

No.9/7/2019-BP&L
Government of India
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
Dated, the 13th May, 2020

To

Shri Sunil K Gupta,
Secretary,
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India,
Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhawan,
New Delhi.

Subject: TRAI's Recommendations on "Platform Services offered by DTH Operators" dated 13.11.2019 — regarding

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter No.3/1/2014-BP&L (Vol.III) dated 2.7.2019 & No.9/7/2019-BP&L dated 24.4.2020 and TRAI's letter No.4-9/2019-B&CS dated 13.11.2019 & 04.05.2020 on the above subject and to say that after consideration of the recommendations on "Platform Services offered by DTH Operators" dated 13.11.2019 by Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC), the recommendations have been accepted. However, the following recommendations have been approved with modifications as under :-

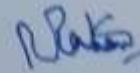
| Recommendations of TRAI | Approved with modifications |
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| The authority recommends that the total number of permitted PS for a DTH operator shall be capped to 3% of the total channel carrying capacity of the DTH operator platform and subject to a maximum of 15 platform services channels. | IMC noted that while it is necessary to restrict capacity of Platform Services (PS) Channels by DTH Operators as recommended by TRAI: there is a wide variation at present among DTH Operators in their channel carrying capacity and PS channels being offered. Taking note of this IMC recommended that the DTH Operators may be permitted to operate to a maximum of 5% of its total channel carrying capacity as permitted PS channels without any limit on maximum number of PS channels which |

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| | may vary as and when the channel carrying capacity of operator increases. |
| In case the same programme is found available on the PS of any other DPO, MIB/TRAI may issue direction to immediately stop the transmission of such programme. MIB also reserves the right for cancellation of registration of such PS of the DTH Operator. | This power may rest with the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB). |
| The Authority recommends that the DTH operator shall be bound by orders/directions/regulations issued by TRAI in respect of DTH services including platform services provided by the operators. | IMC deliberated on powers of TRAI in respect of DTH Operators as recommended. IMC recommended that except in respect of powers being hitherto exercised by TRAI in respect of DPOs, the issues pertaining to DTH operators etc. as per licence should be regulated by MIB. However, it may be desirable that DTH Operators may also abide by orders / directions / regulations of TRAI issued by TRAI from time to time relating to Interconnection agreement / tariff / quality of service and also keeping in view the fact similar provision already exists under Article 21.1 of DTH guidelines. |

2. It is requested that as per the provisions of Section 11(1) of TRAI Act, the Authority may, after considering this reference, kindly furnish their recommendations on the suggested modifications to enable the Government to take a final decision in this matter.

Yours faithfully,


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(P. Nagarajan)

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