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FREE MOBILE ACCESS TO WIKIPEDIA

Telecom company Aircel and the Wikimedia Foundation announced a partnership to offer Wikipedia on mobile phones for free to Aircel customers. The alliance is aimed at making information and knowledge on Wikipedia accessible to all Aircel customers in both rural and urban areas without data charges, an Aircel release said. Users can access the online encyclopaedia in English and 19 Indian languages.

This partnership is part of the Wikimedia Foundation's Wikipedia Zero programme, the focus of which is on reaching the billions around the world whose primary opportunity to access the Internet is via a mobile device. "With the partnership, we extend our programme to India, where we can potentially reach millions of people for the first time," said Kul Takanao Wadhwa, head of mobile, Wikimedia Foundation.