In exercise of the powers conferred upon it under sub-section (2) of section 11 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 as amended by TRAI (Amendment) Act, 2000, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) hereby makes the following order by an amendment to the Telecommunication Tariff Order, 1999 by notification in the Official Gazette, in respect of tariffs at which Telecommunication Services within India and outside India shall be provided:

THE TELECOMMUNICATION TARIFF (TWENTY SIXTH AMENDMENT) ORDER 2003
(3 of 2003)

Section I
Title, Extent and Commencement

1. Short title, extent and commencement:

(i) This Order shall be called “The Telecommunication Tariff (Twenty Sixth Amendment) Order 2003”.

(ii) The Order shall come into force from the date of its notification in the Official Gazette.

Section II

2. In Schedule I & II of the Telecommunication Tariff (24th Amendment) Order, 2003, the date “1 April, 2003” wherever it appears in these schedules shall be deleted and substituted by the date 1st May, 2003.

Section III

3. Explanatory Memorandum

This Order contains at Annex A, an explanatory memorandum to provide clarity and transparency to the tariffs specified in this Order.

BY ORDER

[Dr. ROOPA R. JOSHI]
Advisor (Economic)
EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. The objective of this Explanatory Memorandum is to put in focus the background for this Amendment i.e. 26th Amendment to TTO, 1999. The Authority had notified the 24th Amendment to TTO on 24.1.2003 wherein service providers were to implement the requisite Standard Tariff Package with effect from 1st April, 2003 while also bringing into effect the IUC regime notified under the IUC Regulation, 2003 notified on 24.1.2003 to be implemented from 01.04.2003.

2. The various proposed alternative tariff plans have been received from service providers during the period 10th to 24th of March, 2003 and need detailed consideration / revision. These have been communicated to the service providers concerned and they have been required to file tariff plans in consonance with the IUC regime to the Authority complying with the provisions of the 24th Amendment to the TTO. In addition to the above, the fact that consumers need to be informed on the choices available pursuant to the contours of the Standard Tariff Plan outlined in 24th Amendment to TTO and the consequent alternative tariff plans, the Authority felt that it would be in the interests of the consumers that end users are informed well in advance about the various plans by different service providers, for which all tariff plans should be filed with the Authority by 03.04.2003 to be implemented by 01.05.2003.

3. In view of the above, the Authority has decided that the revised date of implementation would now be 01.05.2003. All service providers are required to provide their tariff plans to the Authority in conformity with the 24th Amendment to TTO & IUC Regulation by 03.04.2003 for implementation on 01.05.2003.