

Manthan: Impact of Network usage Fees & Selective Blocking

Concept Note

TRAI has recently released a consultation paper [Regulatory Mechanism for Over-The-Top \(OTT\) Communication Services, and Selective Banning of OTT Services](#) wherein comments has been sought on issues related to what regulatory mechanism should be used for OTT Communication Service (this includes exploring the definition and classification of OTTs, communication OTTs, whether regulations are required and in what form to cover lawful interception, privacy, security, unsolicited commercial calls, licence fees, etc.) and issues related to selective banning of OTT services (this includes questions on technical challenges in selective banning, what frameworks to adopt for temporary suspension of services, how selective banning can be executed, etc.)

This stakeholder discussion is being facilitated to deliberate further on bringing forth more clarity on the concept of network usage fees and selective banning and to further deliberate on their impacts, explore possible alternative solutions to address the issues faced by Telcos, ensure India's economic and security interests are protected, while protecting consumer rights and interest, neutrality of the internet, encouraging start-ups and freedom of trade.

Organizing Team

About CCAOI

CCAOI is a trust, engaged in capacity building, research and advocacy mostly in India especially related to Internet and digital policies. We represent the interest of different stakeholders of the Internet ecosystem in India, including connected and unconnected users. For over a decade CCAOI, has been organising capacity building initiatives, webinars, conferences, events and conducting research on issues related to internet governance and digital policies.

Some of our Past events

Minors Data ([Report Data Protection Bill 2021: Deciphering the Rights and Privacy of Minors](#)) ; Personal Data Protection bill ([Report on PDP Webinar](#)), [New IT Rules](#), Intermediary Liability ([post comment submission period on the draft intermediary guidelines](#)), eCommerce draft policy ([national eCommerce policy draft](#)), non-personal data ([post event report cum comments](#)), Telecom Bill 2022 “Demystifying the Indian Telecommunication Bill 2022” ([report](#)); Amendments to the IT Rules 2021 related to gaming “Match On! A discussion on online gaming regulations in India” ([report](#)), related Competition Bill “Manthan: The Competition Regulatory Landscape India needs!” ([report](#)) Symposium on Digital India Act ([report](#)).

Event Title: Manthan: Network usage Fees & Selective Blocking
Date & Time: Wednesday 2 August 2023 | 16:00 – 18:00 hrs IST

Format: Online Interactive Discussion over Zoom

Draft Discussion Format

Stakeholder Discussion	Manthan: Network usage Fees & Selective Blocking
16:00- 16:05	Welcome and Housekeeping Remarks
16:05 -16:15	Introduction: Network Usage Fees & Selective Blocking <i>An overview on the concept of network usage fees, selective blocking, and other recent regulatory developments in India</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Gowree Gokhale, Nishith Desai & Associates
16:15-16:25	The EU Story A high level overview of the EU developments related to Network Usage fees. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Alexandre Roure, Computer & Communications Industry Association (CCIA)
16:25 - 17:40	Panel Discussion <i>Moderated discussion of experts who would be sharing their perspective on network usage fees, selective blocking and OTT regulations.</i> Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Anjali Hans, Vodafone Idea Limited ➤ Dr. Mahesh Uppal ➤ Parag Kar ➤ Tejasi Panjiar , IFF ➤ Gopal Jain, Supreme Court Lawyer ➤ Uthara Ganesh, Snap Inc. ➤ Vertika Misra, NASSCOM
17:40 - 17:55	Open Discussion <i>Participants can ask questions to the panellist or share their perspective and comments on the topic discussed.</i>
17:55 - 18:00	Summarising the Way Ahead