

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
8th March 2004
Press Release No.19/2004

Continued Growth trend for Mobile Subscribers during Feb., 2004.
Subscribers Base crosses 31.6 millions mark, WLL(M) exceeds 7 million.
Gross Telephony Subscriber surpasses 74 Millions.

The subscriber base for mobile services continued to maintain its growth during first month of February 2004. During the month approximately 1.67 million mobile subscribers were added bringing the total of this category to beyond 31.6 million.

During the month 1.31 million cellular and 0.36 million WLL(M) subscribers have been added raising the total number of cellular subscribers to 24.65 million and that for WLL(M) subscribers to 7.02 million.

Growth of Mobile Subscribers during Feb. 2004 over previous month (January 2004) was 5.6% and is shown below :

Service	Jan. 2004	Feb. 2004	Additions	(Subscribers In millions)	
				% age Growth over last month	% age Growth over February 2003
Cellular	23.34	24.65	1.31		
WLL(M)	6.66	7.02	0.36		
Total	30.0	31.67	1.67	5.6%	111.39%

Addition in Mobiles for each month during 2003-04 in comparison to 2002-03 is shown below:

Year/ Month	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb	Total in 11 month (Apr to-Feb)
2002-03	0.28	0.29	0.35	0.36	0.49	0.37	0.53	0.72	0.80	0.73	0.79	5.63
2003-04	0.64	2.26	1.42	2.31	1.79	1.61	1.67	1.90	1.90	1.64	1.67	18.81

Additions during the first 11 months of FE 2003-04 were more than 3 times of growth during the corresponding period of FE 2002-03.

In India, at the end of February, 2004, fixed line including WLL(F) have almost reached the figure of 42.4 million and mobiles have exceeded 31.6 million making a total of telephone subscribers in the country more than 74 millions.

(S.N. Gupta)
Advisor (CN)