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FOR INFORMATION

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TITLE: Telecommunications/ICT Statistics collection and dissemination in Pakistan

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**TELECOMMUNICATIONS/ICT STATISTICS**  
**COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION IN PAKISTAN**

The Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) sector is considered as an engine for overall socio-economic development of countries all over the world. Pakistan has launched a fast-track process for the development of ICT Sector, which constitutes an important item of agenda and vision of the government. After successful completion of the liberalization and deregulation process which commenced in 2004, the government has adopted prudent and transparent policies which have created healthy competition, investment friendly environment and greater employment. In the last five years, telecom sector has reached new heights.

- Combined teledensity figure has already reached about 48.78% from just 4.31% in 2002-03.
- Fixed line subscribers have increased from 3.2 million to 5 million. Wireless Local Loop customers are 2 million. Therefore, total fixed line base of 7 million users.
- Cellular Mobile Subscribers have increased from 1.7 million to 71.5 million today.
- Internet users have increased from 1 million to 3.5 million

The Telecommunications/ICT Statistics is a gauge to monitor the progress of the sector. Government of Pakistan has entrusted Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), the regulator, to enforce and monitor the implementation of telecommunication policies as well as the growth of the telecommunication/ICT Industry. In order to keep itself update of the rapidly changing scenarios in the telecommunication sector of the country, the Government collects statistics from all the operators in Pakistan and analyze the data to make it useful in regulating the sector. The telecommunication

indicators are available on the official website of Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (<http://www.pta.gov.pk>)

On behalf of the Government of Pakistan, Pakistan Telecommunication Authority is responsible for maintaining telecommunication statistics data and disseminating to various stakeholders of the industry as well as to other government departments. A comprehensive data collection mechanism has been developed. A focal point has been appointed at the regulator with the responsibility of collection and dissemination of statistical information internally as well as externally. The data for some of the variables, like the number of cellular mobile subscribers, is collected on monthly basis. However, detailed statistics from all the operators are collected on quarterly basis. A questionnaire has been prepared for collection of data for each telecom service. The data is collected in terms of the following three major components.

- 1). Network Information
- 2). Financial Information
- 3). Traffic of Each Segment

Network information include information like total number of subscribers, subscribers distribution by province, subscriber distribution on rural and urban basis, Public Call Offices (PCOs), and other network indicators depicting quarterly growth in network.

Financial information depicts the financial health of the company. In order to keep abreast of the financial health of the sector, financial information from all the operators is collected on quarterly basis. This information includes information like revenues, expenditures, profits and earnings per share, etc. In addition to that, PTA also collects information regarding total revenue generated by the telecom sector from other government departments.

Traffic information from various segments is also collected from all the operators. This includes the traffic, national as well as international, generated by all operators. This is necessary to analyze the patterns of domestic and international traffic.

The Ministry of Information Technology and PTA uses this information for internal as well as external usage. These indicators are published in the Quarterly and Annual Reports of PTA, and provide a snap shot of the telecommunication sector status of Pakistan vis-à-vis rest of the world. It provides detail of developments by different services of the sector. In addition to that, MoIT and PTA also use this data for their respective analysis.

This statistical information is also provided to various national and international organizations. Country telecom statistics are provided to ITU regularly for the development of telecom indicators at international level. These statistics are also highlighted in the yearly Economic Survey of Pakistan. Economic Survey of Pakistan is the year reference book of Government of Pakistan on economy. These statistics are also used by the Cabinet Division and Federal Bureau of Statistics in their year books for the calculation of GDP of the country.

Some of the key information collected for this purpose are listed in Annexure – A.

- 1). **Cellular Mobile / Wireless Local Loop Operators:**
  - a). **General Information (Province wise Distributed & Total):**
    1. Total Subscribers (End Quarter)
    2. Postpaid
      - i). Active
      - ii). Inactive
    3. Prepaid
      - i). Active
      - ii). Inactive
    4. No. of Mobile PCOs (End Quarter)
    5. Total Employees (End Quarter)
    6. Total Franchises (End Quarter)
  - b). **Network Information (Province wise Distributed & Total):**
    1. No. of Cities/Towns/Villages covered (End Quarter)
    2. No. of Tehsil Headquarters Covered (End Quarter)
    3. No. of Cell Sites
    4. Coverage of Network (Percentage Land Area) (End Quarter)
    5. Population Covered (Percentage) (End Quarter)
  - c). **Financial Information:**
    1. Average bill per customer per quarter
    2. Total Investment (During Quarter)
    3. Capex on network (During Quarter)
    4. Total Revenues (During Quarter)
    5. Total Assets (End Quarter)
    6. Total Fixed Assets (End Quarter)
    7. Total Liabilities (End Quarter)
    8. Total Inter Operator Payments (During Quarter)
    9. Shareholders Equity (End Quarter)
    10. Total Taxes Paid (During Quarter)
    11. Profit After Tax (During Quarter)
    12. Regulatory Fee/Charges paid to PTA (During Quarter)
  - d). **Traffic Information:**
    1. Number of SMS Sent (Million)
      - i). Total
      - ii). Local
      - iii). NWD
    2. National Outgoing Traffic to Fixed Networks (Minutes)
      - i). Total
      - ii). Local
      - iii). NWD
    3. National Outgoing Traffic to Mobile Networks (Minutes)

- i). Total
  - ii). Local
  - iii). NWD
- 4. International Outgoing Traffic (Minutes)
  - i). Total
  - ii). LDI – A, LDI – B, LDI – C, etc.
- 5. International Incoming Traffic (Minutes)
  - i). Total
  - ii). LDI – A, LDI – B, LDI – C, etc.
- 6. Amount Billed/Received for APC (Minutes) (WLL Operators)
  - i). Total
  - ii). LDI – A, LDI – B, LDI – C, etc.

**2). Long – Distance International (LDI) Operators:**

**a). Network Information:**

- 1. Sale of Total Cards (During Quarter)
- 2. Total Employees (End Quarter)
- 3. Total Number of PCOs (End Quarter)
- 4. Total Number of Gateways (End Quarter)
- 5. Total Number of Points of Presence (PoPs) (End Quarter)
- 6. Total Circuit Capacity EIs in MB (End Quarter)

**b). Financial Information:**

- 1. Total Investment (During Quarter)
- 2. Capex on network (During Quarter)
- 3. Total Revenues (During Quarter)
- 4. Total Assets (End Quarter)
- 5. Total Liabilities (End Quarter)
- 6. Total Inter Operator Payments (During Quarter)
- 7. Shareholders Equity (End Quarter)
- 8. Total Taxes Paid (During Quarter)
- 9. Profit After Tax (During Quarter)
- 10. Regulatory Fee/Charges paid to PTA (During Quarter)

**c). Traffic Information:**

- 1. Traffic Originated by (Month 1, Month 2, Month 3 – Total)
  - i). Operator – A
  - ii). Operator – B, etc

**3). Local Loop (LL) Operators:**

**a). General Information (Province wise with Urban/Rural Distribution & Total):**

- 1. Number of Mainlines Installed (ALI) (End Quarter)
- 2. Number of Mainlines in Service (ALIS) (End Quarter)
- 3. Total Pending Demands (End Quarter)

4. Total Number of Employees (End Quarter)
- b). Network Information:**
1. Percent coverage of network (land area) (End Quarter)
  2. Percent coverage of network (population) (End Quarter)
  3. Number of Cities/Towns covered (End Quarter)
  4. Number of villages covered (End Quarter)
  5. Number and Location of Points of Interconnection (POI) Established
  6. Transmission facilities deployed and capacity
- c). Financial Information:**
1. Total Investment (During Quarter)
  2. Capex on network (During Quarter)
  3. Total Revenues (During Quarter)
  4. Total Assets (End Quarter)
  5. Total Liabilities (End Quarter)
  6. Total Inter Operator Payments (During Quarter)
  7. Shareholders Equity (End Quarter)
  8. Total Taxes Paid (During Quarter)
  9. Profit After Tax (During Quarter)
  10. Regulatory Fee/Charges paid to PTA (During Quarter)
- d). Traffic Information:**
1. National Outgoing Traffic to Fixed Networks (Minutes)
    - i). Total
    - ii). Local
    - iii). NWD
  2. National Outgoing Traffic to Mobile Networks (Minutes)
    - i). Total
    - ii). Local
    - iii). NWD
  3. International Outgoing Traffic (Minutes)
    - i). Total
    - ii). LDI – A, LDI – B, LDI – C, etc.
  4. International Incoming Traffic (Minutes)
    - i). Total
    - ii). LDI – A, LDI – B, LDI – C, etc.
  5. Amount Billed/Received for APC (Minutes) (WLL Operators)
    - i). Total
    - ii). LDI – A, LDI – B, LDI – C, etc.