



PRESS RELEASE

COAI Congratulates the Govt. on its long-term holistic development approach for the Telecom Sector

10th October 2011The Cellular Operators Association of India compliments the Hon'ble Minister Shri Kapil Sibal on the release of the draft National Telecom Policy 2011, which was released today for public consultation.

The categorization of the industry as infrastructure will positively add impetus to its growth and help in further expansion of networks thus realizing the Government's vision.

Further, policy promoting availability of additional 300 MHz spectrum for IMT services by the year 2017 and another 200 MHz by 2020; is highly appreciated by the industry and expectations will be set on allocation of the same in affordable and timely manner so to ensure even and optimum distribution of the service nationally.

The aggressive targets for increasing rural tele-density are also welcome initiative and we are hopeful that this will aid the overall development of the country-wide infrastructure, and economic as well as demographic conditions.

Minister Sibal has kept his word on implementation of the policy guidelines as the foremost objective while revenue generation has been considered as secondary. We are hopeful that the policy will also take into consideration reduction in regulatory cost which is amongst the highest in the world.

COAI is hopeful that the policy will ensure a level playing field for the all the stakeholders by increasing affordability of services to the consumers while at the same time, sustaining the financial health of the sector. COAI and its members will look forward to working with the Govt. on the implementation of the policy as and when it is finalized.

About COAI:

The Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) was constituted in 1995 as a registered, non-profit, non-governmental society dedicated to the advancement of communication, particularly modern communication through Cellular Mobile Telephone Services. With a vision to establish and sustain a world-class cellular infrastructure and facilitate affordable mobile communication services in India, COAI's main objectives are to protect the common & collective interests of its members. (<http://www.coai.in/>).