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### **Manager Update**

#### ASCEND TELECOM INFRASTRUCTURE PRIVATE LIMITED as an Eligible Social Asset

- Under the SGS Framework, updates to environmental and/or social impact indicators will be provided if there is any material change to loans classified under the SGS Framework.
- The loan to SUMMIT LNG TERMINAL CO. (PVT.) LTD. was replaced by ASCEND TELECOM INFRASTRUCTURE PRIVATE LIMITED on 27 February 2025. As per the Updated Eligibility Assessment issued by DNV¹, ASCEND TELECOM INFRASTRUCTURE PRIVATE LIMITED present significant social benefits under Access to Affordable Basic Infrastructure and Services. The demand for mobile telecom towers in India has been growing at a rapid rate and is expected to grow even more. The wide penetration of smartphones and the availability of affordable and better mobile data plans, have boosted the use and quality of mobile internet in India. The mobile network infrastructure has been expanding rapidly, making mobile internet the primary source of internet access for most Indians.
- Aligned with the Pre-issuance Impact Report issued by Carbon Trust<sup>2</sup>, the social benefits as indicated by the Tower Density in Underserved Communities is summarised below:

Tower Density in Underserved Communities = 
Number of ASCEND TELECOM INFRASTRUCTURE
PRIVATE LIMITED towers operating in India

Total Population in Underserved Areas in India

**Table 1: Tower Densities by Telecom Circle Category** 

Company	Country	Telecom Circle Category	No. of Towers <sup>3</sup>	Population (2024 Estimate)	Tower Density (No. of Towers/100,000 Inhabitants)
ASCEND TELECOM INFRASTRUCTURE PRIVATE LIMITED	India	Α	5,728	415,036,000	1.38
		В	6,435	629,321,000	1.02
		С	4,424	288,571,000	1.53
		Metro	930	67,817,000	1.37

## Manager Update (cont'd)

Table 2: Classification and Total Population in Underserved Communities in India

Telecom Circle <sup>4</sup>	Telecom Circle Category	Population (2024 Estimate) <sup>5</sup>	Avg. Download Speed (Mbps) <sup>6</sup>	Circle Weight (by Population)	Population-Weighted Avg. Download Speed	National Broadband Speed Target by India's National Broadband Mission <sup>7</sup>
Andhra Pradesh	А	91,612,000	38.88	29.6%	37.48 Mbps	50 Mbps
Gujarat	А	73,723,000	42.83			
Karnataka	А	68,115,000	39.40			
Maharashtra	А	102,814,000	36.55			
Tamil Nadu	А	78,772,000	42.45			
Haryana	В	30,573,000	40.85	44.9%		
Kerala	В	35,989,000	33.13			
Madhya Pradesh	В	118,134,000	34.60			
Punjab	В	32,169,000	39.90			
Rajasthan	В	81,897,000	42.65			
Uttar Pradesh (East)	В	238,078,000	35.73			
Uttar Pradesh (West)	В	11,755,000	39.80			
West Bengal	В	80,726,000	32.85			
Assam	С	36,047,000	29.98	20.6%		
Bihar	С	168,555,000	37.00			
Himachal Pradesh	С	7,505,000	33.15			
Jammu & Kashmir	С	14,003,000	23.08			
North-East	С	15,895,000	32.73			
Odisha (Orissa)	С	46,566,000	31.35			
Delhi	Metro	21,752,000	49.97	4.8%		
Kolkata	Metro	19,936,000	45.98			
Mumbai	Metro	26,129,000	50.93			

## Manager Update (cont'd)

#### Notes:

- 1. Bauhinia ILBS 1 Limited Second Party Opinion on Sustainability Notes Updated Eligibility Assessment.
- 2. Bauhinia ILBS 1 Limited Pre-issuance Impact Report.
- 3. FY2023 figures are presented. The number of telecom towers was amounted to 18,579 in total in FY2024.
- 4. In India, the telecom market is divided into 22 service areas called "circles" and are categorised into A, B, C and Metro circles. Some states are grouped together with the adjacent larger state in forming the telecom circles. For example, Chhattisgarh is included in the Madhya Pradesh circle, Jharkhand is included in the Bihar circle, Telangana is included in the Andhra Pradesh circle, etc.
- 5. Derived from Report of the Technical group of Population Projection July 2020 (2011-2036), Kolkata Metropolitan Population 2021 2031 and Mumbai City Population 2021-31.
- 6. <u>India, October 2024, Mobile Network Experience Report | Opensignal</u>, except for Jammu & Kashmir where data is obtained from India, October 2023, Mobile Network Experience Report | Opensignal due to unavailability of data.
- 7. The Indian Ministry of Communications published the National Broadband Mission in December 2019, and proposed to increase the minimum broadband speed to 50 Mbps in 5 years. Source: <u>Press Release</u>: <u>Progress of National Broadband Mission</u>.



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