

**TELECOM REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF INDIA**New Delhi, 23rd March, 2016

(www.trai.gov.in)



सत्यमेव जयते

Highlights of Telecom Subscription Data as on 31st January, 2016

Particulars	Wireless	Wireline	Total (Wireless+ Wireline)
Total Telephone Subscribers (Million)	1,017.97	25.32	1,043.29
Net Addition in January, 2016 (Million)	7.08	-0.20	6.88
Monthly Growth Rate	0.70%	-0.78%	0.66%
Urban Telephone Subscribers (Million)	582.95	20.90	603.85
Net Addition in January, 2016 (Million)	3.28	-0.08	3.20
Monthly Growth Rate	0.57%	-0.40%	0.53%
Rural Telephone Subscribers (Million)	435.02	4.42	439.43
Net Addition in January, 2016 (Million)	3.80	-0.11	3.68
Monthly Growth Rate	0.88%	-2.52%	0.85%
Overall Tele-density*	80.30	2.00	82.30
Urban Tele-density*	147.72	5.30	153.02
Rural Tele-density*	49.83	0.51	50.33
Share of Urban Subscribers	57.27%	82.56%	57.88%
Share of Rural Subscribers	42.73%	17.44%	42.12%
Broadband Subscribers (Million)	123.47	16.63	140.10

❖ In the month of January, 2016, 5.62 million subscribers submitted their requests for Mobile Number Portability (MNP). With this, the cumulative MNP requests increased from 194.01 million at the end of December, 2015 to 199.62 million at the end of January, 2016, since implementation of MNP.

❖ Number of active wireless subscribers (on the date of peak VLR#) in January, 2016 was 917.63 million.

Note:

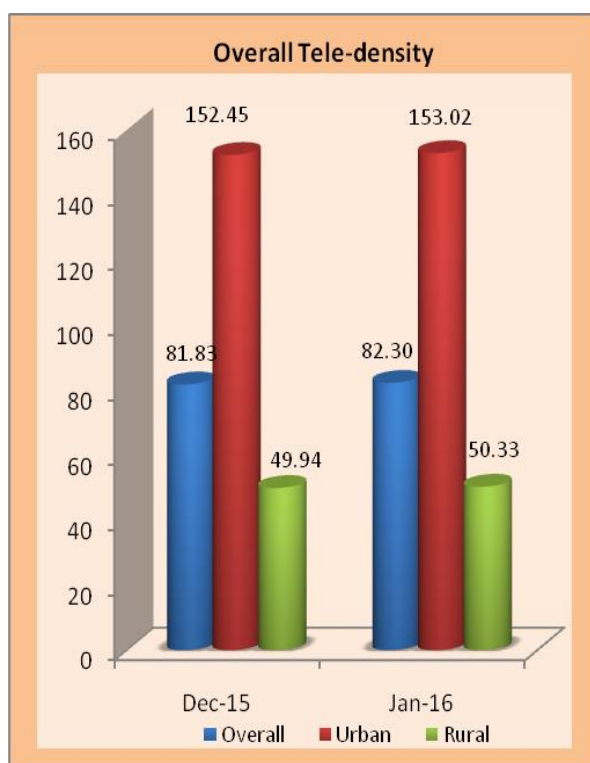
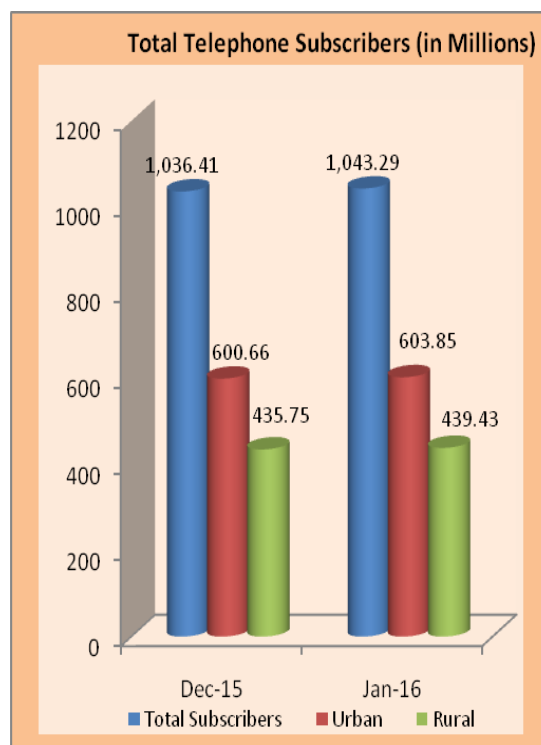
- Information in this Press Release is based on the data provided by the Service Providers

* 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.

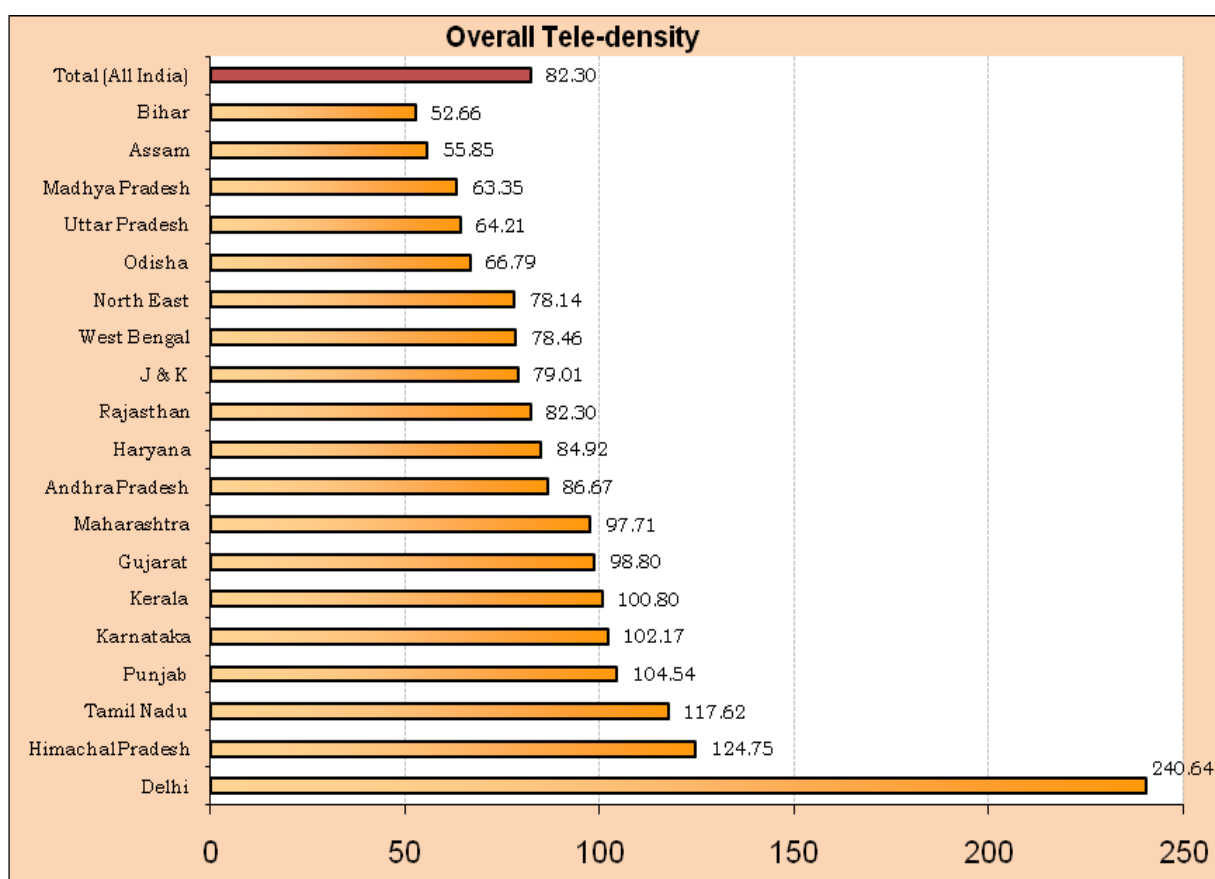
I. Total Telephone Subscribers

- The number of telephone subscribers in India increased from 1,036.41 million at the end of Dec-15 to 1,043.29 million at the end of Jan-16, thereby showing a monthly growth rate of 0.66%. The urban subscription increased from 600.66 million at the end of Dec-15 to 603.85 million at the end of Jan-16 and the rural subscription increased from 435.75 million to 439.43 million during the same period. The monthly growth rates of urban and rural subscription were 0.53% and 0.85% respectively during the month of Jan-16.



- The overall Tele-density in India increased from 81.83 at the end of Dec-15 to 82.30 at the end of Jan-16. The Urban Tele-density increased from 152.45 at the end of Dec-15 to 153.02 at the end of Jan-16. The Rural Tele-density increased from 49.54 at the end of Dec-15 to 50.33 at the end of Jan-16. The share of urban subscribers and rural subscribers at the end of Jan-16 was 57.88% and 42.12% respectively.

Overall Tele-density (Circle/State Wise) – As on 31st January, 2016

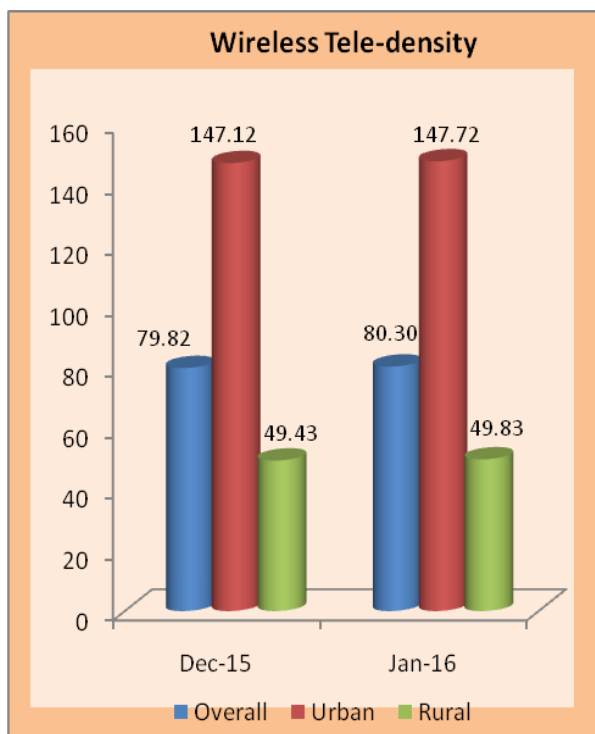
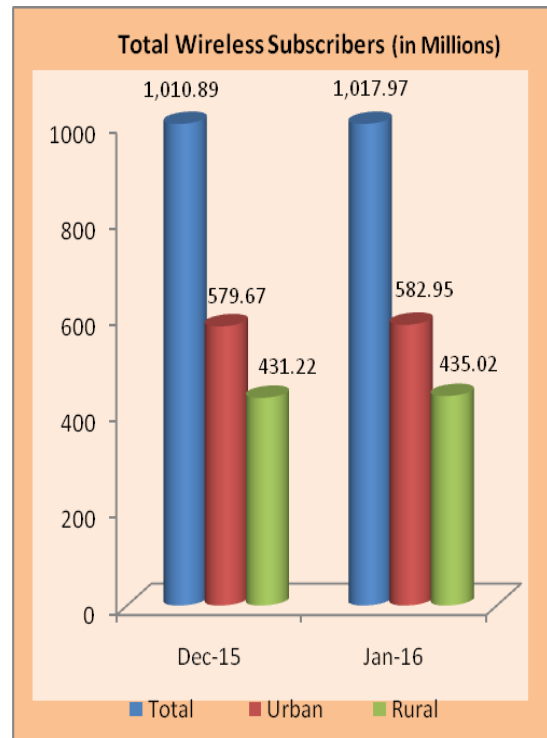


Notes:

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

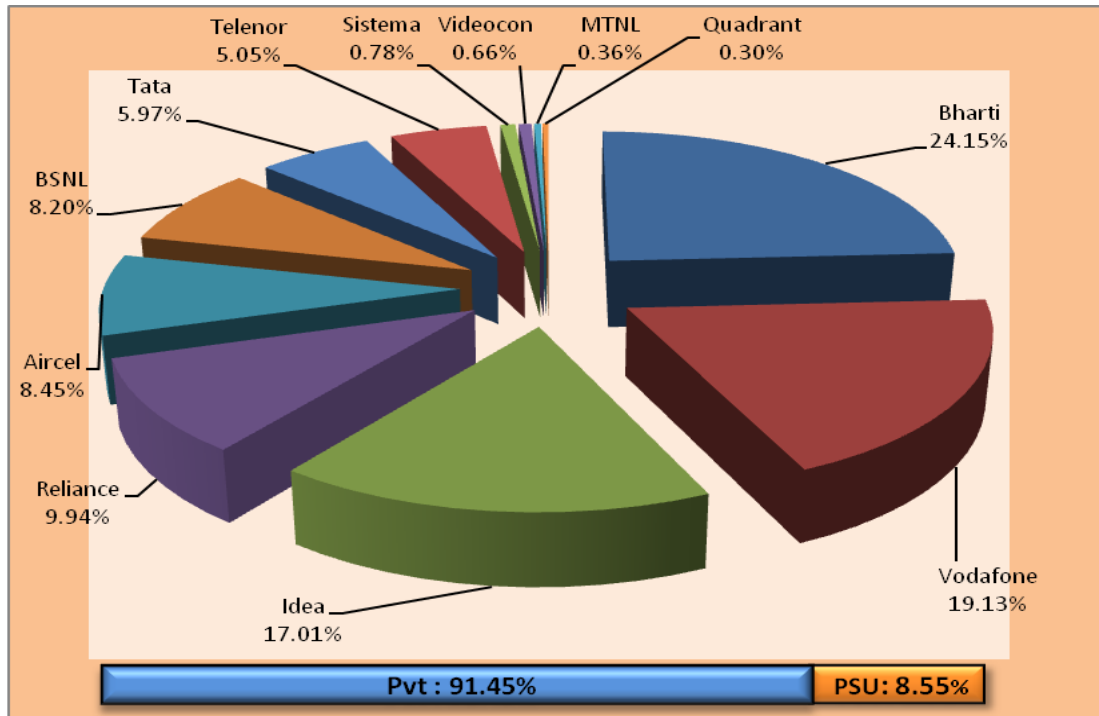
- Total wireless subscriber base increased from 1,010.89 million at the end of Dec-15 to 1,017.97 million at the end of Jan-16, thereby registering a monthly growth rate of 0.70%. The Wireless subscription in urban areas increased from 579.67 million at the end of Dec-15 to 582.95 million at the end of Jan-16, and wireless subscription in rural areas increased from 431.22 million to 435.02 million during the same period. The monthly growth rates of urban and rural wireless subscription were 0.57% and 0.88% respectively.



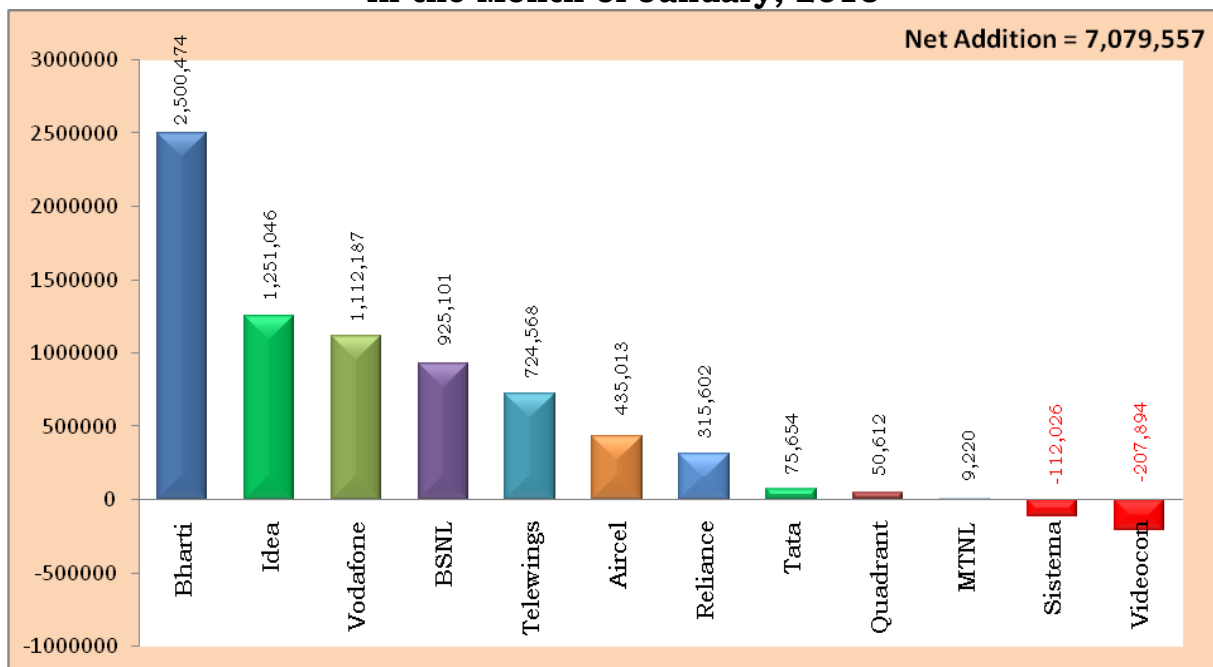
- The Wireless Tele-density in India increased from 79.82 at the end of Dec-15 to 80.30 at the end of Jan-16. The Urban Wireless Tele-density increased from 147.12 to 147.72, and Rural Wireless Tele-density increased from 49.43 in Dec-15 to 49.83 in the month of Jan-16. The share of urban and rural wireless subscribers was 57.27% and 42.73% respectively at the end of Jan-16. Detailed statistics of wireless subscriber base is available at **Annexure-I.**

- As on 31st January, 2016, the private access service providers held 91.45% market share of the wireless subscribers whereas BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, had only a market share of 8.55%. 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 Subscriber base as on 31st January, 2016



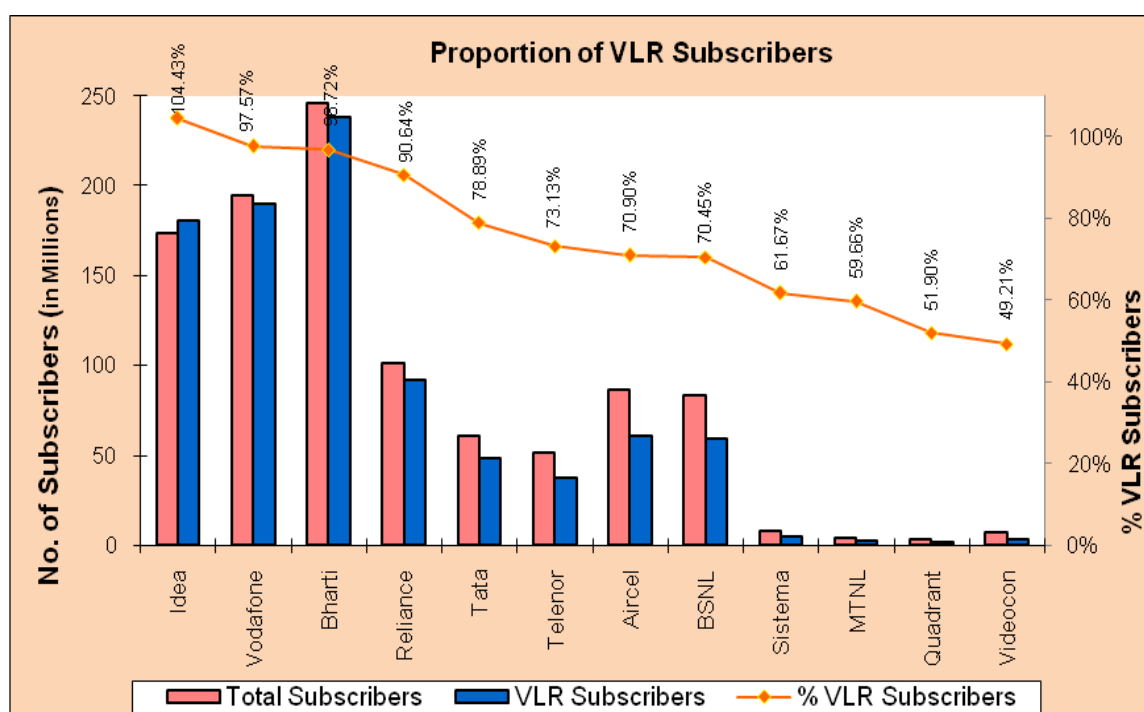
Net Additions in Wireless Subscriber Bases of Access Service Providers in the Month of January, 2016



III. Active Wireless Subscribers (VLR Data)

- Out of the total wireless subscriber base (1,017.97 million), 917.63 million wireless subscribers were active on the date of peak VLR in the month of Jan-16. The proportion of active wireless subscribers was approximately 90.14% 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 Jan-16 is available at **Annexure-II** and the methodology used for reporting VLR subscribers is available at **Annexure-IV**.

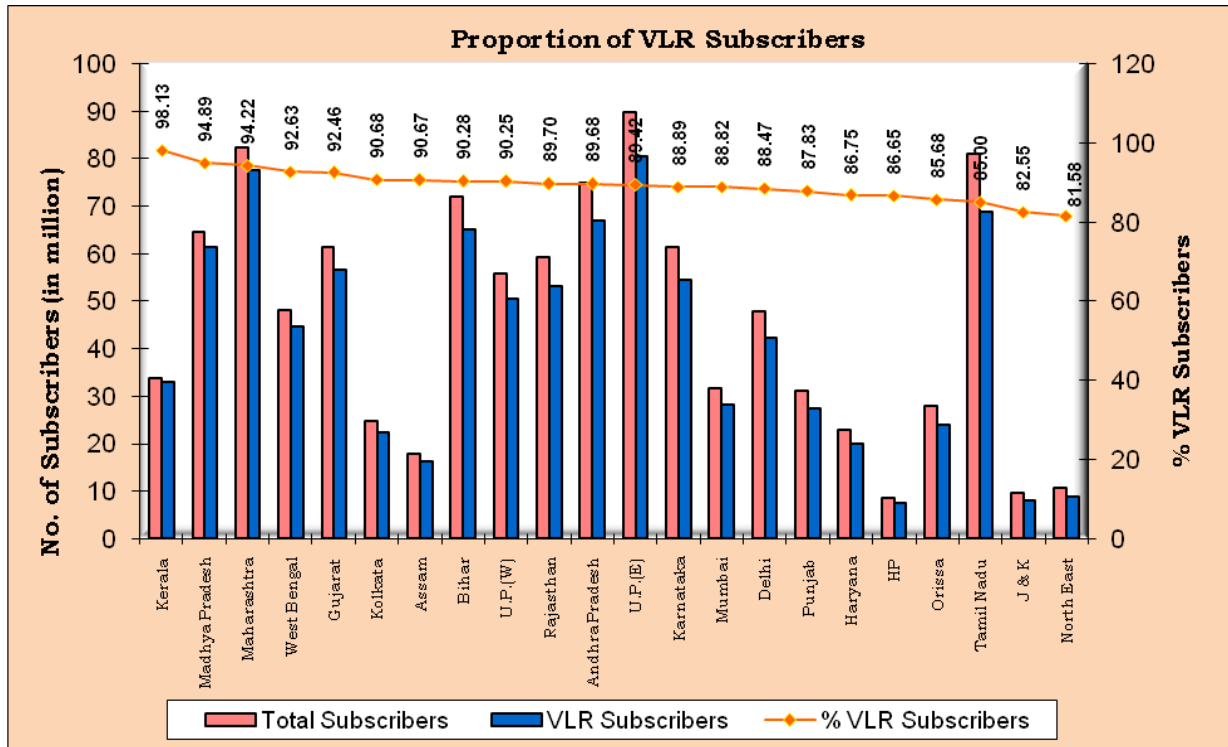
Access Service Provider-wise Proportion of VLR Subscribers in the Month of January, 2016



Note-

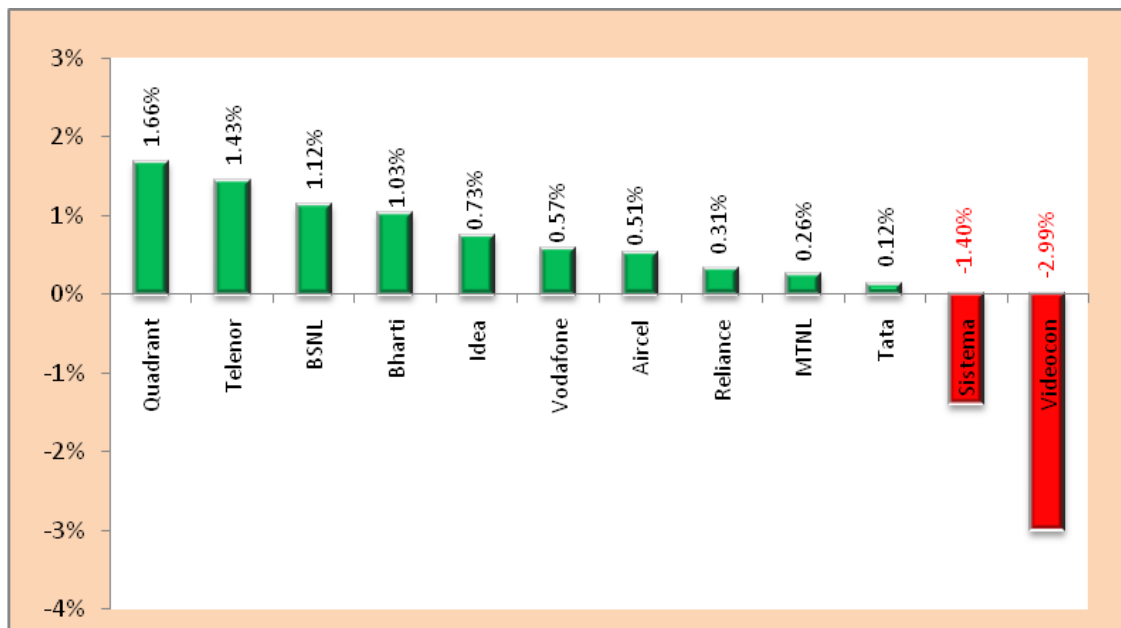
1. Number of VLR subscribers of Idea Cellular was more than its subscriber base due to a large number of inroamers in its network.

**Service Area wise proportion of VLR Subscribers
in the Month of January, 2016**

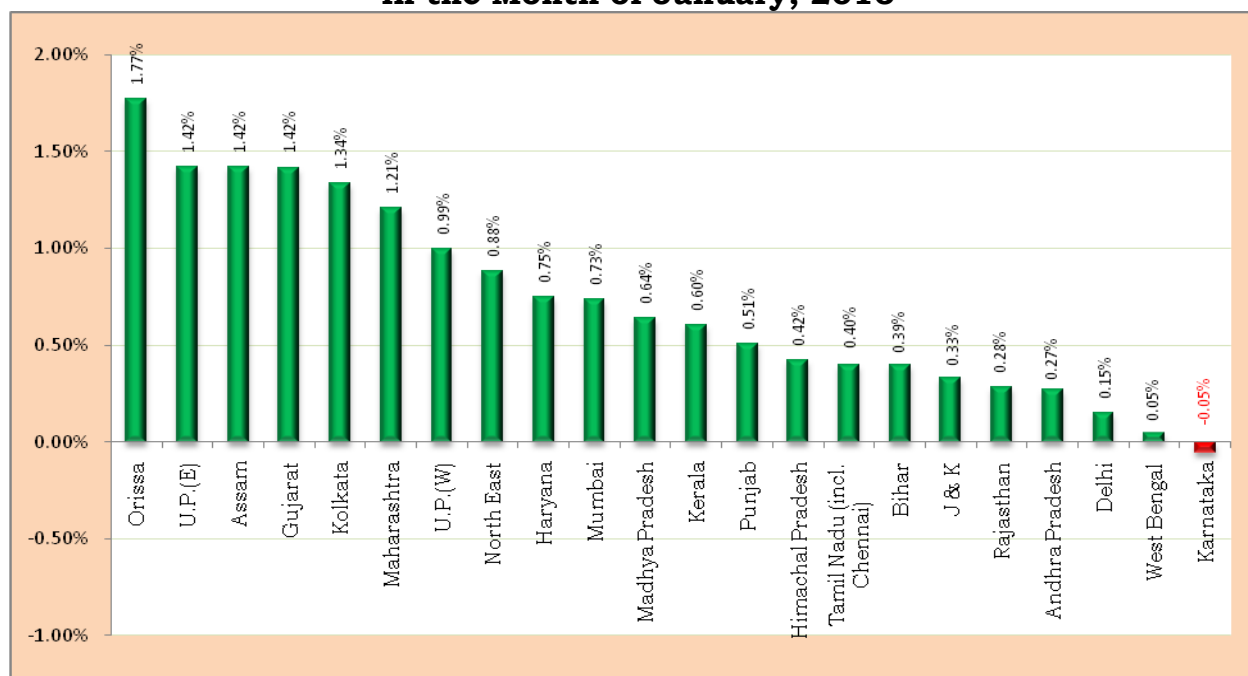


IV. Growth in Wireless Subscribers

**Access Service Provider-wise Monthly Growth Rate of Wireless
Subscriber base in the Month of January, 2016**



Service Area-wise Monthly Growth Rate of Wireless Subscriber base in the Month of January, 2016



- Orissa service area recorded the highest growth rate in wireless subscribers during the month of Jan-16, while Karnataka service area showed a decline.

V. Mobile Number Portability (MNP)

- Intra-service area Mobile number portability (MNP) has been implemented 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.
- In the month of Jan-16, a total of 5.62 million requests were received for MNP. With this, the cumulative MNP requests increased from 194.01 million at the end of Dec-15 to 199.62 million at the end of Jan-16, 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 17.68 million) followed by Gujarat (about 15.54 million).

- In MNP Zone-II (Southern and Eastern India), the highest number of requests till date have been received in Karnataka (about 22.52 million) followed by Andhra Pradesh (about 19.12 million).

Service Area Wise MNP Status at the end of January, 2016			
Zone - I		Zone - II	
Service Area	Number of Porting Requests	Service Area	Number of Porting Requests
Delhi	7872155	Andhra Pradesh	19124988
Gujarat	15536092	Assam	915606
Haryana	7104818	Bihar	6737221
Himachal Pradesh	672653	Karnataka	22516290
Jammu & Kashmir	58062	Kerala	6280890
Maharashtra	14383594	Kolkata	4525368
Mumbai	10865362	Madhya Pradesh	12671235
Punjab	6974552	North East	407327
Rajasthan	17678624	Orissa	4091566
Uttar Pradesh - East	9349626	Tamil Nadu	12481572
Uttar Pradesh - West	9234662	West Bengal	10141724
Total	99,730,200	Total	99,893,787
Total (Zone-I + Zone-II)			199,623,987
Net Addition (in January, 2016)			5,617,639

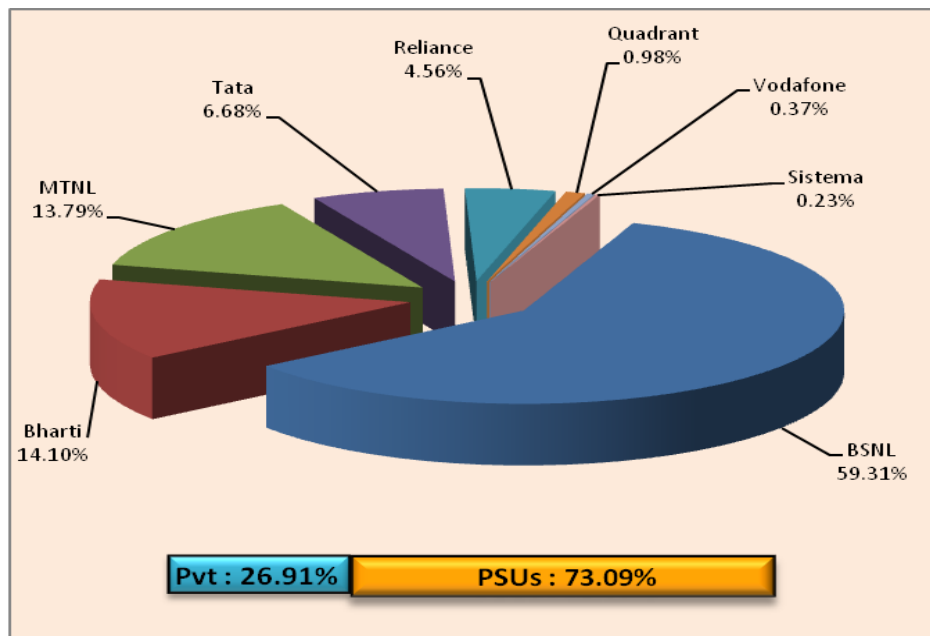
Note: For Zone-II, available MNP data for January, 2016 are provisional.

VI. Wireline Subscribers

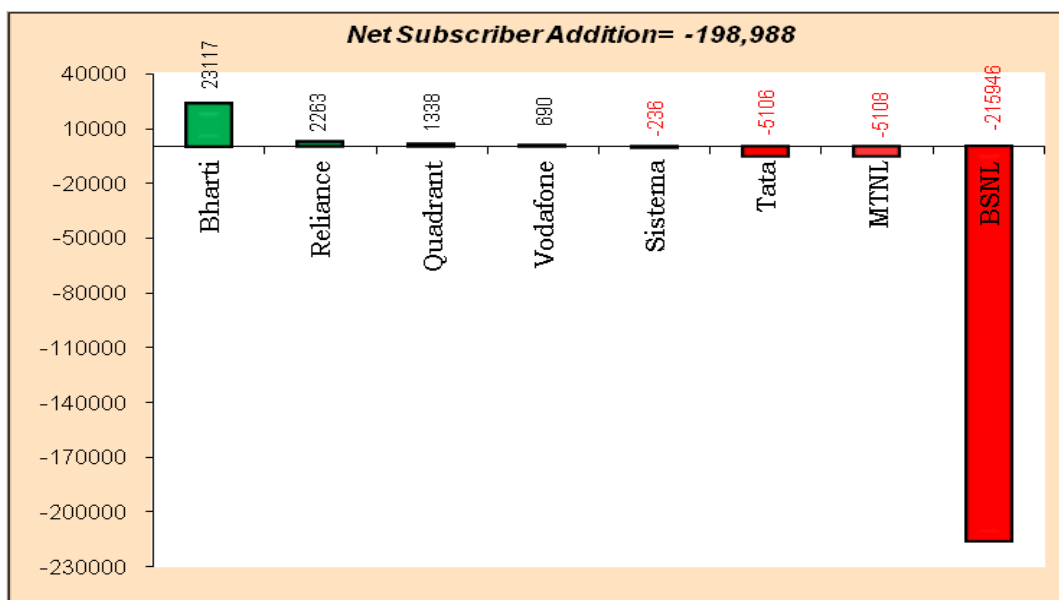
- Wireline subscriber base declined from 25.52 million at the end of Dec-15 to 25.32 million at the end of Jan-16. Net reduction in the wireline subscriber base was 0.20 million with a monthly decline rate of 0.78%. The share of urban and rural subscribers in total wireline subscribers was 82.56% and 17.44% respectively at the end of Jan-16.
- The Overall Wireline Tele-density declined marginally from 2.01 in Dec-15 to 2.00 in Jan-16. Urban Wireline Tele-density and Rural Wireline Tele-density being 5.30 and 0.51 respectively.

- BSNL and MTNL, the two PSU access service providers, held 72.79% of the wireline market share. Detailed statistics of wireline subscriber base are available at **Annexure-III**.
- The graphical representation of service provider-wise market shares in the wireline segment and net additions in wireline subscriber bases in the month of Jan-16 are given below:

Access Service Provider-wise Market Shares in term of Wireline Subscriber base as on 31st January, 2016



Access Service Provider-wise Net Additions/declines in Wireline Subscriber Base in the Month of January, 2016



VII. Category-wise Growth

Circle Category-wise Net Additions in Telephone Subscribers in the month of January, 2016

Circle Category	Net additions in the month of January, 2016		Telephone Subscriber base as on 31 st January, 2016	
	Wireline segment	Wireless segment	Wireline segment	Wireless segment
Circle A	-89,546	2,326,061	10,051,457	360,770,061
Circle B	-99,926	2,937,786	6,915,215	405,582,585
Circle C	-4,255	1,184,267	1,237,786	147,129,659
Metro	-5,261	631,443	7,115,039	104,486,452
All India	-198,988	7,079,557	25,319,497	1,017,968,757

Circle Category-wise Growth Rates in Telephone Subscribers in the month of January, 2016

Circle Category	Monthly growth rate (%) (Dec-15 to Jan-16)		Yearly growth rate (%) (Jan-15 to Jan-16)	
	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment	Wireline Segment	Wireless Segment
Circle A	-0.88	0.65	-5.68	5.68
Circle B	-1.42	0.73	-9.58	8.10
Circle C	-0.34	0.81	-11.37	6.84
Metro	-0.07	0.61	-0.71	6.55
All India	-0.78	0.70	-5.76	6.89

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-B showed the maximum net addition while the Circles in Category-C showed the maximum growth rate in the month Jan-16. In Wireline segment, Circles of Category-B showed the highest net decline as well as the highest monthly decline rate in subscriber base in the month of Jan-16.

VIII. Broadband (\geq 512 Kbps download)

- As per the reports received from the service providers, the number of broadband subscribers increased from 136.53 Million at the end of Dec-15 to 140.10 million at the end of Jan-16 with a monthly growth rate of 2.62%. Segment-wise broadband subscribers and their monthly growth rates are as below:

Segment-wise Broadband Subscriber base and Monthly Growth Rates in the month of January, 2016

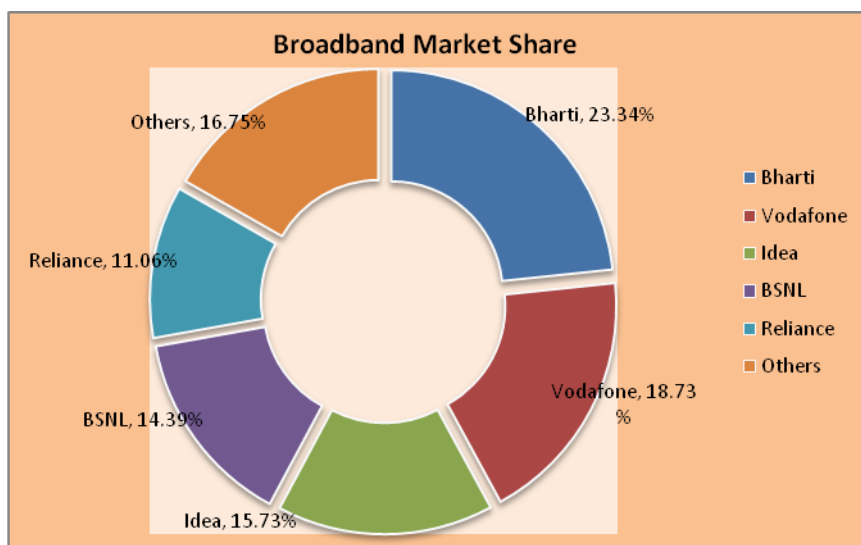
Segment	Broadband subscribers (in million)		Monthly growth rate in the month of Jan-16 (%)
	As on 31 st December, 2015	As on 31 st January, 2016	
Wired subscribers	16.51	16.63	0.71%
Mobile devices users (Phones and dongles)	119.53	122.98	2.89%
Fixed Wireless subscribers (Wi-Fi, Wi-Max, Point-to- Point Radio & VSAT)	0.49	0.49	1.19%
Total	136.53	140.10	2.62%

- Top five service providers constituted 83.25% market share of the total broadband subscribers at the end of Jan-16. These service providers were Bharti Airtel (32.70 million), Vodafone (26.24 million), Idea Cellular (22.04 million), BSNL (20.16 million) and Reliance Communications Group (15.49 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 31.01.2016**



- As on 31st January, 2016, the top five Wired Broadband Service providers were BSNL (9.90 million), Bharti Airtel (1.68 million), MTNL (1.12 million), Atria Convergence Technologies (0.89 million) and YOU Broadband (0.51 million).
- As on 31st January, 2016, the top five Wireless Broadband Service providers were Bharti Airtel (31.02 million), Vodafone (26.23 million), Idea Cellular (22.04 million), Reliance Communications Group (15.37 million) and BSNL (10.26 million).

Contact details in case of any clarification:

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Authorized to issue:

(Vinod Kotwal)
Advisor (EA)

Wireless Subscriber Base

Annexure-I

Circle	Group											
	Bharti		Reliance		Vodafone		Tata		Idea		Aircel	
	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16
Andhra Pradesh	23227059	23427595	5443839	5453314	7162882	7107049	5190400	5135204	15298893	15386659	2814331	2818861
Assam	5683518	5787130	1361181	1304997	3448664	3508774			1063049	1110977	4853001	4944278
Bihar	26927312	27340013	4959715	4338858	9295680	9269029	1750461	1765920	10859315	10913516	6854934	6926829
Delhi	11222985	11223514	8476557	8579083	10049752	10061022	2510720	2430215	6211520	6193560	6104002	6168663
Gujarat	8272527	8475513	5208676	5520957	19219078	19298413	2783751	2829234	11990608	12111114	17063	17063
Haryana	2856230	2870723	2035193	2045385	5356970	5367768	2719041	2756227	4589375	4592164	3092	3092
Himachal Pradesh	2722881	2726705	1753106	1744297	694948	699485	78805	70766	783552	781445	1058139	1065417
J & K	3348374	3341717	849831	887736	1048029	1056408			602415	606252	2539460	2521220
Karnataka	20840739	20858083	5722224	5777449	7680807	7628287	7202926	7331007	8620705	8530912	3031064	3044664
Kerala	4267406	4239703	2142229	2175837	7481599	7493254	1536248	1557011	10264554	10305124	206848	226579
Kolkata	4452322	4589173	4453591	4572537	5262820	5283867	2770301	2775817	2123788	2160394	4042132	4058155
Madhya Pradesh	12111570	12231563	12629078	12323660	6692882	6789504	4706441	4730025	20568936	20849918	20694	20694
Maharashtra	12687714	12923674	5365998	5502567	18058780	18131138	6341532	6429856	23036628	23197316	2487523	2553946
Mumbai	5564834	5640763	5646175	5852646	8612645	8658602	3361565	3271927	4254544	4299425	2839599	2778445
North East	3818049	3844096	326467	336438	1487135	1500392			485744	492579	3090064	3112530
Orissa	9703785	9927674	1784278	1744963	3879819	3960561	2257596	2272747	1607740	1666525	4445162	4509240
Punjab	7936063	7947457	1593474	1620768	5082701	5076263	2625153	2632940	6357576	6369198	1038960	1043797
Rajasthan	18897726	19024478	6865064	6844579	11707557	11806683	1584001	1505751	7752344	7836178	6461780	6318616
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	16829940	16933900	6570587	6637837	15235488	15327889	5198817	5107973	5934165	5994262	21315077	21402847
U.P.(E)	19988762	20277093	8824862	9028105	18254718	18572976	4155534	4173729	10377719	10488809	6689790	6754542
U.P.(W)	7966851	7991197	5678051	5858885	11193594	11228385	3464897	3551895	13873955	13942005	569880	598023
West Bengal	13962757	14168114	3200255	3055135	16693537	16886523	489667	475266	5255483	5335322	5149654	5179761
Total	243289404	245789878	100890431	101206033	193600085	194712272	60727856	60803510	171912608	173163654	85632249	86067262
Net Addition		2500474		315602		1112187		75654		1251046		435013

Wireless Subscriber Base

Annexure-I (contd.)

Circle	Group														Net Addition
	BSNL		MTNL		Telenor		Sistema		Videocon		Quadrant		Total		
	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	
Andhra Pradesh	9566617	9628595			5882383	5830884							74586404	74788161	201757
Assam	1282155	1286165											17691568	17942321	250753
Bihar	2805456	2905457			8281332	8557985			21352	21352			71755557	72038959	283402
Delhi			2339769	2339526			953352	945937					47868657	47941520	72863
Gujarat	3347254	3421758			8130404	8480313	212206	208819	1299648	974576			60481215	61337760	856545
Haryana	3036386	3096666							2168579	2202665			22764866	22934690	169824
Himachal Pradesh	1541807	1581373											8633238	8669488	36250
J & K	1252820	1259738											9640929	9673071	32142
Karnataka	7096324	7029794					1256837	1217671					61451626	61417867	-33759
Kerala	7216834	7326292					366013	360026					33481731	33683826	202095
Kolkata	764457	768631					562909	550417					24432320	24758991	326671
Madhya Pradesh	4036568	4149144							3430269	3513361			64196438	64607869	411431
Maharashtra	5434745	5572659			7933145	8017305							81346065	82328461	982396
Mumbai			1274670	1284133									31554032	31785941	231909
North East	1460866	1476160											10668325	10762195	93870
Orissa	3877395	3961915											27555775	28043625	487850
Punjab	3359239	3409804									3047100	3097712	31040266	31197939	157673
Rajasthan	3577314	3695077					2172906	2155515					59018692	59186877	168185
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	8721260	8729472					773356	763632					80578690	80897812	319122
U.P.(E)	8292668	8490081			12017737	12073385			15417	15417			88617207	89874137	1256930
U.P.(W)	3924626	4043565			8457395	8467092	159495	157414	22913	22913			55311657	55861374	549717
West Bengal	1912849	1600395					1549740	1535357					48213942	48235873	21931
Total	82507640	83432741	3614439	3623659	50702396	51426964	8006814	7894788	6958178	6750284	3047100	3097712	1010889200	1017968757	7079557
Net Addition		925101		9220		724568		-112026		-207894		50612		7079557	

Proportion of VLR on the date of Peak VLR in the month of Jan-16 (%)

Annexure-II

Circle	Aircel	Bharti	BSNL	Quadrant	Idea	MTNL	Reliance	Sistema	Tata	Telenor	Videocon	Vodafone	Total
Andhra Pradesh	58.83	97.57	64.98		104.65		98.47		86.57	72.98		86.14	89.68
Assam	86.20	97.09	82.96		100.37		6.07					117.57	90.67
Bihar	79.17	96.84	71.24		101.21		48.17		68.81	72.42	4.85	112.83	90.28
Delhi	65.73	92.71			99.71	53.51	97.53	51.07	52.93			103.26	88.47
Gujarat	2689.45	96.91	78.76		107.05		99.08	42.67	77.27	67.69	37.81	96.01	92.46
Haryana	0.61	97.93	54.23		104.42		95.71		83.03		53.03	96.78	86.75
Himachal Pradesh	54.46	93.54	75.02		111.30		94.97		37.75			91.76	86.65
J & K	88.14	84.95	73.76		97.18		60.09					82.57	82.55
Karnataka	65.42	95.09	59.57		105.52		97.60	67.76	87.12			88.23	88.89
Kerala	74.81	96.76	83.95		109.07		94.07	64.26	87.45			103.46	98.13
Kolkata	72.89	97.25	91.19		88.54		98.81	91.93	81.82			96.95	90.68
Madhya Pradesh	1.07	100.70	76.44		108.51		98.87		83.34		50.68	77.83	94.89
Maharashtra	59.01	97.29	81.20		105.37		98.41		79.05	74.30		99.67	94.22
Mumbai	63.27	96.70			95.19	70.86	98.99		80.37			87.72	88.82
North East	68.78	94.62	70.08		99.66		8.52					96.52	81.58
Orissa	60.54	98.08	80.33		102.50		20.33		81.14			112.86	85.68
Punjab	59.31	94.53	73.61	51.90	108.39		98.79		75.59			91.72	87.83
Rajasthan	51.69	96.80	76.62		103.71		99.09	58.52	108.05			91.31	89.70
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	72.92	98.40	62.44		90.89		95.65	55.88	69.84			99.50	85.00
U.P. (E)	74.39	96.23	59.73		108.56		98.83		72.21	75.46	12.03	98.66	89.42
U.P. (W)	116.58	96.05	63.07		101.28		99.10	52.18	71.83	74.94	7.09	94.29	90.25
West Bengal	74.04	99.29	95.49		106.61		25.10	62.76	52.38			104.11	92.63
Total	70.90	96.72	70.45	51.90	104.43	59.66	90.64	61.67	78.89	73.13	49.21	97.57	90.14

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

Circle	Group																Total		Net Addition
	BSNL		MTNL		Bharti		Reliance		Tata		Quadrant		Sistema		Vodafone		Dec-15	Jan-16	
	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16	Dec-15	Jan-16			
Andhra Pradesh	1375839	1349823			142278	143357	75943	75996	164031	163609					9,450	9,480	1767541	1742265	-25276
Assam	161219	161285													1,710	1,860	162929	163145	216
Bihar	315300	313147					6,778	6,813	13,156	13,034					1020	1050	336254	334044	-2210
Delhi			1613063	1614094	1212538	1218525	174883	174829	133904	127938					22,140	22,140	3156528	3157526	998
Gujarat	1196386	1181557			68759	69673	75050	74948	86623	86128					3,180	3,180	1429998	1415486	-14512
Haryana	312,553	309,087			18917	19431	4427	4427	38654	38719					30	30	374581	371694	-2887
Himachal Pradesh	169,765	168,157					4343	4192	2733	2724					90	90	176931	175163	-1768
J & K	131,649	130,717															131649	130717	-932
Karnataka	1325557	1307729			592441	593453	144139	145545	200816	201870					9,120	9,660	2272073	2258257	-13816
Kerala	2302820	2233596			55695	56278	34053	34056	17409	17399					1020	750	2410997	2342079	-68918
Kolkata	678306	676381			115848	116643	70121	70111	48692	48753					3990	3990	916957	915878	-1079
Madhya Pradesh	749297	744489			252550	256461	20459	20445	20784	19312					390	390	1043480	1041097	-2383
Maharashtra	1553843	1538942			73542	73730	82154	82285	280412	281597					10,860	10,890	2000811	1987444	-13367
Mumbai			1904731	1898592	348195	348343	247905	248835	528854	528675					17,130	17,190	3046815	3041635	-5180
North East	125,580	125,414													150	150	125730	125564	-166
Orissa	296128	296787					3290	3290	8170	8116					960	960	308548	309153	605
Punjab	683984	673312			103046	105153	21077	21150	16883	16842	249964	251302			750	810	1075704	1068569	-7135
Rajasthan	651453	648769			45248	45460	20843	20840	10888	11216			57932	57696	1,860	1,860	788224	785841	-2383
Tamil Nadu (incl. Chennai)	1938374	1910110			487532	492268	134365	134346	102329	103271					7980	8010	2670580	2648005	-22575
U.P.(E)	389410	389645			59845	60445	35585	35568	15225	15247					1,170	1,170	501235	502075	840
U.P.(W)	395975	391564			21028	21359	7227	7227	10000	10040					450	480	434680	430670	-4010
West Bengal	380507	367488					1902	1904	3801	3768					30	30	386240	373190	-13050
Total	15133945	14917999	3517794	3512686	3597462	3620579	1164544	1166807	1703364	1698258	249964	251302	57932	57696	93480	94170	25518485	25319497	-198988
Net Addition		-215946		-5108		23117		2263		-5106		1338		-236		690		-198988	

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)
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.