

**TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA**

**15<sup>th</sup> April, 2005**

**PRESS RELEASE No. 34 /2005**

**TRAI's clarification on recent media reports regarding ADC on roaming subscribers**

It appears from the recent media reports that TRAI imposed a fresh surcharge of 30 paise per minute for all National roaming subscribers and Rs. 3.25 per minute for all International roaming subscribers.

In this regard, it is clarified that recent TRAI's decision will impose a 30 paise ADC only on Intra Circle (often referred as local) calls originated by a National Roaming Subscriber (while roaming outside his home network) and terminating in a mobile phone in visited service area. In all other categories of calls like call originated from roaming subscriber and terminating in the fixed line either in visited service area or in different service area, call originated from roaming subscriber and terminating in the Mobile other than the visited service area, there will be no effect since these calls are already having 30 paise per minute ADC.

Moreover, cellular operators are also treating the calls originated by roamers differently than calls originated by normal subscriber and there is adequate margin available with cellular operators to absorb this marginal impact as they are already charging about Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 per minute from National Roaming Subscribers. In the present competitive arena, TRAI is of the opinion that the minor change in case of calls originated from roaming mobile subscribers (while roaming outside their home network) and terminating in mobile subscribers in the visited service area is likely to have no impact on the domestic consumer roaming tariff even though tariffs are under forebearance (with specified ceiling). In any case, TRAI has not increased the ceiling on national roaming tariffs.

As far as the impact of ADC of Rs. 3.25 per minute for International roaming subscribers is concerned, this will have no impact on Domestic consumers. This ADC is applicable only on those International subscribers whose home network is outside India. There is already a exorbitant margin available with cellular operators as they are already charging a very high airtime charges from International roaming subscribers for calls made by them while in India.