

# **TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA**

**6<sup>th</sup> January, 2006**

## **PRESS RELEASE No. 3/2006**

### **Telecom registers record growth during the year 2005**

- **More than 30 million telephony subscribers added during 2005, total base nears 125 million.**
- **Gross additions around 5 millions in December, 2005.**
- **Tele-density reaches 11.43.**
- **Internet subscriber base achieves the Broadband Policy target of 6 million**
- **Broadband target falls short of policy.**

The subscriber base for telephony services accelerated its growth pattern during December, 2005. In the month of December 2005, a record 4.92 million subscribers were added as compared to 3.79 million subscribers in November 2005. With the ongoing upward trend, total 31.97 millions subscribers have been added during the year 2005.

### **Growth Rate**

During the year 2005 the telephony subscriber base achieved the following rate of growth:

	(Subscribers in millions)			Growth during the year 2005
	December, 2004	December, 2005	Additions in 2005	
Fixed (including WLL-F)	44.87	48.93	4.06	9.0 %
Mobiles including GSM & CDMA	48.01	75.92	27.91	58.13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>92.88</b>	<b>124.85</b>	<b>31.97</b>	<b>34.42%</b>

## **Mobile Service**

For mobile segment 4.46 million subscribers have been added during December 2005 as compared to 3.51 million in November 2005. The mobile additions consist of 3.19 million GSM subscribers and 1.27 million CDMA subscribers as against 2.33 million GSM and 1.18 million CDMA last month.

During the year 2005 about 27.91 million mobile subscribers were added, making it a total of 75.92 million mobile subscribers at the end of year 2005.

The comparison of month-wise addition in mobile subscriber base for 2003, 2004 & 2005 is as follows :

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total in (Jan-Dec) 12 months
2003	0.64	0.60	0.96	0.64	2.26	1.42	2.31	1.79	1.61	1.67	1.90	1.69	17.49
2004	1.58	1.60	1.93	1.37	1.33	1.43	1.74	1.67	1.84	1.51	1.56	1.95	19.51
2005	1.76	1.67	0.78	1.46	1.72	1.97	2.46	2.74	2.48	2.90	3.51	4.46	27.91

The subscriber base of major mobile operators at the end of year 2005 in comparison to 2004 as below:

<b>Service Provider</b>	<b>Subscriber Base ( in million)</b>	
	<b>December,2004</b>	<b>December,2005</b>
<b>Bharti</b>	9.83	16.30
<b>BSNL</b>	8.88	14.80
<b>Reliance</b>	11.33	14.67
<b>Hutchison</b>	7.18	11.41
<b>Idea</b>	4.70	6.47

## **Fixed Service**

In the fixed segment, a total of 0.46 million subscribers were added during December 2005, which were predominantly WLL (F). With this the total subscriber base of fixed lines have reached 48.93 million. During the year 2005 about 4 million fixed subscribers were added, as compared to 2.67 millions added during 2004.

## **Tele-density**

The gross subscribers' base consisting of fixed as well as mobile has touched 124.85 million at the end of December, 2005 as compared to subscriber base of 92.88 million at the end of December,2004, thus registering an overall annual growth of 34.42%.

The year 2005 ended up with the tele-density reaching 11.43 as compared to 8.62 at the end of 2004.

### **4. Internet Services & Broadband Growth: -**

During the year 2005 Internet subscriber base crossed the Broadband Policy target of 60 Lakh. Broadband connections have fallen short of the target.. At the end of December, 2005, total Broadband connections in the country have crossed 8.35 lakhs only as against a target of 30 lakhs in Broadband Policy-2004.

(In Lakhs)

	<b>Dec., 2004</b>	<b>March 2005</b>	<b>June 2005</b>	<b>September 2005</b>	<b>December 2005</b>	<b>Broadband Policy target for Dec 2005</b>
<b>Internet Subscribers</b>	<b>54.50</b>	<b>55.54</b>	<b>58.92</b>	<b>61.25</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Broadband Connections</b>	<b>0.49</b>	<b>1.86</b>	<b>3.96</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>8.35</b>	<b>30</b>

### **Broadband Tariff**

i. Minimum monthly tariff for Broadband connection has come down to Rs. 199 with 400 MB free download. The Charge per MB of download has come down to Rs. 1/MB as compared to Rs. 4/MB a year ago.

	<b>Dec, 2004</b>	<b>Mar, 2005</b>	<b>Sept, 2005</b>	<b>Dec, 2005</b>	<b>% Reduction from Dec'04 to Dec'05</b>
Minimum monthly tariff for Broadband connection (in Rs.)	1000	500	250	199	80%

ii. In comparison to some developed countries the minimum tariffs for a Broadband connection has become lowest in India, though the growth of Broadband has not been significant because of supply constraint.

<b>Country</b>	<b>Approximate, Minimum Monthly tariff for Broadband connection (in USD)</b>
United States(200Kbps)	40
France(512Kbps)	35
South Korea(2Mbps)	25
Japan(2Mbps)	20
India(256Kbps)	5

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