The argument of Bharti Airtel that tariffs for mobile services are unsustainable and need to be increased is not acceptable to the consumers. Further, its argument that interconnection usage charges are not part of tariff but clearing charges among operators to transmit calls has evil intents in mind. The government should fall in its trap.

The continuance of IUC on the ground that spectrum cost proposed by the government for the next round of auction is very high and unaffordable to do 5G business is not true to the best of our knowledge. The telecom companies are blackmailing the government at the cost of consumers.

In the light of the above, we plead that IUC regime may be scrapped and Bill and Keep regime may be introduced where both data and voice calls should be given equal priority.

Looking forward to hear from you.

With regards

Dev J Thoppil  
Kerala