

PRESS RELEASE

HONOURABLE MADRAS HIGH COURT GIVES NOD TO NEW TARIFF & INTERCONNECT REGULATIONS

30th April 2017, New Delhi: In an important judgment on 28th April'17, the Honorable First Bench comprising of Honorable Chief Justice Indira Bannerjee and Honorable Justice Mr. M Sundar of Honorable Madras High Court refused to grant interim stay to the New Tariff order and Interconnect Regulation of TRAI. In its order, the Honorable High Court said that such a regulation intended to benefit about 120 million viewers of TV channels cannot be stayed by the court. The bench hence declined the petition to grant interim stay and gave nod to TRAI's new tariff order and interconnect regulations. Pursuant to this order, the new tariff order and the interconnect regulations will come into full force on 2nd May 2017,

These regulations will help in creating a level playing field for all the stakeholders, specially the end consumers who will now have complete freedom at their disposal. It will also help in bringing more transparency and fuel growth by regulating the entire broadcasting ecosystem.

All India Digital Cable Federation (AIDCF), the industry body representing Multi System Operators (MSOs), has advised its member MSOs to upload their RIO, channel carrying capacity and interconnect agreement on their websites ASAP. AIDCF also urges all the Broadcasters to upload their RIO by 2nd May 2017 on their websites.

Mr TS Panesar – President AIDCF, welcomed this judgment and said, **“We are delighted with the Honorable Madras High Court order and now hope that the new tariff order & the interconnect regulations will put things in right perspective. This new tariff order will give the end consumer, the power to choose what they want to watch and ensure content is made available to all distribution platforms without any discrimination, thus balancing the entire eco-system.”**

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ABOUT

All India Digital Cable Federation (AIDCF) is India's apex body for Digital Multi System Operators (MSOs). The federation works towards the overall growth of the sector and creates an environment for not only complete digitisation of cable TV under regulatory guidelines but also delivers the benefits of digital services including broadband and other value added services to the people of India thus fulfilling the dream of 'True Digital India.'

AIDCF is the official voice for the Indian digital cable TV industry and interacts with ministries, policy makers, regulators, financial institutions and technical bodies. It also provides a platform for discussion and exchange of ideas between these bodies and the service providers, who share a common interest in the development of digital cable TV in the country. It also collaborates with other industry associations such as IBF, CII, FICCI, ASSOCHAM association etc., with the objective of presenting an industry consensus view to the government on crucial issues relating to the growth and development of the industry.

Members of AIDCF have a market share of more than 80% in the Cable TV Industry.

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