

Create authority to regulate AI tech: Trai

Recommends Independent Statutory Body To Develop Responsible AI Across Sectors

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New Delhi: Telecom regulator Trai on Thursday recommended creation of an independent statutory authority “immediately” to ensure development of responsible artificial intelligence (AI) across sectors and also for regulation of use cases and consumer data.

The move comes at a time when governments across the world, including India, grapple with the issue of putting in place laws and guardrails to check misuse of AI as the technology takes centre-stage across industry and consumer sectors.

“An independent statutory authority should be established immediately for ensuring development of responsible AI and regulation of use cases in India. The authority should be designated as Artificial Intelligence and Data Authority of India (AIDAI),” Trai said in its recommendations on “Leveraging Artificial Intelligence and Big Data in Telecommunication Sector”. Trai, which had been asked to give its recommendations on the matter by the department of telecom in June 2019, however, said its views are not just confined to the telecom sector, but go beyond it to include other industries as well.

“The impact of AI is not limited to only telecom sector. AI has the potential to impact a wide range of sectors, including healthcare, finance, transportation, education, agriculture and

Seeking Consumer Data Protection

➤ The independent statutory authority for responsible AI should be designated as Artificial Intelligence and Data Authority of India (AIDAI), says Trai



➤ Impact of AI is not limited to only telecom... it is important to take a holistic approach for examining the impact of AI across all sectors rather than focusing

only on telecom... hence a common framework covering all sectors is being proposed, says the telecom regulator

➤ Regulatory framework should also have a multi-stakeholder body (MSB) to act as an advisory body to AIDAI, it adds



➤ Trai recommendations also sought protection of consumer data



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tors rather than focusing only on telecom... and hence a common framework covering all the sectors is being proposed.”

Trai said there is an “urgent need” to adopt a regulatory framework by the government. “The regulatory framework should ensure that specific AI use cases are regulated on a risk-based framework where high-risk use cases that directly impact humans are regulated through legally-binding obligations.”

Apart from the statutory authority, it said the regulatory framework should also have a multi-stakeholder body (MSB) that will act as an advisory body to AIDAI. AIDAI should evolve the framework based on its assessment and the advice from the proposed MSB.

The regulation should also ensure that principles of responsible AI are made applicable at each phase of AI framework lifecycle such as design, development, validation, deployment, monitoring and refinement. It also said that the regulations should look at developing model ‘Ethical Codes’ for adoption by public and private entities in different sectors. “Define the process framework for use of AI and related technology in data processing, data sharing and data monetisation, while ensuring the privacy and security of the data owner.”

Trai also said the proposed authority should put in place an overarching framework for ethical use of data.