

Telecom Subscription in India crosses 500 Million Mark!!!

AUSPI

NEWS BULLETIN

OCTOBER 2009

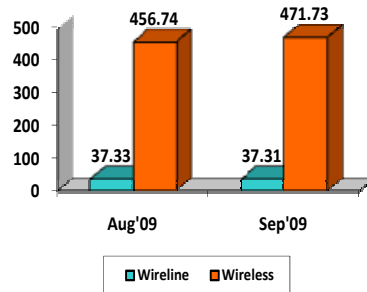
Contents

- [SUBSCRIBER FIGURES](#)
- [TELEDENSITY](#)
- [WIRELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS NET ADDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 09](#)
- [CONSULTATION PAPER ON OVERALL SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT AND REVIEW OF LICENSE TERMS AND CONDITIONS.](#)
- [NETWORK/POIS CONGESTION REPORT OF MOBILE SERVICE PROVIDERS](#)
- [TRAI TELECOM SERVICES PERFORMANCE REPORT –QUARTER ENDING JUNE 2009.](#)
- [TRAI LETTERS](#)
- [DOT LETTERS](#)
- [DOT MEETINGS OF THE MONTH](#)
- [AUSPI LETTERS](#)
- [JOINT INDUSTRY LETTER / ACT LETTER](#)
- [AUSPI MEETINGS & OTHER IMPORTANT EVENTS](#)
- [INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY \(AMENDMENT\) ACT, 2008](#)
- [3G AND BWA SPECTRUM AUCTION TIMELINES](#)
- [TELECOM BYTES](#)

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

- Total Telephone subscriber base reaches 509 Million
- Wireless Subscription reaches 471.7 Million
- 14.98 million Wireless Subscribers added.
- Broadband subscriber number reaches 7.21 million mark.
- Tele-density reaches 43.50% mark.

Subscriber Data - July to August 2009



Subscribers in mn

	Aug'09	Sep'09
Wireline	37.33	37.31
Wireless	456.74	471.73
Total	494.07	509.04

Source: TRAI

Subscribers in mn

	Aug'09	Sep'09
Broadband	6.98	7.21

Source: TRAI

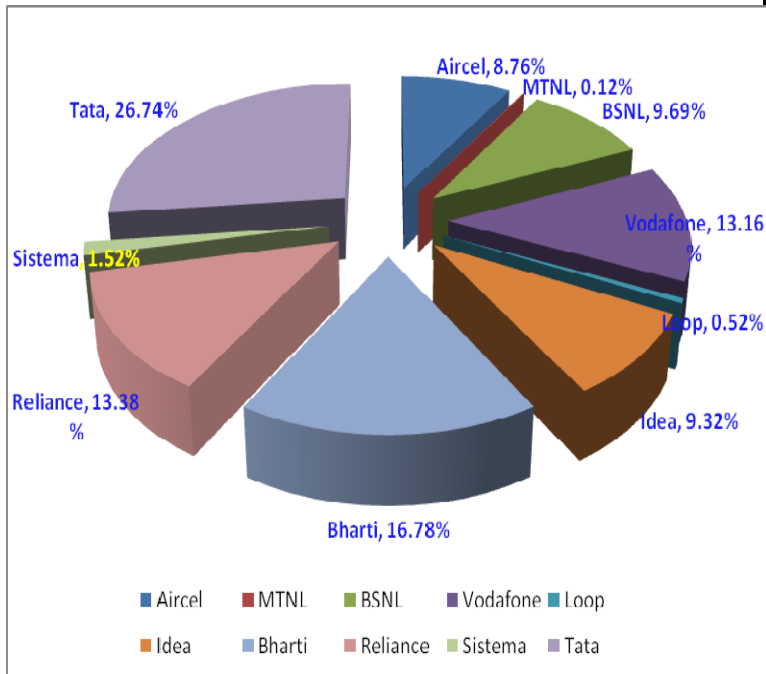
II. [TELEDENSITY](#)

	Aug'09	Sep'09
Total (%)	42.27	43.50

Source: TRAI

Association of Unified Telecom Service Providers of India

III. WIRELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS NET ADDITIONS DURING SEPTEMBER 2009



Source: TRAI

IV. CONSULTATION PAPER ON OVERALL SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT AND REVIEW OF LICENSE TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

On October 16, 2009, TRAI issued a Consultation Paper on "Overall Spectrum Management and review of the license terms and conditions".

The Consultation Paper addresses the following issues:

- Spectrum related issues
- Licensing related issues
- Spectrum assignment & pricing

TRAI requested comments from all the stakeholders on this consultation paper by 12th November 2009. Counter comments if any be sent to TRAI by 19th November 2009.

Please click here to view the Consultation Paper on "Overall Spectrum Management and review of the license terms and conditions" : <http://www.traigov.in/WriteReadData/traigov/upload/ConsultationPapers/175/cpaper16oct09no6.pdf>

V. NETWORK/POIS CONGESTION REPORT OF MOBILE SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR THE MONTHS OF APRIL, MAY & JUNE 2009.

On October 16, 2009, TRAI released Network/POIs congestion report of the Mobile Service Providers for the months of April, May & June 2009.

- a. Congestion on POIs has improved in the month of June 2009 as compared with the performance in March 2009;
- b. The number of POIs having congestion has decreased from 76 in March 2009 to 42 in June 2009;
- c. POIs from Private Service Providers to BSNL/MTNL, the number of POIs having congestion has decreased from 27 in March 2009 to 14 in the month of June 2009;
- d. The number of POIs having congestion among the Private Service Providers has decreased from 49 in March 2009 to 28 in June 2009,

Please click here to view the Press Release on POI Congestion:

<http://www.traigov.in/WriteReadData/traigov/upload/PressReleases/703/pr16oct09no70.pdf>

VI. TRAI TELECOM SERVICES PERFORMANCE REPORT –QUARTER ENDING JUNE 2009.

On October 1, 2009 TRAI released the "Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicator Report" for the Quarter ending June 2009. The highlights of the report are:-

- Telephone subscribers in India increased to 464.82 Million, registering a growth of 8.17%.
- Tele-density in India reached 39.86 as on 30th June 2009
- Subscription in Urban Areas increased to 328.55 Million
- Rural subscription increased to 136.27 Million.
- Rural Teledensity reached 16.61
- Urban Teledensity reached 95.05

Please click here to view the Performance Indicator Report:

<http://www.traigov.in/WriteReadData/traigov/upload/PressReleases/702/pr1oct09no69.pdf>

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VII. TRAI LETTERS

- A. TRAI vide letter no. 323-6/2009-CA dated 5th October 2009 intimated about the Regional Workshop in Bhubaneswar on 20th November 2009 on Consumer Education and Capacity Building of CAGs 2009 (Eastern Region).
- B. TRAI Placed on their website report of DoT Spectrum Committee

VIII. DOT LETTERS

- A. Department of Telecommunications circular no. 18-14/2009-IP requested suggestions from the Association on Union Budget Proposal FY 2010-11.
- B. WPC through letter no. R-11014/22/2007-NT dated 14.10.2009 & 28.10.09 requested the Association for a trial and a meeting regarding 1900 MHz and 2.1 GHz band respectively.
- C. DoT through letter no. 842-1054/2009-AS (IV) dated 26th October 2009 has issued revised Location Routing Number for Telecom Service Providers for MNP.
- D. DOT vide letter No.07-32/2007-PHP(Pt.) dated 19th October 2009 clarified that private and public service providers are not Telegraph Authority and that arbitrator can be appointed by Central Government only. This is in response to AUSPI letter No. AUSPI/13/2009/141 dated 1st October, 2009 seeking clarification.
- E. DoT vide letter no. 820-1/2008-DS Pt. II dated 9th October 2009 extended time limit for secure use of delicensed frequency band Wi-Fi for Internet service till 15th December 2009.
- F. DOT through letter no. 842-725/2005-VAS (Pt.) dated 7th October 2009 informed about the documents acceptable as Proof of Identity and Proof of Address for telephone connections.
- G. DOT through letter No. 842-320/2005-VAS (Vol.IV) dated 5th October, 2009 has sought Service Providers information regarding rollout

obligation for 10% and 50% coverage criteria as applicable for each service area.

IX. DOT MEETINGS OF THE MONTH

- A. TEC DCC meeting of Switching Division was held on 28th October 2009 at TEC.
- B. TEC DCC Meeting of Mobile Division was held on 30th October 2009 at TEC.
- C. Meeting with Advisor (Finance), on 22nd October 2009 in DoT to discuss the issue of AGR for the purpose of calculation of spectrum charges.
- D. Meeting with DDG (AS-I) DoT on 12th October 2009 on implementation of Mobile Number Portability.

X. AUSPI LETTERS

- A. On October 27, 2009 AUSPI submitted a letter to Chairman TRAI requesting to review Information Reporting Requirement with telecom service industry.
- B. On October 20, 2009 AUSPI submitted a Letter to Joint Secretary & Commissioner (TRU), Ministry of Finance on Ministry of Commerce's recommendations on levy of anti-dumping duty on SDH products imported from China.
- C. AUSPI submitted a letter to Chairman, TRAI on 14th October 2009 bringing out various issues highlighted by AUSPI in its letters to the Chairman of Spectrum Committee, DoT and TRAI.
- D. On October 9, 2009 AUSPI submitted a letter to Customs Commissioner on clarifications sought by him regarding ESN/MEID for CDMA handsets in connection with import.
- E. On October 9, 2009 AUSPI submitted the information on benefit provided to Rural Subscribers by its Member Service Providers to TRAI.

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F. On October 7, 2009 AUSPI submitted a letter to Chairman TRAI requesting the Authority to decide the MNP porting charge ceiling at less than Rs. 15.

G. On October 5, 2009 AUSPI submitted a letter to WPC in response to their letter regarding Constitution of Committee to Oversee trial for co-existence of CDMA 1900 MHz & 3G Services.

We stated that in view of the successful trial in this regard, the present exercise of constituting committees for any fresh preparation of measurement schedule is only an exercise in futility to delay the matter of auctioning 3G spectrum for the CDMA operators, creating complete non level playing field with the GSM. Any exercise in this regard will be against the principle of natural justice and level playing field and complete discrimination against the CDMA operators.

H. On October 1, 2009, AUSPI submitted a letter to DoT on Supreme Court judgment that Telecom consumers cannot approach Consumer forums for billing disputes.

AUSPI sought clarification from DoT on following issues:-

- a. *Are private and public service providers are telecom authorities and provisions of Section 7-B applicable on them? And*
- b. *Can private and public service providers as telecom authority appoint arbitrators for arbitration of disputes?*

I. On October 1, 2009, AUSPI submitted its nominations for TRAI Committee for Utilisation of Telecommunication Consumers' Education and Protection Fund (CUTCEF).

XI. JOINT INDUSTRY LETTER / ACT LETTER

A. On October 31, 2009, ACT submitted a letter to Secretary DoT and Home Secretary, regarding Suspension of sale of prepaid mobile connection and renewal of existing prepaid SIM cards.

B. On October 26, 2009 AUSPI, COAI & ICA jointly submitted comments on Direct Tax Code to Hon'ble Minister of Finance.

C. On October 13, 2009 a joint industry letter submitted to Chairman TRAI on Call Centre Charging.

D. On October 7, 2009 a Joint Industry Letter submitted to Chairman, TRAI on J&K State Electricity Board's instructions on putting High Voltage Tri-Vector meters at BTS sites which is adversely impacting the rollout, cost, quality and affordability of mobile services to the people of J&K.

E. On October 1, 2009 ACT submitted a letter to DoT in response to instructions to North east Operators requiring them to re-verify their mobile subscribers through an independent third party & report compliance by October 5, 2009.

XII. AUSPI MEETINGS & OTHER IMPORTANT EVENTS

A. AUSPI MEETINGS

- On 13th October 2009 AUSPI members met in connection with expected TRAI consultation paper on Spectrum Related Issues.
- On 1st October 2009 AUSPI members met Prof. Rajat Kathuria in order to finalize his opinion on the Interconnection Usage Charges.

B. ACT MEETINGS

- ACT Meeting was held on 9th October 2009 at COAI office to discuss the following issues:-
 - DoT's Subscriber Re-verification Guidelines
 - Letter received by the North east Operators from DoT, requiring them to re-verify their mobile subscribers through an independent third party & report compliance by October 5, 2009.

C. OTHER IMPORTANT EVENTS

- Curtain Raiser Ceremony of 'India Telecom 2009 – Telecom for Inclusive Growth' was held on 30th October 2009 at The Oberoi, New Delhi.
- CII Seminar on Enabling Rural Development via Technology & Connectivity was held on 27th October 2009 at Hotel Taj Mahal.
- 3rd workshop on Migration from IPV4 to IPV6 was held on 22nd October 2009 at Chennai.
- FICCI Seminar on 'Government Flagship Schemes: ICT A Key Enabler' was held on 21st October 2009 at Federation House, New Delhi.
- ICRIER Seminar on the State of Macro Economy was held on 14th October 2009 at ASSOCHAM House.
- ASSOCHAM Conference on New Direct Tax Code was held on 13th October 2009 at Hotel Shangri-La, New Delhi.
- MTS Launched its service in Delhi & NCR on 9th October 2009 at Hotel Leela Kempinski, Gurgaon.
- Interactive Session on "New Direct Tax Code" with Hon'ble Finance Minister by three Apex Chambers ASSOCHAM, CII, FICCI was held on 9th October 2009 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- ASSOCHAM's 88th AGM National Convention on "Garland of Grids 2015 : 10% Growth through Universal Access" was held on 9th October 2009 at Hotel Le-Meridien, New Delhi.

XIII. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (AMENDMENT) ACT, 2008

Government notifications on the Information Technology (Amendment) Act, 2008 has become effective on 27th October 2009.

However, the rules mentioned herein will be notified by Government shortly.

XIV. 3G AND BWA SPECTRUM AUCTION TIMELINES

Deadline for submission of questions for pre-bid conference	13 th November, 2009
Pre-bid conference	16 th November, 2009
Issue of clarifications, if any	27 th November, 2009
Notice Inviting Applications	8 th December, 2009
Final date for Applications	21 st December, 2009
Publication of Ownership details of applicant	24 th December, 2009
Bidder Ownership Compliance Certificate	4 th January, 2010
Pre-qualification of Bidders	7 th January, 2010
Mock Auction	11 th – 12 th January, 2010
Start of the 3G Auction	14 th January, 2010
Start of the 800 MHz and BWA Auctions	2 days from the day of close of the 3G Auction
Payment of Bid Deposit by Successful Bidders	Within 5 calendar days of the close of the relevance Auction
Payment of the balance amount (Successful Bid Amount less Bid Deposit)	Within 15 calendar days of the close of the relevant Auction.

XV. TELECOM BYTES

➤ *The Cabinet Committee on Security has accepted the recommendation of Intelligence agencies to consider blocking Skype but has not set a date for initiating action.*

Source: Times of India, (03.10.09)

➤ *Taiwanese researchers have developed hydrogen-powered mobile phone chargers. Hydrogen is a recyclable material.*

The device is supposed to be energy-efficient and will help protect the environment. The device is expected to replace current cell phone recharge systems in 2012

Industrial Technology Research Institute, Taiwan

Association of Unified Telecom Service Providers of India

➤ *Anxiety to bridge the widening fiscal deficit rather than a concern for keeping the cost of running 3G low that has driven the Government to set a higher upset price for the auctions than the regulator had suggested.*

Source: Media Report

➤ *LTE-Advanced = 4G*

The goal for LTE-Advanced is to provide peak data rates equal to or greater than those of wired networks, e.g., FTTH or VDSL2. It will also maintain an equivalent quality of service compared to wired networks and compatibility with current 3GPP systems, but with a reduced total cost of ownership with Spectrum efficiency projected to be three times higher than that in LTE

Source: Wireless Asia

➤ **UID Hub** - Unique Identification Authority of India Chairman said that the world's largest citizen database project will have its technology hub in Bangalore.

Source: Economic Times

➤ HOW TO CHECK YOUR IMEI NUMBER?

- ☞ Dial *#06# from your mobile to get the IMEI Number
- ☞ Message IMEI<SPACE><15 digit IMEI NUMBER> to 53232 / 57886 to check the genuiness of your IMEI Number. Charges applicable.

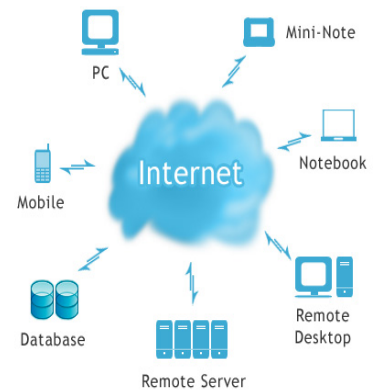
➤ Telecom Industry Snapshot

Market-Cap Growth		Sales Growth Q-on-Q		Profit Growth Q-on-Q	
Up to 30.09.09	Up to 31.08.09	Q1- 2010	Q4 - 2009	Q1- 2010	Q4- 2009
20%	22%	21%	24%	12%	9%

Source: CII-BCG Monthly Monitor

➤ Cloud Computing

"Cloud" refers to a computer network or Internet, depending on how a particular service is being delivered. Computing through cloud or delivery of software business applications through a given network allows customers and users to use a service without owning any hardware infrastructure or software license.



Source: Economic Times

View on AUSPI's website www.auspi.in

