

November 10, 2024

Deepak Sharma Advisor (B &CS) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India advbcs-2@trai.gov.in jtadvbcs-1@trai.gov.in

Dear Mr. Sharma:

Founded in 1965, Dolby Laboratories, Inc. ("Dolby") has a long history of research and development, creating a series of innovations that have revolutionized consumers' enjoyment of audio and visual entertainment. From noise-reduction systems, to surround-sound technology used in the film and recording industries, to audio processing technologies, Dolby has been at the cutting edge of audio and video storage, delivery, and playback. Dolby has contributed its innovations to global industry standards, which have been widely adopted in a variety of consumer devices, including mobile phones, personal computers, and tablets.

In light of our experience in audio and video technologies, we offer the following reaction to the comments filed to the 30 September 2024 *Consultation Paper on Formulating a Digital Radio Broadcast Policy for Private Radio Broadcasters*.

Q1: Do you agree that single digital radio technology adoption is preferable for entire country? If not, support your reply with justification.

Our view is that there should only be one standard. A single digital radio standard offers the best option for consumers, enabling economies of scale and consumer convenience.

Cost savings, device compatibility, interoperability and improved user experience are important factors for Indian consumers, and a single standard offers that.

Q2: In case a single digital radio broadcast technology is to be adopted for the entire country, which technology should be adopted for digital radio broadcasting? Please give your suggestions with detailed justification.

The DRM standard has been adopted by India on AM bands and today DRM signals already serve a majority of the Indian population. It is a proven solution and should continue to be used.

Dolby supports the Digital Radio Mondiale technology to be used in all FM frequency bands for India's digital radio. This matches well with the existing policy of using Digital Radio Mondiale for all the AM radio frequency bands for the digital AM radio service in India.

The audio codec used by DRM, MPEG xHE-AAC (Extended HE-AAC with MPEG-D DRC), is already widely adopted in most mobile devices and computers globally (Android, Apple, Windows) and also in Bluetooth audio specifications. This offers consumers the widest choice.

We applaud your efforts to study a digital radio broadcast policy, and would be happy to provide further information or to explain our perspective should you have any questions.

Sincerely

Jan Dain

John Dubiansky Senior Director, Intellectual Property and Standards Policy Dolby Laboratories, Inc.