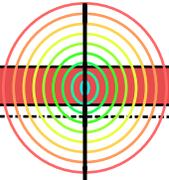


*Chapter - 1*

# The Authority





## Profile

**P**akistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) was established in January 1997 under the Pakistan Telecommunication (Re-organization) Act, 1996 to regulate the establishment, operation and maintenance of telecommunication systems, and the provision of telecom services in efficient manners. “The Authority” consists of three members; one

of them is a professional telecommunication engineer and the other a financial expert, to be appointed by Federal Government for a period of four years. Among the three members, the Federal Government appoints one member to be the Chairman who is also the administrative head of the Authority. Profile of the Authority members is given below: -

### Dr. Mohammed Yaseen CHAIRMAN

*Appointed as Chairman PTA in July, 2008 for a term of four years*

Dr. Mohammed Yaseen earned his Ph.D from University of Essex, United Kingdom with specialization in Telecommunication Systems. In a successful professional career spanning almost 22 years, his core areas of expertise lie in the field of digital and voice communications, Optical Fiber Transmission Systems, Fiber Access Networks and broadband access. He has contributed in commissioning, operation and maintenance of large international telecom networks, including SMW3 (Segment 2), Southern Cross (Australia - USA), I2I (India - Singapore). He provided consultancy on product development, network/product cost analysis and deployment of Access Networks. He is highly respected among national and international forums for his profound command on developing strategies, defining standards, devising regulations, envisioning future roadmaps and sharp management skills. Dr. Mohammed Yaseen has more than 30 international and national publications on telecom technologies especially broadband, ICT growth, strategies and design of telecom networks.



After his Ph.D, he worked for the Essex University, UK, as Senior Research Officer, projects were funded by HP and European Consortium. He joined PTCL Pakistan, as Senior Lecturer and progressed to Director Strategy and then moved to Australia where he was System and Project Engineer for Alcatel Submarine Networks Australia. He worked for “Advanced Networks and Systems”, Australia as Senior Consultant. Prior to holding the office of Chairman PTA, he served as Member (Technical) at PTA for almost three years. He has represented PTA at various International and National forums including Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT), where he was elected as Vice Chairman, APT, Study Group 2 (Networks).

## Syed Nasrul Karim Ahmed Ghaznavi

*Member Finance*

*Appointed as Member (Finance) in February, 2005 for a term of four years, extended further for four years in 2008.*

Syed Nasrul Karim Ahmed Ghaznavi joined the Authority in February 2005. He belongs to the Pakistan Audit & Accounts Service. He holds a Masters degree in Business Administration from United States and a Masters degree from University of the Punjab. He has served as Deputy Auditor General in the Department of Auditor General of Pakistan and as GM (Finance)/Member (Finance) in PTCL; and has remained Chairman of Finance Committee of TIP and CTI. While serving in Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited, he securitized future receivable of US\$ 250 million of PTCL in US to attract international investors. This was the 1st securitization of any receivable in Pakistan and one of the few in the world. Negotiated US\$ 115.5 million Short Terms Financing Facility with ABN Amro and Deutsche Morgan Grenfell in Singapore, supervised the



issue of Exchangeable Bonds worth US\$ 160 million of 5 years convertible into Common Shares of PTCL, took active part to list PTC on Karachi and Luxemburg Stock exchanges. He served as chairman of Steering Group on Accounting Rate Reforms (SGARR) of Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT). He has attended many seminars, conferences, workshops and training programmes at national and international level. He has versatile experience of financial management and requisite competence, qualification and the ability to handle the emerging challenges of telecom sector.



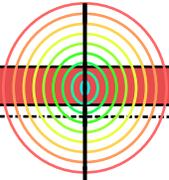
## Dr. Khawar Siddique Khokhar

*Member Technical*

*Appointed as Member (Technical) in March, 2009 for a term of four years*

Dr. Khawar Siddique Khokhar, Member (Technical), Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has more than twenty years of professional experience to his credit. Prior to joining PTA, he was working in Myson Engineering Systems as CTO, Visiting Associate professor in FAST and Consultant in SCO. He has worked in Pakistan Space &

Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (SUPARCO) for fourteen years in various capacities. He has also worked in NCR Corporation. He had also been a visiting instructor at College of E&ME and Naval Engineering College. He has worked for the performance evaluation of WiMAX physical layer using measured channel parameters in 2.5 GHz, 3.5 GHz and 5.8 GHz band in UK. He has also worked for 3G/UMTS channel characterization and modeling and has a number of publications in the international journals and conferences to his credit. He has conducted many workshops on WiMAX. He is a member of IEEE, UK and PEC and holds a PhD degree in mobile communications engineering from University of Durham, UK.



## Functions & Responsibilities

Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) regulates the establishment, operation and maintenance of telecommunication systems and provision of telecommunication services in Pakistan. It receives and expeditiously disposes off applications for the use of radio-frequency spectrum and protects the interests of users of telecommunication services in Pakistan. Authority promotes high quality, efficient, cost effective and competitive telecommunication services ensuring rapid modernization of telecommunication systems and telecommunication services throughout Pakistan. Apart from these functions, Authority also investigates and adjudicates on complaints and other claims made against licensees arising out of alleged contraventions of the provisions of the Act, Rules, Regulations and license terms and conditions. It makes recommendations to the Federal Government on policies ranging from international telecommunications, provision of support for participation in international meetings and agreements to be executed in relation to the routing of international traffic and accounting settlements. PTA regulates arrangements amongst telecommunication service providers for sharing of revenue derived from provision of telecommunication service and enforce effective compliance by licensees on account of Universal Services Obligations. PTA also regulates Access Promotion Contribution and settles disputes between licensees.

Authority is responsible for protecting the rights of licensees as well as interest of end users of telecommunication services. All of its decisions and determinations are made promptly, in an open equitable, non discriminatory, consistent and transparent manner and applications/complaints are disposed off expeditiously. In case of a determination or corrective decision, the persons/institutions effected by its actions are given a due notice thereof and provided with an opportunity of being heard.

## Divisions

To carry out its functions and exercise its powers in most efficient way, PTA has been structured into seven divisions which perform their duties in their respective areas.

## Law & Regulation

L & R Division handles all the legal matters of the Authority and ensures legal cover for its actions and decisions. This division provides assistance to the Authority in drafting and vetting of Rules, Regulations, licenses and contracts. It also advises the Authority on all regulatory issues such as implication of new enactment, government policies, introduction of new technology and its effect on the existing regulatory treatise, interconnection and dispute resolution between the licensees. In case of violations by any entity within or outside PTA, L & R division issues show cause notice, files, manages and maintains record of court cases on behalf of the Authority

## Commercial Affairs

This division manages and ensures efficient handling of matters pertaining to tariffs and interconnection agreements of telecom services providers. It also deals with issues related to cost unbundling of services, international Accounting Rate Settlement, interconnect disputes between licenses, and consumer complaint pertaining to tariffs.

## Licensing

This division is responsible for granting and renewing licensing for any telecommunication system and service as well as modifying the licenses if needed, under the

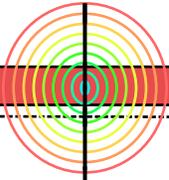
law. Its duties also include processing the applications for the use of radio frequency spectrum, promoting high quality, efficient, and competitive telecommunication services throughout Pakistan. Promoting modernization of telecommunication systems and services, issuing regulations for licensing of different basic and value added telecom services are also the functions of this division.

## Strategy & Development

S & D division is considered to be the Think Tank of PTA as it has the important responsibility of devising strategies to drive the telecommunication growth in Pakistan. This division constantly reviews the telecommunication standards by conducting in-house studies and outsourcing those studies which contribute extensively in policy making and decision making of the Authority. This division is responsible for keeping the Authority up-to-date with advancements in the ever changing trends in the telecom and IT sector around the globe.

## Services

The responsibilities of services Division include framing standards for telecommunication equipment, arranging type-Approval of terminal equipment and management of numbering plan for telecom networks in Pakistan. It also deals with matters related to consumer protection and processes complaints against telecom service providers through a computerized



database of complaints for accurate and expeditious action. The cell is responsible for monitoring action on all complaints and obtaining progress from the concerned operators till redressal or disposal of the complaint.

## License Enforcement

This Division acts as the eyes and ears of PTA as it monitors/watches all sector operators in light of their license terms and conditions. The main functions of this division are the enforcement of license clauses, monitoring of service quality bench marks, protection of users as well as industry interests, adjudication of complaints and dispute resolutions. The division also secures national interests by carrying out inspections/raids against illegal operators in collaboration with Law Enforcing Agencies. It ensures that

operators do not overcharge their customers from the laid down tariffs. It implements the Authority and court decisions and follows up court cases. Meetings of Central Advisory Committee are also arranged by this division.

## Finance

This Division manages finances of PTA including revenues receivables, employee pension and GP funds. The Budget & Accounts Directorate prepares the annual budget, monitors the budget, maintains the accounts of PTA, prepares the financial statements and gets them audited by the external Chartered Accountants every year. It also deals with financial evaluation of license applications. Finance division is also responsible for analyzing and evaluation of audited annual accounts and determination of annual regulatory fee(s) payable to PTA by licensee.

