TRAI

TRAI caps IP port charges at Rs 5.6 lakh a year for 1 Gbps

From January 1, 2027, TRAI caps IP port charges at Rs 5.6 lakh a year for a 1 Gbps port and Rs 42.3 lakh for 10 Gbps, unless operators agree lower.

THE TELECOM REGULATORY Authority of India (TRAI) issued the Telecommunication Interconnection (Port Charges) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2026 (11 of 2026), notification No. RG-1/(2)/2026-NSL-I, dated November 9, 2026. TRAI made them under section 36 read with sub-clauses (ii), (iii) and (iv) of section 11(1)(b) of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997. They amend the Telecommunication Interconnection (Port Charges) Regulation, 2001 (6 of 2001) and come into force on January 1, 2027. They are signed by Harinder Kumar, Secretary. TRAI's copy is marked to be published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4.

KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY

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Telecommunication Interconnection (Port Charges) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2026 (11 of 2026), No. RG-1/(2)/2026-NSL-I



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New regulation 2C sets port charges for IP-based interconnection. From January 1, 2027, every interconnection provider charges the port charges in new Schedule IV and raises the demand note or invoice to the interconnection seeker. The ceilings are Rs 5.6 lakh per port per year for a 1 Gbps IP port and Rs 42.3 lakh for a 10 Gbps IP port. The two operators may agree on lower charges. They may also agree to use an IP port of another capacity, in which case the operator providing the port sets the charge "in a transparent manner", using a method like the one behind the 1 Gbps and 10 Gbps figures.

The existing Schedules I, II and III, with their charges and periods, now apply only to E1 ports. A port is now defined as either an E1 port with a bandwidth of 2.048 Mbps or an IP port with bandwidth expressed in Mbps or Gbps. TRAI may review the regulations whenever needed and may issue clarifications or guidelines to remove difficulties, which are final and binding.

Failing to meet the reporting requirement under regulation 3 on time carries a financial disincentive of up to Rs 25,000 a day for the first fifteen days and up to Rs 50,000 a day after that, capped at Rs 15 lakh per Service Area for each instance. TRAI must give the operator a chance to respond first. A disincentive not paid within twenty-one days, or the period in the order, carries simple interest at 2% above State Bank of India's one-year MCLR.

TRAI's explanatory memorandum says the charges are based on the cost of routers and session border controllers (SBCs), deployed in pairs for redundancy, using cost data from two service providers. It kept the method of the 2012 Second Amendment: a 10-year useful life, straight-line depreciation, a 15% pre-tax weighted average cost of capital and a 10% overhead on capital cost recovery. It found no basis for different port charges by type of service, so the IP port charges apply to all service types alike. The principal regulations were last amended on September 18, 2012 (18 of 2012).

Issued by	Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
Document	Telecommunication Interconnection (Port Charges) (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2026 (11 of 2026), No. RG-1/(2)/2026-NSL-

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Dated	November 9, 2026
Published	TRAI copy marked to be published in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part III, Section 4
Amends	Telecommunication Interconnection (Port Charges) Regulation, 2001 (6 of 2001)
Takes effect	January 1, 2027
1 Gbps IP port	Ceiling of Rs 5.6 lakh per port per year
10 Gbps IP port	Ceiling of Rs 42.3 lakh per port per year
Lower charges	Allowed by mutual agreement
Other IP port capacities	By mutual agreement; charge set transparently by the providing operator, on the same method
E1 ports	Schedules I, II and III continue to apply, to E1 ports only
Financial disincentive	Up to Rs 25,000 a day for 15 days, then up to Rs 50,000 a day; capped at Rs 15 lakh per Service Area per instance
Legal basis	Section 36 read with sub-clauses (ii), (iii) and (iv) of section 11(1)(b), Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997
Signed by	Harinder Kumar, Secretary

Schedule IV: port charges for IP port

Capacity of IP port	Ceiling for port charge per port per year (Rs)
1 Gbps	5.6 lakh
10 Gbps	42.3 lakh

The notification (regulations) (PDF, 10 MB)

Source: TRAI's own copy.

Checked against the official copy on November 12, 2026.

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