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## Trai may Issue Suo Motu Consultation Paper on Satcom



**New Delhi:** The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) on Thursday said it will consider a consultation paper on opening up satellite bandwidth for communication needs. "We will consider issuing a consultation paper suo motu on (satellite communication)," Trai chairman RS Sharma said at the annual satcom conference organised by Broadband India Forum, a Delhi-based advocacy group. Sharma, however, said India being a price-sensitive market, there will be a need to bring affordable satellite-based communication services, which can only be achieved by scaling up usage from current dismal levels. "This technology should be affordable. India is a price-sensitive market. Ubiquitous, inclusive, interoperable and scalable are some of its important characteristics with huge potential waiting to be tapped," Sharma said. "One reason for it (high pricing) is probably having no open sky policy in India," he said and added that market forces will unleash the true potential of satellite communication. OUR BUREAU