



RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
RAJYA SABHA

Member of Standing Committee on Defence
Member of Consultative Committee on Defence
Member of Central Advisory Committee for the National Cadet Corps
Co-Chairman, Vigilance & Monitoring Committee, Bangalore Urban District
Vice Chairman, National Military Memorial Management Trust, Bangalore

30th December, 2015

Dear Ms. Kotwal,

Sub. : Submission on TRAI Consultation Paper on "Differential Pricing for Data Services" dated 09 December, 2015

Greetings of the season.

Please find attached my submission on the TRAI Consultation Paper on "*Differential Pricing for Data Services*", which was released on 09 December, 2015. This submission may be considered by the TRAI whilst formulating its regulations on Net Neutrality and/or any Discussion Paper produced as an outcome of this consultation.

The following points are for the TRAI's perusal:

1. The cabelization of the Internet by TSPs is a clear and present danger. It is the most important objective for Net Neutrality to tackle, because, as is visible in the TV and media sector, this power once created is impossible to reverse or regulate.
2. The regulation of Net Neutrality today will decide the future structure of Internet which is increasingly a valuable commercial market place with many opposing commercial interests attempting to increase their control/influence on it.



I would also like to make the following suggestions to improve the consultation process adopted by the TRAI:

- a) This consultation seems to focus only on wireless access providers to the Internet and leaves out the issue of Fixed Internet access providers. Fixed Internet Access Providers are important stakeholders who will be impacted by Differential Pricing, and the issue should ideally also have been examined in the light of their role in the Indian internet landscape.
- b) TRAI's response to Net Neutrality will shape the discourse around regulation and consumer rights in the future into a more mature and reasoned one – moving away from the current shrill debate that is characterized by suspicion and lack of trust about most players, amongst consumers. This could be addressed by TRAI seeking disclosures of commercial interest in all submissions during such consultations. Undisclosed commercial interests tend to be used to distort consultations such as this.

Indian consumers await the TRAI's conclusions on this important and vital issue which relates to them, and I would advise you to arrive at these at the earliest, after giving due consideration to my submissions.

Sincerely,

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Ms. Vinod Kotwal
Advisor (F&EA)
Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhawan
Jawaharlal Nehru Marg
New Delhi 110 002