

**Telecom Regulatory Authority of India**  
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**Telecom Subscribers Continue the Growth Trend during February 2005**

**Teledensity touches 9**

The subscriber base for telephony services continued to maintain its growth during February 2005 also with around 2.11 million subscribers being added. Thus, a total of 20.85 millions subscribers have been added during the first 11 months of financial year 2004-2005.

**Mobile Service:**

For mobile segment 1.67 million subscribers have been added during February 2005. The mobile additions consist of 1.13 million GSM subscribers and 0.54 million CDMA subscribers as against 1.27 million GSM and 0.50 million CDMA subscribers in the previous month. During first 11 months of the financial year 2004-05 about 17.84 million mobile subscribers have been added. The total mobile subscribers at the end of February 2005 are more than 51.44 million.

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

Year	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Total in (Apr-Feb) 11 months
2003-04	0.64	2.26	1.42	2.31	1.79	1.61	1.67	1.90	1.69	1.58	1.60	18.47
2004-05	1.37	1.33	1.43	1.74	1.67	1.84	1.51	1.56	1.95	1.77	1.67	17.84

**Fixed subscribers:**

In the fixed segment a total of 0.39 million subscribers were added during February 2005. With this the total subscriber base of fixed lines is around 45.59 million.

**Teledensity:**

The gross subscriber base consisting of fixed as well as mobile has become 97.03 million at the end of February 2005. The teledensity at the end of February 2005 has reached around 9.0 compared to 8.80 at the end of previous month.

### **Broadband Tariff & Growth:**

After issue of Broadband Policy 2004 by Govt., most of the fixed line service providers have launched broadband services with reduced tariffs. The following monthly tariffs for a 256 Kbps broadband connection for 50 hours usage are indicated below :

	December,2003	September, 2004	February, 2005
Monthly Tariff for 256 Kbps connection (50 hours usage in Rs.)	1800	1000	500

Already about 50,000 Broadband connections have been added during October, 2004 to December 2004.

The growth of 'Always-On' high speed (<256 Kbps) connections are shown in table below :

	June, 2004	September, 2004	December,2004
Number of Subscribers in Lakhs	2.3	3.1	6.5

It is expected that with reduction in tariff for IPLC, the tariff for broadband services would further decline and number of Broadband connections will grow much faster.

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