

TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

29th November, 2005_

PRESS RELEASE No. 92 /2005

IPLC Tariff Order comes into force from today

TRAI notified the date of implementation of IPLC Tariff Order

TRAI vide its Amendment to Telecommunication Tariff Order (41st Amendment) notified that the International Private Leased Circuit (IPLC) ceiling tariff fixed earlier vide 39th Amendment to Telecommunication Tariff Order dated 8th September, 2005 will take effect from today i.e. 29.11.2005.

The Authority had notified the Telecommunication Tariff (39th Amendment) Order on 8th September 2005 fixing ceiling tariffs for three most commonly used capacities of IPLC i.e. E-1, DS-3 and STM-1 at Rs.13 lakhs, Rs.105 lakhs and Rs.299 lakhs respectively as lease rentals per annum. M/s. Videsh Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (VSNL) had challenged this tariff order in Hon'ble Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) on 12th September 2005 vide Appeal No.10/2005.

The said Appeal came up for hearing before the TDSAT on 14th September 2005. The Tribunal vide its order dated 14.9.05 ordered that the impugned notification be kept in abeyance till a decision in the case is given by the Tribunal and the Authority had notified another Tariff Order vide 40th Amendment to TTO, 1999 to this effect.

The Hon'ble TDSAT after hearing the arguments of both the Parties, **dismissed the Appeal by VSNL** vide its Order dated 28.11.05 and directed that the Notification be brought into effect immediately by

TRAI so that the benefit of the Notification to the consumer is not delayed further. Hence this Order is issued to give effect to Tariff Order for IPLC as specified by TRAI vide 39th Amendment to TTO dated 8.9.2005. The tariffs will take effect from 29.11.2005.