



## Vodafone Idea Ltd

Connecting India with extensive network coverage, innovative services, and trusted brand reliability.



# **i ventura**

#### **Not Rated**

Connecting India with extensive network coverage, innovative services, and trusted brand reliability.

Vi's INR 180 billion FPO is poised to address two critical objectives: 1) bridging the network coverage gap, and 2) enhancing competitiveness to some extent. Furthermore, a notable reduction in Vi's bank debt is anticipated to pave the way for securing additional funding from banks. While this capital injection is expected to bolster Vi's immediate outlook, substantial market share gains vis-à-vis peers are not on the horizon. concerns remain regarding potential significant equity dilution resulting from the conversion of government dues, potentially leading to over 80% government ownership. Such a scenario could limit meaningful upside for Vi's minority investors.

Vi has experienced a decline of approximately 19% in market share postmerger, attributed to inadequate network investment. Efforts are underway to rectify this by bridging the network coverage gap in 4G, aiming to mitigate some market share losses.

Significant disparities in 5G coverage compared to larger competitors are expected to persist. Additionally, Vi's peers stand to gain more from potential tariff increases and possess greater resources for customer acquisition, potentially hindering Vi's ability to make substantial market share gains against Bharti and R-Jio.

Vi's proposed issue size is INR 18000 cr. The company's proposal outlines the allocation of Net Proceeds for the following objectives:

- 1. The purchase of equipment for expanding their network infrastructure, which involves setting up new 4G sites, enhancing the capacity of existing 4G sites, and establishing new 5G sites will be INR 12,750 cr.
- 2. Payment of outstanding deferred payments for spectrum to the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) along with the applicable Goods and Services Tax (GST) will be INR 2,175 cr.
- 3. Utilization for general corporate purposes.

	Revenue	EBITDA	ΡΑΤ	EBITDA (%)	PAT (%)	Adj EPS (₹)	BVPS (₹)	RoE (%)	ROCE (%)	P/E (X)	EV/EBITD A (X)
FY21	41,952.2	16,902.1	(44,464.5)	40.3	(106.0)	(8.8)	(7.6)	115.7	(4.7)	NA	14.4
FY22	38,515.5	16,016.1	(28,246.6)	41.6	(73.3)	(5.6)	(12.4)	45.6	(5.9)	NA	15.8
FY23	42,177.2	16,752.8	(29,301.6)	39.7	(69.5)	(5.8)	(14.8)	39.4	(4.9)	NA	15.9

#### Key Financial Data (INR Cr, unless specified)

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Industry	Telecomm			
Issue Details				
Listing	BSE & NSE			
Open Date	18 <sup>th</sup> Apr 2024			
Close Date	22 <sup>nd</sup> Apr 2024			
Price Band	INR 10-11			
Face Value	INR 10			
Market Lot	1298 shares			
Minimum Lot	1 Lot			

Issue Structure	
Fresh Issue	100.0%
Issue Size (Amt)	INR 18,000.0 cr
Issue Size	16,363,636,363.0
(Shares)	
QIB Share (%)	≤ 50%
Non-Inst Share	≥ 15%
(%)	
Retail Share (%)	≥ 35%
Pre issue sh (nos)	5011.9 cr.
Post issue sh	6648.3 cr.
(nos)	
Post issue M Cap	80,505.0 cr.

Shareholding (%)	Pre (%)	Post (%)
Promoter	40.0	30.3
Promoter Group	8.7	6.6
Other	51.3	63.1
TOTAL	100	100



#### **Growth Strategies**

#### **Focused Investments**

The Company maintains a focused investment strategy in its 17 key service areas, which contributed significantly to revenue. Remaining committed to investment in all service areas ensures seamless connectivity for customers. Targeted capital expenditure drives growth, complemented by plans to deploy small cells in high-traffic areas of major cities, enhancing the user experience.

#### Improve 4G coverage and Capacity

The company plans to enhance customer experience by improving its 4G coverage and capacity. Network investments prioritize refarming existing 2G and 3G spectrum (900 MHz and 2100 MHz) to 4G, resulting in additional 4G sites with minimal capital expenditure. During the nine months ending December 31, 2023, the company closed 7,900 3G sites and deployed 3,300 4G sites across India. Additionally, in five service areas (Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mumbai, and Kolkata), the company discontinued its 3G network. Following the Merger, the company's daily data capacity surged from 25.8 PB per day as of September 30, 2018, to 82.1 PB per day as of December 31, 2023.

#### **Deploying 5G Technologies**

The company is dedicated to upgrading its network infrastructure to meet increasing data demands and aims to provide 5G technology, covering 40% of current revenues within 24 to 30 months. Leveraging the latest 4G technology, it's deploying advanced 5G technologies like Massive MIMO, DSR, ORAN, and core network cloudification for enhanced capacity, flexibility, and efficiency. Expansion of LTE 900 and 2,100 MHz spectrum presence across 14 service areas is also planned through dynamic spectrum refarming and additional site deployment.

#### Improve Average Revenue Per User and Customer Retention

The company aims to expand its 4G network in rural and semi-urban areas to boost ARPU by providing an improved network experience. Strategic collaborations are planned to develop new products/services and increase market share by enhancing customer experience. With 42% of subscribers still non-4G as of December 31, 2023, there's an opportunity to migrate them to higher-value plans with unlimited data. Targeted campaigns incentivizing 2G handset users to upgrade to smartphones will include cashback offers and zero-interest financing options through collaborations with NBFCs.

#### Monetize Digital initiatives and collaboration opportunities

The company is monetizing digital initiatives and collaborations, experiencing user growth in the Vi App across channels like movies, live TV, and music. This is fueled by curated content, user events, and gaming services, including eSports tournaments. Additional revenue streams are generated through data insights, analytics, and value-added services. Applications like 'm-Power' aid the selling



process with real-time information, while 'Smart Connect' boosts retailer engagement through cricket gamification via the 'Vi Game of Boundaries' campaign.

#### Key Risks & Concerns

- The audit and review reports of the statutory auditors of the Company include a paragraph addressing material uncertainty regarding going concern. It is uncertain whether similar observations or remarks will be included in the Company's financial statements or how they may impact its financial condition.
- The Company necessitates substantial capital to support its capital expenditure and working capital needs. Failure to secure additional capital may adversely impact the Company's business, financial results, financial condition, and cash flows.
- The Company has accrued considerable indebtedness and has not adhered to certain covenants outlined in its financing agreements. Failure to fulfill obligations, including financial and other covenants, under the Company's debt financing arrangements may negatively impact its business, financial results, financial condition, and cash flows.
- As per the implementation agreement between the Company and Vodafone India's promoters during the Merger, there's a mechanism for settling liabilities, including AGR dues, by June 2025. Failure to fulfill AGR obligations could impact the Company's receipt of payments from the Vodafone Group under the settlement mechanism.
- High churn in India's mobile telecommunications industry poses a challenge, and the Company cannot guarantee retention of all existing subscribers or successful acquisition of new ones. Such fluctuations may adversely impact the Company's business and operational results.
- The Supreme Court of India has issued a judgment granting Telecom Service Providers, including the Company, a 10-year period to settle AGR dues in annual installments. Non-compliance with these directives may have adverse effects on the Company's business, operational results, and competitiveness.



### **Issue Structure and Offer Details**

The proposed issue size of Vodafone Idea Ltd FPO is INR 18,000.00 cr fresh issue and the price band for the issue is in the range of INR 10-11 and the bid lot is 1298shares and multiples thereof.

Issue Structure					
Investor Category	Allocation	No. of shares (cr.)			
QIB	Not more than 50% of the Net Issue	818.18			
NIB	Not less than 15% of the Net Issue	490.90			
Retail	Not less than 35% of the Net Issue	572.72			

Number of shares based on a higher price band of INR 11 Source: Company Reports



#### Company's financial summary and analysis FY23 Fig in INR Cr (unless specified) FY21 FY22 FY23 Fig in INR Cr (unless specified) FY21 FY22 **Income Statement** Per share data & Yields 41.952.2 38.515.5 42,177.2 (8.8) (5.6)(5.8)Revenue Adjusted EPS (INR) 9.5 Adjusted Cash EPS (INR) (4.1) (0.9)YoY Growth (%) (6.7) (8.2) (1.2)7.0 7.8 Adjusted BVPS (INR) (7.6) (12.4)(14.8) **Raw Material Cost** 3.0 RM Cost to Sales (%) 0.0 0.0 0.0 Adjusted CFO per share (INR) 3.1 3.5 3.8 **Employee Cost** 2,030.0 1,735.1 1,866.3 CFO Yield (%) 23.7 26.4 28.6 6.5 Employee Cost to Sales (%) Adjusted FCF per share (INR) 5.8 7.7 4.8 4.5 4.4 **Other Expenses** 23,017.1 20,757.3 23,550.3 FCF Yield (%) 44.4 49.3 58.2 Other Exp to Sales (%) 54.9 53.9 55.8 EBITDA 16,902.1 16,016.1 16,752.8 Solvency Ratio (X) Margin (%) 40.3 41.6 39.7 **Total Debt to Equity** (4.7) (3.1)(2.7)YoY Growth (%) (5.2) 4.6 Net Debt to Equity (4.7) (3.0) (2.7) 14.8 **Depreciation & Amortization** 23,638.5 23,584.3 23,049.7 Net Debt to EBITDA 10.5 11.7 12.0 EBIT (6,736.4) (7,568.2) (6,296.9) Margin (%) (16.1) (19.6) (14.9) **Return Ratios (%)** 45.6 39.4 YoY Growth (%) (30.1) 12.3 (16.8) **Return on Equity** 115.7 Other Income 183.3 384.6 **Return on Capital Employed** (5.9)(4.9) 413.1 (4.7) Bill discounting & other charges 18,193.4 21,014.7 23,363.4 **Return on Invested Capital** (4.8)(6.0) (5.0)Fin Charges Coverage (X) (0.4)(0.4)(0.3)Exceptional Item (19,968.1)164.3 (22.4) **Working Capital Ratios** PBT (44, 484.8)(28, 235.3)(29, 298.1)Payable Days (Nos) 116 125 117 Margin (%) (106.0) (73.3) (69.5) Inventory Days (Nos) 0 0 0 YoY Growth (%) (28.4)(36.5) 3.8 Receivable Days (Nos) 22 23 19 (20.3) 11.3 3.5 Net Working Capital Days (Nos) -94 -102 -98 **Tax Expense** Tax Rate (%) 0.0 (0.0) (0.0) Net Working Capital to Sales (%) (25.7)(27.8)(26.9)(44,464.5) (29,301.6) PAT (28, 246.6)Margin (%) (106.0) (69.5) Valuation (X) (73.3) YoY Growth (%) (40.1) (36.5) 3.7 P/E (1.5)(2.3) (2.3)Min Int/Sh of Assoc 231.4 1.2 0.5 P/BV (1.7)(0.9) (1.1)(28, 245.4)(29, 301.1)**EV/EBITDA** 14.4 15.8 15.9 Net Profit (44,233.1) Margin (%) (105.4)(73.3)(69.5) EV/Sales 5.8 6.6 6.3 YoY Growth (%) (40.1) (36.1) 3.7 **Cash Flow Statement Balance Sheet** PBT (44, 484.8)(28,235.3) (29, 298.1)Share Capital 28,735.4 32,118.8 48,679.7 Adjustments 58,545.7 45,719.6 47,517.3 **Change in Working Capital Total Reserves** (66, 963.4)(94,083.6) (1,23,038.8)1,558.5 (86.0)653.0 **Shareholders Fund** (38,228.0) (61, 964.8)(74, 359.1)Less: Tax Paid 20.3 (11.3)(3.5)Long Term Borrowings 1,57,415.5 1,75,950.8 1,89,290.1 **Cash Flow from Operations** 15,639.7 17,387.0 18,868.7 Deferred Tax Assets / Liabilities (0.1)(6.0) (13.5) **Net Capital Expenditure** (4,531.5)(5,888.2)(3,856.5)18,785.6 32,159.7 Other Long Term Liabilities 17,720.0 **Change in Investments** 5,606.6 157.9 (1,557.1) Long Term Trade Payables 126.8 85.2 105.8 **Cash Flow from Investing** 1,075.1 (5,730.3)(5,413.6) 38.4 23.5 Long Term Provisions 41.6 **Change in Borrowings** 1,462.0 5,961.2 8,251.9 **Total Liabilities** 1,37,075.8 1,32,889.2 1,47,206.5 Less: Finance Cost (18, 193.4)(21,014.7)(23, 363.4)Net Block 1,67,490.4 1,56,818.6 1,56,255.2 **Proceeds from Equity** 0.0 4,499.7 432.0 **Capital Work in Progress** 599.6 323.9 300.3 **Buyback of Shares** 0.0 0.0 0.0 Intangible assets under development 6.3 40.4 17,576.1 **Dividend Paid** 0.0 0.0 0.0 Non Current Investments 5.8 **Cash flow from Financing** (16,731.4)(10, 553.8)(14, 679.5)4.1 5.3 Long Term Loans & Advances 13,690.5 10,694.6 10,049.5 **Net Cash Flow** (16.6)1,102.9 (1,224.4)Other Non Current Assets 7.587.9 9.304.8 9.139.4 Forex Effect 0.0 0.0 0.0 Net Current Assets (52,303.0) (44, 298.4)(46,119.8) **Opening Balance of Cash** 366.9 350.3 1,453.2 228.8 Total Assets 1,37,075.8 1,32,889.2 1,47,206.5 **Closing Balance of Cash** 350.3 1,453.2

Source: Ventura Research



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