

ITU Workshop "Securing Telephone Networks: Toward collaborative approach for combating fraudulent communications using Digital Certificate"

Geneva, Switzerland. 17th November, 2025





Session 2: Industry Dialogue: Impact and Mitigation Strategies

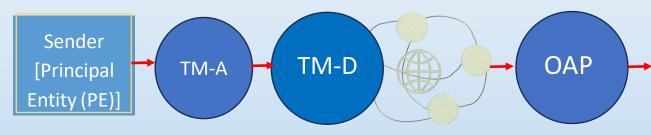
A presentation on Regulatory Measures by Telecom Regulatory Authority of India to combat Spam, by Deepak Sharma, Advisor (Quality of Service), TRAI.

Broad Framework for Commercial Communications

TM-A: Telemarketer Aggregator

TM-D: Telemarketer Delivery Function

OAP: Originating Access Provider



Principal Entities

(Senders)

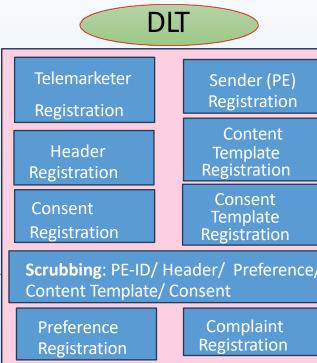
- About 300K
- Entity Registration
- Header
- Registration
- Content Template
- Consent Template
- Consent Database

Telemarketers

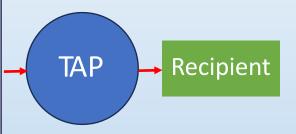
- About 20,000
- TM Registration with TSPs
- AggregatorFunction
- Delivery Function

Access Providers

- KYC for Entity
- Registrar for TM, Entity,
 Header, Content Template
- Scrubbing
- Management of Telecom
 Resources
- Messages & Calls delivery
- Complaint Resolution

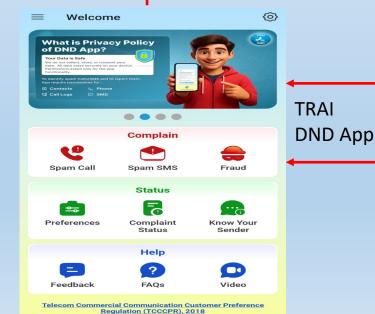


TAP: Terminating Access Provider



Subscribers

- About 1.15 B
- Preference
 - Registration (DND)
 - Complaint
 - Registration
 - Consent registration (through sender)



3

Key Measures

- DND registry for registering consumers' preferences, consents and complaints.
- 140 series (140 xxx xxxx) numbers only to be used by the Telemarketers/ Senders for making promotional calls no promotional calls allowed from regular 10-digit mobile numbers
- Calls from 140 series are scrubbed in real time against the preferences registered by Customers.
- **1600 series (1600 xxx xxx) numbers** only to be used for Transaction and Service calls by entities in Banking, Financial Services and Insurance sectors, and for calls from the government to citizens for government services.
- Commercial SMSes are to be sent only using **headers and content templates** registered with the access providers.
- Mandatory prior whitelisting of URLs/APKs/call back numbers in commercial messages.
- For easier identification of type of Commercial Communication by recipients, "-P", "-S", "-T", and "-G" are to be suffixed to the SMS headers for promotional, service, transactional, and government messages, respectively.









Messages

- AX-HOALOT-P 11:05 AM >

 PR Buy land at India No.1 destination AeroEstate Khopoli Plots @84L all-in...
- VD-ViCARE-S 9:09 AM >

 Dear Customer, your E-Bill Is

 Available for Download, simply downl...
- AD-AIRBNK-S 7:40 AM >

 PR Airtel Payments Bank Txns
 card 6678 ...
- JM-IGLMKT-S Yesterday >

 Dear Customer,
- AX-NBHOME-S Yesterday >
 10 tenants are searching for 1 BHK
 in , Sector 46 on NoBroker. Reactivat...
- AD-AIRMCA-S Yesterday >
 The person you were calling at
 15:11 is now available for calls. You c...
 - AD-AIRDLT-S Yesterday >
 Please use otp: 553799 to validate.

Key Measures

- Stringent action against unsolicited commercial communications ranges from suspension of connections to disconnection of all the connections for one year and complete blacklisting of sender across all telecom service providers in India.
- Enhanced Message Traceability implemented whereby the entire chain of message transmission from sender to the telecom service provider through one or more telemarketers is traceable.
- Stringent penalties against Access providers for failure to take action and non-compliance.
- Collaboration with Other Sectoral Regulators such as from banking, insurance, security markets etc and government organisations like departments of Telecom, Home affairs, Consumer affairs, IT etc.
- A pilot with Banks is underway on acquisition of consumers' consents digitally on DLT platform, which will be used for scrubbing consents in real time.
- **Coordinated action** across operators to disconnect resources linked to spammers: 2.1 million numbers disconnected and more than 100K entities blacklisted in last one year.
- Approximately 350K headers and 1.2 million content templates have been blocked since 2023.

Key Challenges

- Ensuring authenticity of CLI presented to the customer:
 - Most of the efforts revolve around CLI
 - Authenticity needs to be ensured right at the origination
 - International collaboration needed
- Consumer awareness, especially, on reporting frauds and unsolicited commercial communications.



Thank You



भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

4th to 7th Floor, Tower – F, World Trade Centre Nauroji Nagar, New Delhi (India) - 110029