Information Note to the Press



# TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA



New Delhi, 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 (www.trai.gov.in)

# Highlights of Telecom Subscription Data as on 31st July, 2015

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	Total (Wireless+ Wireline)
Total Telephone Subscribers (Million)	983.21	26.10	1,009.31
Net Addition in July, 2015 (Million)	2.40	-0.05	2.36
Monthly Growth Rate	0.25%	-0.18%	0.23%
Urban Telephone Subscribers (Million)	567.29	21.24	588.53
Net Addition in July, 2015 (Million)	4.34	-0.01	4.32
Monthly Growth Rate	0.77%	-0.06%	0.74%
Rural Telephone Subscribers (Million)	415.92	4.86	420.78
Net Addition in July, 2015 (Million)	-1.93	-0.04	-1.97
Monthly Growth Rate	-0.46%	-0.72%	-0.47%
Overall Tele-density*	78.02	2.07	80.09
Urban Tele-density*	145.13	5.43	150.56
Rural Tele-density*	47.84	0.56	48.40
Share of Urban Subscribers	57.70%	81.37%	58.31%
Share of Rural Subscribers	42.30%	18.63%	41.69%
Broadband Subscribers (Million)	97.48	15.84	113.32

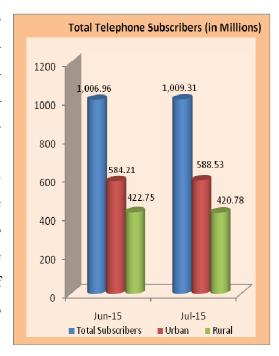
- ❖ In the month of July, 2015, 3.98 million subscribers submitted their requests for Mobile Number Portability (MNP). With this, the cumulative MNP requests increased from 163.93 million at the end of June, 2015 to 167.91 million at the end of July, 2015.
- ❖ Number of active wireless subscribers (on the date of peak VLR<sup>#</sup>) in July, 2015 was 885.15 million.

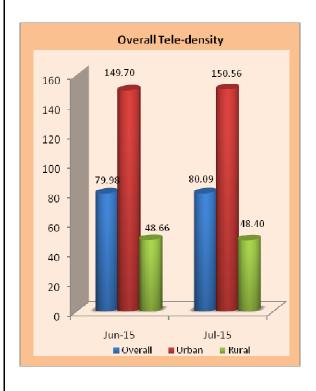
#### Note:

- 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.

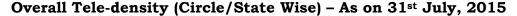
# I. Total Telephone Subscribers

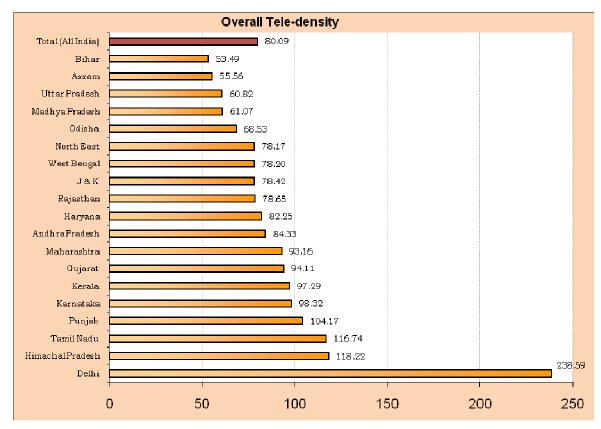
• The number of telephone subscribers in India increased from 1,006.96 million at the end of Jun-15 to 1,009.31 million at the end of Jul-15, thereby showing a monthly growth rate of 0.23%. The urban subscription increased from 584.21 million at the end of Jun-15 to 588.53 million at the end of Jul-15, whereas the rural subscription declined from 422.75 million to 420.78 million during the same period. The monthly growth rates of urban and rural subscription were 0.74% and -0.47% respectively.





The overall Tele-density in India increased from 79.98 at the end of Jun-15 to 80.09 at the end of Jul-15. The Urban Tele-density increased from 149.70 to 150.56, whereas Rural Tele-density declined from 48.66 at the end of Jun-15 to 48.40 at the end of Jul-15. The shares of urban subscribers and rural subscribers at the end of Jul-58.31% were and 41.69% respectively.



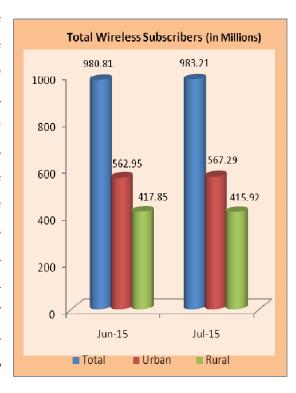


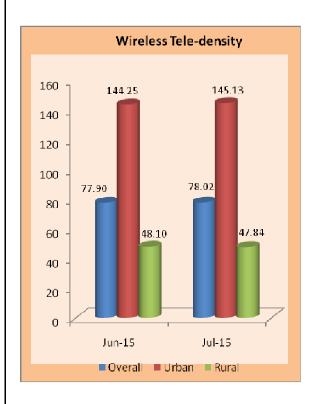
#### Notes:

- 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). West Bengal includes Kolkata, Maharashtra includes Mumbai and Tamil Nadu includes Chennai.

## II. Wireless Subscribers

subscriber Total wireless base increased from 980.81 million at the end of Jun-15 to 983.21 million at the end of Jul-15, thereby registering a monthly growth rate of 0.25%. The Wireless subscription in urban areas increased from 562.95 million at the end of Jun-15 to 567.29 million at the end of Jul-15, whereas wireless subscription in rural areas declined from 417.85 million to 415.92 million during the same period. The monthly growth rates of urban and rural wireless subscription were 0.77% and -0.46% respectively.

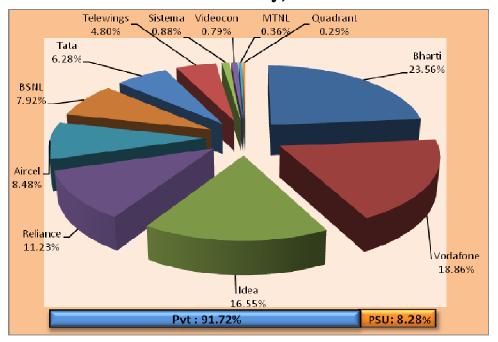




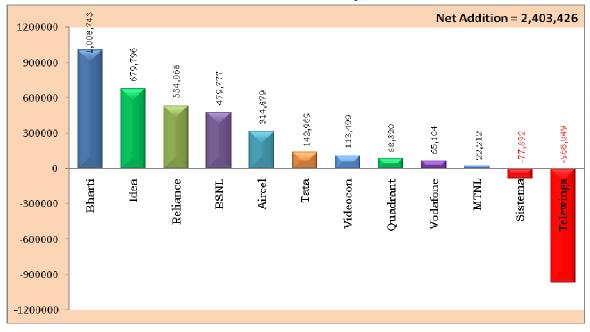
The Wireless Tele-density in India increased from 77.90 at the end of Jun-15 to 78.02 at the end of Jul-15. The Urban Wireless Tele-density increased from 144.25 to 145.13, whereas Rural Wireless Tele-density declined from 48.10 to 47.84 in the month of Jul-15. The shares of urban and rural wireless subscribers 57.70% 42.30% were and respectively at the end of Jul-15. Detailed statistics of wireless available subscriber base is Annexure-I.

• As on 31st July, 2015, the private access service providers held 91.72% market share of the wireless subscribers whereas BSNL and MTNL, the two PSUs access service providers, held only 8.28% market share. The graphical representations of access service provider-wise market shares and net additions in wireless subscriber bases are given below:

Access Service Provider-wise Market Shares in the Wireless Subscribers as on 31st July, 2015



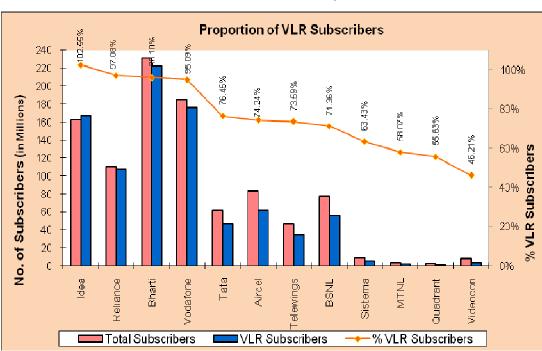
Net Additions in Wireless Subscriber Bases of Access Service Providers in the Month of July, 2015



# III. Active Wireless Subscribers (VLR Data)

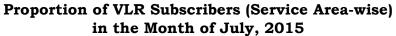
- Out of the total wireless subscriber base (983.21 million), 885.15 million wireless subscribers were active on the date of peak VLR in the month of Jul-15. The proportion of active wireless subscribers was approximately 90.03% of the total wireless subscriber base.
- The detailed statistics on proportion of active wireless subscribers (also referred to as VLR subscribers) on the date of peak VLR in the month of Jul-15 is available at **Annexure-II** and the methodology used for reporting VLR subscribers is available at **Annexure-IV**.

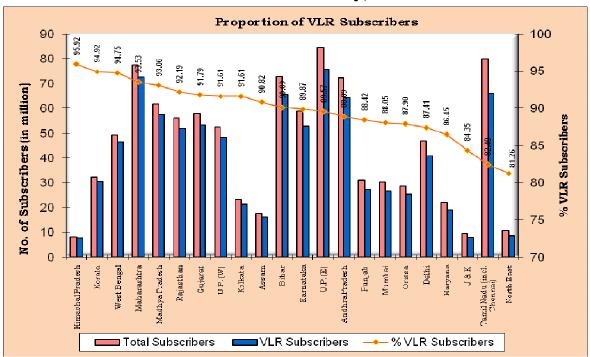
# Access Service Provider-wise Proportion of VLR Subscribers in the Month of July, 2015



#### Note-

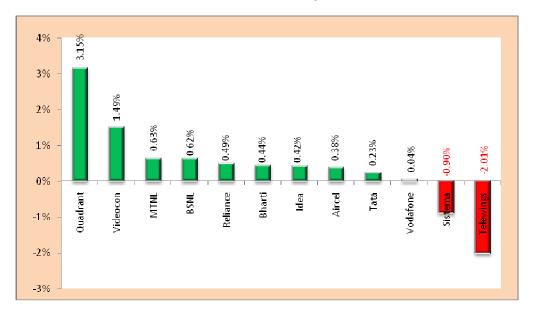
1. Number of VLR subscribers of Idea Cellular was more than its subscriber base due to a large number of inroamers in its network.

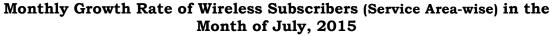




# IV. Growth in Wireless Subscribers

Monthly Growth Rate of Wireless Subscribers (Access Service Provider-wise) in the Month of July, 2015







• North-East service area recorded the highest growth rate in wireless subscribers during the month of Jul-15, and Gujarat service area showed the highest decline in subscriber base during the month.

# V. Mobile Number Portability (MNP)

- 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.
- In the month of Jul-15, a total of 3.98 million subscribers submitted their requests for MNP. Among these MNP requests, 0.21 million MNP requests were for Inter-Service Area MNP. With this, the cumulative MNP requests increased from 163.93 million at the end of Jun-15 to 167.91 million at the end of Jul-15.
- In MNP Zone-I (Northern and Western India), the highest number of requests till date have been received in Rajasthan (about 15.66 million) followed by Gujarat (about 13.40 million). In MNP Zone-II (Southern and Eastern India), the highest number of requests till date have been received in Karnataka (about 19.62 million) followed by Andhra Pradesh (about 16.06 million).

• The status of MNP requests in various service areas is given below:

Service Area Wise MNP Status at the end of July, 2015								
Zone -:	1	Zone – 2*						
Service Area	Number of Porting Requests	Service Area	Number of Porting Requests					
Delhi	6651523	Andhra Pradesh	16066234					
Gujarat	13401860	Assam	530168					
Haryana	6127150	Bihar	3984025					
Himachal Pradesh	574829	Karnataka	19629374					
Jammu & Kashmir	40931	Kerala	5639018					
Maharashtra	12727504	Kolkata	3918395					
Mumbai	9291826	Madhya Pradesh	10527970					
Punjab	5849815	North East	297884					
Rajasthan	15660699	Orissa	3295819					
Uttar Pradesh - East	8236023	Tamil Nadu	10443071					
Uttar Pradesh - West	8227988	West Bengal	6790983					
Total	86,790,148	Total	81,122,941					
Total (Zone-1 + Zone-2)			167,913,089					
Net Addition			3,980,883#					
(in July, 2015)			-,,					

<sup>\*</sup>Provisional data

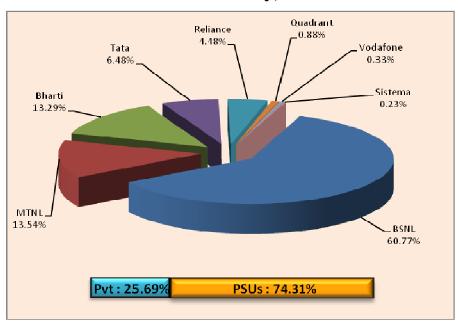
#### VI. Wireline Subscribers

- Wireline subscriber base declined from 26.15 million at the end of Jun-15 to 26.10 million at the end of Jul-15. Net reduction in the wireline subscriber base was 0.05 million at the monthly decline rate of 0.18%. The share of urban and rural subscribers in total wireline subscribers were 81.37% and 18.63% respectively at the end of Jul-15.
- The Overall Wireline Tele-density slightly declined from 2.08 in Jun-15 to 2.07 in Jul-15, with Urban Wireline Tele-density and Rural Wireline Tele-density being 5.43 and 0.56 respectively. BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, held 74.31% of the wireline market share. Detailed statistics of wireline subscriber base are available at Annexure-III.

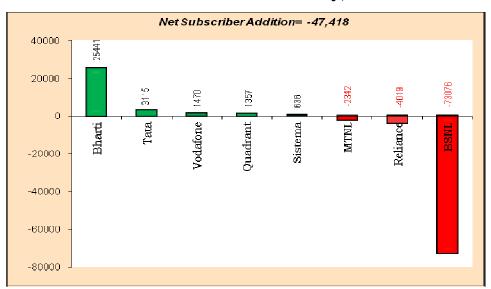
<sup>#</sup>The figure is inclusive of 0.21 Million MNP requests for Inter-Service Area MNP

• The graphical representations of access service provider-wise market shares in the wireline segment and net additions in wireline subscriber bases in the month of Jul-15 are given below:

Access Service Provider-wise Market Shares in the Wireline Subscribers as on 31st July, 2015



Net Additions/declines in Wireline Subscriber Bases of Access Service Providers in the Month of July, 2015



# VII. Category-wise Growth

Circle Category-wise Net Additions in Telephone Subscribers

Circle		in the month of , 2015	Telephone Subscriber bas as on 31st July, 2015					
Category	Wireline segment	Wireless segment	Wireline segment	Wireless segment				
Circle A	-8872	999374	10386494	346451527				
Circle B	-27087	285558	7258223	388927582				
Circle C	-603	651722	1288315	147524729				
Metro	-10856	466772	7171301	100304830				
All India	-47,418	2,403,426	26,104,333	983,208,668				

# Circle Category-wise Growth Rates in Telephone Subscribers

Circle	Monthly gro (Jun-15	wth rate (%) to Jul-15)	Yearly growth rate (%) (Jul-14 to Jul-15)					
Category	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment				
Circle A	-0.09	0.29	-5.41	5.24				
Circle B	-0.37	0.07	-9.79	6.97				
Circle C	-0.05	0.44	-11.35	13.25				
Metro	-0.15	0.47	-0.40	4.86				
All India	-0.18	0.25	-5.69	7.02				

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, the Circles of Category-A showed the maximum net addition and Circles in Metros showed the maximum growth rate in the month Jul-15.
- In Wireline segment, Circles of Category-B showed the highest net decline and the highest monthly decline rate of subscriber base in the month of Jul-15.

# VIII. Broadband (≥ 512 Kbps download)

• As per the reports received from the service providers, the number of broadband subscribers increased from 108.85 Million at the end of Jun-15 to 113.32 million at the end of Jul-15 with monthly growth rate of 4.10%. Segment-wise broadband subscribers and their monthly growth rates are as below:

Segment-wise Broadband Subscribers and Monthly Growth Rates

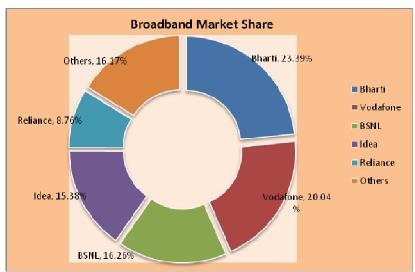
Segment	Broadband s	Monthly	
Segment	As on 30 <sup>th</sup> June, 2015	As on 31st July, 2015	growth rate (%)
Wired subscribers	15.70	15.84	0.90
Mobile devices users (Phones and dongles)	92.70	97.04	4.68
Fixed Wireless subscribers (Wi-Fi, Wi-Max, Point-to- Point Radio & VSAT)	0.45	0.44	-2.84
Total	108.85	113.32	4.10

• Top five service providers constituted 83.83% market share of total broadband subscribers at the end of Jul-15. These service providers were Bharti Airtel (26.51 million), Vodafone (22.71 million), BSNL (18.43 million), Idea Cellular Ltd (17.43 million) and Reliance Communications Group (9.93 million).

Note: 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 31.07.2015



- As on 31st July, 2015, the top five <u>Wired</u> Broadband Service providers were BSNL (9.92 million), Bharti Airtel (1.50 million), MTNL (1.13 million), Atria Convergence Technologies (0.75 million) and YOU Broadband (0.47 million).
- As on 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2015, the top five <u>Wireless</u> Broadband Service providers were Bharti Airtel (25.01 million), Vodafone (22.70 million), Idea Cellular (17.42 million), Reliance Communications Group (9.81 million) and BSNL (8.51 million).

Contact details in case of any clarification:

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Authorized to issue:

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

# **Wireless Subscriber Base**

Annexure-I Page 1 of 2

						Gro	ıp					
<b>.</b>	Bh	arti	Relia	ance	Voda	afone	Та	ıta	ld	ea	Air	cel
Circle	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15
Andhra Pradesh	22183031	22309612	5164458	5295377	6848825	6868364	5468011	5416475	14346989	14439880	2752856	2797575
Assam	5286302	5378759	2333948	2362433	3238050	3242580			915022	922332	4567562	4623231
Bihar	25790972	25922917	9714339	9752425	8574471	8619716	1977158	1963333	9768260	9819495	6345387	6434716
Delhi	10897923	10901252	8214686	8464921	9666715	9731448	2747027	2699876	6013531	6098302	5394596	5527509
Gujarat	7905685	7925950	4709552	4718638	18601610	18491856	2722223	2745992	11101591	11157559	17063	17063
Haryana	2711058	2671467	2029853	2082931	5269179	5180943	2665172	2698250	4672183	4624491	3092	3092
Himachal Pradesh	2658728	2602785	1611895	1651539	653732	662824	84640	81637	732370	748055	976920	998274
J & K	3077149	3103607	845082	824958	1185747	1230080			547858	568017	2729425	2573010
Karnataka	19789627	19967676	5250385	5306844	7272606	7295509	6834259	6935460	8164920	8309614	2678151	2717183
Kerala	4018540	4040485	1940945	1976854	7320505	7327629	1594018	1587077	9912344	9965034	21323	58516
Kolkata	4178476	4196243	3940536	3954400	4972601	4994119	2820997	2840734	1895705	1905624	3925915	3954496
Madhya Pradesh	11624876	11706513	12396521	12456444	6376689	6387732	4575617	4620786	19883478	19800158	21194	21194
Maharashtra	11879438	11988555	4945817	4988702	17357069	17462069	6217603	6276414	21899528	21981839	2069802	2155181
Mumbai	5114420	5163026	5735768	5314867	8416128	8487679	3373530	3399677	4016406	4054350	2548157	2643914
North East	3521860	3533689	798855	805811	1358820	1375920			473119	473273	2979468	3003564
Orissa	9269083	9277691	4390432	4524217	3558885	3518264	2272821	2270676	1330006	1334624	4156988	4195206
Punjab	7797227	7810289	2358325	2250491	4923115	4906939	2503603	2530837	6327933	6328633	985719	1003812
Rajasthan	17890152	17908612	6386023	6602732	11205004	11217560	1631122	1600294	7232280	7241845	5919000	5992070
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	16094730	16154459	6172013	6257298	14492000	14591072	5535290	5504226	4878162	5163218	23244761	22742622
U.P.(E)	18837031	18851654	8334365	8393320	17884170	17744499	4359103	4369530	10090740	9958607	6395523	6492592
U.P.(W)	7480611	7501469	5406237	5152106	10693590	10705711	3565772	3572299	13301995	13250056	315667	358750
West Bengal	12654747	12753699	7228432	7305227	15514461	15406563	625562	602924	4575275	4614485	5001239	5051117
Total	230661666	231670409	109908467	110442535	185383972	185449076	61573528	61716497	162079695	162759491	83049808	83364687
Net Addition		1008743		534068		65104		142969		679796		314879

### Wireless Subscriber Base

Annexure-I Page 2 of 2

															i age z oi z
			Group												-
	BS	NL	M	ΓNL	Telev	vings	Sist	ema	Vide	ocon	Qua	drant	Tot	al	
Circle	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Net Addition
Andhra Pradesh	9643084	9596210			5520752	5611324							71928006	72334817	406811
Assam	1216102	1209408											17556986	17738743	181757
Bihar	2999761	2657153			7431027	7531585			21187	23697			72622562	72725037	102475
Delhi			2338929	2341960			1027261	1021906					46300668	46787174	486506
Gujarat	3077294	3113098			7713215	7089425	223685	227018	2425243	2437873			58497161	57924472	-572689
Haryana	2704656	2709507							1986046	2043523			22041239	22014204	-27035
Himachal Pradesh	1396090	1411633											8114375	8156747	42372
J & K	1223637	1240195											9608898	9539867	-69031
Karnataka	6747629	6784736					1430876	1401456					58168453	58718478	550025
Kerala	6742652	6803334					394104	391502					31944431	32150431	206000
Kolkata	751814	756954					637936	623391					23123980	23225961	101981
Madhya Pradesh	3554916	3624411							3126003	3164090			61559294	61781328	222034
Maharashtra	4981142	5025135			7547263	7643802							76897662	77521697	624035
Mumbai			1209001	1228182									30413410	30291695	-121715
North East	1424688	1513818											10556810	10706075	149265
Orissa	3435161	3537582											28413376	28658260	244884
Punjab	3102797	3153487									2806210	2894530	30804929	30879018	74089
Rajasthan	3274211	3331021					2212554	2219925					55750346	56114059	363713
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	8670325	8678704					873590	860464					79960871	79952063	-8808
U.P.(E)	7260616	7530021			11567252	10988085			25243	25963			84754043	84354271	-399772
U.P.(W)	3404414	3489047			8351314	8298553	179838	176279	26360	28435			52725798	52532705	-193093
West Bengal	1745718	1671030					1716510	1696521					49061944	49101566	39622
Total	77356707	77836484	3547930	3570142	48130823	47162774	8696354	8618462	7610082	7723581	2806210	2894530	980805242	983208668	2403426
Net Addition		479777		22212		-968049		-77892		113499		88320		2403426	

# Proportion of VLR on the date of Peak VLR in the month of Jul-15 (%)

Annexure-II

Circle	Aircel	Bharti	BSNL	Quadrant	Idea	MTNL	Reliance	Sistema	Tata	Telewings	Videocon	Vodafone	Total
Andhra Pradesh	60.90	97.33	63.23		103.58		97.89		84.54	72.56		87.65	88.89
Assam	86.15	96.66	86.23		95.18		83.42					93.66	90.82
Bihar	76.47	95.07	74.06		97.80		98.69		62.63	71.04	13.98	94.82	90.09
Delhi	70.13	89.82			91.32	50.49	98.40	52.63	54.68			104.15	87.41
Gujarat	2440.86	95.00	83.23		105.56		99.23	40.73	76.00	72.75	44.06	96.05	91.79
Haryana	6.95	95.03	57.21		100.61		95.63		80.84		52.43	97.37	86.45
Himachal Pradesh	61.42	95.10	80.91		107.03		92.84		40.70			184.95	95.92
J & K	87.56	95.71	74.90		95.58		60.30					69.43	84.35
Karnataka	66.60	98.85	59.38		103.05		97.68	69.07	85.46			89.80	89.87
Kerala	98.61	98.50	84.79		106.13		92.32	65.86	83.73			91.76	94.92
Kolkata	82.35	95.69	91.14		87.63		98.67	92.98	79.90			97.99	91.61
Madhya Pradesh	1.71	94.35	80.09		107.72		97.16		79.53		44.58	78.76	93.06
Maharashtra	59.47	95.33	87.42		104.00		97.62		77.71	72.38		98.85	93.53
Mumbai	61.05	96.98			93.89	72.54	99.00		79.66			87.00	88.05
North East	69.40	96.59	60.81		89.05		84.00					85.95	81.26
Orissa	61.43	96.02	82.01		101.28		98.33		73.69			94.68	87.90
Punjab	67.46	96.10	76.14	55.63	104.45		99.09		69.59			91.84	88.42
Rajasthan	79.06	95.62	77.74		101.93		99.00	61.08	104.63			92.09	92.19
<b>Tamil Nadu</b> (incl. Chennai)	71.38	96.74	58.99		86.93		94.56	56.20	70.65			96.80	82.40
U.P. (E)	73.78	98.22	61.74		105.81		97.42		68.24	77.41	16.27	98.04	89.57
U.P. (W)	240.63	95.41	68.38		102.79		99.06	54.54	71.88	73.40	18.89	95.59	91.61
West Bengal	81.90	96.56	89.94		106.40		98.15	64.54	43.01			98.25	94.75
Total	74.24	96.10	71.36	55.63	102.55	58.07	97.08	63.43	76.45	73.59	46.21	95.09	90.03

Note: Peak VLR figures in some circles of M/s Idea Cellular Ltd., M/s Aircel Ltd, M/s Tata Teleservices and M/s Vodafone India Ltd are more than their HLR figures due to a large number of inroamers.

# Wireline Subscriber Base

## Annexure-III

	Group																		
Circle	BS	SNL	M'	ľNL	Bh	arti	Reli	ance	Ta	ata	Qua	drant	Sist	tema	Voda	fone	To	tal	
	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Net Addition
Andhra Pradesh	1461266	1456859			125355	128946	78437	77451	162180	161995					9,120	9,150	1836358	1834401	-1957
Assam	165359	165166													1,500	1,530	166859	166696	-163
Bihar	328269	327693					6,162	6,292	13,043	13,044					990	1050	348464	348079	-385
Delhi			1610184	1611378	1199488	1200223	178384	177572	137326	137338					21,630	21,720	3147012	3148231	1219
Gujarat	1266176	1257015			62651	63426	81507	80900	85451	85884					2,760	2,880	1498545	1490105	-8440
Haryana	337,656	337,542			17088	17393	4880	4797	35856	36030					90	90	395570	395852	282
Himachal Pradesh	184,253	183,627					4400	4399	2764	2773					90	90	191507	190889	-618
J & K	139,445	139,339															139445	139339	-106
Karnataka	1379155	1374462			554385	562539	132321	133849	195688	196815					7,350	7,770	2268899	2275435	6536
Kerala	2430334	2417568			51591	52376	35759	35024	16912	17136					780	870	2535376	2522974	-12402
Kolkata	747071	736684			109852	110608	77119	75541	48498	48915					3600	3690	986140	975438	-10702
Madhya Pradesh	789832	778724			234607	236857	21897	21846	21190	21315					270	270	1067796	1059012	-8784
Maharashtra	1622948	1616483			68932	70235	82209	82294	278765	279827					9,900	9,900	2062754	2058739	-4015
Mumbai			1925433	1921897	340887	342969	239426	240200	529219	528136					14,040	14,430	3049005	3047632	-1373
North East	126,403	126,578													120	120	126523	126698	175
Orissa	304395	304646					2999	3185	8006	8033					720	750	316120	316614	494
Punjab	739182	737824			93721	94528	20852	20765	17315	17407	229536	230893			510	510	1101116	1101927	811
Rajasthan	673902	673270			41644	42100	23146	22834	9818	10119			58131	58767	1,890	1,890	808531	808980	449
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	2017754	2014975			466816	469773	138620	137196	98300	98490					7320	7380	2728810	2727814	-996
U.P.(E)	387629	387063			56991	57329	37232	37214	15462	15455					1,050	1,110	498364	498171	-193
U.P.(W)	429807	428269			20139	20286	6284	6309	9916	10091					420	420	466566	465375	-1191
West Bengal	406294	400267					1895	1842	3772	3793					30	30	411991	405932	-6059
Total	15937130	15864054	3535617	3533275	3444147	3469588	1173529	1169510	1689481	1692596	229536	230893	58131	58767	84180	85650	26151751	26104333	-47418
Net Addition		-73076		-2342		25441		-4019		3115		1357		636		1470		-47418	

# 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
	Stock in hand/in Distribution Channels
c.	(Active 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 and numbers available in VLR.

The VLR data calculated here is on the basis of active subscribers in VLR on the date of Peak 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.