Discussing Net Neutrality - and how to protect it in India

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June 2015
This Is Net Neutrality

Net neutrality requires that the Internet be maintained as an open platform, on which network providers treat all content, applications and services equally, without discrimination.

Definitions

www.thisisnetneutrality.org
यह है नेट निष्पक्षता

नेट निष्पक्षता की यह आवश्यकता है की इंटरनेट का बुनियादी डांगा खुला और मुक पहना चाहिए, और नेटवर्क प्रदाता हर एक जानकारी, अनुप्रयोग, और सेवा को, बिना कोई भेद-भाव किये, बिल्कुल सामान तौर पर प्रदान करें

हिन्दी में!
Net Neutrality in Law

On the move even back at the start of 2014

- **Hard Law**: Laws or regulations have been passed.
- **Soft Law**: Telcos and/or governments have enacted non-binding agreements or guidelines.
- **Proposals/Under Review**: This map is a work in progress — it indicates existing proposals, agreements, laws, and regulations on net neutrality, but it is not a qualitative analysis of rules on the books or on the table. If we’ve missed something, please let us know at info@accessnow.org.
What Indian law already seeks to ensure - unfettered access to the Internet

CHAPTER-IX

INTERNET SERVICE

1. **Service Area:** The License/Authorization for Internet Service are granted for three different Categories namely Category ‘A’, Category ‘B’ and Category ‘C’. The Service Area for Category ‘A’ authorization shall be the National Area. The Service Area for Category ‘B’ authorization shall be the Telecom Circle/Metro area as defined in Annexure-V. The Service Area for Category ‘C’ authorization shall be the Secondary Switching Area (SSA) as defined in Annexure-VII. If the Licensee desires to obtain ISP Category ‘C’ Authorization, under Unified License, for more than four SSAs in a Telecom Circle, the Licensee shall be required to obtain ISP Category ‘B’ authorization for that Service Area.

   License/Authorization for Internet Service, granted for more than one Service Area (Telecom Circle/Metro/SSA), shall be administered at each Service Area level.

2. **Scope of Internet Service:** Scope of this Authorization covers the following:

2.1 (i) The Licensee may provide Internet access including IPTV. The subscriber shall have unrestricted access to all the content available on Internet except for such content which is restricted by the Licensor/designated authority under Law. The Licensee shall not offer VPN/Closed User Group services to its subscribers. The content for IPTV shall be regulated as per law in force from time to time.
How this discussion in India got started
A TRAI workshop in 2014
A telecom company
Winter announcement
Outrage...
... and some important comments
2015 - and TRAI
TRAI’s consultation paper on “Regulatory Framework for OTT Services”
Well, actually they meant...
Internet Content Licensing, and what to not to do about protecting Net Neutrality
Where discussions are:
TRAI

The Dept of Telecom/Telecom Commission
Parliament
Commitments
Driving change
“This is the power of an informed public.”

– Edward Snowden (June 4, 2015)