

Satellite Earth Station Gateway

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In news— The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released recommendations on 'Licensing Framework for Establishing and Operating Satellite Earth Station Gateway (SESG).

Key recommendations-

- The telecom regulator **suggested a separate satellite earth station gateway (SESG) license** under the Indian Telegraph Act.
- The **SESG license will not form part of the Unified License** (UL) and the service area for the license shall be at a national level.
- TRAI also recommended that the **SESG licensee may establish, maintain, and work SESGs anywhere within the territory of India** for all types of satellite systems for which the government has given permission.
- TRAI added that **SESG may provide satellite-based resources to any entity, which holds license/permission granted by the department of telecommunication (DoT) or ministry of information and broadcasting (MIB) and is permitted to use satellite media for the provision of services under its license/ permission.**
- According to the recommendations, the **SESG licensee may establish SESGs in respect of one or more government-approved satellite systems** and it shall **not be permitted to provide any kind of telecommunication service or broadcasting service directly to the consumers**, for the provision of which, a separate license/authorisation/permission is required from the government.
- Trai recommends the **SESG licence shall be valid for 20**

years from the effective date of the licence with a provision of renewal for 10 years.

- It also indicated that **only the companies registered under the Companies Act shall be eligible to apply for the grant of their license.**

What is a Satellite Earth Station Gateway?

- A satellite gateway, also referred to as a teleport or hub, is a ground station that transmits data to/from the satellite to the local area network.
- It houses the antennas and equipment that convert the Radio Frequency (RF) signal to an Internet Protocol (IP) signal for terrestrial connectivity