



IAMAI RESPONSE TO TRAI's CONSULTATION PAPER

DELIVERING BROADBAND QUICKLY: WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO?

Extra comments:

Q13. What are the impediments to the provision of Broadband by Cable operators? Please suggest measures (including policy changes) to be taken for promoting broadband through the cable network.

IAMAI response: Some of the impediments to the provision of Broadband by Cable Operators are:

- Complex and long process for obtaining ISP licensing for cable operators
- Lack of intra-city fiber network for rolling out Digital Access Architecture.

In order to promote Broadband through cable, MSOs (Multi Service Operators), LCOs (Local Cable Operators) and Service providers should be incentivized to roll out cost effective broadband data services. Such incentives should include

- Granting “information infrastructure” status to cable networks that roll out broadband data services. In the UK, which has a highly competitive broadband access market, regulator OFCOM recently noted that “the average broadband speed delivered by cable services is now faster than that of fibre” and that a cable operator, Virgin Media, was providing the fastest residential broadband access speeds¹.
 - Providing inter-city intra-city digital fiber connectivity OR bulk bandwidth at reasonable price points to carry the subscriber broadband traffic to their POPs.
 - Easing of licensing norms and providing deemed-ISP-license to cable operators one month after filing for license.
 - Easing of duties on cable infrastructure equipment used for providing broadband services for the next 5 years.
-