Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 12/2021) For Immediate Release

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

TRAI releases Consultation Paper on "Licensing Framework for Satellite based connectivity for low bit rate applications."

New Delhi, 12th March 2021 – The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released a Consultation Paper on **"Licensing Framework for Satellite based connectivity for low bit rate applications."**

2. The Department of Telecommunications (DoT), through its letter dated 23rd November 2020, has requested TRAI, under section 11(1)(a) of the TRAI Act, to furnish recommendations on "Licensing Framework to enable the provisioning of Satellite based low bit-rate applications for both commercial and captive usage".

3. Considering the constraints of the existing provisions in respect of proposed Satellite based low bit-rate services, DoT has stated that there is a need for suitable licensing framework providing such services both on commercial as well as captive usage. In view of this, DoT has requested TRAI to examine all the factors holistically and recommend enabling provisions under the existing licensing framework of DoT, or new licensing framework may be suggested including the entry fee, license fee, bank guarantee, NOCC charges, spectrum usage charges/ royalty fee, etc. for such services for both commercial and captive usage.

4. In this regard, a Consultation Paper on **"Licensing Framework for Satellite based connectivity for low bit rate applications",** seeking inputs from the stakeholders have been placed on TRAI's website www.trai.gov.in. Written comments on the issues raised in the Consultation Paper are invited from the stakeholders by 9th April 2021 and counter-comments by 23rd April 2021.

5. The comments/ counter-comments may be sent, preferably in electronic form at advmn@trai.gov.in. For any clarification / information Shri S.T. Abbas, Advisor (Networks, Spectrum & Licensing), TRAI may be contacted at Telephone Number +91-11-23210481.

(S.K.Gupta) Secretary, TRAI