bharti

October 06, 2016

National Stock Exchange of India Limited
Exchange Plaza, C-1 Block G
Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E)
Mumbai – 400051

BSE Limited
Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Towers
Dalal Street
Mumbai – 400001

Ref: Bharti Airtel Limited (532454 / BHARTIARTL)

Sub: Press Release

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Pursuant to regulation 30 of the SEBI Listing Regulations, 2015, we are enclosing herewith a press release titled "Airtel fortifies its strong Spectrum portfolio" dt. October 06, 2016 being issued by the Company.

We request you to take the same on record.

Thanking you,

Sincerely Yours

For Bharti Airtel Limited

Rajendra Chopra
Senior Vice President & Company Secretary

Encl: As above

Airtel fortifies its strong spectrum portfolio

Acquires 173.8 Mhz spectrum in 1800/2100/2300 Mhz bands through auction for Rs 14,244 cr

- Secures spectrum requirements for the next 20 years, well positioned to continue leading India's digital revolution
- Airtel now has 4G and 3G spectrum in all circles, giving it an unmatched mobile broadband footprint across India; also has 2G spectrum across India

New Delhi, October 6, 2016: Bharti Airtel ("Airtel"), the India's largest telecommunications services providers, today said that it has acquired 173.8 Mhz spectrum across 1800/2100/2300 MHz bands for a total consideration of Rs 14,244 cr in the latest spectrum auction conducted by the Department of Telecom, Government of India.

Airtel has further strengthened its pan-India spectrum portfolio and secured its spectrum requirements for the next 20 years. The Company now has 4G and 3G spectrum in all circles, giving it the widest mobile broadband footprint across the country. It already has 2G spectrum in all circles. Over the past six years, the Company has acquired spectrum worth appx. Rs 100,000 cr through auctions and trading.

Through strategic buying, in the latest auction, Airtel has built new 4G/3G capabilities in 7 circles. The Company has spent Rs. 10,340 cr towards enhancing data capacities in 15 circles. It has also spent Rs 321 cr towards completing some of the existing partial blocks in 4 circles, giving it a second Carrier for its future needs.

Airtel thanked the Department of Telecom for addressing the long standing demand of the industry by putting out a large quantum of spectrum across multiple bands in the latest auction. It also complimented the Department of Telecom for its progressive policies on spectrum trading and sharing, and the recent initiatives around harmonization of spectrum in various bands.

Gopal Vittal, MD & CEO (India & South Asia), Bharti Airtel said, "At the outset, we would like to thank the Government for making abundant spectrum available for auctions. Airtel now has a solid spectrum portfolio that will enable it to continue leading India's data revolution. We remain fully committed to the Government's Digital India vision and will continue to invest towards making world-class and affordable data services available to customers in every corner of the country."

The Company added that despite the large amount of spectrum made available, certain bands did not get any bid from the operators as it made no economic case for them based on the high reserve prices. Three to four national operators with robust 700 Mhz based broadband networks have the potential to accelerate India's progress to the top league of digitally enabled nations. Therefore, the pricing of the 700 Mhz band spectrum needs to be addressed on priority for the nation to benefit from the digital dividend arising out of this high quality spectrum band.

Airtel Spectrum Acquisition in the latest auction

Circles	Band	Mhz	Rs. Cr.
3G, 4G FD/TD LTE New Capability			
Kerala	2100	5.0	885
Assam	1800	3.8	152
Maharashtra	1800	5.0	1590
Jammu & Kashmir	1800	2.4	31
Kolkatta	1800	2.0	302
Gujarat	2300	10.0	612
Himachal Pradesh	2300	10.0	10
			3582
3G/4G FD/TD LTE Additional Carrier			
Assam	2300	10.0	20
Bihar	2300	10.0	62
Delhi	2300	10.0	1430
Kolkatta	2300	10.0	330
Karnataka	2300	10.0	980
Mumbai	2300	10.0	1460
North East	2300	10.0	10
Orissa	2300	10.0	40
Andhra Pradesh	2300	10.0	683
West Bengal	2300	10.0	50
Tamil Nadu	2300	10.0	1320
Delhi	2100	5.0	2770
Bihar	2100	5.0	430
Rajasthan	2100	5.0	700
Jammu & Kashmir	2100	5.0	55
			10340
4G FD LTE Future Additional Carrier			
Haryana	1800	1.6	79
North East	1800	1.4	15
Punjab	1800	0.8	62
Rajasthan	1800	1.8	165
			321
TOTAL		**173.8**	**14244**