

XII. ADMINISTRATIVE PENAL ACTIVITY

The penalties imposed by Communications Regulation Commission in 2002 were directed towards discontinuation of any illegitimate telecommunications activities.

With this respect, more than 20 orders were issued to stop the business of persons that have no legal ground to carry out such activities under art. 123 of the Telecommunications Act.

Besides, the profile of the administrative penal policy followed by Commission has also changed. Unlike the previous years, the regulatory authority has now drawn its attention not so much to the sanction of offences under art. 136 of the Telecommunications Act referring to the damaging or disconnecting of telecommunications cables and facilities, but rather to the sanction of infringements of conditions of the granted licenses and conduction of telecommunications activities without any license. This also determines the high number of appeals against the penalty orders made by the Chairman of Communications Regulation Commission.

In this reference, the total of **198 penalty orders** were issued in 2002 and a larger part thereof referred to the offenses of art. 127, par. 1 of the Telecommunications Act, art. 127, par. 2 of the Telecommunications Act, art. 127, par. 3 and art. 128 the Telecommunications Act.

Eighty-nine of the said penalty orders were appealed and a larger part of the instituted actions are still pending at different judicial levels and before different Bulgarian regional and district courts.

The **resolutions** issued in 2002 by the CRC Chairman on cessation of the administrative penal procedures numbered **44**.