



Recommendations of the Alliance of National Consumer Groups

In connection with Interconnect Usage Charge (IUC) matter before consultation with TRAI

Recommendation: BAK must be implemented as per the scheduled deadline of January 1, 2020.

The above is recommended for the following important observations:-

- Innovation and new technology cannot be perpetually be delayed without any reason depriving consumers benefit from the latest applications and services. Operators who are investing and bringing innovations in the services should not be made inefficient.
 - Any kind of modification to the existing deadline regarding implementation of BAK regime, will weaken the trust and commitment that is between the consumers and the government.
 - There has to be a predictive policy regime which includes adherence to the implementation programme. The unnecessary and undue modification in the schedule takes the very essence of any policy.
 - BAK is a step towards bringing efficiency in the telecom system that will benefit consumers. A healthy and collaborative competition is in the interests of the consumer.
 - Consumers overwhelmingly accept new services and technologies and the data analysis suggests consumers have always willingly paid more to avail new technologies and services.
 - IUC regime serves the interests of operators who have not kept with the pace of innovation and invested adequately serving the interests of the consumers. Rather than incentivising, there should be a penalising method implemented so that the operators keep with the global trends giving the citizens of India services at par with the global standards.
-