

Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 87 / 2007)

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

For Immediate release

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TRAI releases Quarterly Performance Indicators of Indian Telecom Services for the quarter ending June 2007.

New Delhi, 5th October 2007: -

- Wireless Market grew at 12% in the quarter ending June 2007 by adding 19.81 million subscribers.
- Internet subscribers marginally reduced to 9.22 million for the quarter ending 30th June 2007 as compared to 9.27 million during the preceding quarter registering a decrease of approx. 0.50%.
- Broadband subscriber base reached 2.42 million in the quarter ending June 2007 thus registering a growth of 3.55%.

Salient features

A. Subscriber Growth:

(i) The gross subscriber base of the wire-line and wireless services together crossed the 225 million mark. The total number of subscribers increased from 205.86 million (in the quarter ending March 2007) to 225.01 million (in the quarter ending June 2007), showing an increase of 9.30% during the quarter.

(ii) The tele-density in the quarter ending June 2007 has reached 19.86 compared to 18.23 at quarter ending March 2007.

(iii) The subscriber base for wireless services has increased from 165.11 million to 184.92 million, whereas subscriber base of Wireline service has decreased from 40.75 million to 40.09 million.

(iv) The number of Public Call Offices (PCOs) in the country has increased from 5.55 million to 5.60 million by registering a slight growth of 0.90% in quarter ending June 2007.

(v) Rural Wireline subscriber base has decreased from 12.56 million in quarter ending March 2007 to 12.27 million in June 2007 by registering a negative growth of 2.31%. The rural wireless subscriber base has increased from 33.14 million in quarter ending March 2007 to 37.40 million for the quarter ending June 2007, clocking a growth of 12.85%.

(vi) The number of Village Public Telephones (VPT) in the country has increased from 0.56 million to 0.57 million registering a growth of 1.79%.

B. ARPU Trends:

(i) The all India blended ARPU per month of Rs. 297/- for GSM has remained almost at the same level as compared with the figure of Rs. 298/- per month for the previous quarter.

(ii) ARPU for postpaid GSM service has shown an increase of 7% from Rs. 613/- in Mar-07 to Rs. 655/- in June-07. ARPU for prepaid GSM has shown a slight decline of 0.8% from Rs. 250 in Mar-07 to Rs. 248 in June-07.

(iii) For CDMA segment, all India blended ARPU per month for the quarter ending June 2007 is Rs. 206/- as against Rs. 202/- for the quarter ending March 2007, showing an increase of 2%.

(iv) ARPU for postpaid CDMA service has shown an increase of 7.83% from Rs. 447/- in Mar-07 to Rs. 482/- in June-07. ARPU for prepaid CDMA has remained same at Rs. 168/- for the quarter ending June-07.

C. Internet and Broadband Growth.

(i) Internet subscribers stood at 9.22 million for the quarter ending 30th June 2007 as compared to 9.27 million during the preceding quarter registering a decrease of approx. 0.50%. The growth is negative as compared to a positive growth of 8.03% during last quarter

(ii) There are 38.02 million Internet subscribers at the end of June 2007, who are accessing Internet through mobile handset (GSM/ CDMA).

(iii) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) has retained its top position and reported a subscriber base of 4.07 million Internet subscribers against 4.19 million during the previous quarter. Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) has retained second position with a subscriber's base of 1.75 million.

(iv) The number of Broadband subscribers (with a download speed of 256 Kbps or more) was 24.22 Lakhs for the quarter ending June 2007 as against 23.39 lakhs for the previous quarter. The growth rate of broadband subscribers in this quarter is 3.55% as compared to 13.85% in the previous quarter

(v) The Average Revenue Per User (ARPU) for dial up Internet subscribers was Rs.203/- for the quarter ending June 2007.

(vi) The Minutes of Usage (MoU) for dial-up access per subscriber/month was 195 minutes.

D. Quality of Service

QOS Performance during the year

(a) Wireline Services

The performance of the Wireline Service Providers has improved in this quarter as compared to the previous quarter with respect to the parameters as mentioned in the table below:

Sr. No.	Parameter	Benchmark	No. of operators not meeting the benchmarks			
			March, 2007		June, 2007	
			Out of 79 In Nos	Out of 79 In %age	Out of 78 In Nos	Out of 78 In %age
1	Provision of Telephones after registration of demand	100% within 7 Days	70	88.61%	62	79.49%
2	Fault incidences per 100 subs/month	<5	25	31.65%	24	30.77%
3	Fault repaired by next working day	>90%	16	20.25%	22	28.21%
4	MTRR	<8Hrs	30	37.97%	28	35.90%
5	Grade of Service (Junction between local exchange)	2/1000	19	24.05%	19	24.36%

(b) Wireless Service

135 licensees have reported their performance in QOS parameters during the quarter ending June 2007. The comparative statement of the key parameters is given in the following table:-

Sr. No.	Parameter	Bench-Mark	No. Of Operators Meeting The Benchmarks			
			March, 2007		June, 2007	
			Out Of 135 (Nos.)	Out Of 135(%)	Out Of 135 (Nos.)	Out Of 135 (%)
1	Accumulated down time of Community isolation	<24 hrs	133	98.52%	134	99.26%
2	Call Set-Up Success Rate (Within Licensee's Own network)	>95%	133	98.52%	134	99.26%
3	Service access delay	<15 Sec	131	97.04%	135	100%
4	Call drop rate	<3.0%	133	98.52%	135	100%

(c) Broadband Services

As per the reports submitted TRAI, 64 service providers are providing broadband services with a subscriber base of 24.22 lakhs subscribers. Among these 64 broadband service providers 10 service providers (who are having subscriber base more than 10,000 broadband subscribers) making a total of 23.67 lakhs subscribers

E. Broadcasting and Cable Services.

Range (Minimum and Maximum) of number of channels Pay, FTA, Local regularly carried on network as at the end of quarter ending 31st March 2007 and 30th June 2007.

Range	Pay channels		FTA channels		Local Channels		Total	
	Jan-Mar'07	April-Jun'07	Jan-Mar'07	April-Jun'07	Jan-Mar'07	April-Jun'07	Jan-Mar'07	April-Jun'07
Maximum	128	117	134	118	7	7	269	242
Minimum	30	30	33	34	1	1	64	65
No of Agencies / Service Providers Reporting							7	7

The complete compilation is available at TRAI website www.traigov.in.

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