

India considering unified telecom, TV regs

January 3 2006

The Indian government is formally seeking comment on the possibility of bringing licensing for telecommunications and television under a single framework.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India is looking to streamline telecom and television regulation and will accept comment for a consultation report through January.

"Convergence is a powerful force in bringing about greater competition," TRAI Chairman Pradip Baijal said in a statement Sunday. "A well-designed scheme of regulation that helps convergence can vastly increase the competitiveness and hence the efficiency of the Indian economy."

Regulators see the need for closer ties among various communications sectors as spectrum allocations, infrastructure rights of way and licensing fees are developed, Press Trust of India reported.

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