

**TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA**

Website: [www.trai.gov.in](http://www.trai.gov.in)

**Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)  
issues Consultation Paper on  
“Review of Processing Fee on Talk time Top-Up vouchers and  
Charges for Premium Rate Services”.**

**New Delhi, 3rd August, 2012** – TRAI has released today a consultation paper on “Review of Processing Fee on Talk time Top-Up vouchers and Charges for Premium Rate Services”.

The ceiling tariff for processing fee and for certain categories of Premium Rate Services are governed under the provisions of the Telecommunications Tariff Order (TTO). There have been representations from stakeholders to have a relook at these provisions. TRAI proposes to review present structure of processing fee on talk time top up vouchers with a view to make it more equitable and to make telecom services more affordable especially to the lower end subscribers. Accordingly, the following three options have been placed for consultation:-

- i) Mandating a tiered structure of levying processing fee.
- ii) Mandating processing fee ad valorem at ten per cent of MRP with a ceiling of rupees three.
- iii) Mandating that there should not be any processing fee at all.

TRAI also proposes to review the provisions relating to premium rate services in respect of calls and SMSs made for participation in competitions and contests and for voting in TV and radio programmes from the point of view of easy implementation and transparency. Two options have been placed for consultation:-

- i) Mandating a ceiling of Rs.3/- for calls (per minute) and per SMS made for the above purposes.
- ii) Doing away with the tariff ceiling for such calls and SMSs.

The above consultation paper is available on TRAI's website [www.trai.gov.in](http://www.trai.gov.in). The Authority will notify appropriate Amendments to the Tariff Order after considering the views of the stakeholders.

Stakeholders are requested to offer their comments preferably in electronic form to Shri Raj Pal, Advisor (Financial and Economic Analysis), Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhawan, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, New Delhi – 110002 (Tel No.011-23230752, Fax No.011-23236650; Email: [raj.pal@nic.in](mailto:raj.pal@nic.in); or [eco@traigov.in](mailto:eco@traigov.in)) by 18<sup>th</sup> August, 2012.

Rajeev Agrawal,  
Secretary, TRAI.