

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

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TRAI launches Quarterly Performance Indicators of Telecom Services

for the quarter ending December,2004

Mobile Subscribers Crosses Fixed Line Subscribers

Background: -

In continuation to its endeavour to provide latest statistics on the performance of telecom services for the benefit of stakeholders, Analysts and research agencies, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has released compilation of the performance indicators of various telecom services for the quarter October- December, 2004.

Salient Features of Telecom Services during quarter ending December, 2004

The gross subscriber base of the fixed and mobile services together reached 92.88 million at the end of the quarter ending December, 2004 from 86.86 million as on September, 2004, showing an increase of around 7% during the quarter. The growth on annual basis (December, 2003 to December, 2004) is more than 31%.

The subscribers of Fixed Service (Fixed Line and WLL-F) increased from 43.87 million to 44.87 million and that for Mobile Services (GSM + CDMA) from 43 million to 48 million, during the above quarter.

Mobile subscribers showed a growth of 11.68% during the quarter. The Annual growth (December, 2003 to December, 2004) for this segment was of the order of 68.82%.

The number of VPTs added during the quarter was 13,152 making cumulative total of 5,37,238 VPTs in the country.

The number of PCO's in the country increased to 25,31,312 registering a growth of about 11.64 % during the quarter.

The average per minute charge for mobile service has declined to Rs. 1.20 in comparison to Rs. 1.90 during the previous quarter, thus showing a reduction of 58% during the quarter.

The subscriber base of Internet has shown an increase of around 6%, during the quarter. The numbers of subscribers have increased from 5.14 million to 5.45 million in December, 2004. The annual growth of this segment (December, 2003 to December, 2004) is of the order of 31.64%.

The number of 'Always-On' high-speed Internet subscribers has reached 6.54 lakhs showing a growth of 108 % over the previous quarter.

The Broadband connection (download speed >256 KBPS) reached a number of 46,638 upto December, 2004

During the quarter ending December, 2004, Internet Telephony recorded a usage of 43 million minutes.

Average Minutes Of Use per month for dial up Internet subscribers was of the order of 275 and the ARPU/month for Internet service was of the order of Rs. 167/-.

The complete compilation is available at TRAI website www.trai.gov.in.

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