

BSNL top earner in Q4, Bharti No 2

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New Delhi, May 25: BSNL may be behind the Bharti and Vodafone in subscriber numbers but the state-run company remains the top revenue earning telecom firm for the quarter ending March 2008 with its topline touching Rs 10,747.79 crore followed by Sunil Mittal's Bharti at Rs 8,381 crore.

Vodafone Essar during the quarter had a revenue of Rs 4,681.44 crore followed by Anil Ambani's Reliance Communications at Rs 4,318.74 crore, according to TRAI's analysis of financials by the operators.

Idea Cellular revenues touched Rs 2,150.84 crore while Tata Teleservices earned a revenue of Rs 2,057.30 crore in the quarter.

India is the second in the world when it comes to the number of mobile phone subscribers in a country. India has beaten the US, and has taken the number two position in terms of wireless user base.

China is on top with an estimated 550 million wireless subscribers, while India is at 261.09 million and the US at 257.89 million as of April-end.

On the GSM mobile front, Bharti Airtel's total tally of subscriber is at 64.3 million. Vodafone Essar now has 45.7 million subscribers and BSNL is at the third spot with 36.6 million mobile users.

State run MTNL's revenue is Rs 1,484.86 crore.

The Aircel group, which has mobile operations on UASL license and NLD, ILD and ISP operations under Dishnet Wireless Ltd, had a gross revenue of Rs 724.55 crore.