

# AUSPI

## NEWS BULLETIN

JANUARY 2010

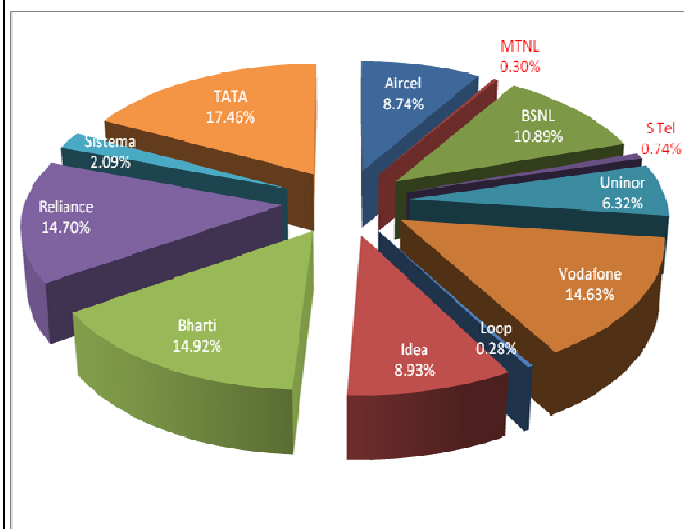
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#### I. [SUBSCRIBER FIGURES – DECEMBER 2009](#)

- ❖ **Total Telephone Subscriber Base reaches 562.21 Million**
- ❖ **Wireless Subscription reaches 525.15 Million**
- ❖ **19.10 Million Wireless Subscriber added**
- ❖ **Broadband subscriber number reaches 7.83 million mark**
- ❖ **Tele-density reaches 47.89% mark**

#### II. [WIRELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS NET ADDITIONS – DECEMBER 2009](#)



(source TRAI)

#### III. [TRAI CONSULTATION PAPERS](#)

- A. On 20<sup>th</sup> January 2010 TRAI has released a consultation paper on 'Efficient Utilization of Numbering Resources'. The consultation paper takes up the following important issues for deliberation:-

- Long Term suitability of numbering plan
- Effective utilization of Numbers
- Allocation and pricing of the numbers

TRAI has requested the Stakeholders to furnish their comments by 26<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

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- B. On 12<sup>th</sup> January 2010 TRAI has issued a notice requesting stakeholders views in connection with proposed TRAI consultation paper on Mobile Tower Design, Tower Structure, Erection of telecom towers, Impact of radio wave radiations, Right of Way for mobile towers etc.

#### **IV. TRAI CIRCULAR / LETTERS / NOTICE**

- A. On 28<sup>th</sup> January 2010 TRAI released MNP Regulation Amendment 2010. This amendment is primarily concerning the date of implementation of MNP w.e.f. 31st March 2010.
- B. TRAI vide letter no. no. F.No. 409-14/2008-FN dated 25th January 2010 requested the association to submit information on benefits provided to Rural Subscribers in a new format The report to be submitted to TRAI on Quarterly Basis by the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the end of the Quarter to contain:-
- Operator Wise, service area wise, total number of connection provided in rural areas in the quarter.
  - Number of subsidized connections provided in the quarter and cumulative total number of subsidized connection from 01.05.2008.
- C. TRAI vide letter no. 9-18/2008-CN dated 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010 informed the Association regarding TRAI's proposed National Seminar on "Future Telecom Scenario & Regulations" during 22-23rd February 2010 at New Delhi.
- D. TRAI vide letter no. 9-9/2009-CN dated 20<sup>th</sup> January 2010 intimated the Association about the National Forum organized by TRAI on 'Mobile Applications for Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Development' from 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2010.

- E. Through letter No323-9/2009 CA dated 5<sup>th</sup> January 2010 TRAI has intimated the Association regarding regional workshop of CAG on 5th February 2010 at Udaipur. Subsequently, they have informed through letter of even number dated 15th January 2010 that the workshop has been postponed to 12th March 2010.

#### **V. DOT LETTERS**

- A. DOT vide letter No. 842-1070/2009-AS-IV/63 dated 20th January, 2010 intimated about the restoration of issuance of pre paid mobile services in J & K in accordance with the revised guideline.
- B. TEC vide Circular No. TBMII/F/MNP/213-TEC/2009 (pt) dated 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010 circulated its comments on Installation and Verification Test Plan (IVTP) and Inter Operator Test Plan (IOTP) submitted by MNP service providers.
- C. TEC vide Circular No. TBMII/F/MNP/213-TEC/2009 (pt) dated 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010 circulated Minutes of the MNP Implementation meeting held in TEC on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2009.
- D. TEC vide Circular No. TBMII/F/MNP/213-TEC/2009 (pt) dated 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010 circulated Provisional AT test schedule for MNP.
- E. DoT vide Letter no. 842-1076/2009-AS-IV dated 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010 requested the Service Providers that while applying for security clearance for procurement of equipment, the Service Providers should furnish the complete details in respect of the equipment, vendor, port of origin etc.
- F. DOT had issued an amendment to UASL vide letter no. no. 842-725/2005-VAS (Vol. III) dated 3rd December 2009 regarding obtaining security clearance from DOT before procurement of equipment.

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DoT vide letter no. 842-725/2005-VAS (Vol. III) dated 7th January 2010 issued a clarification that the amendment is effective from 3rd December 2009, i.e, the date of issue of the amendment and it is not applicable for the equipment / items for which purchase orders have been placed by the licensee company prior to issue of this amendment

- G. DOT vide letter No.800-50/2009-VAS dt. 11<sup>th</sup> January 2010 intimated about the time frame decided by the Government to complete various activities by various stakeholders in order to implement Mobile Number Portability.
- H. Received a letter from DOT bearing No842-1070/2009-AS-IV dated 7th January, 2010 regarding provision of bulk connections for Central Para-Military Forces / Defence Force. Through this letter, DOT has advised service providers that in case telephones are required for organization, the name of the organization should be indicated (instead of name of authorized signatory) and if the requests are received from these organization for use in their personal capacities their personal names should be indicated in the data base along with compliance report within 45 days
- I. TEC letter No. TBAD/AC.31/AAP/2010-TEC dated 5th January 2010 seeking suggestions from Service Providers and Associations on the items for which standards and related documentation works to be taken up by TEC and also to suggest items for which the existing documents to be revised.

### **VI. DOT MEETINGS**

- A. DoT Committee on Rural Telephony meeting was held on 27th January 2010 at Sanchar Bhawan regarding "TRAI Recommendations on An Approach to Rural Telephony –Suggested Measures for an Accelerated Growth".

- B. Meeting of Working Group 3 of NPC for WPC 2012 was held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at WMO Head Quarter, Pushp Bhawan, New Delhi.
- C. TEC's 5th workshop on Migration from IPV4 to IPV6 in India was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010 at BSNL Convergence Hall, Kolkotta.
- D. TEC's DCC of Switching Division meeting was held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at New Committee Room, TEC, New Delhi to discuss the draft on Lawful Interception System.
- E. First Meeting of the Committee on Mobile Banking was held on 8th January 2010 at Committee Room, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi under the Chairmanship Secretary (T), DoT.
- F. Second meeting of the National Preparatory Committee for WRC 2012 was held on 8th January, 2010 in the Teletorium of Telecom Engineering Centre, under the Chairmanship of Joint Wireless Advisor Shri R J S Kushvaha.

### **VII. AUSPI LETTERS**

- A. On 27<sup>th</sup> January 2010, AUSPI submitted its views to TRAI on Pre-consultation on "Mobile Tower Design and other issues".
- B. On 27<sup>th</sup> January 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Hon'ble Minister of Finance requesting that the winning bidder for 3G spectrum may not only be allotted the 3G spot frequencies but also be allowed to use it as a trial frequency till the commercial launch.
- C. On 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010 AUSPI submitted a letter to Hon'ble Minister of Finance and Chairman, Empowered Group of Ministers on Simultaneous auction of EVDO spectrum of 1.25 MHz in 800 MHz band along with auction of GSM 3G spectrum

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AUSPI requested that to ensure level playing field between CDMA and GSM networks and that the CDMA based subscribers also have advantage of enhanced 3G services at par with GSM subscribers, the Government should auction EVDO carrier of 1.25 MHz in all the service areas in 800 MHz band as a forward path for the existing 2G CDMA Operators.

- D. On 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010, AUSPI wrote to The Commissioner, Commercial Tax, Lucknow on the concern being faced by the telecom industry regarding notices from the Commercial Tax Authority to impose Value Added Tax on Broadband service on the ground that the service involves sale of artificially created light energy.

Through our letter, we clarified to the Commissioner that OFC is not capable of transmitting any energy, what is provided to the subscriber is just the transfer of data and not the sale of any "light energy".

- E. On 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Administrator, USOF requesting extension of cut-off date for installation of RDEL subsidy scheme which is currently valid upto 31<sup>st</sup> March 2010, for a period of two years upto 31st March 2012, with the same terms and conditions.
- F. On 6th January 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter AUSPI, through its letter to DDG, AS (II), DOT with copy marked to Joint Secretary, Internal Security (I), MHA consented re-verification, verification and issue of pre-paid and post-paid mobile telephone connections in J & K as per the proposal received through fax on 6th January, 2010.

AUSPI requested that DOT should permit sale of prepaid services in J & K immediately and extend the sale of pre paid service beyond 22nd February 2010.

- G. On 4<sup>th</sup> January 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Chairman, TRAI requesting the Authority to issue necessary directions on

signing Interconnection Agreement between Mobile Access providers and MNP Operators.

### **VIII. AUSPI PRESS RELEASE**

- A. AUSPI through a press release on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010 detailed how Incumbent Mobile Operators are saving billions of Rupees by cornering excess spectrum.

### **IX. ACT LETTERS**

- A. On 26<sup>th</sup> January 2010, ACT wrote a letter to Jt. Commissioner of Police, Gurgaon on the notification issued by Jt. Commissioner's Office on Subscriber Verification process to be followed by Telecom Distributors.

It was requested to amend the notification issued so that the same is in consonance with applicable DoT guidelines.

- B. On 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010, ACT letter submitted to Principal Secretary, Urban and Housing Department, Government of Rajasthan on the restriction proposed to be imposed for setting up cellular Towers in Rajasthan State.
- C. On 4<sup>th</sup> January 2010, ACT letter submitted to DDG (Security) on the notification issued by Jt. Commissioner, Gurgaon on Subscriber Verification process to be followed by Telecom Distributors which is not consistent to DoT guidelines on subscriber verification process

### **X. JOINT INDUSTRY LETTERS**

- A. On 13<sup>th</sup> January 2010, Joint Industry letter was submitted to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi on the issues related to sealing of cellsites by MCD and the proposed new policy.
- B. On 8th January 2010, Joint Industry letter was submitted to Mr. R K Singhal, Chairman, Standing Committee, MCD on

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the Concerns of Cellular Operators on Draft MCD Policy.

- C. On 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010, Joint Industry Letter was submitted to Ms. Meera Aggarwal, Counselor, MCD on the Concerns of Cellular Operators on Draft MCD Policy.
- D. On 4<sup>th</sup> January 2010, Joint Industry Letter was submitted to Mr. K S Mehra, Commissioner, MCD on the issues concerning installation and regularization of Cellular Towers in MCD.
- E. Copies of the above letters were also submitted to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi, Lt. Governor, Delhi and Chief Secretary, Government of NCT.

#### **XI. MEETINGS**

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

- I) Joint Industry meeting with Jt. Commissioner of Police, Gurgaon was held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at Jt. Commissioner's Office, Gurgaon to resolve notification issued by his office on Subscriber Verification process to be followed by Telecom Distributors
- II) MCD subcommittee meeting was held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at Town Hall, Delhi to discuss the proposed draft policy for installation of mobile towers.
- III) Joint Industry meeting prior to MCD subcommittee meeting was held on 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010.
- IV) Meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi was held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at Central Secretariat to discuss the difficulties faced by the cellular operators to implement the guidelines on Cell Towers framed by MCD and related Health Hazards.
- V) Joint Industry meeting prior to meeting with Hon'ble Chief Minister was held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

- VI) ACT Subcommittee meeting was held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010 to finalize Key issues regarding Subscriber Verification Process.

##### **B. OTHER IMPORT EVENTS**

- I) Wireless Workshop on Unified Perspective of 4G Technology was held on 30th January 2010 at IIT Delhi as a part of National Communication Conference jointly by TCOE India, Joint Telematics Group of IITs/IISc, CEWIT, and BWCI.
- II) ISPAI conference on "BWA-The Empowerment Way" was held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at Hotel Lalit.
- III) Industry Dialog organized by Nokia Siemens Networks was held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at Hotel Hyatt Regency.
- IV) A Meeting with Visiting Japanese Minister for Internal Affairs and Communications was held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at The Metropolitan Hotel.
- V) IETE Apex Forum on Path towards 4G-Next Generation Networks Technologies & Challenges was held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2010.

#### **XII. BUDGET 2010-2011**



*The Budget session of Parliament will open on February 22 with the President's address to both House. The Rail and General Budgets will be presented on February 24 and February 26 respectively. To enable standing committees to vet the demands for grants for ministries, the two houses will adjourn on March 16 to meet again on April 12. The session will conclude on May 7.*

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**XIII. TELECOM BYTES**

***☞ iPad***

- +** Apple Computes Inc introduced iPad a tablet compute with a touch screen, Web Browser and email function.
- +** The iPad can display full webpages and has a touch-screen keyboard.



- +** It has a 9.7 inch screen, half in thick and weighs 0.7 kg with 1 gigahertz Apple Chip and battery life of 10 Hours.
- +** It is made of aluminium and glass.
- +** It can display maps from Google Inc. and has a calendar and addressbook functions.
- +** It allows users to display thumbnail views of photos.

**Source: Economic Times**

***☞ NatGrid***

- +** Netgrid Envisage linking of databases maintained by different public and private agencies for ready access by the country's intelligence agenies
- +** The Home Ministry is pressing for inter-linking various individual databases like railways, air travel, income-tax, phone calls, bank account detail, credit card transactions, visa and immigration records, property records and driving licence details.
- +** As per the Natgrid proposal 21 sets of databases would be made readily accessible to 11 agencies.

**Source: Economic Times**



*Users would like fixed and mobile internet to be the same, but the huge capacity gap between fibre and radio links is unlikely to ever allow this.*

**Source: The Economist Newspaper**



*Apple offers 1,40,000 apps and has had more than 3 billion downloads from its App Store by iPhone and iPod touch users worldwide.*

**Source: Reuters**



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