

Telecom regulation termed best in region

By Our Reporter

ISLAMABAD, June 15: Pakistan has a better regulatory environment for mobile telecommunications than India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and the Philippines.

This has been revealed in the results of the first Telecom Regulatory Environment (TRE) survey conducted in five Asian countries, including Pakistan, by Sri Lanka-based independent telecom research organisation LIRNEasia.

The results were presented at a workshop on "Assessment of Telecom Regulatory Environments" organised by the Pakistan Telecommunications Authority (PTA) here on Thursday.

The workshop was inaugurated by PTA Chairman Maj Gen (Retd) Shahzada Alam Malik and was attended by senior executives of the telecom sector, regulators and academics.

Speaking on the occasion, the PTA chairman said independent researchers like GSMA and LIRNEasia were a few names that motivated the regulators to perform even better every time.

"The survey will give us insight on our performance reflected in different areas of tele-use in the country," he said. The PTA had provided level playing field to all operators during the course of liberalisation, he claimed.

"Now, there is competition in every telecom service segment in Pakistan, including fixed telephony, mobile cellular, payphones, internet and other value-added services."

He said the total teledensity reached 43.44 per cent in May, which was just 12 per cent in June 2005. On average approximately 2.3 million subscribers are being added on cellular mo-

bile networks each month in Pakistan, which is an exemplary growth in relation to the population of any country in the Asian region.

He said that mobile penetration reached 37.6 per cent at the end of April 2007. Total mobile subscribers at the end of May 2007 crossed the 60.8 million mark. He said that during the first three quarters of 2006-07, telecom sector attracted US\$ 1.4 billion foreign direct investment (FDI).

The results of the 2006 TRE survey, carried out in India, Indonesia, Pakistan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka as part of a multi-component study, provide a useful diagnostic tool for assessing regulatory efficacy. Overall, Pakistan scored particularly well on market entry and on the management of scarce resources (spectrum) in mobile sector.

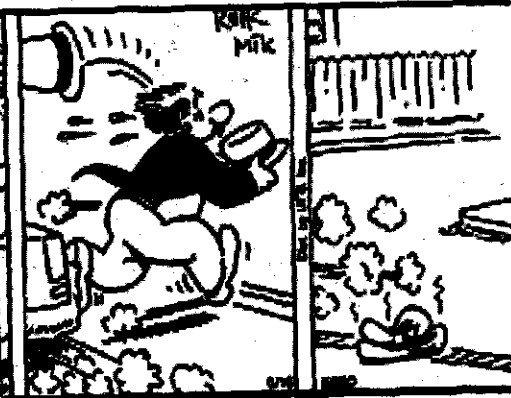
Pak ahead of India in teleco

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan has a better regulatory environment for mobile telecommunication than India, says a survey conducted in five Asian countries including Pakistan by Sri Lanka-based research organisation LIRNEasia. These results were presented today at a workshop on 'Assessment of Telecom Regulatory Environments' organised by Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) in a local hotel. The workshop was inaugurated by Chairman PTA Maj Gen (Retd) Aslam Malik and was attended by senior officials of PTA and LIRNEasia.

Speaking on the occasion, the Chairman PTA said that independent researchers like GMSA and LIRNEasia are few names that motivate the regulators to perform even better every time. The survey that has been conducted by LIRNEasia will give us insight on our performance reflected in different areas of telecom in the country. He said that PTA has provided level playing field to all operators during the course of liberalisation. Now, there is competition in every telecom service segment in Pakistan, including fixed telephony, mobile cellular, payphones, internet and other value added services. He said that the total revenue reached 11.4 per cent

in May 2007, which was just 12 per cent in June 2005. On average approximately 2.3 million subscribers are being added on cellular mobile networks each month in Pakistan, which is an exemplary growth in relation to the population of any country in Asian region. He said that mobile penetration reached 37.6 per cent at the end of April 2007. Total total mobile subscribers at the end of May 2007 crossed the 60.9 million mark. He said that during the first three quarters of 2006-2007, telecom sector attracted US\$ 1.4b FDI. Telecom sector of Pakistan is growing at an astounding pace and surpassing all forecasts over the last few years he added. The results of the 2006-2007 survey carried out in India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Philippines

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First South Asian TRE survey finds Pakistan performing better

ISLAMABAD—The first South Asian Telecom Regulatory Environment (TRE) Survey reveals that Pakistan is performing better than five other countries including India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka and Philippines, in regulatory environment for mobile communication.

The survey was conducted by Sri Lanka based independent telecom research organization LIRNEasia. The results of the survey were revealed in a "Workshop on Assessment of Telecom Regulatory Environments" organized by Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) here.

Addressing the workshop Chairman PTA Maj. Gen. (Retd) Shahzada Ajam Malik said independent researchers like GSMA Sc and LIRNEasia are few names that motivated the regulators to perform better.

He said PTA has provided level playing field to all the operators during the course of liberalization. "Now, there is competition in every telecom service segment including fixed telephony, mobile cellular, Payphones, Internet and other value added services," he added.

He said that the total teledensity reached 43.44 percent in May 2007. On average approximately 2.3 million subscribers are being added on cellular mobile networks each month in the country, he added.

He said that mobile penetration reached 37.6 percent at the end of April 2007. Total mobile subscribers at the end of May 2007 crossed the 60.8 million mark. He said that during the first three quarters of 2006-07, telecom sector attracted \$1.4 billion FDI. The results of the 2006 TRE

survey were carried out in India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Philippines and Sri Lanka as part of a multi-component study, says a press release.

Commenting on the results of the survey, LIRNEasia Executive Director and former Director General of Telecommunications of Sri Lanka, Professor Rohan Samarajiva said "Pakistan, which overtook both India and Sri Lanka in basic telecom measures within the last two years, demonstrates that correct "big-bang" reforms." He said it is transparent and broad market entry, as well as privatization, followed by credible, effective implementation by a motivated regulatory agency. On this occasion, presentations were made by Executive Director LIRNE Asia Rohan Samra Jiva, Joseph Wilson from LUMS, Harsha de Silva and Tariq Sultan PG (CA) PTA.—APP

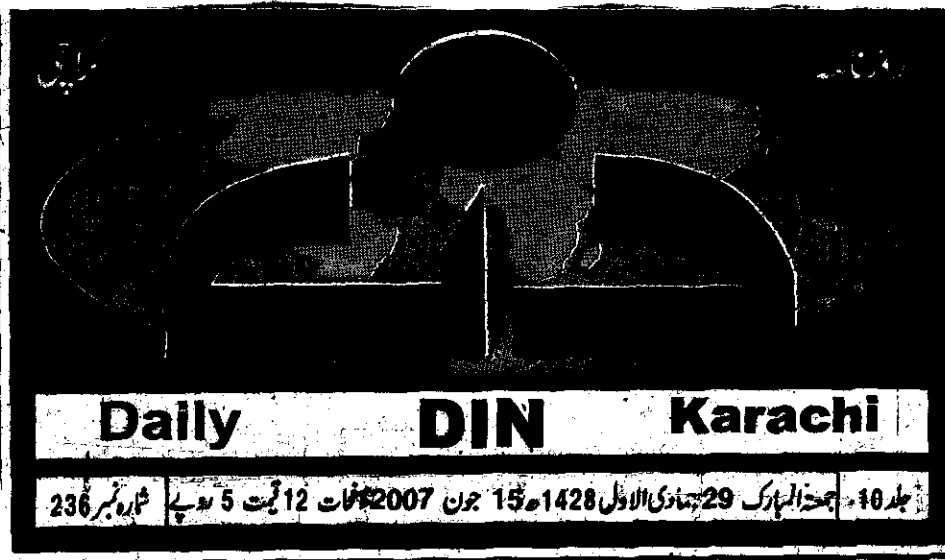
ٹیلی کام ریگولیٹری انوائٹمنٹ میں پاکستان کو خطے کے دیگر ممالک پر سبقت

اسلام آباد (پی ٹی آئی) پاکستان ٹیلی کام ریگولیٹری انوائٹمنٹ میں خطے کے دیگر ممالک اور دبئی، سری لنکا اور فلپائن نے ٹیلی کام کے لیے پاکستان میں موبائل ٹیلی کمیونیکیشن کیلئے ریگولیٹری ماحول بنانا شروع کیا ہے۔ اس بات کا اعلان ٹیلی کام سے متعلق تحقیق کرنے والے آڈیٹرز نے اپنے رپورٹ کی جانب سے منعقدہ پانچ ایشین ممالک بشمول پاکستان میں پہلے ٹیلی کام ریگولیٹری انوائٹمنٹ (ٹی آرای) سروے کے نتائج میں کیا گیا۔

اعلانہ گزشتہ روز ایک مقامی ہوٹل میں پاکستان ٹیلی کمیونیکیشن اتھارٹی (ٹی آئی اے) کی جانب سے منعقدہ ایک ورکشاپ میں کیا گیا جس کا عنوان تھا "ٹیلی کام ریگولیٹری ماحول کا جائزہ"۔ ورکشاپ کا افتتاح چیئر مین پی ٹی آئی اے میجر جنرل (ریٹائرڈ) شہزاد عالم ملک نے کیا جس میں ٹیلی کام

سیکرٹری جنرل ایگزیکٹو پی ٹی آئی اے انجینئر اور دیگر افسرانے شرکت کی اس موقع پر خطاب کرتے ہوئے چیئر مین پی ٹی آئی اے نے کہا کہ اس رپورٹ نے ایشیاء اور جی ایس ایم اے خود عملداری تحقیقی آڈیٹرز کو متاثر ایسے نام ہیں جو ریگولیٹری کارکردگی کو پہلے سے بہتر بنانے میں ان کی حوصلہ افزائی کرتے ہیں۔

ان رپورٹوں کی جانب سے منعقدہ سروے سے ہمیں ملک کے اندر ٹیلی کمیونیکیشن کے استعمال کے مختلف شعبوں میں تیزی کارکردگی کا پتہ چلا ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ ٹیلی کمیونیکیشن کے دوران ہم نے تمام آپس میں مقابلہ کے مساوی مواقع فراہم کرنے اور پاکستان میں ٹیلی کام کے ہر شعبہ بشمول ٹیلی فون موبائل سیلر سروس فونز انٹرنیٹ اور دیگر ویڈیو ایڈڈ سروسز کے سلسلے میں مقابلے کا رجحان پایا جاتا ہے۔



اسلام آباد، جی ٹی اے کے چیئرمین جنرل اوہ عالم نیلی کام کے حوالے سے مشفقہ سیمینار سے خطاب کر رہے ہیں

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اسلام آباد: چیئر مین بی ٹی اے شہزادہ عالم لوکل ہوٹل میں منعقدہ ورکشاپ سے خطاب کر رہے ہیں۔