

India continued to be one of the fastest growing telecom markets in the world in 2008, with a growth of 37 percent from 2007.

The Indian telecommunication network, with more than 300 million telephone connections, is the fifth largest in the world and is the second largest among the emerging economies of Asia. Cellular telephony has emerged as the fastest growing segment in the Indian Telecom industry. The mobile subscriber base (GSM and CDMA combined) has grown from under 2 million at the end of the FY00 to touch 300 million at the end of March 2008 and is growing at the rate of over 6 million subscribers per month. Intense competition between the four main private groups - Bharti, Vodafone, Tata and Reliance and state incumbents -- BSNL and MTNL has resulted in a significant drop in tariffs. There has been a drop of almost 74 percent in cell phone charges, 70 percent in international long distance (ILD) calls and 25 percent in national long distance (NLD) charges, resulting in a boom time for consumers. **India now offers cheapest mobile tariffs in the world.** In August 2006, India overtook China as the country adding the most number of cellular subscribers. Indian mobile companies added 5.9 million subscribers against China's 5.19 million. India has since added close to 7 million subscribers monthly since then. ^[2] ^[3]

Information above is from the FAITC website, Indian Telecom Sector Report, Feb 2009:
<http://www.tradecommissioner.gc.ca/eng/market-reports-by-country.jsp?cid=525&rid=11>