

Guidelines for obtaining Captive (VSAT) CUG License

The Department of Telecommunications (“DoT”) through its notification dated October 26, 2022, released the guidelines for obtaining Captive Very Small Aperture Terminal (“VSAT”) CUG License (“License”). The objective of these guidelines is to equip the applicants of the License with information on relevant licensing and administrative framework and guide them regarding processes involved in obtaining the License and further clearances for operationalizing the network.

According to the guidelines, the scope of the License is to provide data connectivity between various sites scattered throughout India using VSATs. The guidelines also specify that the License will be granted for a period of 20 (twenty) years which is extendable by 10 (ten) years upon a request in this regard. In order to procure the License, the applicant organization must be an Indian company, registered under the Indian Companies Act, 2013/ government department/ government organization.

Apart from prescribing the entry fee of INR 15,00,000 (Indian Rupees fifteen lakhs) and the annual fee of INR 10,000 (Indian Rupees ten thousand), the guidelines also prescribe certain requirements for the License such as (a) financial conditions, (b) technical parameters, (c) interconnection with other networks, (d) security conditions; and (e) submission of the application.

The guidelines specify that the in-principle clearance or the letter of intent or the License agreement for service authorization does not confer any right to assignment and use of spectrum. The applicant needs to separately apply for frequency assignment from the Wireless Planning and Coordination (“WPC”) wing of the DoT which permits utilization of appropriate frequencies under specified procedure, instructions, terms, and conditions including payment for the said assignment and right to use of spectrum prescribed by WPC wing from time to time.

After obtaining the License, an entity desirous of establishing and/ or operating a satellite-based communication network/ service is required to apply for in-principle clearance to the satellite licensing division of the DoT.

Further, the guidelines also lay down that the applicant may also approach the satellite licensing division of the DoT to seek in-principal clearance of its proposed satellite-based network before obtaining the license.

Guidelines for establishing satellite-based communication network(s)

The DoT through its notification dated October 26, 2022, released the guidelines for establishing satellite-based communications network(s). The objective of these guidelines is to equip the applicants applying for licenses to establish a satellite-based communication network with the relevant information on the licensing regime of the DoT and guide them with respect to the process for seeking in-principle clearance and other approvals for establishing satellite-based communication networks.

Satellite-based communication services can be provided within the respective scope of the following licenses/authorizations issued under Section 4 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885:

1. Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (“**GMPCS**”) Service Authorization under Unified License (“**UL**”);
2. VSAT CUG Service authorization under UL for commercial service;
3. In-flight and Maritime Connectivity (“**IFMC**”) Service authorization;
4. Captive VSAT CUG License; and
5. National Long Distance (“**NLD**”) Service authorization under UL.

Apart from the above-mentioned, satellite-based connectivity can also be provided under other authorizations of the UL. The guidelines also lay down the scope of the above-mentioned licenses/authorizations.

Chapter II of the guidelines lays down the process for seeking in-principle clearance and other approvals required for establishing a satellite-based communication network by the licensee.

Since providing any satellite-based communication service to the public or setting up a satellite-based network is a multi-stakeholder process which requires close coordination among various departments and entities, an Inter-Ministerial Committee for Satellite Network Clearance (“**IMC-SNC**”), known as Apex Committee has been set up, on whose recommendation, satellite licensing division of the DoT issues in-principle clearance to the applicant. The objective of such an examination is to reduce the delay in operationalizing the satellite network(s). The guidelines mention the standards on which the IMC-SNC examines the application.

Any entity, after obtaining the license/authorization, must apply for in-principle clearance to the satellite licensing division of the DoT, and the proposal, after initial scrutiny, may be circulated to the members of IMC-SNC. The guidelines list the types of proposals received from the applicant company, which will be examined by IMC-SNC. Proposals relating to minor changes would not attract the scrutiny of the IMC-SNC.

The guidelines list the detailed procedure for an in-principle clearance application and mention the necessary documents to be submitted. Upon receipt of the in-principle clearance, the applicant must apply to the Department of Space / NewSpace India Limited or space segment provider duly authorized by DoS/ IN-SPACe for the assignment of satellite capacity. The applicant is required to obtain the carrier plan approval from Network Operations and Control Center (“**NOCC**”) on the online system. The applicant would then apply online for frequency assignment and related clearances from WPC. After obtaining the WOL /frequency assignment from WPC, the licensee must upload the self-certified details of the requisite antenna parameter for generating up-linking permission online, which will be validated on the online portal by NOCC within 3 (three) days.

The guidelines mention that since Mandatory Performance Verification Testing (“**MPVT**”) will be on a self-certification basis, there would not be any MPVT charges payable to the NOCC for such self-certification. The NOCC charges of INR 21,00,000 (Indian Rupees twenty one lakhs) per transponder per annum of use of space segment have been removed.

Further, the guidelines also lay down that the licensee is required to install equipment complying with the technical parameters mentioned in the applicable standards issued by the telecommunication engineering centre, as modified from time to time.

National Frequency Allocation Plan - 2022

The DoT, through its notification dated October 26, 2022, released the National Frequency Allocation Plan -2022 (“**NFAP-2022**”).

The central theme of the NFAP-2022 is the allocation of radio-frequency spectrum to different radiocommunication services. NFAP-2022 provides a broad regulatory framework, identifying the frequency bands that are available for cellular mobile service, sound and television broadcasting, radio navigation for aircraft and ships, defense and security

communications, disaster relief and emergency communications, satellite communications and satellite broadcasting, and amateur service, to name a few.

The usage of the radio-frequency spectrum and satellite orbits (both geostationary and non-geostationary) worldwide is governed by the radio regulations, a treaty that India and other international telecommunication union members have signed. Therefore, when creating the NFAP – 2022, the 2020 edition of the radio regulations served as the primary reference.

In order to implement 5G services in India, new frequency bands are also added in NFAP- 2022, where additional spectrum is added for international mobile telecommunications in frequency bands below 1 GHz, 70 MHz additional spectrum is added in mid-band below 4 GHz, and 16750 MHz additional spectrum is added in frequency bands above 24 GHz. This would enable new additional spectrum for the upcoming 5G services.

Amendment in the scope of IP-1 Registration

The DoT vide its notification dated November 10, 2022, released an amendment (“**Amendment**”) regarding the scope of IP-1 Registration. According to the Amendment, in the interest of national security and public interest, IP-1 registration holders are now required to share infrastructure such as dark fibres, right of way, duct space and tower with the entities specified by the Government of India as per the terms and conditions that may be specified by the Government of India.

New regulatory framework for broadcasting and cable services

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (“**TRAI**”), through its notification dated November 22, 2022, issued the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Interconnection (Addressable Systems) (Fourth Amendment) Regulations, 2022 (“**Fourth Amendment**”) to further amend the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services Interconnection (Addressable Systems) Regulations, 2017 (“**Regulations 2017**”). One of the objectives of the new regulatory framework is to ensure that consumers get the most value for what they pay.

TRAI issued a consultation paper on issues related to the new regulatory framework for broadcasting and cable services on May 7, 2022. One of the issues raised in the consultation paper was whether there should be any discount, in addition to distribution fee, on maximum retail price (“**MRP**”) of a-la carte channels and bouquets of channels to be provided by broadcasters to Distribution Platform Operators.

Addressing the issue in the Fourth Amendment, TRAI stated that a broadcaster could offer a maximum discount of 45% while pricing its bouquet of pay channels over the sum of MRP of all the pay channels in that bouquet. It also stated that discounts offered as an incentive by the broadcaster on the MRP of a pay channel will be based on a combined subscription of that channel both in a-la-carte as well as in bouquets.

TRAI also stated that it would continue to keep a close watch on the discounts being offered by the broadcasters, its impact on the market, and may take further suitable measures, if the situation warrants.

TRAI Order for revised price cap for television channels

The TRAI through its notification dated November 22, 2022, issued, Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Eighth) (Addressable Systems) Tariff (Third Amendment) Order, 2022 (“**Order 2022**”).

TRAI amended the Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Eighth) (Addressable Systems) Tariff Order, 2017 (“**Principal Tariff Order**”) and set the price cap for a television channel to INR 19 (Indian Rupees nineteen) from the earlier price cap of INR 12 (Indian Rupees twelve). It also stated that a reduction in the MRP per month should not be less than 55% of the sum of the MRP per month of a-la-carte pay channels forming part of that bouquet that is permissible for a broadcaster to offer.

Order 2022 makes it compulsory through an addition under clause 6 of the Principal Tariff Order for any change in name, nature, language, MRP per month, channels or composition of bouquets due to the amendment to be, reported to TRAI on the portal as specified for this purpose at least 45 (forty five) days prior to such change and it should be simultaneously published on the website of the broadcaster. The same should be communicated to all the distributors of television channels with whom it has entered into an interconnection agreement.

It also added under clause 7 of the Principal Tariff Order that any change in network capacity fee, name, nature, language, distributor retail prices of pay channels, distributor retail price or composition of a bouquet of pay channels and composition of a bouquet of free-to-air channels, network capacity fee for each additional television connection beyond first television connection in a multi television home and long term subscriptions, as the case may be, due to the amendment should be reported to TRAI on the portal as specified for this purpose at least 30 (thirty) days prior to such change and simultaneously published on the website of the distributor.

Curbing UCC through effective implementation of Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2018

TRAI through its notification dated November 28, 2022, released a press note explaining the manner in which the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2018 ("**Regulations**") has curbed the menace of Unsolicited Commercial Communication ("**UCC**").

The Regulations mandated registration of all commercial promoters and telemarketers to register on distributed ledger technology platform and seek customer consent for receiving various kinds of promotional messages at time and day of their choice. This has resulted in substantial reduction of customer companies to the extent of 60% for registered telemarketers.

In coordination with stakeholders, TRAI is taking necessary steps such as using artificial intelligence and machine learning, and intelligent scrubbing of headers and message templates, to check UCC from unregistered telemarketers.

Additionally, TRAI has also initiated various campaigns to educate consumers to make them aware of provisions and safeguards in the regulations and to be alert for such fraudulent messages.

Consultation Paper on Introduction of Calling Name Presentation in Telecommunication Networks

TRAI vide its notification dated November 29, 2022, released a consultation paper titled '*Introduction of Calling Name Presentation ("CNAP") in Telecommunication Networks*'.

The consultation paper invites comments from the stakeholders broadly on the following:

1. whether there is a need to introduce the CNAP supplementary service in the telecommunication networks in India;
2. whether the CNAP service be mandatorily activated in respect of each telephone subscriber;
3. whether the name identity information provided by telephone consumers in the customer acquisition forms be used for the purpose of CNAP;
4. the measures to be taken to ensure delivery of CNAP to the called party without a considerable increase in the call set up time;
5. whether the mobile handsets and landline telephone sets in use in India are enabled with CNAP feature;
6. whether the bulk subscribers and National Toll-free numbers should be given a facility of presenting their 'preferred name' in place of the name appearing in the customer acquisition forms; and
7. whether there is a requirement of any amendment in telecommunication service licenses/ authorizations in case CNAP is introduced in the Indian telecommunication network.

The stakeholders are required to submit their comments by January 17, 2023, and counter comments by January 31, 2023.

Recommendations on 'Licensing Framework for Establishing and Operating Satellite Earth Station Gateway'

The TRAI through its notification dated November 29, 2022, released its recommendations on 'Licensing Framework for Establishing and Operating Satellite Earth Station Gateway'.

DoT had earlier sought TRAI's recommendations post which a consultation paper on 'Licensing Framework for Establishing and Operating Satellite Earth Station Gateway' was released. Based on the comments and inputs received from the stakeholders, TRAI released its Recommendations.

The recommendations broadly cover the following:

1. a separate Satellite Earth Station Gateway ("SESG") license is to be introduced under the section 4 of Indian Telegraph Act and will not form a part of the UL;
2. the licensee may be granted the option to establish, maintain, and work SESGs anywhere within the territory of India for all types of satellite systems for which it has been granted permission by the government. The licensee may also establish SESGs in relation to or more government approved systems;
3. the licensee is required to obtain a separate license/authorization/permission to provide any kind of telecommunication service or broadcasting service directly to the consumers;
4. the validity of the SESG license will be 20 (twenty) years renewable for a further period of 10 (ten) years upon expiry;
5. a non-refundable one-time entry fee of INR 10,00,000 (Indian Rupees ten lakhs) is to be levied for the grant of SESG license;
6. the licensee is required to adhere to the instructions/guidelines issued by the government regarding connecting trusted products in its network;
7. the licensee is also required to meet the instructions or directions of DoT that are issued from time to time in the interest of national security; and
8. companies registered under the Companies Act, 2013 will be eligible to apply for grant of SESG license.

Recommendations on use of street furniture for small cell and aerial fiber deployment

The TRAI through its notification dated November 29, 2022, released its recommendations on '*use of street furniture for small cell and aerial fiber development*'.

The recommendations broadly cover the following:

1. amend the Right of Way Rules, 2022 ("**Rules**") further to provide more clarity on the term 'street furniture' and to include provision of bulk processing of applications;
2. amend the Rules to incorporate provision that in case more than one telecom service provider ("**TSP**") makes requests to use the same street furniture and there is insufficient space available to meet the demands of all the requesting TSPs, the TSPs are to co-ordinate among themselves and work out a feasible solution;
3. DoT to issue advisory guidelines to states mandating the Controlling Administrative Authorities ("**CAA**") that own/control traffic lights to share these assets with TSPs for deployment of small cells subject to structural stability;

4. provisions or suitable terms and conditions are to be introduced in all telecom licenses and IP-1 registration agreements prohibiting the TSPs /IP-1 providers from entering into any exclusive contract or right of ways with infrastructure owners/CAAs or any other authority.
5. in cities where street furniture is controlled by multiple agencies, the concerned state/local government should nominate one of the asset owning agencies as lead/nodal authority to monitor the permissions related to small cells;
6. distribution companies are to make provisions to provide connections for telecom sites to TSPs/IP-Is on priority basis. The timelines for providing the connection should be fixed (preferably 15 (fifteen) days) and monitored through portal; and
7. smart pre-paid electricity meters are to be installed in all existing telecom installations on priority and in a time bound manner.

Guidelines for Uplinking and Downlinking of Satellite Television Channels in India, 2022

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (“**MIB**”) vide its notification on November 09, 2022, released the guidelines for Uplinking and Downlinking of Satellite Television Channels in India, 2022 (“**Guidelines**”).

The Guidelines aim to ease the issues regarding the following:

1. permissions to the companies or Limited Liability Partnerships (“**LLP**”) registered in India for uplinking and downlinking of television channels;
2. setting up of teleports or teleport hubs;
3. use of Digital Satellite News Gathering (“**DSNG**”) or Satellite News Gathering (“**SNG**”) or Electronic News Gathering (“**ENG**”) systems;
4. uplinking by Indian news agencies; and
5. temporary uplinking of a live event

For a detailed analysis, please refer to the [JSA Prism of November 14, 2022](#)

Recommendations for establishment of data centres, content delivery networks, and interconnect exchanges in India

TRAI vide its notification dated November 18, 2022, released ‘Recommendations on regulatory framework for promoting data economy through the establishment of data centres, content delivery networks, and interconnect exchanges in India’

The components of a digital ecosystem that are critical for the success of data economy of digital ecosystem are data centres (“**DC**”), content delivery networks (“**CDN**”), internet exchange points (“**IXP**”). Data collection, generation, analysis, and dissemination, both structured and unstructured, have the potential to harm individuals and the society. As a result, it is necessary to look at issues related to a telecom subscriber’s control over their data and how secure portability of trusted data between telecom service providers and other institutions can be ensured.

The recommendations broadly cover the following:

1. the government of India should define certain fiscal and non-fiscal incentives for the sector that should be made applicable across all states while leaving the flexibility to the states to announce further fiscal and non-fiscal incentives through their policies. guidelines for states data centre incentivization scheme should enlist inclusion of DCs as an essential service under respective essential services maintenance acts of the states as one of the items;

2. operationalizing a data centre specific portal on National Single Window System (“**NSWS**”) for various time-bound single window clearances. All the permissions required by centre/states to build and operationalize a DC should be listed on NSWS;
3. the central government should prepare guidelines listing out the incentives for the DCs;
4. there is a requirement of India-specific standard-based certification framework for the DCs and for the same, BIS is entrusted with telecommunication engineering centre and standardisation testing and quality certification. Directorate should jointly work to develop DC security certification framework based on third party audits;
5. CDN players should be registered with department of telecommunications through a simple online registration process; and
6. a separate authorization in unified license may be created and any entity that intends to provide IXP services in India can do so either under ISP license/ UL-ISP authorization or under a standalone UL-IXP authorization.

Telecom Tariff (69th Amendment) Order, 2022

The TRAI vide its notification dated December 6, 2022, issued the Telecom Tariff (69th amendment) Order, 2022 (“**Order**”) on ‘Tariff for SMS and cell broadcast alerts disseminated through common alerting protocol (CAP) platform during disasters/non-disasters’.

DoT requested TRAI to provide tariffs for Short Messaging Service (“**SMS**”) and cell broadcast service (“**CBS**”) to be disseminated by TSPs through the common alerting protocol (“**CAP**”) platform during disasters/ non-disasters. TRAI, through its consultation process requested the views of stakeholders on the technical options to mass disseminate messages during disasters and non-disasters, the mode of dissemination i.e., SMS or CBS, challenges and success rate of SMS and CBS, tariff fixation for CAP messages and charges for SMS and CBS.

TRAI had obtained opinions of various TSPs and associations such as the cellular operators association of India and consumer protection associations. TRAI decided that SMS and CBS method should be considered for implementation. But during emergencies, CBS has vital advantages over SMS as it can be disseminated to millions of devices instantly. It can even function when the network is congested as often happens in emergency situations.

In reference to the rate, TRAI decided that no charges can be levied for SMS sent prior to and after the expiry of the disaster as per the direction issued under Disaster Management Act, 2005 (“**DM Act**”). However, a charge of INR 0.02 (Indian Rupees zero point zero two) will be levied on alerts or messages sent during a disaster situation or a non-disaster situation other than those sent as per the directions issued under the DM Act

It has been decided that charges paid by authorities would be in two situations; (a) where messages/alerts are sent during the non-disaster situation; and (b) where the messages are unrelated to the disaster but sent during a disaster by agencies other than designated nodal agencies under the DM Act.

Consultation Paper on data communication services

TRAI vide its notification dated December 10, 2022, released a consultation paper titled “Data Communication Services between Aircraft and Ground Stations provided by Organizations other than Airports Authority of India” (“**AAI**”)

The consultation paper invites comments from the stakeholders broadly on the following:

1. the need to bring data communication service providers under a service licensing regime;
2. whether data communication service providers should be licensed through the UL or a separate service license;
3. the terms and conditions of licensing framework for data communication services between aircraft and ground stations;
4. whether the methodology for the assignment of the spectrum in the frequency range 117.975 -137 MHz to the providers of data communication services should be done administratively or through auction;

5. in case an administrative assignment is to be followed, what should be the mechanism for charging the VHF spectrum in the frequency range 117.975-137 MHz? Whether the auction-determined prices for other frequency bands can be accounted for estimating the value of the VHF spectrum in the frequency range 117.975-137 MHz;
6. if auction methodology is to be followed, whether the valuation of the VHF spectrum in the frequency range 117.975-137 MHz should be derived by relating it to the valuation of other frequency bands by using technical efficiency factor; and
7. the prevalent international practices followed in other countries for the assignment and charging of spectrum in the frequency range 117.975-137 MHz.

The stakeholders are required to submit their comments by January 9, 2023, and counter comments by January 23, 2023.

Recommendations on improving telecom connectivity/ infrastructure in Himachal Pradesh

The TRAI vide its notification dated December 12, 2022, released recommendations on improving telecom connectivity/ infrastructure in far-flung areas of Himachal Pradesh.

Considering the poor telecom connectivity situation in some parts of the hilly state of Himachal Pradesh and the need for addressing the digital divide in the state, TRAI had suo-motu initiated consultation with relevant stakeholders. The TRAI has considered some serious challenges put forth by stakeholders including inhospitable terrain conditions which impede the cellular mobile tower rollout in some regions.

Some other challenges are the power supply arrangements and duration of availability of commercial power supply are not very encouraging for TSPs in these regions. In some parts of the region, it is exceedingly challenging to lay Optical Fibre Cable ("**OFC**") due to the predominately inhospitable terrain.

As a result, there are very few OFC-based points of presence in the 4 (four) Himachal Pradesh districts that TRAI has identified. Other factors such as high right of way ("**RoW**") costs and low population density further augmented with the element of transient settlements pose very discouraging prospects towards return of investment for operating TSPs.

Based on the analysis of data and the challenges present, the following recommendations have been prepared by TRAI:

1. capital expenditure and operating expenditure required for providing telecom infrastructure and connectivity to the 25 (twenty five) uncovered villages should be funded by government through Universal Services Obligation Fund ("**USOF**");
2. USOF should immediately include these 25 (twenty five) uncovered villages under its 20% additional scope for providing 4G services and cater for the requisite overall additional expenditure for providing 4G coverage in these 25 (twenty five) villages.
3. Cellular mobile infrastructure at 38 (thirty eight) villages with non-4G-based coverage, must also be upgraded to 4G-based telecom service under the 20% additional scope that exists in USOF sponsored 'Saturation Of 4G Mobile Services in Uncovered Villages Across the Country';
4. for the 4G saturation scheme, USOF should initially plan VSAT medium backhaul connectivity for all such villages where OFC or other media backhaul is not currently available;
5. DoT should take up with the ministry of defence for allocation of OFC on the network for spectrum network for extending telecom coverage to the villages located in far-flung or border areas in the state under the BharatNet project;
6. for the identified four districts, the villages that are yet to be connected under BharatNet Project should be immediately connected on VSAT media;

7. A core transmission backhaul network in a ring structure covering all tehsils/talukas should also be funded through USOF;
8. DoT may take up the case with the state government of Himachal Pradesh for not levying any RoW charges to TSPs for connecting remote and hilly areas in the State; and
9. DoT should take with the state government to consider providing electricity to telecom sites on priority. DoT should also take up with the state government of Himachal Pradesh to consider waiving off last mile installation charges for extending the electric connection to telecom sites in remote and hilly areas of the state.

Consultation Paper on Licensing Framework and Regulatory Mechanism for Submarine Cable Landing in India

TRAI through its notification dated December 23, 2022, released a consultation paper titled 'Consultation Paper on Licensing Framework and Regulatory Mechanism for Submarine Cable Landing in India'.

The consultation paper invites comments from the stakeholders broadly on the following issues:

1. limitations posed by existing licensing provisions for laying submarine cables and setting up CLS;
2. conditions that can be applicable to the ILD licensee for applying security clearance for laying and maintaining the submarine cable and setting up CLS;
3. measures for promoting domestic submarine cables for connecting coastal cities in India;
4. limitations in respect of getting permissions and/or associated charges for laying domestic submarine cable and its CLS;
5. licensing framework for laying, operationalizing, and maintaining the stub cable in India;
6. challenges posed by existing telecom licensing for establishing terrestrial connectivity between different CLS in India; and
7. measures that are to be undertaken in India for promoting investment to bring the submarine cable to India.

The stakeholders are required to submit their comments by January 20, 2023, and counter comments by February 3, 2023.

Recommendations on spectrum requirements of NCRTC for train control system for RRTS corridors

TRAI vide its notification dated December 28, 2022, released 'Recommendations on Spectrum Requirements of National Capital Region Transport Corporation ("NCRTC") for Train Control System for Regional Rapid Transit System ("RRTS") Corridors'.

The recommendations broadly cover the following:

1. the 5 MHz (paired) spectrum in 700 MHz band will be assigned to NCRTC for use in RRTS corridors along the railway tracks. The frequency spectrum to be assigned to NCRTC, must be adjacent to the frequency spectrum assigned to Indian Railways in 700 MHz band;
2. the frequency spectrum assigned to NCRTC may also be assigned to other RRTS/ metro rail networks, which are geographically separated. While assigning this, it should be included in the terms and conditions that the same frequency spectrum may be assigned to other RRTS/ Metro rail networks or any other users on non-interference basis;
3. to ascertain the feasibility of assigning the same frequency spectrum to the telecom service providers on non-interference basis, a field trial may be conducted involving the ministry of railways and the telecom service providers, under the supervision of DoT.

4. the auction determined price for 10 (ten) years allocation should be equal to 0.5 times the auction determined price discovered in the latest 2022 Auction for 700 MHz spectrum band for the respective LSA; and
5. in order to design a clear road map, a similar methodology will be applicable to other RRTS/metro rail networks as well as for existing RRTS/metro rail network, in case of future spectrum requirement.

NCRTC must make the payment with the options of full upfront payment, part upfront payments as well as equal annual installments.

Telecommunications & Broadcasting Practice

Our Communications practice is handled by a team with specific domain-expertise, and we advise various stakeholders in both Telecom & Broadcasting sectors on a wide range of transactions and assignments that involve constitutional, legal, contractual, commercial, regulatory and policy advice. We advise broadcasters, BPOs, internet service providers (ISP), operators and investors in the Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM) and the Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) technologies, and new investors on diverse licensing issues, entry strategies, structuring, national security challenges, and other regulatory issues. We represent the interests of licensees and other stakeholders in interacting with the licensor and regulators with respect to reforms in the regulatory and policy framework to facilitate business growth drawing upon international best practices. We advise and represent investors, broadcasters, and telecom licensees on commercial transactions in this sector, including mergers, acquisitions, restructuring, divestment, licensing, and project financing. We advise telecom service providers and other corporate houses on all aspects of spectrum licensing and allocation, including fundamental issues relating to the scope of spectrum bands, the regulatory framework governing their allocation in India, and planning, strategising and following up on their application to the Government.

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14 Practices and
23 Ranked Lawyers



15 Practices and
18 Ranked Lawyers



7 Practices and
2 Ranked Lawyers



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39 Ranked Partners
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