

## Media Release

### **Reliance Communications' FLAG Telecom Announces FLAG NGN**

#### **FLAG Global network to cover 60 countries**

#### **FLAG Telecom to invest \$ 1.5 billion (nearly Rs. 7,000 crore)**

#### **Reliance's communication network to reach 5 bn Global consumers**

**Mumbai, December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2006:** Reliance Communications, India's leading telecom service provider and among Asia's 6 most valuable telecom companies, today announced significant plans to expand FLAG Telecom's global optic fibre network. Over the next 36 months, FLAG Telecom will build the world's largest IP network over submarine cable systems. Termed - FLAG Next Generation Network (NGN), the project will cater to the fast-growing telecom needs of over 5 billion customers across the globe ( i.e. 5 out of 6 people in the world ).

FLAG Telecom Limited, currently the world's largest private undersea cable system, would invest \$ 1.5 billion (nearly Rs. 7000 crore) in laying 50,000 additional kms of undersea optic fibre cable which would ultimately cover 60 countries, contributing 90% of Global GDP. On completion, FLAG Global Network would span over 1,15,000 kms by December 2009 taking the total optic fibre assets of Reliance Communications Group to over 2,30,000 kms.

**"We live in a world where there is too much of bandwidth for some, little for others and none for many - there is unequal access to bandwidth in and across countries, continents and communities",** said Mr. Anil Dhirubhai Ambani, Chairman - Reliance Communications. **"FLAG NGN will democratize digital access and give nearly everyone in the world the opportunity to be part of a massive lifestyle change which might have surprised even a visionary as big as Dhirubhai..."**, he added.

Dedicating the worlds largest IP Network in the memory of his father, Mr. Anil Dhirubhai Ambani said, **"Dhirubhai dreamt of a world without borders and man-made limits - a global village where everyone, but most of all every Indian, would have the chance to communicate and connect, compete and collaborate. FLAG NGN will help realize that dream"**.

**FLAG NGN will comprise of the following 4 systems:**

**FLAG NGN System 1: Asia** - India, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Vietnam, Philippines, Brunei, Honk Kong

**FLAG NGN System 2: Africa** - Kenya, Mozambique, Republic of South Africa, Tanzania, Madagascar, Mauritius



**FLAG NGN System 3: Mediterranean** - Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, Malta, Libya, Lebanon

**FLAG NGN System 4: Trans-Pacific** - US West Coast, Japan, China and Hong Kong

FLAG Global Network would have the capability to carry 2.5 billion simultaneous voice calls, 300 million simultaneous webchats, 52 million simultaneous Video Chats and enabling 20 mn students in educational institutions of India to offer e-learning simultaneously.

FLAG Telecom's clientele includes prestigious names like NTT, AT&T, Verizon, British Telecom, Orascom, QTel, Vodafone, Hutch, AOL, Google, Yahoo, Microsoft, Citigroup, HSBC, UBS, Deutsche Bank, Morgan Stanley to name a few. Reliance Communications recently launched FALCON Cable system connecting 12 countries in the Middle East to rest of the World. The Cable system was completed in 80% of the envisaged project cost four months ahead of schedule has already resulted in capacity sales of over \$450 mn on FLAG Global Network since January 2006.

**FLAG Telecom:** World's largest private undersea cable system spanning 65000 route kms, has an established customer base of more than 200 leading operators, including all of the top ten international carriers. FLAG owns and manages an extensive next generation optical fibre network spanning four continents, connecting 37 key business markets in Asia, Europe, the Middle East and the USA.

FLAG also owns and operates a low-latency, global MPLS-based IP network, which connects most of the world's principal international Internet exchanges. FLAG offers a focused range of global products, including global bandwidth, IP, Internet, Ethernet and Co-location services. Website: [www.flagtelecom.com](http://www.flagtelecom.com)

**Reliance Communications:** Reliance Communications Limited founded by late Shri. Dhirubhai H Ambani (1932-2002) is the flagship company of the Reliance Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group. Rated among Asia's 6 Topmost Valuable Telecom Companies, Reliance Communications is India's foremost truly integrated telecommunications service provider. The company with a customer base of over 30 million including close to one million individual overseas retail customers ranks among the Top 10 Asian Telecom companies. Reliance Communications corporate clientele includes 600 Indian and 250 multinational corporations, and over 200 global carriers.

The company has established a pan-India, next generation, integrated (wireless and wireline), convergent (voice, data and video) digital network that is capable of supporting best-of-class services spanning the entire Infocomm value chain, covering over 6000 towns and 3,00,000 villages. Reliance Communications owns and operates World's largest next generation IP enabled connectivity infrastructure, comprising over 150,000 kilometers of fibre optic cable systems in India, USA, Europe, Middle East and the Asia Pacific region. Website: [www.reliancecommunications.co.in](http://www.reliancecommunications.co.in)

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