



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

INTERNATIONAL LONG DISTANCE TELECOMMUNICATION
SERVICES (ILDTS) POLICY-2010

Ministry of Posts and telecommunications
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Table of contents

Sl.no.	Items	Page no.
1.	Abbreviations	3
2.	Preface	4
3.	Policy Objectives	6
4.	Definitions	7
5.	Concept	11
6.	Voice Services	11
7.	International Gateways (IGW)	12
8.	Interconnection Exchange (ICX)	13
9.	Data Services	14
10.	International Internet Gateway (IIG)	15
11.	National Internet Exchange (NIX)	16
12.	IP Telephony, VOIP Call Termination and IP-TV	17
13.	International Long Distance Cable (ILDC)	18
14.	Licenses	18
15.	Eligibility of Licenses	19
16.	Utilization of facilities	19
17.	Promotion of Next Generation Network (NGN) Technology	20
18.	Promotion of Business Process Outsourcing (BPO)	20
19.	Quality of Services (QoS)	21
20.	Tariff structure / Revenue sharing	21
21.	Monitoring and National Security	21
22.	Application of other Policies, etc. relating to Telecommunications	22
23.	Scope of Interpretation of Policy	22
24.	Conclusion	23
25.	Schematic diagram of Network Topology	24

ABBREVIATIONS

01. ANS - Access Network Service.
02. BPO - Business Process Outsourcing.
03. BTRC - Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission.
04. BTTB - Bangladesh Telegraph & Telephone Board.
05. CDR - Call Detail Records.
06. ENUM - Telephone Number Mapping.
07. ICX - Interconnection Exchange.
08. ILDTS - International Long Distance Telecommunication Services.
09. IP - Internet Protocol.
10. IPLC - International Private Leased Circuit.
11. IP-TV - Internet Protocol Television.
12. IPO - Initial Public Offer.
13. ISP - Internet Service Provider.
14. IGW - International Gateways.
15. IX - Internet Exchange.
16. LI - Lawful Interception.
17. NGN - Next Generation Network.
18. POP - Point of Presence.
19. PLMN - Public Land Mobile Network.
20. PSTN - Public Switched Telephone Network.
21. QoS - Quality of Service.
22. VoIP - Voice over Internet Protocol.
23. VSAT - Very Small Aperture Terminal.

1. PREFACE

- 1.1 Technological advancement in the field of telecommunication has brought in new generation technologies in the International Long Distance Telecommunication Services (ILDTS). Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) is one of such very popular technologies, which is being used universally for inexpensive voice communications through Internet all over the world. The VoIP technology succeeded in proliferating popularity due to its low cost and compatibility with a host of different Internet Protocol (IP) based networks. VoIP has been the catchphrase in Bangladesh for quite some time. The issue has not been addressed in National Telecommunications Policy, 1998 and in Bangladesh Telecommunication Act, 2001 because the rapid emergence of the technology and its success could not be conceived at that time. There have been numerous studies, debates and discussions over opening of VoIP but unfortunately the adaptation of new technology was not taken in due course. Amidst confusion and delays by the implementing authorities, clandestine operation of VoIP services mushroomed, denying huge revenue opportunities for the government from this sector.
- 1.2 When an arbitrage opportunity has been identified and a technological means of exploiting it exists, it is difficult to restrict such activities. VoIP-enabled telephony services for call termination and origination has grown uncontrolled in absence of proper policy framework and implementation. In the process, huge revenue was siphoned off the country and the government was deprived of its due share. Because of the detrimental effects of the institutionalization of these illegal actions and the rapid increase of demand from expatriate callers, local business entrepreneurs and multinational companies doing business in Bangladesh, the Government took the first step in 2007 to address the issue by presenting “ILDTS Policy 2007”.

- 1.3 The Government has the vision to materialize *Digital Bangladesh* to ensure socio-economic changes in the society by introducing new technologies and by creating and facilitating an environment to connect the unconnected to the global network for their economic and social benefits. The Government is also determined to make sure that information and communication technology and services are available at an affordable price to everyone in general and to rural areas in particular.
- 1.4 The 2007 policy did not, however, fully succeeded in achieving its laudable objectives. Illegal bypass of the international termination arrangements continued, even in the context of greatly increased legal traffic, depriving the government of legitimate revenues from the traffic itself and from taxes levied from the licensed operators, continuing an unhealthy environment of lawlessness and generation of black money, and endangering the legitimate interests of law-abiding operators. The 2007 policy framework also fell short on delivering low-cost international calls and of choice in terms of price-quality configurations to residential and business customers. Despite active efforts to encourage job creation for Bangladesh youth and export promotion through business process outsourcing services (BPO), the results were meager. Therefore, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, acting under the power set out in section 33 of the Bangladesh Telecommunications Act, No. 18 of 2001, carefully analyzed the experience of implementing the 2007 policy framework and its problems and hereby presents a revised ILDTS Policy Framework 2010 designed in consultation with BTRC to better achieve its objectives.
- 1.5 In the revised policy framework, the objectives are unchanged. However, the means by which the objectives are to be achieved have been modified to attain better coordination and to create a team-spirit among the stakeholders, users and the regulators by liberalizing the

existing policy that support law abiding behavior and induce energetic support for the government efforts to root out illegal activities while also yielding the desired good outcomes for the economy and users of international telecommunications services. For example, the number of operators for international voice and data termination in the 2007 ILDTS framework was limited while the new policy aligns to unlock a new horizon liberalizing the number of operators as per requirements of our telecommunication sector.

- 1.6 The new ILDTS Policy will help to transform the idea of Digital Bangladesh into a reality. The Government will follow this policy as a part of its pledges to the people to ensure easy access to information and technology as one of the means to achieve economic emancipation.

2. POLICY OBJECTIVES

- 2.1 Uphold subscribers' interest. Provide low cost international telecommunication services using modern technologies.
- 2.2 Encourage local businesses and enterprises in telecommunication sector.
- 2.3 Ensure healthy and motivating revenue to all stakeholders, service providers and other related entities.
- 2.4 Stop foreign currency siphoning and money laundering.
- 2.5 Ensure proper revenue earning of the government.
- 2.6 Ensure national security and protect national interest.
- 2.7 Encourage Next Generation Network (NGN) Technology.
- 2.8 Facilitate new employment opportunity.

3. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

- 3.1 Unless the context otherwise requires, the different terms and expressions used in the policy shall have the following meaning assigned to them. The headings are given for the sake of convenience in the policy and do not carry any special meaning.
- 3.2 “**Access Network Service Operators**” means the PSTN, Cellular, Cable Service Provider and ISPs who have a direct access with the subscribers.
- 3.3 “**Business Process Outsourcing (BPO)**” refers to the increasing trend of relocating entire business function and processes to either self-owned or third party service providers, typically in a low cost location. The most common examples of BPO are Call Centers, Human Resources Management, ‘Back office’ banking, Accounting, Insurance claim, Tax, Payroll and other business data process outsourcing.
- 3.4 “**Call Detail Records (CDR)**” is generated by all types of switches and HUB in the form of binary or any other form of file that includes all types of records of outgoing and incoming calls such as caller and called party number, origin and destination of calls, call duration, calling time, location, etc.
- 3.5 “**Economy International Subscriber Dialing (EISD)**” is an international telephone call dialed by the caller rather than going via an operator and which is advertised and understood to be of lower quality than a clear-channel call.
- 3.6 “**IP Telephony**” means allowing voice traffic to travel over data networks using Internet Protocol. Voice signals are broken down into packets, which go over the Internet or privately owned data networks where Internet Protocol is used.

- 3.7 “**IP TSP**” means Internet Protocol Telephone Service Provider for providing IP telephony.
- 3.8 “**Interconnection Exchange (ICX)**” refers to switching system, which provides interconnections among the existing/future telecommunication network of the operators and allows monitoring, Lawful Interception (LI) facilities and roaming number portability.
- 3.9 “**Internet Exchange (IX)**” refers to switching system, which connects all the ISPs and equivalent service providers primarily for data traffic flow. It consists of two parts i.e. “International Internet Gateway (IIG)” and “National Internet Exchange (NIX)”. “IIG” will provide global Internet connectivity. All domestic Internet data communication will be routed via NIX to minimize usage of international bandwidth. It allows non-business computer-based voice traffic (messenger etc.).
- 3.10 “**International Internet Gateway (IIG)**” refers to switching systems through international data traffic is sent and received. It allows computer-based voice traffic (messenger etc.).
- 3.11 “**International Gateways (IGWs)**” are switching systems through which international voice traffic (VoIP and clear channel) is sent and received. IGW allows physical monitoring of the traffic flow.
- 3.12 “**International Private Leased Circuit (IPLC)**” means international point-to-point leased circuit.
- 3.13 “**National Internet Exchange (NIX)**” refers to switching systems through which all domestic Internet data communication will be routed via NIX to minimize usage of international bandwidth.
- 3.14 “**License**” means a License issued or deemed to have been issued by BTRC under the Bangladesh Telecommunication Act, 2001.

- 3.15 “**Licensee**” means any person / entity have been licensed under the Bangladesh Telecommunication Act, 2001.
- 3.16 “**Next Generation Network (NGN)**” is a packet based network able to provide services including telecommunication services and able to make use of multiple broadband, QoS-enabled transport technologies and in which service related function are independent from underlying transport related technologies. It offers unrestricted access by users to different service providers. It supports generalized mobility, which will allow consistent and ubiquitous provision of services to users.
- 3.17 “**Number Portability**” is the term used to describe capability of individuals, business and organizations to retain their existing telephone number(s) and the same quality of service when switched to another local service provider.
- 3.18 “**Operator**” means an organization or a person licensed under the Bangladesh Telecommunication Act, 2001 for establishing or operating a telecommunication system or providing telecommunication services or operating a system which is the combination or more than one of those facilities.
- 3.19 “**Point of Presence (POP)**” means setting up of switching center and transmission center of appropriate capacity to provide on-demand service of prescribed quality and grade of service in a non-discriminatory manner.
- 3.20 “**PLMN**” means Public Land Mobile Network for providing land mobile telephone.
- 3.21 “**PSTN**” means Public Switched Telephone Network for providing to the public.
- 3.22 “**Quality of Service (QoS)**” is evaluated on the basis of measures on the grade of service, calls lost due to wrong processing, bit error rate, response time, acceptable number of faults per unit subscribers served, and Mean Time To Restore (MTTR), faults carried over beyond the MTTR, etc.

- 3.23 “**Telecommunication Service**” means Telecommunications Services defined under section 2(15) of Bangladesh Telecommunication Act, 2001.
- 3.24 “**Telecommunication System**” means Telecommunications System defined under section 2(13) of Bangladesh Telecommunications Act, 2001.
- 3.25 “**Telephone Number Mapping (ENUM)**” is mapping of “Telephone Numbers” to Uniform Resources Identifiers (URIs) using the Domain Name System (DNS) in the domain e164.arpa. ENUM enables the convergence between the PSTN/PLMN and Internet.
- 3.26 **Tariff**” means rates, charges payable by a subscriber/party for services provided and related conditions at which telecommunication services may be provided including rates and related conditions at which messages shall be transmitted, deposits, installation fees, rentals, free calls, usages charges and any other related fees or service charge.
- 3.27 “**Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP)**” is the routing of voice conversations over the Internet or any other IP network. The voice data flows over a general-purpose packet-switched network.

FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL LONG DISTANCE TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES POLICY

4. CONCEPT

- 4.1 All Voice Calls including VoIP calls Originated from Bangladesh will be routed through Interconnection Exchanges (ICXs) and International Gateways (IGWs). Domestic inter-operator voice call including VOIP calls will be routed through ICXs.
- 4.2 International Internet based data traffic will be routed through International Internet Gateways (IIGs) except the data traffic through IPLC. Domestic inter operator data traffic will be routed through National Internet Exchanges (NIXs).
- 4.3 Inter-operator IP telephony traffic will be routed through ICXs. Intra-IPTSP voice traffic may be routed through NIXs. International IPTSP voice traffic routed through ICXs and IGW and IIGs
- 4.4 The international voice calls will be terminated either through IGWs or at the VoIP call termination operator terminals through IIGs/IGWs.
- 4.5 Services relating to International Call Center, Video conferencing and IP-TV based on IP / any other technologies will be routed through IIG / IPLC.
- 4.6 Schematic diagram of Network Topology of ILDTS 2010 is at page-18.

5. VOICE SERVICES

5.1 Network Topology

- 5.1.1 Network architecture shall be based on three layers with appropriate equipment and technologies subject to modification as and when required.

- 5.1.2 The first layer is the IGWs, which will be connected to International Long Distance Cable (ILDC) networks and ICXs. IGWs will have Satellite Earth Station or VSAT as backup until alternative ILDCs are available.
- 5.1.3 The second layer is ICXs, which will be connected with IGWs and Access Network Service (ANS) operators. IPTSPs will be connected to NIX for inter IPTSP domestic voice traffic. International and inter operators domestic voice traffic will be routed through ICXs.
- 5.1.4 The third layer is the ANS operator's who provide services to end users directly. This layer is to ensure the connectivity between the ICXs / NIXs and the subscribers.

5.2 International Gateways (IGW)

- 5.2.1 The number of IGW operators will be determined by the Government as per requirement of the telecommunication sector of Bangladesh.
- 5.2.2 Location of the IGWs will primarily be at Dhaka. More IGWs will be setup in other locations depending on traffic volume and to allow more rural people to be connected with the network as and when required.
- 5.2.3 IGWs will have primary backbone connectivity towards international network through ILDC network.
- 5.2.4 IGWs will have backup connectivity through Satellite Earth Station/VSAT until the availability of alternative ILDC network.
- 5.2.5 IGWs will have physical connections with ICXs. ICXs will develop and maintain interconnection facilities to connect the IGWs to ICXs and ICXs to ANS operators via their POPs.
- 5.2.6 IGWs will provide international voice call services including VoIP termination and origination.

5.2.7 IGW operators will arrange end-to-end service level agreements and will negotiate tariff with overseas carriers for call origination and termination by themselves. Agreed tariff will be vetted by the Government.

5.3 Interconnection Exchange (ICX)

5.3.1 The number of ICX operators will be determined by the Government as per requirement of the telecommunication sector of Bangladesh depending on traffic volume and to allow more rural people to be connected with the network.

5.3.2 ICXs will be primarily at Dhaka, Chittagong, khulna, Sylhet, Barisal, Rajshahi, Gopalganj, Rongpur, Mymensingh, Comilla and Bogra. Each ICX Operator will have at least 2 (two) ICXs in two places mentioned above. Distribution/allocation of ICX site to the Operators will be done by BTRC.

5.3.3 ICXs will have physical connections with IGWs at Dhaka.

5.3.4 ICXs at the same area will be interconnected among themselves. ICXs at different Areas may be interconnected at their own arrangement. These interconnections may be either through existing backbone or by establishing new backbone networks where such networks are not available.

5.3.5 International incoming and outgoing voice traffic including VoIP will be routed through ICXs.

5.3.6 ICXs will route/switch domestic inter operators telecommunication services. All ANS operators must interconnect through ICXs.

5.3.7 ICXs will serve as the Point of Presence (POP) for the neighboring areas.

5.3.8 All ICX operators shall make necessary provisions for the ANS operators to connect at their POPs. ICX operators shall arrange necessary DDF, Mux and other facilities.

5.3.9 ICXs should support number portability, International Mobile Equipment Identification (IMEI) number, ENUM and other Next Generation Network (NGN) services as and when required and commission will monitor.

5.4 Access Network

5.4.1 ANS operators shall, at their own arrangement, be connected to their respective ICX POPs of minimum 3 (three) ICX operators through optical fiber/wire/wireless means depending on availability of ICX PoPs.

5.4.2 All ANS operators under each POP area shall be connected to the ICXs of that area for regional inter operator traffic transactions.

5.4.3 ANS operators shall provide services to the respective subscribers.

6. DATA SERVICES

6.1 Network Topology

6.1.1 International Data Network

6.1.1.1 Network architecture shall be based on 2 (two) layers with appropriate equipments and technologies.

6.1.1.2 The first layer is the International Internet Gateway (IIG), which will be connected ILDC network and ANS operator. IIGs will have Satellite Earth Station or VSAT as backup until the availability of alternative ILDC network.

6.1.1.3 The second layer is the ANS operators. This layer is to ensure the connectivity between the IIGs and the end users for data services.

6.1.2 Domestic Data Network

- 6.1.2.1 Network architecture shall be based on 2 (two) layers with appropriate equipment and technologies.
- 6.1.2.2 The first layer is NIX, which will be connected only to ANS operators. NIX will be used for routing domestic data traffic.
- 6.1.2.3 The second layer is the ANS operators. This layer is to ensure the connectivity between the NIXs and the subscribers for data services.

6.2 International Internet Gateways (IIGs)

- 6.2.1 The number of IIG operators will be determined by the Government as per requirement of the telecommunication sector of Bangladesh.
- 6.2.2 IIGs will be primarily be at Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Sylhet, Barisal, Rajshahi, Gopalganj, Rangpur, Mymensingh, Comilla and Bogra. Each IIG operator will have at least 2 (Two) IIGs in two places mentioned above. Depending on traffic volume and to allow more rural people to be connected with the network, more IIGs will be setup in other locations as and when required.
- 6.2.3 IIGs at the same area shall have interconnection among themselves. IIGs at different areas may be interconnected at their own arrangement. These interconnections may be through existing backbone or by establishing new backbone networks where such networks are not available.
- 6.2.4 International incoming and outgoing data services will be routed through IIG.
- 6.2.5 IIGs and NIXs shall make necessary provisions to connect the ANS operators.

6.3 National Internet Exchange (NIX)

- 6.3.1 The number of NIX operators will be determined by the government as per requirement of the telecommunication sector of Bangladesh.
- 6.3.2 NIX will primarily be at Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Sylhet, Barisal, Rajshahi, Gopalganj, Rangpur, Mymensingh, Comilla and Bogra. Each NIX operator will have at least 2 (Two) NIXs in two places mentioned above. Depending on traffic volume and to allow more rural people to be connected with the network, more NIXs will be setup in other locations as and when required.
- 6.3.3 NIX will be interconnected among themselves at their own arrangement.
- 6.3.4 NIXs will route inter-operator domestic data traffic and may also route inter-IPTSP domestic voice traffic.
- 6.3.5 NIXs shall make necessary provisions to connect the ANS operators.
- 6.3.6 International Content Providers can connect to NIX to enhance building local content repository with prior permission.

6.4 Access Network

- 6.4.1 ANS operators will be connected to the IIG(s) at their own arrangement.
- 6.4.2 ANS operators will be connected to NIX(s) at their own arrangement.
- 6.4.3 ANS operators shall provide service to the respective subscribers.

7. IP TELEPHONY, VoIP CALL TERMINATION and IP-TV SERVICES.

- 7.1** To provide easy and affordable telecommunication services to the common people of the country by promoting and using latest technology, IP Telephony has been introduced.
- 7.2** It will help to sustain young entrepreneurs and to encourage more such entrepreneurs in the rural areas thereby facilitating increased employment for Bangladesh youth.
- 7.3** The guidelines for introducing IP Telephony services in the country issued by BTRC will be reviewed and more licenses will be issued as per requirement of telecommunication sector.
- 7.4** To terminate international call through IP networks VoIP Call Termination operator licenses will be issued. These operators will be connected to international data circuit through IIGs/IGWs. However they will be connected through ICXs to local PSTN and other networks in the downstream known as ANS.
- 7.5** It will allow country's youth to explore state-of-the art technology for their betterment as well as to offer affordable international voice services to the country people.
- 7.6** BTRC will issue necessary guidelines and licenses for introducing VoIP Call Termination with prior approval of the government.
- 7.7** The Government will encourage introducing IP-TV system through which TV programs and video-on-demand is delivered via IP protocol and digital streaming techniques to watch video on the internet. The concerned ministries/government agencies will issue guidelines and licenses for IP-TV services.

8. International Long distance Cable (ILDC)

8.1 Submarine or Terrestrial Cable

- 8.1.1 Submarine or International Terrestrial Cable will provide connectivity between the domestic and the international telecommunication network.
- 8.1.2 To ensure uninterrupted telecommunication services and provide redundancy it is desirable to have operational one or more additional submarine or terrestrial cables in addition to the present SEA-ME-WE-4 submarine cable.
- 8.1.3 The number of Submarine or Terrestrial cable operators will be determined by the Government as per requirement of the telecommunication sector of Bangladesh.
- 8.1.4 The number of cables, location of landing station(s), cable route(s), capacity etc. will be decided as per requirement of telecommunication sector of Bangladesh to be decided by the government.

9. OPERATOR LICENSES

- 9.1 The following categories of Operator Licenses will be issued by the Government/ BTRC under the guidelines to be formulated and approved by the government as and when required: for introducing IP Telephony services in the country
 - 9.1.1 IGW Operator License.
 - 9.1.2 ICX Operator License.
 - 9.1.3 IIG License.
 - 9.1.4 IP Telephony License.
 - 9.1.5 NIX Operator License.
 - 9.1.6 Submarine Cable (SC) License.

- 9.1.7 International Terrestrial cable (ITC) License.
- 9.1.8 International VoIP Call Termination license.
- 9.1.9 IP-TV Services License.
- 9.1.10 Any other Licenses relevant to this policy.

10. ELIGIBILITY OF LICENSEES

- 10.1 IGW, ICX, IIG, NIX, IP Telephony, International VoIP Call Termination, IP-TV and ITC licenses will be issued to Bangladeshi entities (resident citizens, Non-resident Bangladeshi (NRB), proprietorships, partnerships and companies registered under 'Joint Stock of Companies and Firms' under the Companies Act, 1994). Foreign entities (citizens, companies or subsidiaries or holding companies) are not be eligible to be Owners/ Directors/ Shareholders/Investors/Partners of these licensee entities. All financial transactions must be through a scheduled Bank of Bangladesh.
- 10.2 SC operator licenses will be issued to the Bangladeshi entity or joint venture with foreign entity.
- 10.3 One business entity will be allowed to get more than one licenses of IGW, ICX, IIG, NIX, IP Telephony, International VoIP Call Termination, IP-TV, SC and ITC category.

11. UTILIZATION OF FACILITIES

11.1 Utilization of Existing Facilities

- 11.1.1 IGW, IIG, ICX, IX and VSAT HUB Operators should utilize the available resources such as backbone networks. The Government will issue necessary guidelines as and when necessary.
- 11.1.2 BTCL's existing IGWs, ICXs and IXs will remain operative. However BTCL has to obtain modified licenses from the Government.

11.2 VSAT

- 11.2.1 Indiscriminate use of VSAT has been one of the means of conducting unauthorized VoIP call businesses. As such it is crucial to control unauthorized usages of VSAT. VSAT will not be allowed for voice services except that of IGWs, which will be used as backup. VSAT connected to IIGs will be allowed as backups for data communication only. Therefore, VSAT use will require the Government approval.
- 11.2.2 All domestic VSAT HUBs must be connected to the NIXs. No new VSAT licenses will be issued and the existing VSATs will remain operative until the NIXs ensure backup connectivity by VSAT. VSATs other than the IX operator will gradually be withdrawn under the guideline of BTRC.
- 11.2.3 The Government will review existing VSAT HUB licenses and issue additional licenses if necessary. The Government will take strong measures to curb unauthorized VoIP call business with VSAT.

12. PROMOTION OF NEXT GENERATION NETWORK (NGN) TECHNOLOGY.

- 12.1 BTRC will facilitate introduction of NGN Technologies in the country. Operators will be expected to introduce NGN technologies to their networks as quickly as possible and they will be required to take necessary approval / license from the Government in this respect.

13. PROMOTION OF BUSINESS PROCESS OUTSOURCING (BPO)

13.1

BTRC will facilitate to develop Call Centers, E-Health Care services, E-Education services, E-Commerce, IT Parks, etc. in the country. Operators will be required to take necessary approval / license from BTRC in this respect.

14. QUALITY OF SERVICES (QoS)

- 14.1 Strict adherence to maintaining QoS will be a foremost responsibility of all IGWs, ICXs, NIXs, ANS, IP Telephony, IP-TV, VOIP Call Termination and VSAT HUB Operators. BTRC will issue necessary guidelines for maintaining and monitoring minimum QoS standard.

15. TARIFF STRUCTURE / REVENUE SHARING

- 15.1 Different tariff structures will be formulated by the Government for voice and data services. Tariff structures will be fixed for a finite time period with the provision of reviewing periodically.
- 15.2 Tariff should be as such that people of the country can get the telecommunication facilities at an affordable rate and government gets its due share of revenue.

16. MONITORING AND NATIONAL SECURITY

- 16.1 IGWs, IIGs ICXs, NIXs, ANS, ILDC, IP Telephony, International VoIP call termination, IP-TV and VSAT HUB operators will provide necessary connections including necessary equipment and instruments and software to BTRC for online and off line monitoring.
- 16.2 IGWs, IIGs, ICXs, NIXs, ANS, ILDC and IP Telephony operators will provide Call Detail Record (CDR) and/or any other monitoring facilities of voice and data calls for on-line and off-line monitoring by BTRC.
- 16.3 IGWs, IIGs, ICXs, NIXs, ANS, ILDC, IP Telephony, International VoIP call termination, IP-TV and VSAT HUB operators will provide access to Law Enforcing Agency (LEA) for lawful Interception (LI) as per Bangladesh Telecommunication Act, 2001 (as amended) including necessary equipment and software.

- 16.4 BTRC will establish monitoring center at Submarine cable and International Terrestrial Cable landing station(s) if needed.
- 17.5 Monitoring facilities will be established by respective operators for voice and data communication using IPLC. IPLC Monitoring facilities should also be extended to BTRC and LEA for on-line and off-line monitoring including necessary equipment and software by respective operators.

17. APPLICATION OF OTHER POLICES, ETC. RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATION

- 17.1 Subject to the provisions of this Policy, National Telecommunication Policy 1998 and other Policies shall apply and in case of the said Policies are in conflict of this Policy, the provisions of this Policy shall prevail.
- 17.2 If any doubt or complicity arises due to technological development and business requirement, the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications reserves the right to change or modify any clause or sub clause of this policy.
- 17.3 ILDTS Policy, 2010 shall come into force on the date of commencement and the ILDTS Policy, 2007 shall deemed to be invalid from that date.
- 17.4 Notwithstanding the invalidation of the ILDTS Policy 2007 all acts done or steps taken under the said ILDTS Policy 2007 shall deemed to be valid and all measures implemented or to be implemented under the ILDTS Policy 2007 shall remain as valid even after the commencement / implementation of ILDTS Policy 2010, in a manner if the new ILDTS Policy 2010 has not come into force.

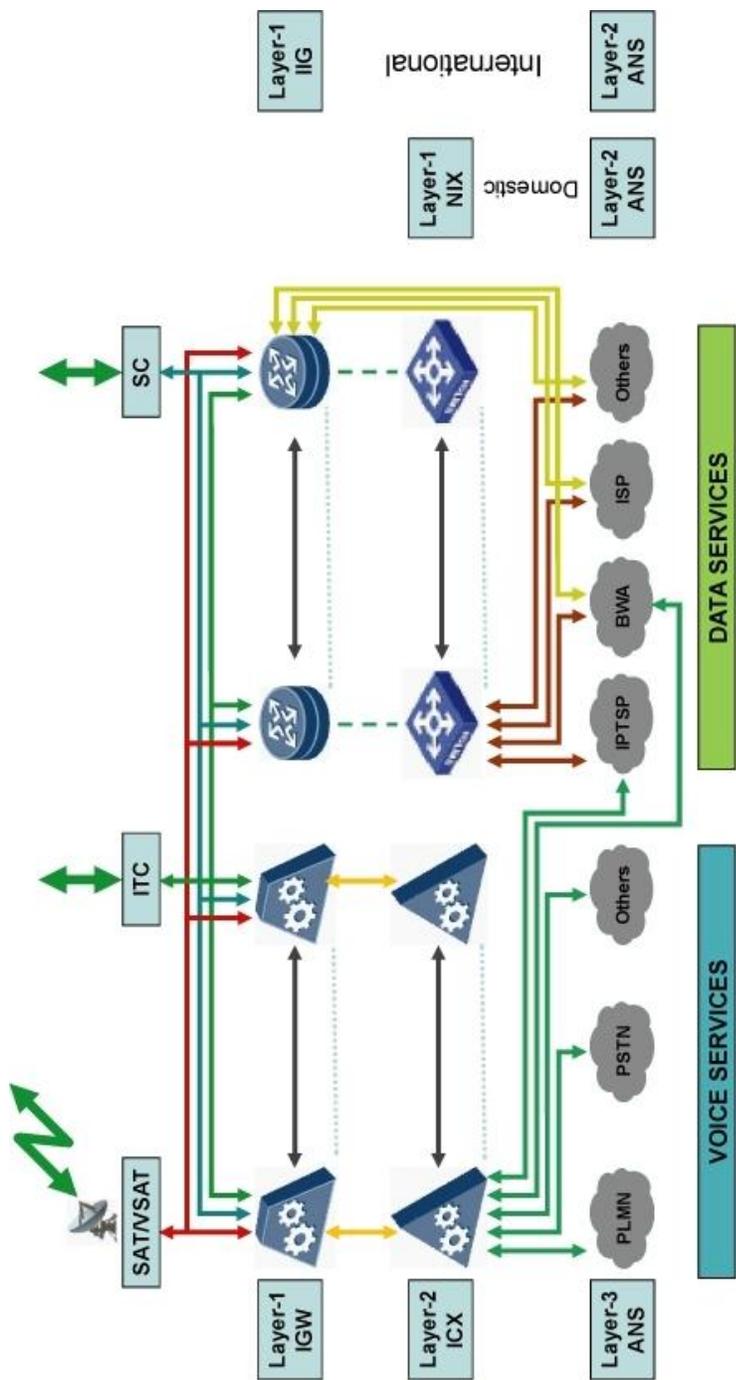
18. SCOPE OF INTERPRETATION OF POLICY

- 18.1 The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications (MOPT) will take necessary measures for the proper implementation of this policy. In case of any doubt of conflict in technical and operational issues, MOPT 's interpretation will prevail.

- 18.2 In executing this policy, if MoPT feels it necessary that certain changes or modification of any clause(s)/ and clauses are required, The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications will take measures for necessary change(s) or modification(s). The Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications reserves the right to change or modify respective clause(s)/ sub clause(s).

19. CONCLUSION

- 19.1** The technological development in the field of telecommunication has always been a priority to the Government to make it available to the people at an affordable price. The present policy option is expected to take all technological facilities to the people and allow stakeholders to play an appropriate role in creating job opportunities and to contribute in the socio-economic development of the country. It will open the vast outer world to the mass for creating a knowledge-based society. The policy will augment healthy competition among the stakeholders and will also enhance access of domestic telecommunication system to the global network. It will further facilitate private sector investment and simplify existing procedure to promote growth in commercial and industrial arena. The Government is devoted and determined to deploy all its tools to protect and promote the promising sector for the interest of the country and its people. Implementation of this policy will minimize digital divide and lead to increase broadband penetration and tele-density of the country. This will play a significant role in materializing the vision Digital Bangladesh.



Schematic Diagram of Network Topology of ILDTS 2009

