

**Information Note to the Press [Press Release No. 18/2019]
For Immediate Release**

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

Non-transmission of India-Australia recent Cricket T20I/ODI matches over Cable Networks.

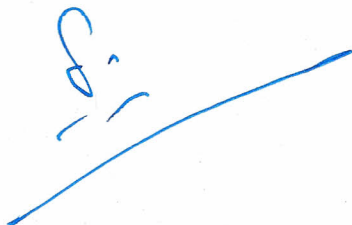
New Delhi, 25th February, 2019: The attention of the Authority has been drawn to the reports circulating in certain sections of the media and other social platforms yesterday, i.e., on 24.02.2019 that the recent T20I Cricket matches being played between India and Australia are not being telecast by the Cable Networks because of the implementation of the new regulatory framework prescribed by TRAI.

2. It is hereby clarified through this press release that the new regulatory framework of TRAI has, in no way, inhibited or restricted the telecast of India and Australia T20I cricket match. The said transmissions are governed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgement dated 22nd August, 2017 in the Civil Appeal NO.(s) 10732-10733 OF 2017 [arising out of the SLP(Civil) Nos. 4574-4575 OF 2015, between Union of India vs BCCI & Others], which, inter alia, directed as under:

"31. On the basis of the above discussions, we, therefore, come to the conclusion that under Section 3 of the Sports Act, 2007 the live feed received by Prasar Bharati from content rights owners or holders is only for the purpose of re-transmission of the said signals on its own terrestrial and DTH networks and not to Cable Operators so as to enable the Cable TV operators to reach such consumers who have already subscribed to a cable network."

3. In view of the aforesaid decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, MIB issued a Notice dated 12.4.2018, asking all DPOs to display a caption, during the live broadcast of sports events of national importance, on DD Sports channel that *"The match/game can be viewed in free-to-air mode on DD Sports Channel, on DD FreeDish and DD's terrestrial network"*. Therefore, the distribution platform operators (DPOs) have to switch off the DD Sports channel from their Cable Networks during the period of the matches under the recent India-Australia T20I and ODI series.

4. The non-availability or non-transmission of the recent cricket matches (T20I & ODI) being played between India and Australia over the Cable




Networks has nothing to do with implementation of new regulatory framework of TRAI for broadcasting and cable services. Therefore, the rumours circulating in some sections of the Press or in social media platforms holding TRAI Regulations responsible for non-transmission of the cricket matches in Cable Networks are baseless and incorrect.

5. For further details, the following Officers may be contacted:

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