Information Note to the Press





### TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA

New Delhi, 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 (www.trai.gov.in)

## Highlights of Telecom Subscription Data as on 31st August, 2018

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	Total (Wireless+ Wireline)
Total Telephone Subscribers (Million)	1166.90	22.19	1189.08
Net Addition in August, 2018 (Million)	9.85	-0.08	9.77
Monthly Growth Rate	0.85%	-0.38%	0.83%
Urban Telephone Subscribers (Million)	647.80	19.00	666.80
Net Addition in August, 2018 (Million)	8.08	-0.07	8.01
Monthly Growth Rate	1.26%	-0.35%	1.22%
Rural Telephone Subscribers (Million)	519.10	3.19	522.29
Net Addition in August, 2018 (Million)	1.77	-0.02	1.75
Monthly Growth Rate	0.34%	-0.54%	0.34%
Overall Tele-density*(%)	89.41	1.70	91.11
Urban Tele-density*(%)	156.48	4.59	161.07
Rural Tele-density*(%)	58.25	0.36	58.61
Share of Urban Subscribers	55.51%	85.63%	56.08%
Share of Rural Subscribers	44.49%	14.37%	43.92%
Broadband Subscribers (Million)	445.64	18.02	463.66

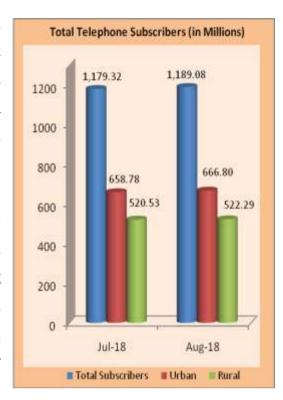
- ❖ In the month of August, 2018, 4.73 million subscribers submitted their requests for Mobile Number Portability (MNP). With this, the cumulative MNP requests increased from 391.00 million at the end of Jul-18 to 395.72 million at the end of Aug-18, since implementation of MNP.
- ❖ Number of active wireless subscribers (on the date of peak VLR<sup>#</sup>) in August, 2018 was 1,013.21 million.

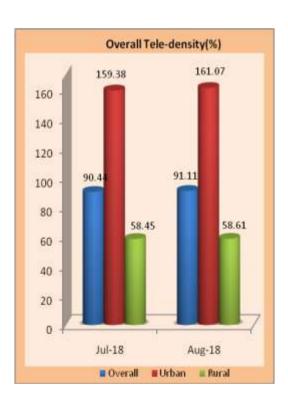
#### Note:

- Information in this Press Release is based on the data provided by the Service Providers
- \* Based on the population projections from Census data published by the Office of Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India.
- # VLR is acronym of Visitor Location Register. The dates of peak VLR for various TSPs are different in different service areas.

## I. Total Telephone Subscribers

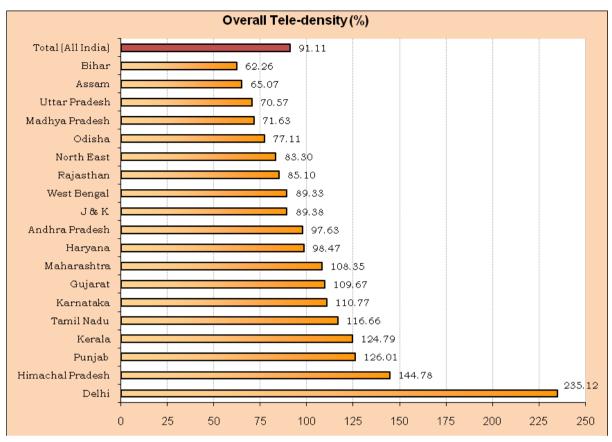
• The number of telephone subscribers in India increased from 1,179.32 million at the end of Jul-18 to 1,189.08 million at the end of Aug-18, thereby showing a monthly growth rate of 0.83%. The urban subscription increased from 658.78 million at the end of Jul-18 to 666.80 million at the end of Aug-18, and the rural subscription also increased from 520.53 million to 522.29 million during the same period. The monthly growth rates of urban and rural subscription 1.22% and 0.34% respectively were during the month of Aug-18.





• The overall Tele-density in India increased from 90.44 at the end of Jul-18 to 91.11 at the end of Aug-18. The Urban Tele-density increased from 159.38 at the end of Jul-18 to 161.07 at the end of Aug-18, and Rural Teledensity also increased from 58.45 at the end of Jul-18 to 58.61 at the end of Aug-18. The share of urban and rural subscribers in total number telephone subscribers at the end of Aug-18 was 56.08% and 43.92% respectively.





#### Notes:

- 1. Population data/projections are available state wise only.
- 2. Tele-density figures are derived from the telephone subscriber data provided by the access service providers and the projections of population published by the Office of the Registrar General & Census Commissioner, India.
- 3. Telephone subscriber data for Delhi, includes, apart from the data for the State of Delhi, wireless subscriber data for the areas served by the local exchanges of Ghaziabad & Noida (in Uttar Pradesh) and Gurgaon & Faridabad (in Haryana).
- 4. Data/information for West Bengal includes Kolkata, Maharashtra includes Mumbai, Tamil Nadu includes Chennai and Uttar Pradesh includes UPE & UPW service area(s).
- 5. Data/information for Andhra Pradesh includes Telengana, Madhya Pradesh includes Chhatishgarh, Bihar includes Jharkhand, Maharashtra includes Goa, Uttar Pradesh includes Uttarakhand, West Bengal includes Sikkim and North-East includes Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland & Tripura States.

## II. Category-wise Growth in subscriber base

Circle Category-wise Net Additions in Telephone Subscribers in the month of August, 2018

Circle		is in the month ust, 2018	_	bscriber base as ugust, 2018
Category	Wireline segment	Wireless segment	Wireline segment	Wireless segment
Circle A	-21,555	2,276,941	8,727,050	401,772,519
Circle B	-31,022	3,056,797	5,572,944	475,075,056
Circle C	-18,851	1,753,320	970,666	175,919,125
Metro	-13,453	2,764,338	6,916,709	114,129,204
All India	-84,881	9,851,396	22,187,369	1,166,895,904

# Circle Category-wise monthly and yearly Growth Rates in Telephone Subscribers in the month of August, 2018

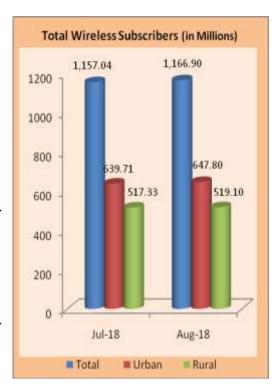
Circle	Monthly gro (Jul-18 t	wth rate (%) o Aug-18)		wth rate (%) to Aug-18)		
Category	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment		
Circle A	-0.25	0.57	-7.35	-2.87		
Circle B	-0.55	0.65	-9.58	0.42		
Circle C	-1.91	1.01	-10.10	-1.02		
Metro	-0.19	2.48	-2.64	-5.98		
All India	-0.38	0.85	-6.64	-1.60		

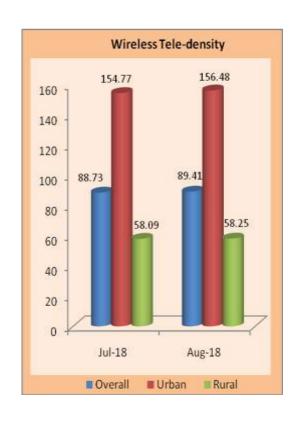
Note: Circle Category-Metro includes Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata. Data for Chennai has been included in Circle Category-A, as part of TamilNadu.

- As can be seen in the above tables, in wireless segment, Circles of all categories showed positive growth in their subscriber base during the month of Aug-18. However, on yearly (Y-o-Y) basis, circles of all categories except Category 'B', showed negative growth in wireless subscriber base during the same period.
- In Wireline segment, Circles of all Categories showed monthly and yearly (Y-o-Y basis) decline in their number of wireline subscribers during the month of Aug-18.

#### III. Wireless Subscribers

• Total wireless subscribers (GSM, CDMA & LTE) increased from 1,157.04 million at the end of Jul-18 to 1,166.90 million at the end of Aug-18, thereby registering a monthly growth rate of 0.85%. The Wireless subscription in urban areas increased from 639.71 million at the end of Jul-18 to 647.80 million at the end of Aug-18, and wireless subscriptions in rural areas also increased from 517.33 million to 519.10 million during the month. The monthly growth rates of urban and rural wireless subscription were 1.26% and 0.34% respectively.

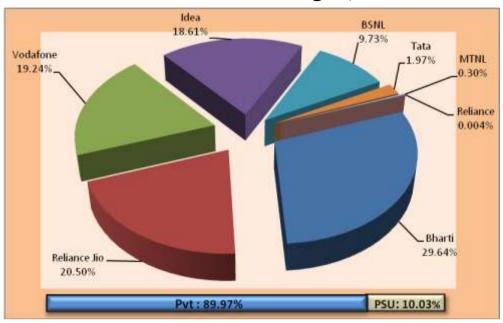




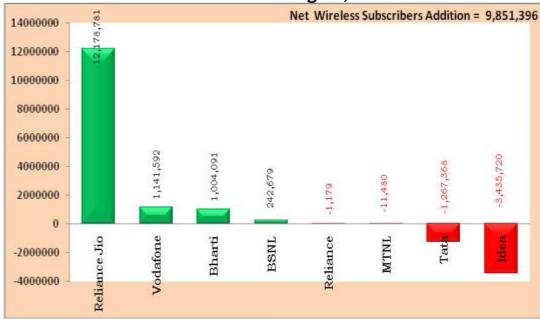
• The Wireless Tele-density in India increased from 88.73 at the end of Jul-18 to 89.41 at the end of Aug-18. The Urban Wireless Tele-density increased from 154.77 at the end of Jul-18 to 156.48 at the end of Aug-18, and Rural Wireless Tele-density also increased from 58.09 to 58.25 during the same period. The share of urban and rural wireless subscribers in total number of wireless subscribers was 55.51% and 44.49% respectively at the end of Aug-18. Detailed statistics of wireless subscriber base is available at **Annexure-I**.

• As on 31st August, 2018, the private access service providers held 89.97% market share of the wireless subscribers whereas BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, had a market share of only 10.03%. The graphical representation of access service provider-wise market share and net additions in wireless subscriber base are given below:

Access Service Provider-wise Market Shares in term of Wireless Subscribers as on 31st August, 2018



Net Additions in Wireless Subscribers of Access Service Providers in the Month of August, 2018

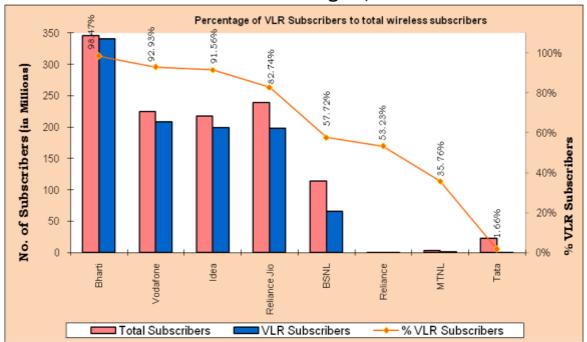


**Note:** 1. On noticing that while reporting number of subscribers, some of the TSPs were deducting inactive subscribers. A Direction was issued on 18th August 2017 to TSPs to strictly adhere to the Department of Telecommunications' methodology for reporting their number of subscribers. However, some of the Telecom Service Providers are yet to comply with the Direction.

## IV. Active Wireless Subscribers (VLR Data)

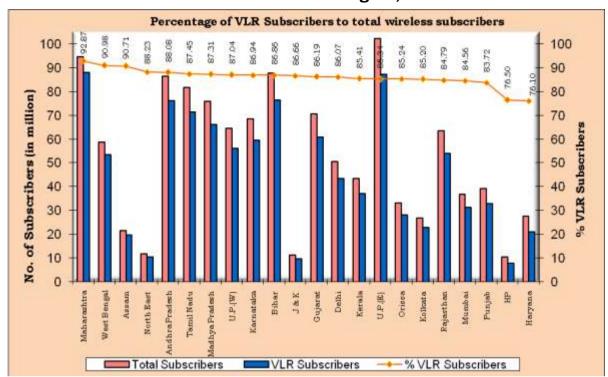
- Out of the total wireless subscribers (1,166.90 million), 1,013.21 million wireless subscribers were active on the date of peak VLR in the month of Aug-18. The proportion of active wireless subscribers was approximately 86.83% of the total wireless subscriber base.
- The detailed statistics on proportion of active wireless subscribers (also referred to as VLR subscribers) on the date of peak VLR in the month of Aug-18 is available at **Annexure-II** and the methodology used for reporting VLR subscribers is available at **Annexure-IV**.

# Access Service Provider-wise Percentage of VLR Subscribers in the Month of August, 2018



 Bharti Airtel has the maximum proportion (98.47%) of its active wireless subscribers (VLR) as against its total wireless subscribers (HLR) on the date of peak VLR in the month of Aug-18.

# Service Area wise percentage of VLR Subscribers in the Month of August, 2018

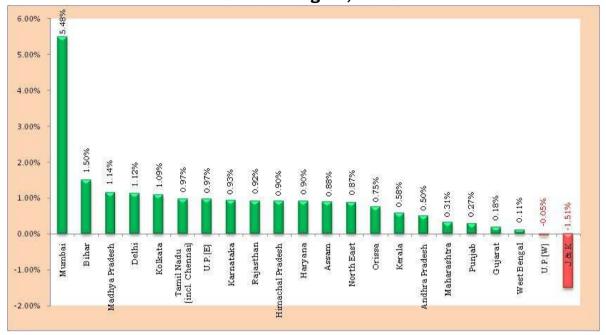


## V. Growth in Wireless Subscribers

# Access Service Provider-wise Monthly Growth Rate of Wireless Subscribers in the Month of August, 2018



# Service Area-wise Monthly Growth Rate of Wireless Subscribers in the Month of August, 2018



• During the month of August, 2018, all service areas except U.P.(West) and J&K service areas, showed positive growth rate in their wireless subscriber base. Mumbai service area showed maximum growth rate of 5.48% and J&K service area showed maximum decline rate of 1.51% in their wireless subscriber base during the month.

# VI. Mobile Number Portability (MNP)

- Intra-service area Mobile number portability (MNP) was implemented first in Haryana service area w.e.f. 25.11.2010 and in the rest of the country w.e.f. 20.01.2011. Inter-Service Area MNP has been implemented in the country w.e.f. 03.07.2015. Now, the wireless telephone subscribers can retain their mobile numbers when they relocate from one service area to another.
- During the month of Aug-18, a total of 4.73 million requests were received for MNP. Out of total 4.73 million requests, 2.73 million requests received from Zone-I and 2.00 million requests received from Zone-II. The cumulative MNP requests increased from 391.00 million at the end of Jul-18 to 395.72 million at the end of Aug-18, since the implementation of MNP.

• In MNP Zone-I (Northern and Western India), the highest number of requests till date have been received in Rajasthan (about 32.41 million) followed by Maharashtra (about 27.71 million) service area. In MNP Zone-II (Southern and Eastern India), the highest number of requests till date have been received in Karnataka (about 37.74 million) followed by Tamilnadu (about 33.76 million).

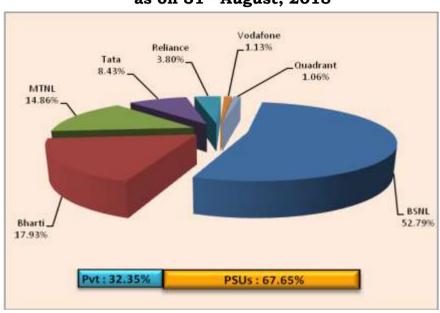
Service Area Wise MNP Status								
Zon	e -1	Zone - 2						
Service Area	Number of Porting Requests (in Million)		s (in		ber of Requests illion)			
	Jul-18	Aug-18		Jul-18	Aug-18			
Delhi	19.75	20.08	Andhra Pradesh	32.93	33.38			
Gujarat	25.56	25.85	Assam	3.15	3.19			
Haryana	14.21	14.37	Bihar	14.86	15.06			
Himachal Pradesh	1.88	1.90	Karnataka	37.41	37.74			
Jammu & Kashmir	0.91	0.92	Kerala	9.45	9.54			
Maharashtra	27.20	27.71	Kolkata	9.68	9.76			
Mumbai	20.56	20.77	Madhya Pradesh	25.73	26.00			
Punjab	14.71	14.95	North East	1.24	1.26			
Rajasthan	32.08	32.41	Orissa	7.74	7.83			
U.P.(East)	21.21	21.55	Tamil Nadu	33.45	33.76			
U.P.(West)	16.97	17.25	West Bengal	20.33	20.45			
Total	195.03	197.75	Total	195.97	197.97			
Total (Zone-1 + Zon	e-2)			391.00	395.72			
Net Addition (August	, 2018)				4.73			

### VII. Wireline Subscribers

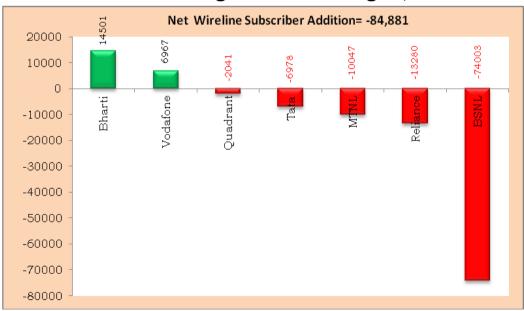
• Wireline subscribers further declined from 22.27 million at the end of Jul-18 to 22.19 million at the end of Aug-18. Net decline in the wireline subscriber base was 0.08 million with a monthly decline rate of 0.38%. The share of urban and rural subscribers in total wireline subscribers were 85.63% and 14.37% respectively at the end of Aug-18.

- The Overall Wireline Tele-density(%) declined from 1.71 at the end of Jul-18 to 1.70 at the end of Aug-18. Urban and Rural Wireline Teledensity were 4.59 and 0.36 respectively during the same period.
- BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, held 67.65% of the wireline market share. Detailed statistics of wireline subscriber base are available at **Annexure-III**.

Access Service Provider-wise Market Shares of Wireline Subscribers as on 31st August, 2018



Access Service Provider-wise Net Additions/declines in Wireline Subscribers during the Month of August, 2018



# VIII. Broadband (≥ 512 Kbps download)

• As per the reports received from 296 operators, the number of broadband subscribers increased from 460.24 million at the end of Jul-18 to 463.66 million at the end of Aug-18 with a monthly growth rate of 0.74%. Segment-wise broadband subscribers and their monthly growth rates are as below:

Segment-wise Broadband Subscribers and Monthly Growth Rate in the month of August, 2018

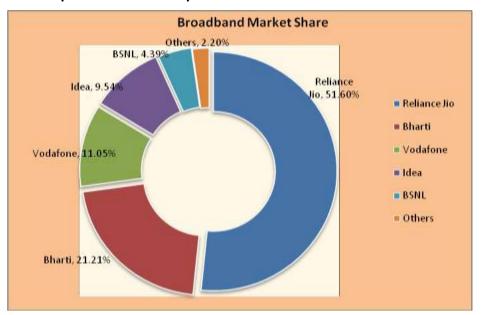
	Broadband (in m	Monthly growth	
Segment	As on 31st July, 2018	As on 31st August, 2018	rate in the month of Aug-18
Wired subscribers	17.95	18.02	0.38%
Mobile devices users (Phones and dongles)	441.85	445.18	0.75%
Fixed Wireless subscribers (Wi-Fi, Wi-Max, Point-to- Point Radio & VSAT)	0.44	0.45	3.10%
Total	460.24	463.65	0.74%

• Top five service providers constituted 97.80% market share of the total broadband subscribers at the end of Aug-18. These service providers were Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd (239.23 million), Bharti Airtel (98.36 million), Vodafone (51.25 million), Idea Cellular (44.24 million) and BSNL (20.35 million).

Note: 1. Some wireless service providers exclude incidental data users from their subscriber base, based on minimum usage decided by them.

• The graphical representation of the service provider-wise market share of broadband services is given below:

# Service Provider-wise Market Share of Broadband (wired+wireless) Services as on 31.08.2018



- As on 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2018, the top five <u>Wired</u> Broadband Service providers were BSNL (9.16 million), Bharti Airtel (2.24 million), Atria Convergence Technologies (1.36 million), MTNL (0.81 million) and Hathway Cable & Datacom (0.76 million).
- As on 31st August, 2018, the top five <u>Wireless</u> Broadband Service providers were Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd (239.23 million), Bharti Airtel (96.12 million), Vodafone (51.25 million), Idea Cellular (44.24 million) and BSNL (11.19 million).

Contact details in case of any clarification:

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(S. K. Mishra) Pr. Advisor (F&EA)

### **Wireless Subscriber Base**

Annexure-I

					C	roup				
	Bha	arti	Reliano	e Com.	Voda	fone	Та	ta	Id	ea
Circle	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18
Andhra Pradesh	30245997	30176360	2907	2855	6286735	6127139	2146639	2025038	18479243	18249733
Assam	8415936	8447074			4521478	4460812			1538404	1473777
Bihar	39712271	40092711	93	96	10655746	10611431	460930	420861	14987914	14884304
Delhi	15059591	15158137	11167	11121	12108492	12486379	281389	188972	7517479	7353323
Gujarat	12748899	12647157	1786	1699	20214692	20119937	1185423	1115998	15026444	14846842
Haryana	3964732	3960914	60	57	6560649	6541960	1087264	1028187	5604538	5529778
Himachal Pradesh	3666657	3680320	70	70	554611	529875	8416	7017	1054130	1024380
J & K	5627156	5640905			870166	837109			754735	705932
Karnataka	26960332	27208845	4391	4121	7566096	7662144	3823261	3667930	9840902	9644127
Kerala	5045729	5090507	1869	1746	7802221	7800438	450428	421633	12816302	12792003
Kolkata	6483611	6508881	556	554	6973621	7049849	1299712	1253740	3122905	3038176
Madhya Pradesh	15995298	15922610	2059	2057	6229620	6005007	2418709	2313921	29049911	28629423
Maharashtra	17061688	16852234	1962	1693	20165589	20368907	2351323	2177321	31044981	30619163
Mumbai	8273996	8364658	8980	8949	9575029	11189417	1258713	1155303	4889040	4844301
North East	5398981	5416887			1881936	1850027			569397	553391
Orissa	13252628	13256695	48	48	4660582	4600382	765620	689966	2265724	2224299
Punjab	10506700	10494593	498	498	4728152	4597490	1104389	1065075	7900145	7750845
Rajasthan	23951747	24044239	1414	1418	12342091	12249941	205950	178259	8477637	8309620
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	25700859	25981627	6616	6281	20186968	20185091	1846493	1774930	6640140	6477340
U.P.(E)	33348991	33640050	812	842	24864759	24846414	1897958	1886681	13871522	13538594
U.P.(W)	14616068	14407034	87	65	12703033	12666318	1609017	1570169	18317485	18025864
West Bengal	18839537	18889057	166	192	21889788	21697579	64303	57568	6835174	6653217
Total	344877404	345881495	45541	44362	223342054	224483646	24265937	22998569	220604152	217168432
Net Addition		1004091		-1179		1141592		-1267368		-3435720
Rural Subscribers	171774609	172296100	0	0	119616507	118843627	3383551	3319866	118028321	115415729

**Note:** M/s Reliance Com. has not reported its rural wireless subscriber base for the months of July & August, 2018 and hence their rural wireless subscriber base has been taken as NIL.

## Wireless Subscriber Base

## Annexure-I (Contd.)

				(	Group				
	BS	NL	МТ	'nL	Relian	ce Jio	То	tal	Net
Circle	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Addition
Andhra Pradesh	10138678	10121336			18710921	19739246	86011120	86441707	430587
Assam	2337780	2361519			4564317	4822949	21377915	21566131	188216
Bihar	4807354	4851318			15879969	16939207	86504277	87799928	1295651
Delhi			2249613	2241426	12729546	13075176	49957277	50514534	557257
Gujarat	5641982	5693475			15534770	16058993	70353996	70484101	130105
Haryana	4612494	4721161			5640792	5935581	27470529	27717638	247109
Himachal Pradesh	2668626	2689597			2305170	2418815	10257680	10350074	92394
J & K	1448459	1241297			2734821	2837318	11435337	11262561	-172776
Karnataka	7116523	7087161			12425648	13093076	67737153	68367404	630251
Kerala	10796023	10867428			6135163	6322954	43047735	43296709	248974
Kolkata	1622728	1651491			6912094	7200891	26415227	26703582	288355
Madhya Pradesh	6193498	6159102			15116763	16831873	75005858	75863993	858135
Maharashtra	6878876	6897298			16899160	17783437	94403579	94700053	296474
Mumbai			1265728	1262435	9720876	10086025	34992362	36911088	1918726
North East	1728292	1744111			2132627	2249264	11711233	11813680	102447
Orissa	5507870	5509897			6426891	6845464	32879363	33126751	247388
Punjab	5256533	5275129			9560124	9979765	39056541	39163395	106854
Rajasthan	5622061	5659635			12373966	13109401	62974866	63552513	577647
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	11667350	11691867			14941304	15662118	80989730	81779254	789524
U.P.(E)	11709991	11784171			15521127	16500994	101215160	102197746	982586
U.P.(W)	5865767	5868934			11501384	12044837	64612841	64583221	-29620
West Bengal	1720863	1708500			9284898	9693728	58634729	58699841	65112
Total	113341748	113584427	3515341	3503861	227052331	239231112	1157044508	1166895904	9851396
Net Addition		242679		-11480		12178781	0	9851396	
Rural Subscribers	35997461	36062370	47017	46846	68482619	73114298	517330085	519098836	1768751

## Proportion of VLR on the date of Peak VLR in the month of Aug-18 (%) Annexure-II

Circle	Bharti	BSNL	Idea	MTNL	Reliance	Reliance Jio	Tata	Vodafone	Total
Andhra Pradesh	101.56	69.70	96.74		76.29	78.30	0.50	86.67	88.08
Assam	94.18	68.12	86.77			92.85		95.08	90.71
Bihar	88.18	55.73	86.65		52.08	96.06	0.56	85.15	86.86
Delhi	95.75		94.54	25.96	59.91	72.94	22.82	94.87	86.07
Gujarat	99.67	45.61	92.18		7.89	78.08	0.06	96.03	86.19
Haryana	116.13	37.07	90.94		71.93	63.66	0.50	90.67	76.10
Himachal Pradesh	90.65	48.96	103.59		92.86	71.31	1.78	90.26	76.50
J & K	92.90	77.60	91.25		-	75.60		91.68	86.66
Karnataka	103.54	62.65	92.11		72.46	80.53	0.41	96.31	86.94
Kerala	106.56	63.47	94.90		13.06	78.26	1.85	96.96	85.41
Kolkata	106.14	56.93	86.32		6.68	73.50	8.96	97.53	85.20
Madhya Pradesh	102.87	54.81	93.91		12.25	90.39	0.37	72.82	87.31
Maharashtra	112.68	57.75	94.02		51.09	93.89	2.54	95.39	92.87
Mumbai	113.99		81.35	53.16	56.46	81.40	7.60	78.30	84.56
North East	93.36	70.01	92.34		-	85.61		92.34	88.23
Orissa	89.33	70.65	83.73		22.92	92.70	1.52	93.08	85.24
Punjab	101.56	55.88	94.77		10.24	77.03	0.09	90.26	83.72
Rajasthan	91.59	47.32	88.38		8.60	76.96	0.59	95.91	84.79
<b>Tamil Nadu</b> (incl. Chennai)	101.15	67.17	88.51		71.55	79.18	0.73	95.27	87.45
U.P. (E)	96.54	45.90	87.65	_	25.65	90.00	0.17	90.99	85.34
U.P. (W)	104.85	43.43	89.71		52.31	78.33	0.19	102.25	87.04
West Bengal	92.60	80.92	83.20		70.31	86.38	1.57	95.03	90.98
Total	98.47	57.72	91.56	35.76	53.23	82.74	1.66	92.93	86.83

Note: Peak VLR figures in some circles of some of the service providers are more than their HLR figures due to a large number of inroamers.

### Wireline Subscriber Base

### Annexure-III

	Group												_				
Circle	BS	SNL	МТ	NL	Bha	arti	Reli	ance	Та	ıta	Quad	lrant	Voda	afone	Tot	tal	
	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Net Addition
Andhra Pradesh	1009701	1015549			168865	169546	49369	49325	174200	174157			30480	29790	1432615	1438367	5752
Assam	127085	125675											2760	2880	129845	128555	-1290
Bihar	235667	232768					4383	4345	10868	9521			2280	1740	253198	248374	-4824
Delhi			1514317	1508597	1344985	1351374	147610	143744	148106	151008			40770	40350	3195788	3195073	-715
Gujarat	1010761	1009746			81248	81381	25559	24980	92419	91664			13968	16788	1223955	1224559	604
Haryana	228637	227376			22325	22472	3116	3025	36544	36248			150	150	290772	289271	-1501
Himachal Pradesh	116832	115709					3220	3162	1954	2004			30	0	122036	120875	-1161
J & K	110452	109129													110452	109129	-1323
Karnataka	1063309	1057229			654881	657314	148674	147986	277803	277538			39305	39035	2183972	2179102	-4870
Kerala	1824114	1817186			59018	59172	20752	20383	19668	19602			2880	2910	1926432	1919253	-7179
Kolkata	533562	523750			125060	125568	44061	43497	52245	52007			7710	8000	762638	752822	-9816
Madhya Pradesh	656591	656659			241552	242072	11543	11457	16091	15273			780	750	926557	926211	-346
Maharashtra	1189720	1175309			86158	86623	57108	55946	301418	299973			16416	16567	1650820	1634418	-16402
Mumbai			1792346	1788019	361611	361841	204563	200709	571247	570930			41969	47315	2971736	2968814	-2922
North East	108330	107843											270	270	108600	108113	-487
Orissa	253372	243542					2682	2680	7592	7658			1740	1740	265386	255620	-9766
Punjab	438450	432710			124353	125295	11868	11817	14076	14163	237834	235793	1590	1530	828171	821308	-6863
Rajasthan	482385	476800			50924	51581	25803	25629	12036	12112			6990	7140	578138	573262	-4876
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	1485173	1478852			556595	557196	79573	78330	118442	118696			17460	17530	2257243	2250604	-6639
U.P.(E)	362105	362032			64501	65010	10788	10512	11181	8802			11580	11550	460155	457906	-2249
U.P.(W)	294324	291539			22409	22541	4555	4416	8332	6027			3840	3870	333460	328393	-5067
West Bengal	255661	252825					1771	1775	2759	2620			90	120	260281	257340	-2941
Total	11786231	11712228	3306663	3296616	3964485	3978986	856998	843718	1876981	1870003	237834	235793	243058	250025	22272250	22187369	-84881
Net Addition		-74003		-10047		14501		-13280		-6978		-2041		6967		-84881	
Rural Subscribers	3099640	3083336	0	0	0	0	1553	1582	53440	53195	49844	49151	0	0	3204477	3187264	-17213

# VLR Subscribers in the Wireless Segment

Home Location Register (HLR) is a central database that contains details of each mobile phone subscriber that is authorized to use the GSM core network. The HLRs store details of every SIM card issued by the service provider. Each SIM has a unique identifier called an International Mobile Subscriber Identity (IMSI), which is the primary key to each HLR record. The HLR data is stored for as long as a subscriber remains with the service provider. HLR also manages the mobility of subscribers by means of updating their position in administrative areas. It sends the subscriber data to a Visitor Location Register (VLR).

**Subscriber numbers** reported by the service providers is the difference between the numbers of IMSI registered in service provider's HLR and sum of other figures as given below:-

1	Total IMSI's in HLR (A)
2	Less: $(B = a + b + c + d + e)$
a.	Test/Service Cards
b.	Employees
C.	Stock in hand/in Distribution Channels (Active Card)
С.	(neuve card)
d.	Subscriber Retention period expired
e.	Service suspended pending disconnection
3	Subscribers Base (A-B)

**Visitor Location Register** (VLR) is a temporary database of the subscribers who have roamed into the particular area, which it serves. Each base station in the network is served by exactly one VLR; hence a subscriber cannot be present in more than one VLR at a time.

If subscriber is in active stage i.e. he is able to send/receive calls/SMSs he is available both in HLR and VLR. However, it may be possible that the subscriber is registered in HLR but not in VLR due to the reason that he is either switched-off or moved out of coverage area, not reachable etc. In such circumstances he will be available in HLR but not in VLR. This causes difference between subscriber number reported by the service providers based on HLR and numbers available in VLR.

The VLR subscriber data calculated here is based on active subscribers in VLR on the date of Peak subscriber number in VLR of the particular month for which the data is being collected. This data is to be taken from the switches having the purge time of not more than 72 hours.