



## Airtel is now the third largest mobile operator in the world

*Moves up one position in global rankings with over 303 million customers across 20 countries  
Achieves landmark in less than two decades of operations, underlining the strength of its  
business model and global scale*

*'Airtel' is now one of the top emerging markets brands in the world*

- Largest mobile operator in India in terms of subscribers and revenue with widest network coverage across 2G, 3G and 4G
- Largest operator in Africa in terms of geographical footprint with the widest 3G and M-commerce networks
- Airtel's mobile networks cover over 1.85 billion people across 20 countries. For FY 15, the network carried:
  - Over 1.23 trillion voice minutes
  - Over 333 petabytes of data
- Also the largest rural mobile customer base in India with over 100 million mobile customers

**New Delhi, June 30, 2015:** Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), a leading telecommunications service provider with operations in 20 countries across South Asia and Africa, today said that it has become the third largest mobile operator in the world in terms of subscribers. As per the latest data published by WCIS, Airtel with over 303 million mobile subscribers across its operations, has moved up one position in the global rankings.

Airtel began operations in November 1995 in New Delhi (India) and in less than two decades it has emerged as one of the top brands in the emerging markets with an unmatched scale and diversity of operations. The Company pioneered the low-cost business model based on outsourcing that has allowed it to expand its services rapidly and give customers affordable access to mobile telephony.

### Top Five Global Mobile Operators by Customers

Ranking	Operator	Wireless Mobile Connections (millions)*
1	China Mobile	626.27
2	Vodafone Group	403.08
3	Bharti Airtel	303.10
4	China Unicom	299.09
5	America Movil	274.14

(\*Source: World Cellular Information Service (WCIS) – As per their latest published global rankings)

**Sunil Bharti Mittal, Chairman, Bharti Airtel, said,** "This is a major landmark in the journey of Airtel and underlines the strength of our business model and our brand that is loved by customers across 20 countries. Today, we seamlessly manage global scale operations in diverse geographies and deliver the same world-class services to each customers, this perhaps is one of our biggest achievements. I want to thank our employees and our business partners for supporting us through



this exciting journey and with the mobile internet play about to happen in the developing world, things will only get brighter from here on.”

“I am also proud of the fact that we have built one of the biggest consumer brands in the world out of India. It would not have been possible without the progressive policies of the Government of India and the TRAI. I take this opportunity to assure them that we are fully committed to their vision of Digital India and empowering every Indian.”

Airtel’s mobile networks cover over 1.85 billion people across its operations in 20 countries and carried over 1.23 trillion minutes of calls and over 333 petabytes of data in FY 2014-15.

In India, Airtel has one of the largest bouquet of mobile services offerings for customers - including 2G, 3G, 4G, Mobile Commerce and other Value Added Services. Its distribution channel is spread across 1.5 Mn outlets, with network presence in 5,121 census and 464,045 non-census towns and villages in India covering approximately 86.8% of the country’s population. Airtel has the largest rural mobile customer base in India with over 100 million mobile customers (from rural markets).

Airtel has India’s widest 3G footprint, offering customers high-speed internet access and a host of innovative services like Mobile TV, video calls, live-streaming videos and gaming. Airtel is the only mobile operator in India to offer 4G services in over 30 cities using TD - LTE & FDD - LTE technology, providing customers the fastest wireless services with buffer-less HD video streaming and multi-tasking capabilities. Going forward, Airtel plans to launch ultrafast 4G services in India’s first FDD-LTE on 1800 MHz in 6 circles.

In Africa, Bharti Airtel is the largest mobile operator in the Continent in terms of geographical footprint. It offers 2G, 3G services and Airtel Money across all 17 countries in Africa. Airtel Money is one of the largest and fastest growing m-commerce services on the continent and with data adoption leading the growth on the continent, Airtel is well positioned to leverage the opportunities.

In Bangladesh, Bharti Airtel is the fastest growing mobile operator, with a distribution network comprising over 146K retailers across the country. The company offers a wide range of 2G and 3G services in Bangladesh, including voice, value added services, entertainment, m-commerce and m-health.

In Sri Lanka, Bharti Airtel offers a range of mobile services which includes voice, data and enterprise solutions on its state-of-the-art 2G and 3G HSPA+ network. Airtel’s 3G presence across over 70% of its network is amongst the highest 3G ratio available across the subcontinent.

### **About Bharti Airtel:**

Bharti Airtel Limited is a leading global telecommunications company with operations in 20 countries across Asia and Africa. Headquartered in New Delhi, India, the company ranks amongst the top three mobile service providers globally in terms of subscribers. In India, the company’s product offerings include 2G, 3G and 4G wireless services, mobile commerce, fixed line services, high speed DSL broadband, IPTV, DTH, enterprise services including national & international long distance services to carriers. In the rest of the geographies, it offers 2G, 3G and 4G wireless services and mobile commerce. Bharti Airtel had over 326 million customers across its operations at the end of April 2015. To know more please visit, [www.airtel.com](http://www.airtel.com)