



Manufactured Capital

We are committed to deliver seamless, high-speed connectivity services and a superior network experience for our customers. We are making investments across next-generation, resilient and sustainability-focused infrastructure to enable reliable connectivity even in the remote regions of the country.

Anchored by a robust spectrum strategy, digitally native network architecture, expansive terrestrial fiber footprint, submarine cable network and data centres.

We remain focused on continuously enhancing network resilience, expanding reach and building future ready digital ecosystems, while advancing India's journey towards a digitally connected future.

SDGs impacted



Material topics included

- Digital inclusion and enhanced access to ICT
- Innovation of products and services
- Green ICT solutions
- Network quality, expansion and transformation

BRSR Principle

Principle 2

FY 2025-26 highlights

7,883

New mobile network towers installed

67,783

New mobile broadband base stations added (including 5G)

43,290 Rkms

Optic fiber cable deployed

5,924 Bn

Minutes on network (Gross)

103,758 Bn MBs

Data traffic (Mobile Services)

50,309 Bn MBs

Data traffic (Homes Services)

~8 Mn

New Home passes rolled out crossing 45 Mn in FY 2025-26

8

Live submarine cable systems

14

Large data centres

120+

Edge data centres

159 MW

Design load in a large data centre

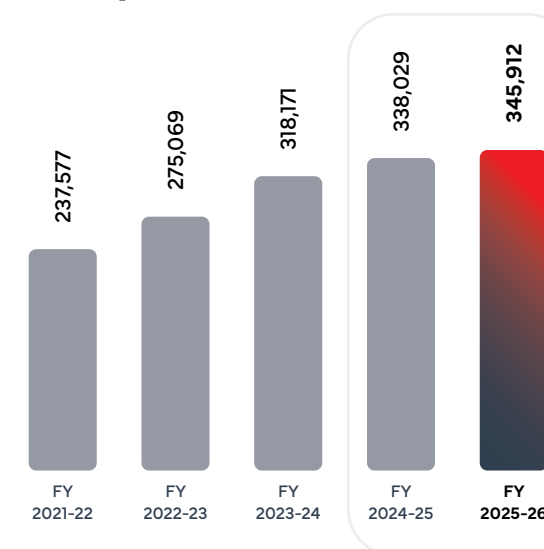
108 MW

Design load in an edge data centre

Total mobile network towers

(Nos.)

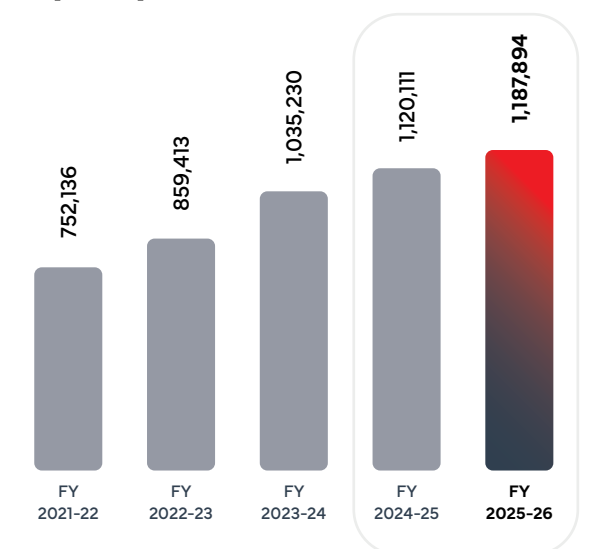
345,912



Total mobile broadband base stations (incl. 5G)

(Nos.)

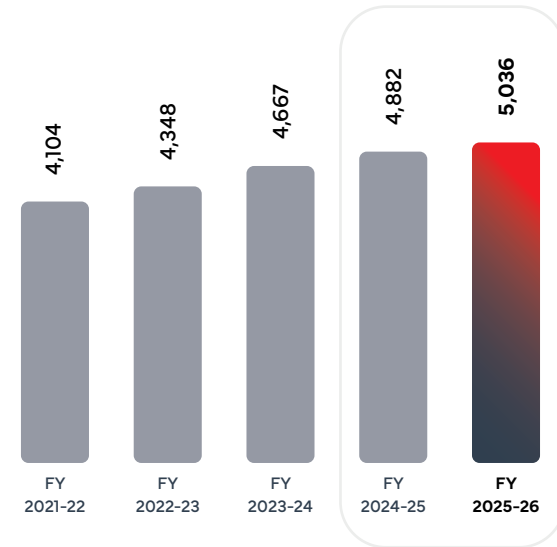
1,187,894



Minutes on network (Mobile Services)

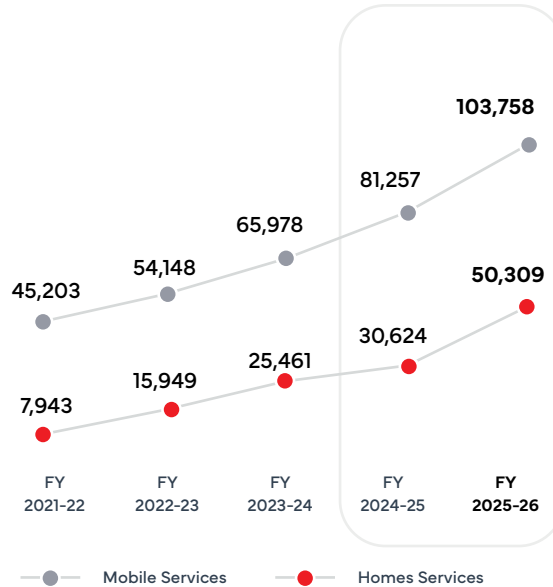
(Bn Mins)

5,036



Data traffic

(Bn MBs)



Our spectrum snapshot

(As on March 31, 2026)



Robust Spectrum pool to Elevate Network Performance

We have India's largest and most diversified mid band spectrum portfolio enabling us to deliver seamless and reliable 4G and 5G services across urban and rural markets.

Our spectrum portfolio includes 352.45 MHz in the 1800 MHz band, 235 MHz in the 2100 MHz band and 790 MHz in the 2300 MHz band, together forming the backbone of our mid band capacity. These assets support robust network performance and consistent user experience across circles. We have increased our depth in spectrum portfolio with 166.6 MHz in the 900 MHz band, 20 MHz in the 800 MHz band, 2200 MHz of 3300 Mhz spectrum and a substantial 18000 MHz in the mmWave (26 GHz) band. Our robust spectrum holdings underscores the effectiveness of our long term spectrum strategy and positions us well to meet rising data demand.

During the year, we continued refarming and optimising spectrum in the 1800 MHz, 2100 MHz and 2300 MHz bands, enabling efficient capacity scaling and supporting accelerated 5G traffic migration. We are India's first network to operate on dual mode (SA+NSA) 5G architecture, allowing dynamic switching, broader coverage and enhanced service reliability.

Our extensive mmWave holdings further strengthen our ability to support high capacity use cases, including Fixed Wireless Access (FWA), private networks and advanced enterprise solutions, particularly in dense urban markets. Combined with our mid band and C band assets, this enables us to deliver an optimal balance of coverage, capacity and latency.



Network Transformation through Automation and Intelligence

Aligned with the vision of building an autonomous network, we have progressed our automation journey by integrating the Radio Access Network (RAN) Configurator pan India. This has enabled standardized, efficient and reliable RAN configurations, reducing manual intervention while ensuring compliance. This layer of automation has enabled us to accelerate transformation through advanced AI/ML-led optimizations and energy efficiency initiatives.

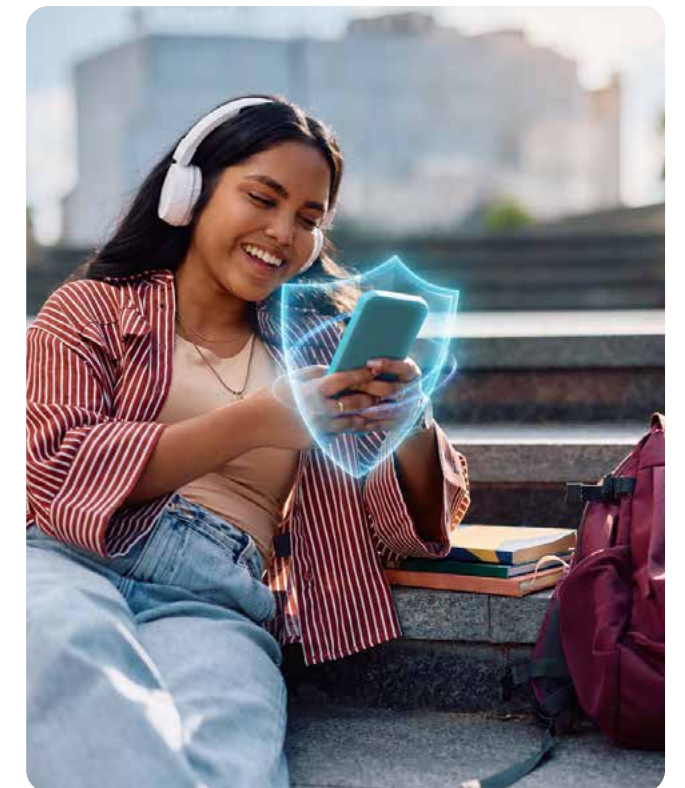
Our AI/ML-based energy optimization solutions have been successfully scaled across the network, enabling longer sleep cycles and faster rollback mechanisms. This vendor-agnostic solution seamlessly integrates with existing mobility algorithms and enhances native capabilities, including Cell Sleep, Deep Sleep and MIMO Sleep. Additionally, through our Green 5G initiative in collaboration with Nokia, we have enhanced sustainability by optimizing energy consumption across our 4G and 5G RAN, while simultaneously improving network resilience and overall performance.

AI led transformation

Our network strategy is anchored around building an intelligent, future-ready digital infrastructure that delivers superior customer experience and strengthens our competitive advantage. Artificial intelligence, digital tools and data science are embedded across network planning and operations, enabling sharper decision making, precision in capacity planning and enhanced resilience. Together, these capabilities underpin our operational excellence and reinforce our commitment to delivering superior customer experiences every day. Consequently, our real-time, AI-led capacity management is achieving the cost efficiency of traditional rule-based cell-level shutdowns, while maintaining a seamless user experience.

Our industry-first, AI powered Anti-Spam solution strengthens our protection framework and safeguard customers from evolving digital threats, by identifying billions of spam calls and blocking millions of fraudulent links.

Read more about our Anti-Spam solution in the Annual Report on [page 24](#).



Enabling Digital Presence

Our 5G rollout has progressed steadily. We are now transitioning our network towards advanced 5G capabilities. Our customers are transitioning to 5G in a phased manner with experience designed to deliver the best performance and reliability.

During the year, we strengthened our network with expansion of 5G footprint, with more than 10,450 new sites added. This rollout has enhanced network speed, coverage and reliability, across urban centers, emerging towns and rural areas. This has helped us bridge connectivity gaps while further strengthening service quality in major economic hubs. As a result of this expanded network, our customers are experiencing smoother streaming, faster downloads, uninterrupted work and learning and more consistent connectivity for digital transactions across locations. Our 5G infrastructure is supporting the evolving digital needs of individuals, businesses and public institutions.

Additionally, as part of our Rural Acceleration Programme, we have made significant strides in expanding high-quality, affordable connectivity to underserved regions through the deployment of over 50,000 sites across thousands of villages over the past years.

Pioneering Reliable Connectivity in remote areas

By bringing seamless, high-speed connectivity to difficult-to-reach Marwah region, we have enabled new opportunities for economic inclusion and digital access. Such initiatives strengthen the tourism potential of this renowned destination while reinforcing our commitment to inclusive connectivity. Over the past three years, we have served more than millions of customers across challenging, difficult-to-reach terrains across the country.



Nxtra by Airtel: Leading the Evolution of Intelligent and Sustainable data centres in India

Nxtra by Airtel is an interconnected ICT platform enabling the creation of next-generation digital services. We design, build and operate a comprehensive portfolio of hyperscale, core and edge data centers, empowering enterprises, hyperscalers and governments to accelerate their digital transformation journeys.

With a pan-India presence, Nxtra delivers robust solutions focused on high availability, business continuity and superior customer experience, all built on a secure and sovereign digital infrastructure. Our integrated digital ecosystem, comprising 14 hyperscale data centers and 120+ edge data centers supported by ~250 MW of power capacity, together with Airtel's extensive connectivity backbone, including Internet, Point-to-Point (P2P) circuits and global connectivity and a robust partner ecosystem. Leveraging Airtel's end-to-end B2B and B2C capabilities, Nxtra is uniquely positioned to deliver scalable, resilient and future-ready digital infrastructure for India's rapidly evolving digital economy.

Driving India's AI Infrastructure Transformation

As Artificial Intelligence (AI) reshapes digital infrastructure requirements, Nxtra is embedding AI across its operations to build data centres that are Intelligent by Design and Sustainable by Choice. Our strategy combines AI-driven operational intelligence with next-generation infrastructure and energy-efficient design, enabling us to deliver resilient, high-performance digital infrastructure while supporting India's growing AI ecosystem.

Driven by accelerating cloud adoption, the expansion of AI workloads and the rollout of 5G networks, we are on track to increase our capacity to 1 GW over the next few years, allowing us to serve a diverse customer base, including enterprises, hyperscalers, government organisations, cloud providers, OTT platforms and internet exchanges.

Reflecting the growing importance of AI-ready digital infrastructure, Bharti Airtel announced a strategic investment in Nxtra to support its next phase of growth. The investment will enable Nxtra to accelerate the expansion of its AI-ready infrastructure and enhance its portfolio of services to meet the evolving needs of enterprises, hyperscalers and government organisations across India.

Driving Innovation: Nxtra's AI-Centric Transformation in Data Management

We have demonstrated strong progress in enhancing operational efficiency through the adoption of advanced, technology-driven solutions. As part of our commitment to sustainable innovation, we have also partnered with Ecolibrium to become the first data center company in India to deploy AI at scale for predictive maintenance, energy efficiency and automated operations.

Our AI transformation is built on a three-layer AI integration strategy, designed to embed intelligence across operations, infrastructure design and energy management:

- **Predictive Intelligence Layer:** Our AI journey began with the deployment of the SmartSense platform by Ecolibrium at our Chennai facility. Leveraging advanced AI/ML algorithms, SmartSense delivers real-time, data-driven insights into facility performance. Following its successful deployment, we are now scaling the solution across all our core data centres.
- **Next-Generation Infrastructure Design Layer:** We are developing next-generation hyperscale data centres designed to support AI/ML workloads requiring rack densities of 60-140 kW and above, creating infrastructure capable of supporting the next wave of high-performance computing and AI applications. This is further strengthened by our partnership with Google to build a gigawatt-scale AI data centre campus, while developing additional AI-ready campuses in Chennai, Mumbai and Kolkata, alongside our existing state-of-the-art facility in Pune.
- **Carbon-aware operations Layer:** Our facilities are equipped to integrate advanced cooling solutions such as Direct Liquid Cooling and Liquid Immersion Cooling, using advanced simulation tools like Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) to verify and make them future proof. AI/ML systems integrated with Building Management Systems (BMS) enable real-time thermal load optimisation and predictive energy management, while design features such as cold aisle containment and free cooling further improve energy efficiency.

Overall, these initiatives reflect our strong commitment to leverage digital technologies to enhance performance, improve reliability and drive operational excellence across our data centre portfolio. Guided by our twin pillars of Intelligence and Sustainability, we continue to strengthen our position as a leading converged ICT player supporting India's digital and AI ambitions. By building infrastructure that is Intelligent by Design and Sustainable by Choice, we are enabling India's digital transformation through innovation, scale and responsible growth.



Read more about our 'strategic partnerships and alliances' and 'infrastructure deployment initiatives' during FY 2025-26 in the 'Management Discussion & Analysis Report' section on [page 156](#).