

Information note to the Press (Press Release No. 99 / 2019)

For Immediate Release

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Information to subscribers of M/s Aircel Ltd. and M/s Dishnet Wireless Ltd. in the licensed services areas of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Kolkata, Mumbai, North East, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh (East) and West Bengal regarding final opportunity to port out their mobile numbers using Mobile Number Portability facility till 31st October 2019.

New Delhi, 17th October, 2019 – M/s Aircel Ltd. and M/s Dishnet Wireless Ltd. (both collectively referred to as M/s Aircel Group), vide their letter dated 22nd February, 2018, inter-alia had requested the Authority to issue suitable direction for allotting additional codes to generate unique porting codes (UPCs) in the licensed service areas where their subscriber base is in excess of one million; allow mobile number portability to subscribers where a period of ninety days has not elapsed from the date of activation into the network of M/s Aircel Group and extend validity of UPCs up-to forty five days, to enable smooth porting.

2. Keeping in view the request of M/s Aircel Group and to facilitate Mobile Number Portability for the subscribers of M/s Aircel Group in the licensed service areas of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Kolkata, Mumbai, North East, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh (East) and West Bengal, TRAI on dated 27th February 2018, issued direction allotting additional codes for generation of UPCs.

3. In order to ensure that the subscribers of M/s Aircel Group are able to port their existing mobile numbers to the service provider of their choice and continue to have uninterrupted mobile services after closing of its services in the above-mentioned licensed service areas, TRAI vide direction dated 17th April 2018; had directed M/s Aircel Group to extend the validity of all UPCs generated pursuant to the direction dated 27th February, 2018 and UPCs generated prior to the date of the said direction which were valid on that date, till further direction/ order. Approximately 19 million subscribers of M/s Aircel Group have availed the port-out facility from the 27th February 2018 (date of issue of the Direction) and till 31st August 2019.

4. TRAI has issued Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability (Seventh Amendment) Regulations, 2018 (09 of 2018) on 13th December 2018 to the Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability Regulations, 2009 (8 of 2009,



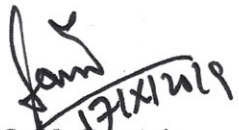
whereby major changes have been incorporated in the mobile number portability process and shall come into force with effect from 11th November 2019.

5. Post issuance of the Telecommunication Mobile Number Portability (Seventh Amendment) Regulations, 2018 (09 of 2018), TRAI, on 21st December 2018 had sought nominations from all telecom service providers including M/s Aircel Group for the Committee formed for implementation of revised MNP process. And in response to TRAI's request, M/s Aircel Group informed that since they are not operating anymore in any circle, they may be exempted in ongoing implementation activities.

6. As per the terms of the license, it is obligatory on the part of all the licensees including M/s Aircel Group to make necessary provisions for the implementation of the revised mobile number portability process without fail in the interest of the mobile subscribers. Accordingly, TRAI issued a letter on 23rd April 2019 suggesting M/s Aircel Group to coordinate with both the Mobile Number Portability Service providers, for implementation of the revised mobile number portability process, as and when it decides to provide the services under the license in future.

7. Through this Press Release, subscribers of M/s Aircel Group, who are yet to port out their mobile number, in the licensed services areas of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Kolkata, Mumbai, North East, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh (East) and West Bengal are given final opportunity to avail the Mobile Number Portability facility to port out their mobile number by submitting their porting request on or before 31st October 2019. After the said date, UPC assigned, if any, shall become invalid for submission of the porting request.

8. For any clarification/information, Shri S. T. Abbas, Advisor (Networks, Spectrum and Licensing) may be contacted at Tel. No. +91-11-23210481, Fax No. +91-11-23232677.


(S.K. Gupta)
Secretary, TRAI