

OFFICE OF THE  
**LOTHA COMMUNITY DIPHUPAR**  
*DIMAPUR : NAGALAND*

---

Ref. No.....

Date.....

To,  
**Mr. R.S. Sharma,**  
**Chairman, TRAI,**  
**Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhawan,**  
**Jawaharlal Nehru Marg,**  
**New Delhi – 110 002**

Subject : TRAI Consultation paper on review of IUC

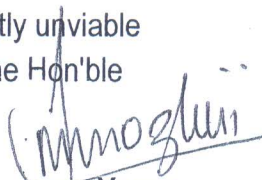
Sir,

Introduction of 4G technology has lowered the telecom calling rates like never before. It has been possible due to migration of voice telephony from circuit switched basis to VOLTE (packet switched). The new technology has freed up network resources on an unprecedented level. This change also enabled all 4G enabled telecom companies to offer voice for free because actual cost of voice traffic on 4G data centric networks is almost free. Consumers have enjoyed its fruits in terms of free voice telephone calls.

However, regrettably this technological breakthrough in costs is being throttled now by legacy network (2G/3G) operators with demand for IUC continuation beyond its pre-decided sunset date of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2020. These operators don't want to upgrade their networks to achieve efficiency, instead they are resorting to zero cost regulatory arbitrage of continuation of IUC which provides them assured cash-flows from technologically efficient 4G networks.

While it is natural for such operators to promote their self-interests by hook or by crook, TRAI has to take a balance approach promoting latest and efficient technologies or at least not burdening them with cost of supporting older technologies. It is already proven that 4G network with negligible costs are best for poorer strata of India's population and this has enabled penetration of telecom access like never before.

It is therefore submitted that TRAI should not provide artificial support for inherently unviable obsolete technologies as it would be detrimental to the cause of digital push by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India by increasing the cost of telecom services.

  
Chairman,  
**Lotha Community Diphupar**  
**Dimapur : Nagaland**