

BIO-DATA OF SHRI M.S.VERMA, CHAIRMAN, TRAI

Shri M.S.Verma who holds a master's degree in Arts and is a certified Associate of the Indian Institute of Banking, joined TRAI as its Chairman on 23rd March, 2000. A career banker, Shri Verma retired after 40 years of service with the State Bank of India, the country's largest commercial bank, as its Chairman. Widely travelled Shri Verma has worked within as well as outside the country and is highly experienced in different facets of banking encompassing commercial banking at national and international levels, development banking, investment banking and asset management. After retirement from the State Bank of India, Shri Verma was appointed Honorary Advisor to the Reserve Bank of India, the country's central bank and the regulatory Authority for banks and financial institutions. He worked in that capacity for nearly a year and half before joining the TRAI.

Shri Verma's tenure as the Chairman, TRAI, has been marked by the TRAI making several recommendations to the Government in regard to the different sub-sectors of the Telecom sector which are of far reaching consequences and have already changed and are expected to change in future the shape of telecommunications industry in the country. These recommendations have led to further opening up of the the Indian Telecommunications market, accelerated competition, provided a basis for addressing the Universal Service Obligations, and prepared the grounds for enhanced competition under a converged environment. Under his leadership, the TRAI has adopted a firm, forward-looking approach of providing level playing field for all operators, easy and affordable choices to the consumers, and transparency in decision making, taking into account the views of all stakeholders. Through his participation in international bodies such as International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and South Asia Forum for Infrastructure Regulation (SAFIR), Shri Verma has played a key role in developing multilateral and international mechanisms to empower national regulators address the policy matters specific to their countries better.

Shri Verma is also Chairman (Acting) of South Asia Forum for Infrastructure Regulation (SAFIR), Chairman, Primary Markets Advisory Committee of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Chairman (Non-Executive) of the Board of Directors of I.D.B.I. Bank, a private sector

bank, promoted by I.D.B.I. and S.I.D.B.I. He is also a Member of the Governing Council of National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER), New Delhi and a Member of the Academic Council of Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi.

Letter of Transmittal

**To the Central Government through Hon'ble Minister for
Parliamentary Affairs, Communications and Information
Technology**

It is my privilege to forward the 4th Annual Report of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India to be laid before each House of Parliament. The report is for the year 2000-2001. Included in this report is the information required to be forwarded to the Central Government under the provisions of the TRAI Act, 1997.

The report contains an overview of the Telecom Sector and a summary of the key initiatives of TRAI on the regulatory issues with specific reference to the functions mandated to it under the Act. The Audited Annual Statement of Accounts of TRAI has also been included in the Report.

**(M.S.VERMA)
CHAIRPERSON**

July 11, 2002

