



TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

NEWS LETTER

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This newsletter brings you the information and developments that have taken place during the month of April, 2016.

A) Direction/Regulation/Tariff Orders :

- I. Direction dated 25th April 2016 to M/s Videocon Telecommunication Limited with regard to closure of services in Bihar, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh (East) and Uttar Pradesh (West) licensed service areas with effect from 11th May, 2016, consequent to trading of 1800 MHz spectrum allotted to it to M/s Bharti Airtel Limited.**

Pursuant to Spectrum Trading Guidelines, M/s Videocon Telecommunication Ltd. (M/s VTL) entered into an agreement with M/s Bharti Airtel Ltd. to trade right to use the entire 1800 MHz spectrum allotted to it and M/s VTL shall discontinue its commercial services with effect from 11th May 2016. TRAI issued direction on 25th April 2016 to M/s VTL in order to facilitate Mobile Number Portability for subscribers of M/s VTL in Bihar, Haryana, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, UP (East) and UP(West) licensed service areas. Through this Direction, TRAI provided additional codes for generating UPCs and also relax the 90 days condition for activation of number in a network for subscribers of M/s VTL in these service areas.

- II. Amendment to Direction no. 305-3/2014-QoS (Pt) on submission of data of network parameters through web-service :**

The Direction dated 12th January, 2016 has been amended on 4th April, 2016, this mandates the cellular mobile telephone service providers, to submit to TRAI, the master cell data of network parameters and upload every first day of the month, cell network parameters data for the sixteenth day to the last day of the preceding and every sixteenth day of the month, cell network parameters data for the preceding fifteenth day to server of TCCMS portal of TRAI through web-service in the prescribed format.

B) Recommendations:

1. Clarifications/Reconsideration of “Recommendations on ‘Valuation and Reserve Price of Spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz bands’ dated 27 January, 2016”

The Authority had sent its recommendations on “Valuation and Reserve Price of Spectrum in 700 MHz, 800 MHz, 900 MHz, 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz, 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz bands” dated 27 January, 2016 to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT). On 1st April 2016, the DoT sought clarifications/reconsideration on some of the recommendations.

After considering the comments given by the DoT, the Authority has furnished its response to the Government on 18th April 2016. The response to the Government has been placed on TRAI 's website.

C. Consultation Papers :

Pre-Consultation Paper On Set Top Box Interoperability

TRAI, on 04.04.2016, released a Pre-Consultation Paper on “Set Top Box Interoperability”. TRAI has taken up the issue relating to development of interoperable STBs in Digital Television Broadcasting sector that must be compatible across all operators using the same platform. STB interoperability would empower a consumers to change his cable TV (or DTH) service provider whenever required, without changing his STBs and with no major cost implications. This will also shift the focus of the sector towards providing better quality of services to the consumers at competitive prices. Implementation of STB inter-operability, may also lead to making STBs available in the open market while reducing costs and also addressing the challenge of e-waste resulting due to discarded set-top-boxes.

The pre-consultation paper seeks to identify various issues related to interoperability of STBs, challenges, identifying concerns of the industry and suggest a possible solution towards achieving technical interoperability of STBs.

D. Other Information :

i) Telecom Subscription Data as on 29th February, 2016

Particulars	No. of Wireless subscribers (in Millions)	No. of Wire-line Subscribers (in Millions)	No. of Total subscribers (Wireless + Wire-line) (in Millions)
Urban Subscription	587.55	20.87	608.42
Rural Subscription	439.11	4.34	443.46
Total Subscription	1026.66	25.22	1051.88
Overall Tele-density	80.91	1.99	82.89
Share of Urban Subscription	57.23%	82.77%	57.84%
Share of Rural Subscription	42.77%	17.23%	42.16%
No. of Broadband Subscribers	128.12	16.75	144.87

Portability requests increased from 199.62 million subscribers at the end of January, 2016 to 204.73 million at the end of February, 2016. In the month of February, 2016 alone 5.10 million requests have been made for MNP.

- Active wireless subscribers on the date of Peak VLR in February, 2016 were 925.22 million.

ii) Consumer Outreach Programmes:

During April, 2016 TRAI organized five Consumer Outreach Programmes at the following places for the benefits of consumers (Name of Regional Office in bracket):

Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh)	12.04.2016
Wayanad (Kerala)	19.04.2016
Narnaul (Haryana)	19.04.2016
Raipur (Chhattisgarh)	21.04.2016
Jaisalmer (Rajasthan)	28.04.2016

Full details of the Directions/Orders, Recommendations, Consultation Paper, Subscription Data, etc as mentioned in this newsletter are available on our website

www.trai.gov.in

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