For Immediate Release

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

TRAI releases Consultation Paper on "Rationalization of Entry Fee and Bank Guarantees"

New Delhi, 26th July 2022 — Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released a Consultation Paper on "Rationalization of Entry Fee and Bank Guarantees".

Department of Telecommunication (DoT) through its letter dated 3rd March 2022 has informed TRAI that as per the current Unified License/ Unified License (Virtual Network Operators) regime, there is a provision of different Entry Fees and two separate bank guarantees i.e., Financial Bank Guarantee and Performance Bank Guarantee for each service authorization.

2. In this background, DoT requested TRAI to provide its recommendations under the terms of clause 11 (1)(a) of TRAI Act, 1997 (as amended), taking into account the following views of DoT:

- Entry Fee should be reduced and made uniform across all (i) authorizations
- Both bank guarantees should be merged and amount of a single (ii) Bank guarantee may be prescribed for each authorization.

3. In this regard, a Consultation Paper on "Rationalization of Entry Fee and Bank Guarantees", seeking inputs from the stakeholders has been placed on TRAI's website (www.trai.gov.in). The consultation paper raises specific issues on the subject for obtaining the views of stakeholders. Written comments on the issues raised in the Consultation Paper are invited from the stakeholders by 23rd August, 2022 and counter-comments by 6th September, 2022.

4. The comments / counter-comments may be sent, preferably in electronic form at fa@trai.gov.in. For any clarification/information Shri Amit Sharma, Advisor (Finance & Economic Analysis), TRAI may be contacted at Telephone Number: +91-11-23234367

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Secretary, TRAI