

## Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 27 /2008)

### TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

#### For Immediate release

Tel No:- 011-2321 7914

Fax :- 011-2321 1998

Email:- [skgupta@traf.gov.in](mailto:skgupta@traf.gov.in)

Website :- [www.traf.gov.in](http://www.traf.gov.in)

- ❖ **Subscribers base to cross 300 million in April 2008.**
- ❖ **Wireless subscribers base reaches 250 million mark. India to become second largest wireless network in the world by April 2008.**
- ❖ **Wireless Subscribers addition is 8.53 million in February 2008.**
- ❖ **Broadband continues to grow in the country.**
- ❖ **Tele-density cross 25% mark.**

New Delhi, 24th March 2008:- Total 8.49 million telephone connections have been added during February 2008 as compared to 8.74 million connections added in January 2008. The total number of telephone connections reaches 290.11 million at the end of February 2008 as compared to 281.62 million in January 2008. The overall tele-density is 25.31% at the end of February 2008 as against 24.63% in January 2008.

In the wireless segment, 8.53 million subscribers have been added in the month of February 2008 as against 8.77 million subscribers added in the month of January 2008. The total wireless subscribers (GSM, CDMA & WLL(F)) base stood at 250.93 million at the end of February 2008. Circle-wise wireless subscriber base of service providers is given at Annexure-I.

It may also be noted that India is likely to become second largest wireless network in the world after China in the first half of April 2008. The subscriber base of China, USA and India for the four months is as under:-

Country/Months	Nov-07	Dec-07	Jan-08	Feb-08
China	521.36	527.97	534.58	540.50*
USA	251.94	255.32	257.45	260.50*
India	225.46	233.63	242.40	250.93*

Source : COAI and Informa Telecom

\* Projected subscriber base

According to CTIA website ( a Association of Wireless operators in US), the current subscriber base of USA is 256 million. US is adding about 2-3 million subscribers in a month where as China is adding around 6-7 million subscribers in a month. India's monthly wireless subscriber addition is highest in the range of 8-9 million a

month. Thus India's wireless subscriber base during the first half of April 2008 will surpass that of USA and will become second largest wireless network in the world. Not only this, the total subscriber base (wireless + wireline) of India will also cross 300 million mark in April 2008.

In the wireline segment, the subscriber base has slightly decreased to 39.18 million in the month of February 2008 as against 39.22 million subscribers in January 2008. Circle-wise wireline subscriber base of service providers is given at Annexure-II.

Comparison table of subscriber base for the eleven months of 2006-07 and 2007-08 is shown below:

<b>(Subscribers in Million)</b>								
	<b>2006-07</b>			<b>2007-08</b>				
	<b>Mar 2006</b>	<b>Feb 2007</b>	<b>Add. During Apr'06-Feb'07</b>	<b>Mar 2007</b>	<b>Jan 2008</b>	<b>Feb 2008</b>	<b>Add. During Feb'08</b>	<b>Add. During Apr'07-Feb'08</b>
Wireless	98.78	162.52	63.74	165.11	242.40*	250.93*	8.53	85.82
Wireline	41.54	40.38	-1.16	40.75	39.22	39.18	-0.04	-1.57
Total	140.32	202.90	62.58	205.86	281.62*	290.11*	8.49	84.25

\* The data is tentative.

**Broadband ( $\geq$  256 Kbps download) Growth:** Total Broadband subscribers base has reached 3.47 million by the end of February 2008 as compared to 3.24 million by the end of January 2008. The broadband subscriber's growth is tabulated below:

<b>2006-07</b>			<b>2007-08</b>				
<b>Mar'06</b>	<b>Feb'07</b>	<b>Addition during Apr'06 to Feb'07</b>	<b>Mar'07</b>	<b>Dec'07</b>	<b>Jan'08</b>	<b>Feb'08</b>	<b>Addition during Apr'07 to Feb'08</b>
1.35	2.21	0.86	2.34	3.13	3.24*	3.47*	1.13

\* The data is tentative.

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Contact details in case of any clarification:

Shri S.K. Gupta, Advisor (CN), TRAI  
Mahanagar Doorsanchar Bhawan  
Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, New Delhi-110002  
Tel. No. 011-2321 7914  
Fax: No. 011-2321 1998  
e-mail: [guptask61@gmail.com](mailto:guptask61@gmail.com) or [skgupta@traigov.in](mailto:skgupta@traigov.in).

Authorised to issue.

(S. K. Gupta)

## Wireless Total including WLL(F)

Annexure -I

Sl.	Circle	Vodafone Essar		Spice		BPL Mobile		Idea		Bharti Airtel		Reliance	
		Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08
1	Andaman & N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2	A.P.	2,386,271	2,491,374	-	-	-	-	3,001,013	3,101,905	5,538,216	5,812,166	3,455,610	3,642,607
3	Assam	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	795,139	849,470	793,374	854,277
4	Bihar	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,922,668	4,159,809	3,372,843	3,554,636
5	Chennai	1,102,293	1,136,439	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,622,588	1,654,824	872,524	938,421
6	Chhatisgarh	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	Delhi	3,136,317	3,176,759	-	-	-	-	1,832,366	1,852,557	3,763,724	3,805,052	2,291,499	2,347,584
8	Gujarat	5,709,566	5,869,779	-	-	-	-	2,440,172	2,520,922	2,402,503	2,528,111	2,295,408	2,348,067
9	H.P.	-	-	-	-	-	-	63,839	70,396	784,347	795,277	561,642	592,280
10	Haryana	1,180,066	1,230,207	-	-	-	-	902,265	931,635	1,000,558	1,032,656	777,096	825,995
11	J & K	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	903,925	942,068	185	492
12	Jharkhand	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	Karnataka	2,642,343	2,743,025	1,532,196	1,586,031	-	-	-	-	6,465,392	6,670,543	2,355,365	2,409,719
14	Kerala	1,806,835	1,897,422	-	-	-	-	2,500,776	2,576,680	1,477,801	1,567,071	1,881,752	1,958,313
15	Kolkata	1,831,065	1,909,106	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,635,673	1,766,545	1,632,250	1,732,569
16	M.P.	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,853,305	3,025,631	2,562,175	2,665,423	3,758,638	3,949,863
17	Maharashtra	2,290,982	2,447,438	-	-	-	-	4,424,471	4,680,156	3,860,429	3,984,595	2,765,943	2,778,518
18	Mumbai	3,275,483	3,366,225	-	-	1,256,534	1,276,219	-	-	2,368,840	2,410,209	2,680,186	2,643,428
19	North East-I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	406,402	461,503	288,906	310,648
20	North East-II	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
21	Orissa	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,520,253	1,591,235	1,224,520	1,335,306
22	Punjab	1,600,442	1,630,489	2,410,632	2,498,174	-	-	-	-	3,092,607	3,135,387	951,793	1,008,826
23	Rajasthan	2,678,639	2,800,042	-	-	-	-	792,600	793,812	3,480,937	3,636,052	1,546,584	1,664,240
24	T.N.	2,903,442	3,018,458	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,739,510	3,796,690	2,474,736	2,606,102
25	U.P.(E)	3,402,718	3,407,144	-	-	-	-	864,815	909,127	2,819,877	3,027,568	2,770,197	2,762,188
26	U.P.(W)	2,635,757	2,737,967	-	-	-	-	2,279,063	2,410,735	1,442,882	1,510,164	2,093,271	2,096,674
27	Uttaranchal	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
28	W.B.	2,563,194	2,695,198	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,811,179	1,867,756	1,722,011	1,817,596
	<b>Total</b>	<b>41,145,413</b>	<b>42,557,072</b>	<b>3,942,828</b>	<b>4,084,205</b>	<b>1,256,534</b>	<b>1,276,219</b>	<b>21,954,685</b>	<b>22,873,556</b>	<b>57,417,625</b>	<b>59,670,174</b>	<b>42,566,333</b>	<b>44,178,349</b>

## Wireless Total including WLL(F)

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Annexure -I

HFCL Infotel		Shyam Telelink		Tata Teleservices		Aircel		MTNL		BSNL		State-wise Total	
Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	53,599	55,494	53,599	55,494
-	-	-	-	2,243,394	2,325,078	-	-	-	-	2,420,219	2,437,236	19,044,723	19,810,366
-	-	-	-	-	-	1,058,905	1,111,823	-	-	690,285	776,784	3,337,703	3,592,354
-	-	-	-	836,040	883,219	544,211	613,153	-	-	1,128,494	1,177,536	9,804,256	10,388,353
-	-	-	-	359,460	372,666	1,784,533	1,798,134	-	-	946,655	966,474	6,688,053	6,866,958
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	632,605	654,847	632,605	654,847
-	-	-	-	3,049,374	3,159,871	-	-	1,508,337	1,566,058	-	-	15,581,617	15,907,881
-	-	-	-	909,767	925,359	-	-	-	-	1,991,425	2,019,687	15,748,841	16,211,925
-	-	-	-	106,462	108,774	36,383	38,890	-	-	595,164	606,928	2,147,837	2,212,545
-	-	-	-	805,811	841,342	-	-	-	-	1,315,974	1,318,040	5,981,770	6,179,875
-	-	-	-	-	-	234,153	253,261	-	-	901,610	907,011	2,039,873	2,102,832
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	596,008	608,976	596,008	608,976
-	-	-	-	1,089,067	1,124,965	-	-	-	-	2,007,976	2,023,206	16,092,339	16,557,489
-	-	-	-	588,796	608,171	-	-	-	-	2,602,006	2,627,727	10,857,966	11,235,384
-	-	-	-	1,122,955	1,164,087	-	-	-	-	1,018,048	1,022,663	7,239,991	7,594,970
-	-	-	-	736,112	774,134	-	-	-	-	1,519,399	1,545,640	11,429,629	11,960,691
-	-	-	-	2,750,673	2,850,877	-	-	-	-	3,157,736	3,203,731	19,250,234	19,945,315
-	-	-	-	1,724,747	1,754,915	-	-	1,776,467	1,837,342	-	-	13,082,257	13,288,338
-	-	-	-	-	-	543,638	570,978	-	-	274,398	289,587	1,513,344	1,632,716
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	357,043	369,739	357,043	369,739
-	-	-	-	385,706	406,484	388,481	413,854	-	-	1,112,131	1,145,007	4,631,091	4,891,886
268,830	290,703	-	-	890,937	913,984	-	-	-	-	1,820,400	1,921,151	11,035,641	11,398,714
-	-	102,995	104,866	1,508,633	1,584,351	-	-	-	-	2,473,694	2,489,817	12,584,082	13,073,180
-	-	-	-	588,833	606,409	4,825,636	4,816,953	-	-	2,716,739	2,777,928	17,248,896	17,622,540
-	-	-	-	953,386	1,002,953	-	-	-	-	4,338,655	4,442,788	15,149,648	15,551,768
-	-	-	-	1,315,454	1,390,514	-	-	-	-	1,384,207	1,459,636	11,150,634	11,605,690
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	663,275	663,113	663,275	663,113
-	-	-	-	575,822	604,320	517,875	568,136	-	-	1,268,695	1,392,347	8,458,776	8,945,353
<b>268,830</b>	<b>290,703</b>	<b>102,995</b>	<b>104,866</b>	<b>22,541,429</b>	<b>23,402,473</b>	<b>9,933,815</b>	<b>10,185,182</b>	<b>3,284,804</b>	<b>3,403,400</b>	<b>37,986,440</b>	<b>38,903,093</b>	<b>242,401,731</b>	<b>250,929,292</b>

**Wireline Subscriber Base**

**Annexure -II**

Sl. No	Circle	Bharti Airtel Ltd.		Reliance Communications		HFCL infotel		Shyam Telelink		Tata Teleservices		MTNL		BSNL		State-wise Total	
		Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08	Jan'08	Feb'08
1	Andaman Nicobar													25,158	25,047	25,158	25,047
2	ANDHRA PRADESH	55,394	57,957	62,725	65,073					120,042	121,035			2,495,739	2,467,379	2,733,900	2,711,444
3	Assam													433,488	432,159	433,488	432,159
4	BIHAR			1,155	1,220					3,152	4,007			965,447	967,132	969,754	972,359
5	CHENNAI	268,124	269,372	69,703	70,253					24,223	24,089			993,920	1,001,572	1,355,970	1,365,286
6	Chhatisgarh	59,999	60,101											257,268	257,603	317,267	317,704
7	DELHI - NCR	704,611	709,183	97,542	100,988					23,396	23,314	1,557,086	1,563,513			2,382,635	2,396,998
8	GUJARAT	22,009	22,542	85,635	87,605					33,938	34,814			2,147,111	2,129,384	2,288,693	2,274,345
9	HIMACHAL PRADESH			2,548	2,818					360	390			419,851	415,651	422,759	418,859
10	HARYANA	20,825	20,890	7,144	7,473					1,601	1,812			908,859	909,235	938,429	939,410
11	JAMMU & KASHMIR			1	1									261,984	259,675	261,985	259,676
12	Jharkhand													443,400	444,082	443,400	444,082
13	KARNATAKA	349,257	358,499	77,935	79,045					80,576	80,691			2,334,194	2,305,864	2,841,962	2,824,099
14	KERALA	36,185	37,095	38,211	40,592					3,222	3,370			3,586,236	3,583,107	3,663,854	3,664,164
15	KOLKATA	34,608	36,422	58,005	59,912					10,409	11,856			1,328,096	1,339,965	1,431,118	1,448,155
16	MADHYA PRADESH	237,846	238,013	23,840	24,680					709	1,285			1,203,672	1,205,242	1,466,067	1,469,220
17	MAHARASHTRA	28,289	29,411	52,047	53,198					84,323	87,156			3,481,345	3,465,194	3,646,004	3,634,959
18	MUMBAI	132,858	141,804	113,566	118,201					294,091	301,865	2,031,052	2,029,920			2,571,567	2,591,790
19	North East-I													207,365	207,586	207,365	207,586
20	North East-II													129,385	129,442	129,385	129,442
21	ORISSA			3,246	3,475					747	865			764,941	766,190	768,934	770,530
22	PUNJAB	62,154	62,676	41,310	42,356	151,433	149,485			3,296	3,805			1,451,696	1,438,327	1,709,889	1,696,649
23	RAJASTHAN	18,318	19,384	12,472	13,218			158,781	157,868	298	368			1,564,375	1,562,778	1,754,244	1,753,616
24	TAMIL NADU	133,239	133,684	27,790	28,201					2,188	2,213			2,363,584	2,348,869	2,526,801	2,512,967
25	UP (EAST)	24,816	25,498	28,582	29,557					648	813			1,451,165	1,451,324	1,505,211	1,507,192
26	UP (WEST)	21,780	21,961	6,636	6,867					618	751			937,532	939,616	966,566	969,195
27	Uttaranchal													325,396	323,434	325,396	323,434
28	WEST BENGAL			3,780	4,162					218	221			1,126,103	1,120,084	1,130,101	1,124,467
	<b>Operator-wise Total</b>	<b>2,210,312</b>	<b>2,244,492</b>	<b>813,873</b>	<b>838,895</b>	<b>151,433</b>	<b>149,485</b>	<b>158,781</b>	<b>157,868</b>	<b>688,055</b>	<b>704,720</b>	<b>3,588,138</b>	<b>3,593,433</b>	<b>31,607,310</b>	<b>31,495,941</b>	<b>39,217,902</b>	<b>39,184,834</b>