

AUSPI

NEWS BULLETIN MARCH 2010

Contents

- [SUBSCRIBER FIGURES – FEBRUARY 2010](#)
- [TELECOM INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT](#)
- [TRAI CONSULTATION PAPER](#)
- [TRAI CIRCULAR / LETTERS / NOTICE](#)
- [TRAI MEETING](#)
- [DOT LETTERS](#)
- [DOT MEETINGSTRAI MEETINGTRAI MEETING](#)
- [AUSPI LETTERS](#)
- [ACT LETTERS](#)
- [JOINT INDUSTRY LETTERS](#)
- [MEETINGS](#)
- [UPCOMING EVENTS](#)
- [TELECOM BYTES](#)

I. [SUBSCRIBER FIGURES – FEBRUARY 2010](#)

- ❖ Total Telephone Subscriber Base reaches 600.69 Million
- ❖ Wireless Subscription reaches 563.73 Million
- ❖ 18.76 Million Wireless Subscriber added
- ❖ Broadband subscriber number reaches 8.59 million mark
- ❖ Tele-density reaches 51.05% mark



RCOM has reached the 100 million subscriber mark

Congratulations

II. [TELECOM INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT \(for QE Dec-09\)](#)



Telecom Subscribers

- Total Subscribers: 562.16 Million
- Urban Subscribers: 387.63 Million
- Rural Subscribers: 174.53 Million
- Tele Density: 47.88%
- Urban Teledensity: 110.96%
- Rural Teledensity: 21.16%



Wireless Subscribers

- Total Wireless Subs: 525.09 Million.
- Urban Subscribers: 360.52 Million
- Rural Subscribers: 164.57 Million
- Tele Density: 44.72%
- Urban Teledensity: 103.20%
- Rural Teledensity: 19.95%



Internet & Broadband Subscribers

- Total Internet Subscribers: 15.24 Million
- Broadband Subscribers: 7.82 Million

(source TRAI)

[\[Back to Top\]](#)



ASSOCIATION OF UNIFIED TELECOM SERVICE PROVIDERS OF INDIA

III. TRAI CONSULTATION PAPER

A. On 17th March 2010, TRAI released Consultation Paper on "Collocation Charges". The Consultation Paper takes up the following important issues for deliberations:-

- i. *Terms and conditions for collocation*
- ii. *Measures to ensure transparent and non-discriminatory treatment in pricing and provisioning of collocation facilities.*
- iii. *Sharing of cost of collocation by the seeker and provider.*

Stakeholders are requested to submit their comments by 17th May 2010 and counter comments by 3rd June 2010.

IV. TRAI CIRCULAR / LETTERS / NOTICE

A. On 19th March 2010, TRAI vide letter no. 305-20/2009-QoS intimated the Association regarding constitution of a Committee to study problems of prepaid customers as raised by Consumer Advocacy Group.

V. TRAI MEETING

A. The first meeting of the committee constituted to study the problems of prepaid customers was held on 31st March 2010 at 1100 hrs along with Consumer Advocacy Group in the Conference Room, TRAI under the Chairmanship of Secretary TRAI.

VI. DOT LETTERS

A. DoT vide letter no. 10-15/09-AS-II dated 31st March 2010 intimated the Association about the meeting called by Minister of Communication and IT on 1st April 2010 at 1100 hrs in the Conference Hall to discuss the issues regarding security clearance before placement of purchase orders for procuring telecom equipment / Software.

B. DoT vide letter no. 800-50/2009-VAS dated 30.03.2010 indicated the time frame for completing various activities for MNP Implementation.

C. WPC vide letter no. R-11014/24/2007-LR Vol II/140 dated 30th March 2010 sought certain information from Service Providers for reconciliation of the microwave backbone charges consequent to the judgment of Hon'ble TDSAT as follows:-

- i. *Date of operation of links established prior to 31.05.2005.*
- ii. *Date of SACFA clearance w.e.f. 01.04.05*
- iii. *Details of the links for which no SACFA clearance applied /obtained prior to 15.04.09.*

D. On 30th March 2010, DOT has placed on its website the list of Pre Qualified Bidders for 3G/BWA Auction.

E. On 25^h March 2010, DOT has placed on its website ownership details regarding 3G/BWA Auction.

F. TEC vide email dated 25th March 2010 sought Comments on "draft migration plan from IPv4 to IPv6 in India" proposed for service providers.

G. DoT vide letter no. No.10-15/2009-AS-III/ dated 18th March 2010 intimated immediate compliance of the guidelines mentioned in the letter regarding Security clearance before placement of purchase order for procuring telecom equipment / software.

H. DoT vide letter no. 6/10/2006-Policy-I (Pt.) dated 9th March 2010 requested the Association's suggestions / comments regarding installation of communication towers in NDMC area on the observations of DUAC and response of MTNL.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)



ASSOCIATION OF UNIFIED TELECOM SERVICE PROVIDERS OF INDIA

- I. DoT vide letter no. 12-31/2008/WTO(IP) dated 4th March 2010 sought details from the Service Providers regarding trade distortive effects encountered by them in the export of services because of subsidies in service trade provided by other countries.

VII. DOT MEETINGS

- A. DCC meeting of Switching Division was held on 12th March 2010 at New Committee Room, 3rd floor, K.L. Bhawan, TEC.
- B. TEC Meeting regarding implementation of MNP was held on 9th March 2010 at Teletorium, TEC.

VIII. AUSPI LETTERS

- A. On 27th March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Secretary, DoT regarding Security clearance before placement of purchase order for procuring telecom equipment / Software. This letter was written with reference to DOT letter dated 18th March 2010 and 25th March 2010.
- B. On 26th March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Secretary, TRAI regarding Benefits provided to Rural Subscribers.
- C. On 25th March 2010, AUSPI submitted its comments on DUAC observations on installing communication tower in NDMC area. This was with reference to DOT's letter on Plans for installation of communication towers dated 9th March 2010.
- D. On 19th March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Advisor (F), DOT requesting Spectrum charges be accepted by DOT on post quarterly basis and to re-compute the Microwave charges payable by our members as per TDSAT order and refund the excess charges.
- E. On 18th March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Secretary, Department of Financial Services on Mobile Banking. AUSPI requested that :-
- i. Mobile companies should be allowed to become business correspondents by*

permitting all Unified Access Service Licensees and Cellular Mobile Telephone Service licensees to become Business Correspondents.

- ii. Mobile pre-paid instrument should be converted from Semi-closed payment system to the Open Payment System.*

- F. On 16th March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Administrator, USOF regarding pending issues related to provision and expansion of Telecom Services in Rural areas.
- G. On 15th March 2010, AUSPI submitted its counter comments to TRAI on TRAI's consultation paper regarding Efficient Utilization of Numbering Resources.
- H. On 15th March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Chairman TRAI requesting allotment of 2x6.25MHz Spectrum to CDMA Operators in case the Authority is considering to recommend a limit of 2x8 MHz of Spectrum for GSM Operators.
- I. On 15th March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Dr. Sam Pitroda concerning Government's initiative for introduction of broadband services in all villages.

AUSPI requested that:

- i. The private sector should be fully involved in this ambitious project of Broadband deployment in all Gram Panchayats;*
- ii. The proposed USO funded subsidy scheme for broadband in rural areas should be on a technology and media neutral platform and should incentivize fast roll out to meet the objective for connecting 2.5 lakh gram panchayats in next two years.*

- J. On 13th March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Secretary, DOT clarifying repeated allegations by incumbent GSM operator on Spectrum Charges.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)



ASSOCIATION OF UNIFIED TELECOM SERVICE PROVIDERS OF INDIA

- K. On 9th March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Administrator, USOF regarding Extension of period for Payment of Equated Annual Subsidy (OPEX) for RDEL Scheme.
- L. On 8th March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Member (F), DoT requesting the spectrum usage charges be accepted by DOT on post quarterly basis in a similar fashion as that of revenue share license fee.
- M. On 3rd March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Chairman, TRAI requesting to review the TTO (43rd Amendment) and allow service providers to adjust ILD rates depending on the market dynamics for all subscribers including subscribers with life time validity.
- N. On 3rd March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Hon'ble Minister of Communication & IT requesting extension of RDEL Scheme upto 31st March 2012 and modification of existing scheme to support RDEL data related CAPEX and OPEX requirements for enabling internet access through wireless data connections in these areas.
- O. On 2nd March 2010, AUSPI submitted a letter to Wireless Advisor, WPC requesting the spectrum usage charges be accepted by DOT on post quarterly basis in a similar fashion as that of revenue share license fee.
- P. On 3rd March 2010, AUSPI submitted its comments to TRAI on TRAI's Consultation Paper on Efficient Utilization of Numbering Resources.

IX. ACT LETTERS

- A. On 10th March 2010, ACT submitted a letter to Director, TERM, UP (West) regarding Representation of Distributors and Retailers of Private Mobile Companies regarding difficulties being faced by them in verification of ID proof.

- B. On 10th March 2010, ACT submitted a reminder letter to Jt. Commissioner of Police, Gurgaon requesting to issue the necessary clarifications from Jt. Commissioner's Office so that the DOT instructions are followed without deviation.

X. JOINT INDUSTRY LETTERS

- A. On 18th March 2010, A Joint Industry letter was submitted to Hon'ble Chief Minister of Delhi requesting kind intervention of the CM in the matter pertaining to sealing of cell towers by MCD. Industry association also requested for an appointment to discuss the matter in detail.
- B. A Joint Industry press release was issued on 1st February 2010 on the issue of Noida Tower Sealing.

XI. MEETINGS

A. AUSPI MEETING

- i. On 29th March 2010 AUSPI members met at AUSPI office prior to the Meeting of TRAI study group constituted to study the problems of pre paid customers as raised by Consumer Advocacy Group.
- ii. 111th Executive Council Meeting of AUSPI was held on 15th March 2010 at AUSPI.

B. JOINT INDUSTRY MEETING / ACT MEETING

- I) A Joint Industry Meeting was held on 22nd March 2010 with MCD to discuss advance technology for cell towers and formulation of policy for erection of towers for internet and for Outdoor Micro Sites under the chairmanship of Ms. Meera Aggarwal, Member Standing Committee, MCD.
- II) A Joint Industry Meeting was held on 5th March 2010 to discuss the legal strategy to be taken in the Noida Tower Sealing matter.

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

C. OTHER IMPORT EVENTS

- I) 3rd (TCOE) Coordinators meeting was held on 31st March 2010 at C-DOT campus.
- II) ASSOCHAM Telecom Committee Meeting was held on 30th March 2010 at Assocham House.
- III) TRAI Regional Workshop on Consumer Advocacy Group was held on 20th March March 2010 at Udaipur.
- IV) TDSAT Seminar on "Dispute Resolution Scenario in Telecom and Broadcasting Sectors" was held on 13th March 2010 at Dehradun.

XII. UPCOMING EVENTS

- I) **21st April 2010:** National Round Table on Alternative Energy Opportunities for Telecom Sector at Hotel Le-Meridian.
- II) **27th April 2010:** First Steering Committee Meeting of India Telecom Exhibition 2010 at Sanchar Bhawan.
- III) **27th April 2010:** TRAI Study Group meeting to study problems of Prepaid Customers as raised by Consumer Advocacy Group at Conference Hall, TRAI.
- IV) **12th May 2010:** 36th Annual General Meeting of CII at Hotel Le Meridian, New Delhi.
- V) **15th May 2010:** TDSAT Seminar on "Dispute Resolution Scenario in Telecom and Broadcasting Sectors" at Hotel Peterhof, Shimla.
- VI) **15-18 June 2010:** Communic Asia 2010 at Singapore Expo.

XIII. TELECOM BYTES

✦ **RCOM has reached the 100 million subscriber mark** within seven years of launching its pan India mobile services and has now become fourth operator in the world to serve over 100 million subscribers in a single country.

Source: Times of India

✦ **Silver Jubilee of DOTCOM** - Twenty-five years ago on 15th March Symbolics.com was registered as the world's first .com domain. The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF) issued a report on the .com's impact, states that out of roughly 250 million Web sites, about 80 million are .coms. Even after the collapse of the dot-com bubble, the number of domain names has grown by an average of 668,000 a month.

Source: Internet news

✦ **Telecom may fill the investment gap for power and road – Mid Term Appraisal.**

Dy Chairman, Planning Commission, Mr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia stated "it does look as if we will achieve (investment in infrastructure sector) not fully, but very close to \$ 500 billion.....This will be primarily because of over achievement in telecom, "

Glittering telecom sector investment

Infrastructure	Eleventh plan target (Rs. Crore)	Revised projection (Rs. Crore)
Telecom	2,58,439	3,45,134

Source: Times of India

[\[Back to Top\]](#)



For All Telecom Services – QE Dec-09

- Average License fee as % Gross Revenue: 6.11%.
- Average License fee as % Adjusted Gross Revenue: 8.34%
- Pass through charges as % Gross Revenue: 26.74%

Source: TRAI



License Fee & Spectrum Charges paid till January 2010

- License Fee paid: Rs. 7,605.61 crore
- Spectrum Usage Charges: Rs. 3,428 crore

Source: Response to a Parliament Question by Minister of State for Communication and IT



FCCS National Broadband Plan - Important Points

- Affordable high speed internet to all Americans nationwide
- Redistributing frequency spectrum to facilitate the wide deployment of wireless data services.
- 100 mn households with 100 MBPS by 2020
- Every American Community with atleast one institution such as Library, hospital or school with an ultra high speed (at least 1GBPS) internet access.
- Increasing broadband penetration to over 90%.

Source: PC World



MCD has launched a remote monitoring & operation of street lights from a Central Station based on GSM & GPRS technology. This system would automatically turns on and off according to the sunrise and sunset time.

The system would also provide the facility of automatic metering of energy consumption as well as quality of power.

Source: The Hindu



Census Exercise will begin on 1st April 2010. Will include details like number of mobile phones, computers and internet connection. This is first time such details have been taken for census.

Source: Economic Times



View on AUSPI website www.auspi.in

[\[Back to Top\]](#)