

# News Flash



## India is World No. 1 in August 2006 for Net Cellular Subscriber Adds

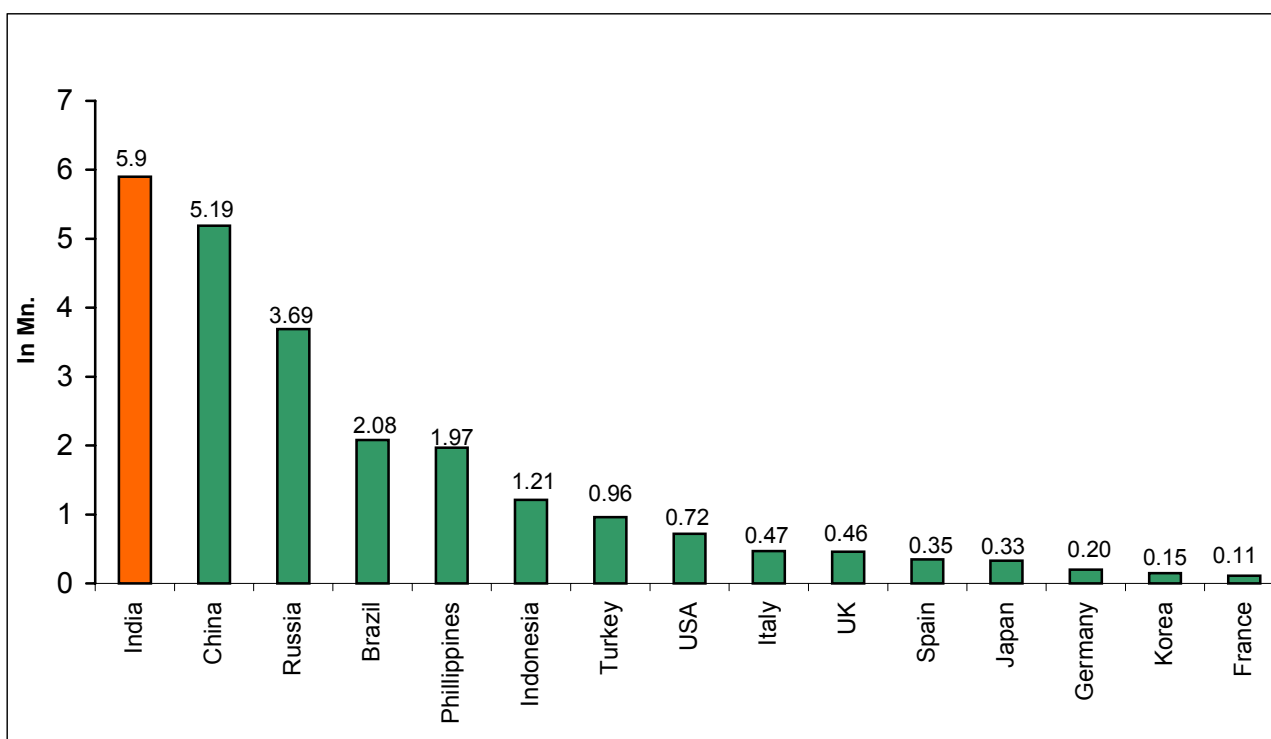
### India Dominates Global Net Cellular Subscriber Additions in August 2006

August 2006 saw the Indian Cellular industry achieve the global highest monthly additions in cellular subscribers by adding 5.9 million subscribers to its fast growing subscriber base.

This achievement has taken India ahead of even China which added 5.19 million subscribers over the same period. (See [Graph-1](#))

Graph-1

Additions in Cellular Subscribers in August 2006 (in Million)



Source: EMC Database

With this, the all India mobile subscriber base has crossed 123 million subscribers and India is well on course to exceed the COAI forecast of 130 million subscribers by December 2006. This explosive growth in subscriber numbers is a direct result of the forward looking policies of the Government, the enabling regulatory structure and the commitment of the industry to deliver increased access to subscribers with ever improving affordability.

## Role of India in the Next Half Billion

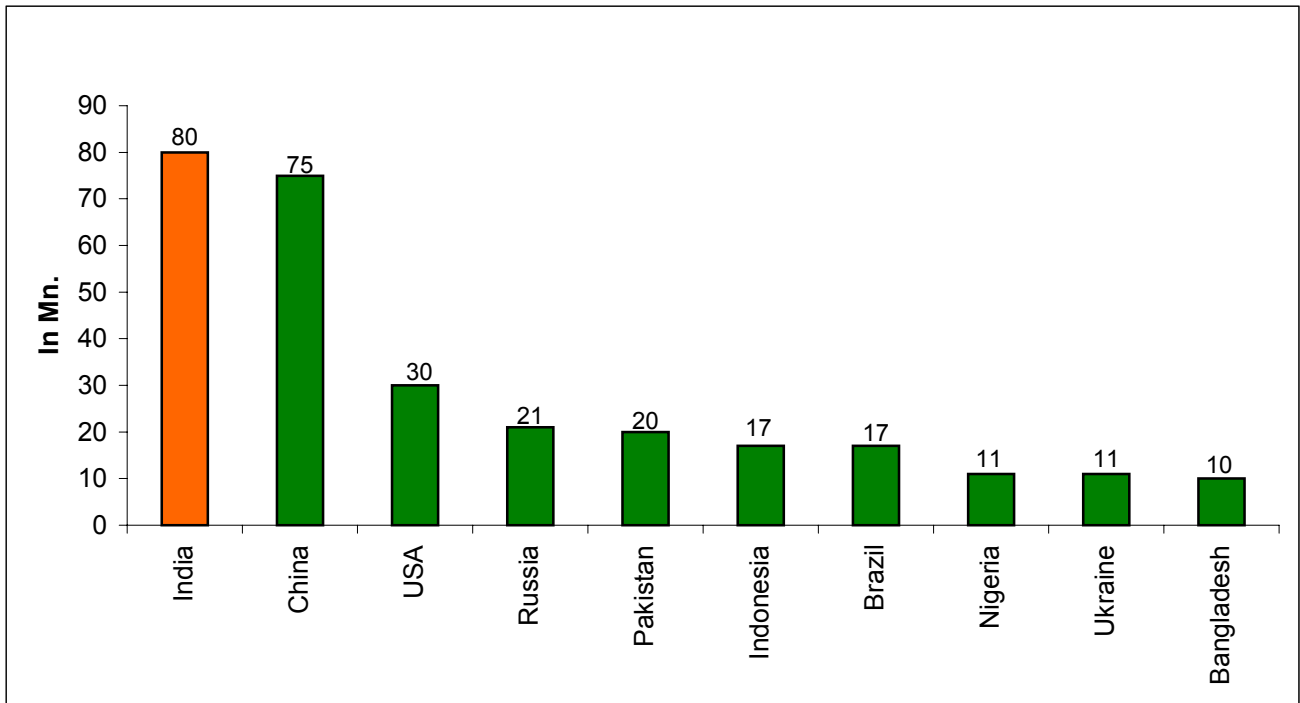
Globally, the cellular industry is set to achieve the milestone of 2.5 billion cellular connections in September 2006. The **last half billion** has come in a record time of 12 months and has been **mainly added in the very high-growth emerging markets of China, India and Russia.**

The **industry has thus been growing at around 40 million subscribers per month** which is the highest ever volume of growth that the market has ever seen. And the **share of the Asia Pac region in this growth is 41%** with **India and China alone accounting for 25%** of the total subscriber growth worldwide over the last year. This is in keeping with global forecasts that the future growth is going to come from the Asia Pac region.

Keeping pace with the current growth rate, it is estimated that the **subscribers will grow by another 500 million to reach 3 billion cellular connections by the end of 2007.** As per the experts, **the contribution by India to this growth would be the maximum and is estimated to be 80 million new cellular subscribers.** (See [Graph-2](#))

**Graph-2**

**Expected New Subscriber Additions by end 2007**



Source: Wireless Intelligence, September 2006

Technology wise, **GSM continues to dominate the global mobility** market accounting for **80% of the total mobile subscriber base**. In fact the share of GSM is steadily increasing as it has accounted for **87% of the net subscriber additions in the last 12 months**. (See Table-1)

**Table-1**  
**Worldwide Net Addition in Cellular Subscribers - Q4 2005 to Q3 2006**

Technology	Net Additions (Million)	Share of Growth
CdmaOne	-21	-4%
CDMA2000 1X	58	12%
CDMA2000 1EV-DO	22	5%
GSM	422	87%
WCDMA	47	10%
TDMA	-28	-6%
PDC	-14	-3%
IDEN	2	0%
Analog	-3	-1%

Source: Wireless Intelligence, September 2006