

## **It is vital to eliminate convenience charge by the banks, says TRAI Chairman RS Sharma**

**New Delhi, 19 December 2016:** “Cost, Convenience, and Confidence are crucial factors for a successful Digital Payment System implementation in India,” said **Shri R. S. Sharma**, Chairman, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) during a seminar on “**Demonetization to Digital Remonetization**” held at FICCI, Federation House.

FICCI organised today an ICT policy dialogue with the agenda to discuss the challenges and opportunities that lie before the ICT sector, government and the regulators following the demonetization move. During his address Shri R. S. Sharma highlighted the pillars of Digital India and mentioned the need of an effective Digital Infrastructure, and how availability and affordability of digital solutions formulates the base of Digital Remonetization. The TRAI chairman highlighted how JAM Trinity creates a robust system within India, which further creates a digital inclusion with 1.1 billion Aadhar users across India.

Shri R. S. Sharma recommended that, in order to create a well operational and sustainable digital and cashless economy, it is vital to eliminate convenience charge by the banks. He firmly suggested that interoperable or interlinked digital wallets can additionally support the digital payment systems of India. Among other number of recommendations by TRAI chairman, Shri Sharma also mentioned that the implementation of Bharatnet will be faster and effective with PPP model, and further combined with Digital Cable Television System, India will reach a new level of digital connectivity.

The TRAI chairman session was followed by a panel discussion on “Policies for Fast forwarding Digital Transactions”. The session was chaired by **Shri Sanjeev Gupta**, Additional Secretary, DIPP, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India with **Mr. Chetan Krishnaswamy**, Country Head - Public Policy, Google India, **Mr. P Balaji**, Director - Regulatory & External Affairs, Vodafone India Limited, **Mr Pankaj Mohindroo**, National President, Indian Cellular Association, **Mr. Taron Mohan**, Founder, Nextgen Telesolutions Pvt Ltd, **Mr. Biswanath Sengupta**, Senior Vice President and Programme Director, UIDAI, HCL Infosystems Ltd, **Dr Mahesh Uppal**, Director, ComFirst (India) Pvt Limited and **Mr David Abecassis**, Partner, Analysys Mason as the esteemed panelists.