

Information note to the Press (Press Release no. 01/2016)

For Immediate Release

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

**Consultation process on Differential Pricing for Data Services –
Message to the Stakeholders**

New Delhi, the 1st January, 2016: Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had released a Consultation Paper on 'Differential Pricing for Data Services' on 09.12.2015 inviting written comments from stakeholders by 30.12.2015 which was later extended up to 07.01.2016.


2. TRAI has so far received more than 20 lakhs responses from the stakeholders, out of which around 5.44 lakh responses were received through email with the domain name 'facebookmail.com'. Similarly, we have also received around 10.3 lakh responses through '@support free basics.in' where only a mobile number of the sender is mentioned.

3. In both the above sets of responses, the respondents have not given their comments on the specific questions raised in the Consultation Paper but have only submitted their response in a fixed template. In order to get a detailed response on the issues raised in the Consultation Paper, TRAI has decided to write back to them. However, in the absence of any valid communication address of individual respondents, we are unable to contact them directly.

4. TRAI has taken the following steps to facilitate the stakeholders, particularly those who have not responded to the specific questions in the consultation paper:

- (i) An appeal was made to such stakeholders vide Press Release No.72/2015 dated 30.12.2015;
- (ii) In a Press Conference held in TRAI on 31.12.2015 the media was requested to convey the message to stakeholders to send comments to the specific questions raised in the consultation paper;
- (iii) Since quite a large number of responses were received through the facebook platform, a letter has been sent to facebook requesting them to advise their such users to send comments to the specific questions raised in the consultation paper;
- (iv) The last date for submission of comments on the consultation paper stands extended to 07.01.2016.

5. The comments are to be sent preferably in the electronic form to Ms. Vinod Kotwal, Advisor (F&EA), Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhawan, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, New Delhi – 110 002, (Fax: +91-11-23236650) on the e-mail advisorfea1@trai.gov.in. or advfea1@trai.gov.in by 07.01.2016.



(Sudhir Gupta)
Secretary, TRAI