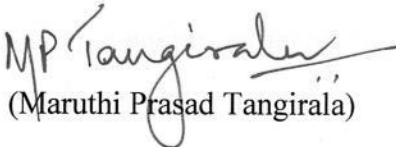


PREFACE

The present study is an attempt to examine the development impact of mobile telephony led growth of telecommunications in India. The growth of mobile telephones in the past 4 to 5 years has been breathtaking, allowing the country to leap frog to a status of reasonable parity with other countries. Unprecedented growth at this pace has had spin-offs both positive and negative, but the intuitive premise of this study that the positive effects outweigh the negatives has been vindicated by the results and conclusions.

2. In consolidating research in the area and drawing policy lessons for the future, world-wide experience and trends have been taken into account, while at the same time concentrating on India-specific constraints and circumstances.

3. I hope that the study will add perspective and further meaning to the large body of work being undertaken in the field.


(Maruthi Prasad Tangirala)