



**ASSOCIATION OF UNIFIED TELECOM SERVICE PROVIDERS OF INDIA**



# AUSPI

## NEWS BULLETIN DECEMBER 2011

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#### I. TRAI CONSULTATION PAPER/ LETTERS

- A. On 26th December 2011, TRAI has issued a Consultation Paper on Allocation of Spectrum Resources for Residential and Enterprise Intra-telecommunication Requirements/ cordless telecommunications system (CTS) and sought comments and counter comments from stakeholders by 31st January and 10 Feb 2012 respectively.
- B. On 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2011, TRAI has issued two amendments to Customer Preference Regulations 2010 i.e. Amendment to Direction F.No.341-3/2011-CA (QoS) dated 25th October, 2011 regarding Transactional messages & Amendment of Direction F.No.341-3/2011-CA (QoS) dated 27th September, 2011.

#### II. TRAI MEETINGS

- A. TRAI Regional Workshop on Consumer Education in Telecommunication for Northern Region was held on 26<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at Jaipur.
- B. The Secretary General, AUSPI and DG COAI had a meeting with Chairman TRAI on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2011 in connection with two Draft Regulations (i) The Telecom Consumers Complaint Redressal Regulations, 2011 and (ii) Telecom Consumers Protection Regulations, 2011.
- C. A Joint Industry meeting to discuss the need of Hybrid recharge vouchers under the Chairmanship of Advisor (QoS) was held on 13th December 2011 in TRAI.
- D. The Secretary General, AUSPI and DG COAI had a meeting with Chairman TRAI on 9th December 2011 in connection with TRAI's Draft Consumer Complaint redressal Regulation 2011 and to represent the views and concerns of the industry on the issue of the establishment of the three member Appellate Authority.



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### III. DOT LETTERS

- A. On 27<sup>th</sup> December 2011, DOT through an email sought feedback from TSPs on Charging of following Emergency Numbers :-

1070	Relief Commissioner for Natural Calamities
1071	Air Accident Information
1072	Train Accident Information
1073	Road Accident Information
1077	control room of District Collector

- B. On 22nd December 2011, DOT vide email sent a reminder to submit Service Providers of OFC data for GIS mapping.
- C. On 21<sup>st</sup> December 2011, DOT issued a circular (No. 800-15/2010-VAS (Pt.) announcing the change in frequency of submission of the EMF Self-Certification documents from 1 year interval to a 2 year interval. The next dead-line for submission will now be 31st March 2013
- D. On 8th December 2011 DOT has issued clarifications to various issues raised by the Industry Associations in respect to License Amendment on Security dated May 31, 2011.

### IV. DOT MEETINGS

- A. DCC meeting of Mobile Division to discuss the following draft Generic Requirements was held on 29<sup>th</sup> December 2011 in TEC:-
- IP Multimedia Subsystem No. GR/WS/IMS- 001/01. DRAFT-1 2011
  - Review of Universal Mobile Telecommunication System- Core Network (Release 7) GR/UCN/WS-001/02. Draft 2011.
  - Review of Location Based Information System No. GR/LBS/WS-001/02 draft2011

- B. A Meeting to discuss the technical aspects related to Central Monitoring System (CMS) was held on 22nd December 2011 at C-DOT.
- C. A meeting regarding Telecom Standard Development Organization (TSDO) was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2011 in Sanchar Bhawan.
- D. TEC Meeting on Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for co-ordination of Telecommunication support and provision of human services during emergency of natural disasters was held on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2011 at TEC.
- E. DCC meeting of Switching Division to discuss Drafts on following GR AND IR was held on 20th December 2011 in TEC:-
- GR OF Signalling Gateway (Review)
  - IR OF Sigtran (Review).
- F. A 2 hour session on IPv6 adoption costs and budget estimation by Prof Sureswaran Ramadass was held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011 in Sanchar Bhawan.
- G. DOT meeting regarding implementation of CMS was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2011 in Sanchar Bhawan.

### V. AUSPI LETTERS

- A. On 26<sup>th</sup> December 2011, AUSPI wrote letters to Chairperson and members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology regarding "not to charge additional entry fee/one time fee for spectrum to be allocated within the contracted limit and refer this critical issue for a legal validation before any final decision is taken on this matter and levy one time spectrum charges from the date of allocation of spectrum from the incumbent GSM operators for holding excess spectrum beyond the contracted limit and DOT to raise demands for the same immediately".



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- B. On 23<sup>rd</sup> December, 2011, AUSPI wrote a letter to Secretary, DEA clarifying that the tender document for bidding for 4<sup>th</sup> Cellular license in the year 2001 was for 6.2 MHz GSM spectrum and not 4.4 MHz.
- C. On 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2011, issue regarding allotment of additional spectrum beyond the startup spectrum of 4.4 MHz upto 6.2 MHz of GSM and 2.5 MHz to 5 MHz of CDMA being within the contracted spectrum cannot be charged was taken up with Secretary, DEA along with copies of legal opinions of Hon'ble former Chief Justice of India Mr. V. N. Khare and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Kumar.
- D. On 22<sup>nd</sup> December, AUSPI took up the issue with DOT regarding Levy of Onetime fee on allocation of GSM spectrum beyond 6.2 MHz and requested the Government that Incumbent GSM operators holding excess spectrum should be charged one time spectrum charges from the date of allocation of spectrum.
- E. On 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2011 AUSPI issued a reminder to the Wireless Advisor on SACFA procedure from AAI and requested for a personal hearing to discuss the matter.
- F. On 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2011 issue regarding special audit for the Financial Year 2007-08 was taken up with the Secretary (T). It was requested that Pending final Hon'ble TDSAT judgment on AGR, DOT should not issue Show Cause Notices based on special audit reports for payment of additional license fee and spectrum charges.
- G. On 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2011, AUSPI wrote letter to Secretary, Telecom regarding undue benefits given to incumbent GSM operators in spectrum allocation with request that operators waiting for startup and additional allocation of spectrum within the contracted limit should be immediately allocated spectrum. Spectrum allocated in 900 MHz spectrum to the 4<sup>th</sup> licensee should be withdrawn and equivalent amount of spectrum be allocated in the 1800 MHz spectrum band. The spectrum allocated in 900 MHz in violation of the tender condition should be charged from the date of allocation till it is withdrawn. The allocation of initial 6.2 MHz spectrum and allocation of spectrum in 900 MHz against the tender and license conditions should be investigated.
- H. On 21<sup>st</sup> December 2011, AUSPI wrote letter to Secretary, Telecom regarding excess allocation of platinum spectrum in 900 MHz band to incumbent GSM operators. Through this letter, it was requested that DoT should withdraw excess spectrum held beyond 6.2 MHz in 900 MHz band; DoT should charge for the excess spectrum held in 900 MHz band from the date of allocation till withdrawal as per the TRAI recommended rate and 900 MHz should be refarmed at the earliest.
- I. On 19<sup>th</sup> December, issues regarding Allotment of additional spectrum beyond the startup spectrum of 4.4 MHz upto 6.2 MHz of GSM and 2.5 MHz to 5 MHz of CDMA being within the contracted spectrum cannot be charged was taken up with Chairman, TRAI along with the copies of the legal opinions of Hon'ble former Chief Justice of India Mr. V. N. Khare and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Kumar.
- J. On 16<sup>th</sup> December, AUSPI wrote a letter to MOC & IT regarding Allotment of additional spectrum beyond the startup spectrum of 4.4 MHz upto 6.2 MHz of GSM and 2.5 MHz to 5 MHz of CDMA being within the contracted spectrum cannot be charged. Copies of Legal opinions obtained from Hon'ble former Chief Justice of India Mr. V. N. Khare and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Kumar were give to the Minister along with this letter to support our views.
- K. On 16<sup>th</sup> December, issue regarding contracted Spectrum of 6.2 MHz, allocation & pricing with reference to the Press statement given by the Hon'ble Minister of Communications & IT on 29th January 2011 and subsequent letter from AUSPI was taken up with the Secretary, Telecom. Through this letter, it was requested that (i) No payment should be required to be made by operators for allocation of contracted spectrum beyond the start up spectrum of 4.4



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MHz and upto 6.2 MHz (ii) One of our member service providers is not having start up GSM spectrum should be allocated initial 4.4 MHz without any payment (iii) CDMA operators should be allocated upto 5 MHz contracted spectrum without any additional payment and eligibility requirements should be same as GSM, (iv) and also brought out to the notice of the Secretary (T), that AUSPI has not received any response from the Government on our earlier submissions.

- L. On 14<sup>th</sup> December, AUSPI took up the issue regarding allotment of additional spectrum beyond the start-up spectrum of 4.4 MHz upto 6.2 MHz of GSM and 2.5 MHz to 5 MHz of CDMA with the Minister of Communications and IT with the main request that DOT should not charge additionally for the allotment of spectrum upto the contracted value of 6.2 MHz / 5 MHz for GSM/CDMA as the operators have already paid for it in terms of entry fee. Policy framework, if any, for charging additional spectrum of 1.8 MHz beyond start-up spectrum of 4.4 MHz in respect of GSM and 2.5 MHz beyond start-up spectrum of 2.5 MHz in respect of CDMA should be only for the licenses to be issued in future.
- M. On 14<sup>th</sup> December, AUSPI took up the issue regarding allotment of additional spectrum beyond the start-up spectrum of 4.4 MHz upto 6.2 MHz of GSM and 2.5 MHz to 5 MHz of CDMA with the Minister of Communications and IT with the main request that DOT should not charge additionally for the allotment of spectrum upto the contracted value of 6.2 MHz / 5 MHz for GSM/CDMA as the operators have already paid for it in terms of entry fee. Policy framework, if any, for charging additional spectrum of 1.8 MHz beyond start-up spectrum of 4.4 MHz in respect of GSM and 2.5 MHz beyond start-up spectrum of 2.5 MHz in respect of CDMA should be only for the licenses to be issued in future.
- N. On 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2011, issue regarding Allotment of additional spectrum beyond the start-up spectrum of 4.4 MHz upto 6.2 MHz of GSM and 2.5 MHz to 5 MHz of CDMA was taken up with Secretary (T) in which AUSPI

urged the Government that 6.2 MHz is the contracted spectrum for GSM and 5 MHz is the contracted spectrum for CDMA and hence spectrum up to contracted amount should not be charged.

- O. On 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2011, AUSPI submitted inputs to the Department of Telecommunications for the formulation National Telecom Policy 2011.

### VI. JOINT INDUSTRY LETTERS

- A. On 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2011, a Joint Industry letter was submitted to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Rajasthan with copy to Chief Secretary, Rajasthan in connection with media reports highlighting the Chief Minister's concern on EMF exposure from Mobile Base Stations in Rajasthan.
- B. On 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2011, a Joint Industry Press Release was issued in connection with media reports highlighting the Chief Minister's concern on EMF exposure from Mobile Base Stations in Rajasthan to various news papers in Rajasthan.
- C. On 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011, A Joint Industry letter was submitted to Chairman TRAI requesting for an opportunity to discuss TRAI VAS Directive on provision of VAS services, dated 4th July 2011.
- D. On 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011, A Joint Industry Letter was submitted to Secretary, Financial Services, Ministry of Finance on on the USSD/BREW based mobile banking services through the NCPI gateway..

The Industry Associations requested the Secretary, Financial Services, Ministry of Finance for a joint meeting between the telecom operators, National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and the banks to discuss the technical, commercial, operational, financial issues and other requirements to promote a long-term relationship between telecom industry and financial institutions.



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E. On 7th December 2011, a Joint Industry letter was submitted to Hon'ble MoC&IT on some common Industry Issues.

F. On 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011, a Joint Industry letter was submitted to DOT on MNP AT fee.

The Industry Associations requested Secretary (T), DOT to intervene in this matter and issue instructions to BSNL not to unilaterally commence any coercive action for collection such as disconnection of Interconnection or encashment of Bank Guarantees.

### **VII. ACT LETTERS**

A. On 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011, an ACT letter was submitted to Secretary (T), DOT regarding Maharashtra Government's Notification for Non acceptance of Driving License as Proof of Address.

### **VIII. MEETINGS**

#### **A. AUSPI MEETING**

- i. Secretary General, AUSPI and Senior Executive Council Members of AUSPI met Secretary, Planning Commission on 26<sup>th</sup> December 2011 in connection with issues related to charging of Spectrum upto contracted limit – 4.4 MHz to 6.2 MHz & beyond 6.2 MHz.
- ii. Secretary General, AUSPI and Senior Executive Council Members of AUSPI met Secretary, Dept. of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2011 in connection with issues related to charging of Spectrum upto contracted limit – 4.4 MHz to 6.2 MHz & beyond 6.2 MHz.
- iii. 120<sup>th</sup> Executive Council Meeting of AUSPI was held on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011.
- iv. Secretary General, AUSPI and Senior Executive Council Members of AUSPI met Secretary (T), DOT on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2011 in connection with AUSPI Letter of 13th December 2011 regarding Allotment of 1.8 MHz of GSM/2.5 MHz of CDMA spectrum upto the contracted value without any additional charge.

v. Secretary General, AUSPI met Member (T), Member (Services), Member (Finance), & PS to Hon'ble MoC&IT on 13th December 2011 in connection with AUSPI Letter of 13th December 2011 regarding Allotment of 1.8 MHz of GSM/2.5 MHz of CDMA spectrum upto the contracted value without any additional charge.

#### **B. JOINT INDUSTRY MEETING / ACT MEETING**

- I) A Joint Industry Meeting with Chief Secretary, Rajasthan was held on 27<sup>th</sup> December 2011 in connection with media reports highlighting the Chief Minister's concern on EMF exposure from Mobile Base Stations in Rajasthan.
- II) An ACT meeting with Secretary, MHA was held on December 21, 2011 to discuss certain issues pertaining to North East, J&K and LBS.
- III) A Joint Industry Meeting to discuss the operational issues pertaining to MNP was held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2011
- IV) A Joint Industry Meeting to frame the views of Industry on DoT Clarifications on License Amendment on Security dated 31.05.2011 was held on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2011.
- V) A Joint Industry meeting to discuss various regulatory issues was held on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011.
- VI) A Joint Industry meeting to prepare a joint industry response on USSD based Mobile Banking services through the NPCI gateway issues was held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011.
- VII) Joint Industry Meeting with Secretary, Financial Services, Ministry of Finance to discuss the issue of the USSD based Mobile Banking services through the NPCI gateway was held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011.
- VIII) Joint Industry Meeting was held on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2011 pertaining to the EMF regulatory and strategy issues on :-



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- DoT Office Memorandum indicating changes in Limit for the Radio Frequency field lowered to 1/10th of the existing ICNIRP exposure levels and SAR levels for mobile phones limited to 1.6 W/kg according to Recommendations of the IMC Report.
- To formulate a sustained strategy for advocacy on the safety of mobile EMF radiations to correct the malicious and wrong information being disseminated at various workshops and seminars etc.

### C. OTHER IMPORTANT EVENTS

- I) 106th Annual General Meeting of the members of PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2011 at Hotel Le Meridien.
- II) Telecom Sector Skill Council of India (TSSCI) Familiarization Workshop was held on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2011 at Bangla Sanskriti Bhawan.
- III) Joint ITU workshop on Standards Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) was held from 19<sup>th</sup> December to 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2011 at HMR Institute of Technology Management.
- IV) CII Delhi Economics Conclave was held on 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at Hotel Le Meridien.
- V) TDSAT seminar on "Regulatory Framework & Dispute Resolution in Telecom, Broadcasting and Cable Service Sectors" was held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2011.
- VI) India Telecom 2011 Golf Tournament was held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at Qutub Golf Course.
- VII) India Telecon 2011 Conference & Exhibition was held from 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at Pragati Maidan.
- VIII) Telecom Centres of Excellence Award was held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at Hotel Oberoi.
- IX) TEPC 3rd Reverse Buyer Seller Meet was held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at Hotel Imperial.

- X) C-DOT function of " Transfer of Technology to Indian Telecom Manufacturers for GPON" was held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011 at DRDO Bhawan.

### IX. UPCOMING EVENTS

- I) **4<sup>th</sup> January 2012:** Joint Industry Sub Committee Meeting on Provision of emergency services by TSPs at Bangla Sanskriti Bhawan.
- II) **4<sup>th</sup> January 2012:** Joint Industry Meeting on MNP at Bangla Sanskriti Bhawan.
- III) **7<sup>th</sup> January 2012:** DCC Meeting of N Division at NEW Committee Room, TEC.
- IV) **7<sup>th</sup> January 2012:** Bombay Telecom Users Association's CONSUMER AWARENESS PROGRAMME IN TELECOM at Indian Merchants' Chamber, Mumbai.
- V) **12<sup>th</sup> January 2012:** Third Meeting of the Steering Committee on CIT&I Planning Commission for the formulation of the Twelfth Five Year plan (2012-17) at Yojana Bhawan.
- VI) **19<sup>th</sup> January 2012:** Bombay Telecom Users Association's CONSUMER AWARENESS PROGRAMME IN TELECOM at Bandra Hindu Association Hall,, Mumbai.

### X. TELECOM BYTES

#### IBM's TOP FIVE TECH BETS FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS

- Small amounts of energy created by actions like people walking or water moving through pipes will be captured, stored in batteries and used to power things like phones, cars or homes.
- There will be no more passwords as increasingly powerful phones and sensors will store your personal biometric information, enabling machines to automatically know you are who you say you are.

- Better sensors on and inside the human brain will allow for mental control of objects.
- Powerful mobile devices, capable of precise language translation, will belong to 80% of world's population. The real breakthrough will be ubiquitous voice recognition and translation capabilities, which will make the phones highly useful to large populations who are illiterate, or who have languages that aren't easily written with keypads.
- Much the way powerful mobile devices store your biometric information and translate your language personalized information filters and search engines will bring you only the information you want.

*Source: Media*

#### **WE RISK LIFE USING MOBILE PHONES ON ROADS**

On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2011, A bill aimed at fast-tracking the digitalization of cable TV was passed by Lok Sabha with the government assuring cable operators that the proposed move would not harm them.

*Source: Media*

#### **MOBILE HANDSET SALES IN INDIA TO REACH 231 MN UNITS IN 2012: GARTNER**

A study by Gartner says that Mobile handsets market in India is likely to increase 8.5 per cent to 231 million units in 2012, compared to 213 million units expected this year.

*Source: Media*

#### **NO POSSIBLE LINK BETWEEN CANCER AND CELLPHONE**

The recent study released by Danish scientists on the long-debated topic of whether cellphones are essentially a factor in causing cancer to people/animals vindicates its long held position on the topic. The research involved study of data on the

whole Danish population aged above 30 between the period of 1990 to 2007. The whole Danish adult population was subdivided into subscribers and non-subscribers of mobile phones and followed up for incidence of cancer and other diseases. The detailed study found no evidence of any increased risk of brain or nervous system tumours / cancer among mobile phone subscribers



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