Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Notification New Delhi, the 27th March, 2003

No.311-1/2003-Econ

In exercise of the powers conferred upon it under section 36 read with clauses (ii), (iii) and (iv) of sub section (b) of Section 11 (1) of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 as amended by TRAI (Amendment) Act, 2000, to fix the terms and conditions of interconnectivity between Service Providers, to ensure effective interconnection between different service providers and to regulate arrangements amongst service providers of sharing their revenue derived from providing telecommunication services, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India hereby makes the following Regulation.

THE TELECOMMUNICATION INTERCONNECTION USAGE CHARGES (IUC) (FIRST AMENDMENT)) REGULATION, 2003 (2 of 2003)

Section I Title, Extent and Commencement

1. Short title, extent and commencement:

- This Regulation shall be called "The Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (IUC) (First Amendment) Regulation 2003".
- (ii) The Regulation shall be deemed to have come into force from the date of notification in the official Gazette.

Section II

2.1 In clause 4 under Section IV of The Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (IUC) Regulation, 2003, sub-clause (iv)shall be deleted and substituted by the following:

"(iv) The date of effect for actual implementation of IUC shall be 1^{st} May, 2003.

2.2 In clause 4 under Section IV of The Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (IUC) Regulation, 2003, sub-clause (v)shall be deleted and substituted by the following:

" (v) The existing revenue sharing arrangement or Interconnection Usage Charges arrangement, if any, between the Interconnecting networks shall hold good only up to 30^{th} April, 2003 in respect of the items as specified in the Regulation.

2.3 In clause 4 under Section IV of The Telecommunication Interconnection Usage Charges (IUC) Regulation, 2003, sub-clause (vi) shall be deleted and substituted by the following:

(vi) All existing interconnect agreements/arrangements as on date shall stand amended on 1st May, 2003 so as to conform to the notified framework of the IUC regime and these shall be submitted to TRAI for registration by 16th May, 2003, and for subsequent changes as per reporting requirement."

Section III

3. Explanatory Memorandum

This Regulation contains at Annex A, an explanatory memorandum to provide clarity and transparency to matters covered under this Regulation.

By Order

(DR. ROOPA R. JOSHI) ADVISOR (ECONOMIC)

<u>Annexure– A</u>

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

- 1. The IUC Regulation issued on 24.1.2003 had initially envisaged the implementation of the IUC regime by 1.4.2003. Service Providers were thus to file tariff plans in consonance with 24th Amendment to TTO in conformity with IUC Regulation as well.
- 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. The Authority's Tariff Order and the Interconnection Usage Charges Regulation were specified as Inter-linked regimes, and therefore should be implemented together.
- 4. In view of the above, the date of implementation for the IUC Regulation is also now 01.05.2003. Consequent to the above, all revenue sharing agreements which are in line with the IUC Regulation will now need to be filed with the Authority latest by 16th May, 2003.