

POLICY IMPLICATIONS OF THE DOI ANALYSIS FOR INDIA

PAYAL MALIK payal.malik@gmail.com

DIGITAL OPPORTUNITY FORUM, 2006 SEOUL, REPUBLIC OF KOREA

September 1, 2006

OUTLINE

- ☐ Provide a brief overview of the policy and regulatory environment influencing DOI along with the major lessons
- ☐ Identify the policy and regulatory constraints in achieving a higher DOI by analysing the sub-indices of DOI
- ☐ Provide appropriate policy solutions to address these constraints
- ☐ Discuss the importance of extending DOI measurement to the different States of India

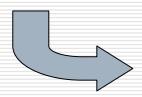


Phases of Policy Reforms: The Indian Story at a Glance

First phase of reform

Manufacturing Sector;

Value Added Services



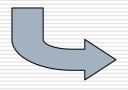
Second phase of reform

NTP 1994

Duopoly /
Oligopoly in
Services sector;

Bidding for Licenses;

Independent regulator



Third phase of reform

NTP 1999

Open competition;

Revenue sharing

Separation of operator and policy maker;

Privatisation of incumbent

CPP

USO fund

Converged framework

Unified Licensing Regime

 Unified Access Licensing Regime already implemented

Converged Ministry of ICT;

Common regulator for telecom and broadcast



Regulatory Strategies for increasing Competition

- ☐ TRAI facilitated huge reduction in forborne tariffs in 2003-05
- ☐ Growth picked up substantially after 2003 when the mobile tariffs started approaching fixed tariffs
- Allowing handsets sales in installments
- Mobile growth in 2003-04 and 2004-05 > average mobile growth in earlier years X 12
- □ Teledensity 2 percent or so in 1999 to around 12.80 percent in 2006
- Mobile sector grew at 72.62 percent in comparison to an 8.64 percent growth of fixed sector between March 2005-06
- □ India was one of the fastest growing countries in its DOI position and the major contributor to this was a healthy DOI opportunity score of 0.80



Improving India's DOI: Impact of Policy Measures

Mobile growth and effective charge per minute (in Rupees)



Note: NTP '99 = India's New Telecom Policy 1999.

WLL = Wireless Local Loop

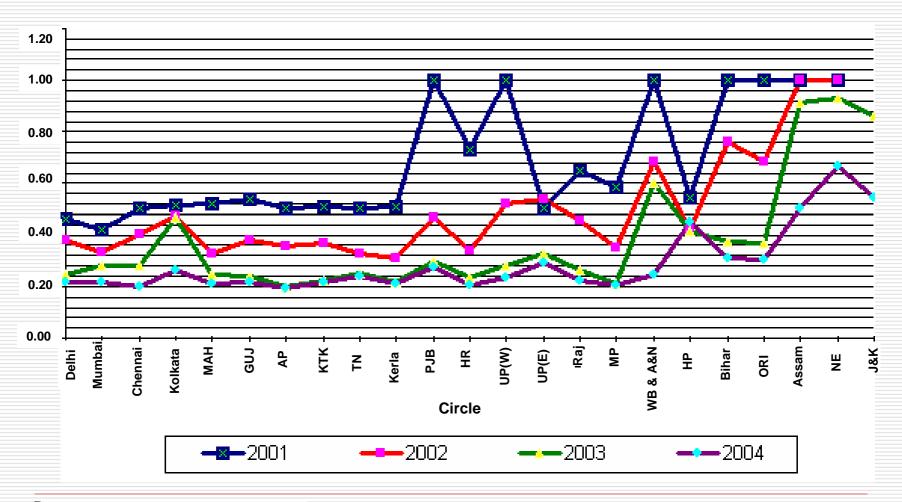
CP P = Calling Party Pays

ADC = Access Deficit Charge

Source: Telecommunications Regulatory Authority of India.



Level of Competition





India's DOI: Analysis of the Micro picture

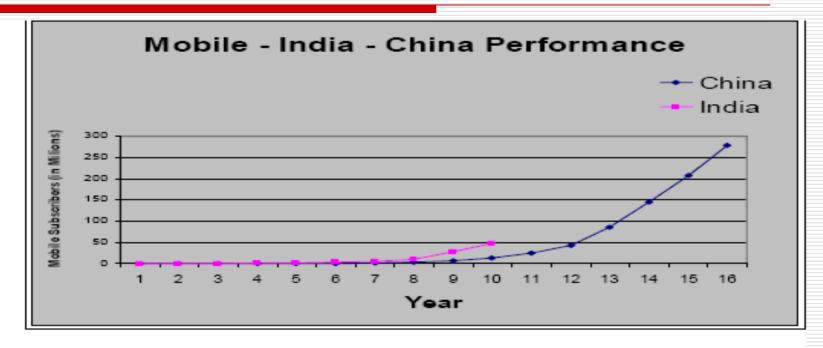
DOI Indicator	DOI Score	Disaggregated DOI			
Percentage of population covered by mobile cellular	0.600				
telephony					
Mobile cellular tariffs as a percentage of per capita	0.935				
income		Opportunity Index: 0.801;			
Internet access tariffs as a percentage of per capita	0.869	Rank: 110			
income		Infrastructure: 0.044; Rank:			
Proportion of households with a fixed line telephone	0.103	139			
Mobile cellular subscribers per 100 inhabitants	0.045	Utilization: 0.038; Rank:93			
Proportion of households with Internet access at	0.023	DOI: 0.294; Rank: 119.000			
home	0.023	Mopp: 0.768 Minfre: 0.022 Mabile DOL			
Mobile Internet subscribers per 100 inhabitants	0.000	Minfra: 0.023 Mobile DOI:			
Proportion of households with a computer	0.048	0.263; Rank: 124 Mutilization: 0.000			
Internet users per 100 inhabitants	0.023	Fopp: 0.869			
Ratio of Fixed Broadband Internet subscribers to	0.090	Finfra: 0.058 Fixed DOI:			
total Internet subscribers		0.328; Rank: 112			
Ratio of Mobile Broadband Internet subscribers to	0.000	Futilization: 0.056			
mobile Internet subscribers					



India's DOI: Analysis of the Micro picture

- ☐ Far below its potential in terms of its DOI ranking
- ☐ Successful in improving the Opportunity sub-index
- □ Policy and regulatory constraints impinging upon Infrastructure component of DOI (139th position)
- ☐ Similarly, utilisation component can respond to positive policy initiatives
- ☐ China, Brazil and Indonesia are in the medium-DOI countries, India is conspicuous by its absence





	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
China	0.003	0.01	0.02	0.1	0.2	0.6	1.6	3.6	6.8	13.2	24	43	85	145	207	279
India	0.03	0.22	0.8	1.1	1.6	3.1	5.5	10.5	28	48						

Introduction of Mobiles:

China year 1: 1988 Year 17: 2004

Note: Values are for end of year (December)

India year 1 : 1995 Year 10 : 2004

➤So far, on any year to year basis, after late start of mobiles in India, we have done better than China

>We must continue - but corrective measures required for phase III (2005-07)

India's DOI: Analysis of the Micro picture

(Population Coverage ~ 20-25%)

	By area	Population Coverage			
Towns	~2000 out of 5100	~250 Million			
Rural areas	Negligible	Negligible			

Proposed Network Coverage by 2006; operators plan (Population Coverage 75%)

	By area	Population Coverage		
Towns	~4900 out of 5100	~300 Million		
Rural areas	~350,000 out of 607,000 villages	~450 Million		



Universal Service Policy and DOI

- ☐ Low penetration of cellular mobile services in rural areas due to the inadequate BTS infrastructure
- ☐ Current USO: covers individual phones and not infrastructure expansion
- ☐ Improved use of existing Assets: 6,70,000 route kms OFC network. Connecting 30,000 exchanges out of which 27,000 in rural area
- ☐ Effective, non-discriminatory access regime for sharing of backbone
- ☐ South Korea has achieved extraordinary results through public funding of backbone networks
- ☐ Sustainability of universal service: remove regulatory barriers to competition

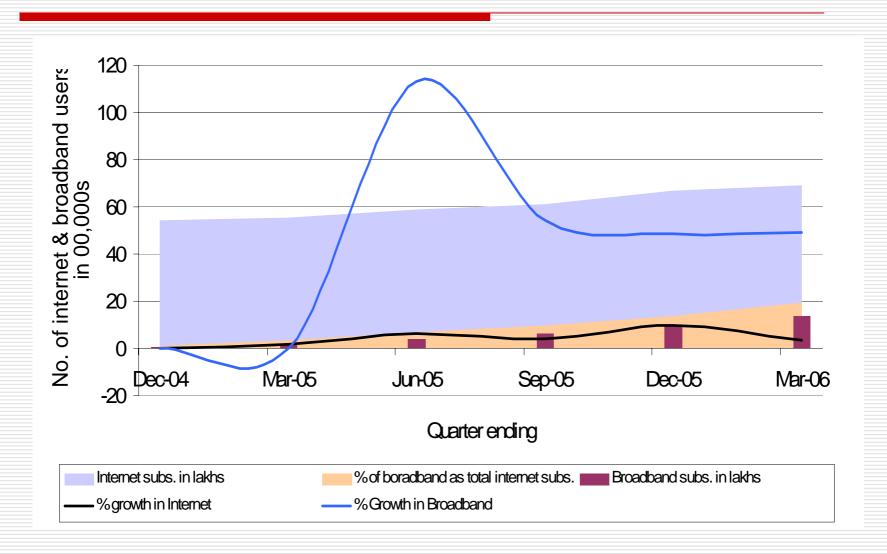


Broadband Policy and DOI

- ☐ Current broadband penetration 1.55 million
- ☐ Target 3 million by 2005 as set up in Broadband Policy 2004
- □ Strong position of the incumbent: competition limited
- ☐ Most of the current broadband connections in large cities where private BSOs and cable operators are also providing service with their own local loop
- Penetration is poor in smaller cities and outside urban areas where only government operators are providing service.
- ☐ Major policy stumbling block: Local loop unbundling (LLU)
- LLU as a regulatory intervention is an instrument to discipline market power, reduce monopolistic bottlenecks and possibly provide way for innovative service offerings such as broadband connectivity
- ☐ IPLC and DLC prices



Slowing Growth Rates Broadband





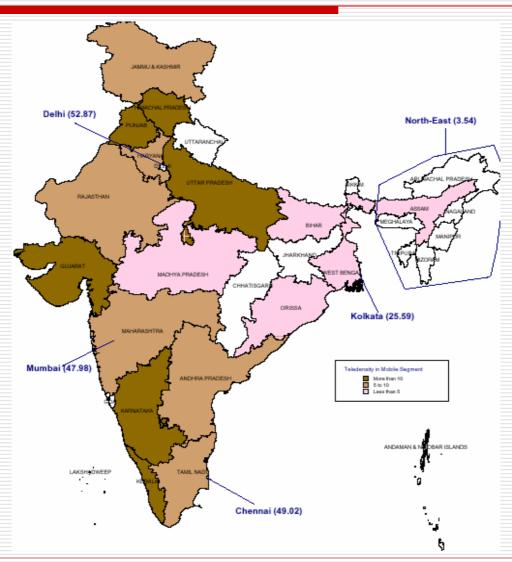
Extending DOI to the States

- ☐ Demand side, represented by the socio-economic status of households, plays an important role in diffusion of ICT
- ☐ Garbacz and Thompson, Perl, Crandall and Waverman, Biancini and Malik
- ☐ Gauged the impact of literacy rate, Access to electricity, NSDP
- High Correlation co-efficient between teledensity and these variables
- ☐ Per-capita income or the demand side in general is extremely important in e-readiness.

	E-readiness	Environment Score	Readiness Score	Usage Score
Per-Capita Net State Domestic Product	0.21	0.21	0.15	0.89
Ereadiness Score	1.00	0.95	0.90	0.89



State-wise differences in mobile teledensity



Conclusions

- DOI an effective policy tool not only to see which policies worked and which failed but also provide a guide for the future policy and regulation
- □ Regulator's perseverance in promoting mobile technology an important factor in explaining India being a major gainer in its DOI score between 2001 and 2005
- ☐ To catch up with its neighbors like China, it has to constantly improve its mobile coverage and mobile teledensity



Conclusions

- ☐ Ratio of fixed Broadband internet to all internet users can be a major driver of the DOI utilization index
- ☐ Replicate the urban competitive model in the small towns and the rural areas with a less distortionary and more enabling Universal Service Policy
- ☐ Importance of coordination between the various government agencies and the private sector in order to collect robust data for the DOI analysis



Thank you

www.lirneasia.net

Payal Malik. payal.malik@gmail.com

