

Q. Do you think that centre should accept telecom authority of India's proposals for promoting broadband connectivity? explain (200w)

The Telecom Regulatory and authority of India (TRAI) has been setup in India in late 1990's by the government of India.

The TRAI role is to nurture conditions of growth of telecommunications, broadcasting and cable services and also, ensure that interest of consumers are protected.

Broadband connectivity is high speed internet access via, fiber optics or wireless.

Challenges of poor - Internet access.

- (i) In the age of Internet, every services is provided through online like education, banking, e-commerce, e-governance etc, so, it is an important factor.
- (ii) The urban - rural divide is inevitable.
- (iii) Regional divide  
states too differ in terms of people that have access to Internet or how to use it.
- (iv) Digital divide in Gender.  
Only 21% of women in India have access to internet, compared to 42% of men.



## Recommendations by TRAI

- (i) TRAI has recommended to increase the broadband speed by four times.
- (ii) To provide Direct ~~the~~ benefit transfer by government to rural people in order to encourage connectivity.
- (iii) Also, proposed to promote fixed line connection speed services provided by government
  1. E-pathshala → which provides online study materials.
  2. Digital mobile library.
  3. U-learn (Urban livelihood e-learning and Resource Network)
  4. farmers can avail benefits of e-mandi
  5. e-seva for paying taxes, etc.

As, there are lot of schemes and services provided by government, there exists to one of the main challenge i.e, Digital literacy.

if this challenge has been addressed, people can easily avail the benefit of Internet/broadband connectivity.

### way forward.

The government can take into consideration as the core aim <sup>is</sup> to provide Internet access to all.

Internet penetration ~~is~~ have been improved over the years but not deep enough.