

## INTERNET SHUTDOWNS IN INDIA SINCE 2012\*

S. No.	Year	State	Region	Reason
1.	2017	Odisha	Kendrapara	Internet services were reportedly suspended for 48 hours in Kendrapara on <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> April, 2017</a> to prevent rumor mongering over a social media post with objectionable content.
2.	2017	Rajasthan	Udaipur and Fatehnagar	As a precautionary measure, <a href="#">mobile Internet services</a> were suspended in Udaipur and Fatehnagar areas on late <a href="#">18<sup>th</sup> April, 2017</a> to curb the escalation of tensions over a social media post saying, <a href="#">“Pakistan zindabad hai, aur zindabad rahega.”</a> . The service was reported to be restored on 19 <sup>th</sup> April, 2017.
3.	2017	Jammu and Kashmir	Kashmir valley	Mobile Internet services were ordered to be suspended yet again on <a href="#">17<sup>th</sup> April, 2017</a> as students across the Valley held protests against the recent clashes between students and police in Pulwama district. Moreover, social media websites were ordered to be restricted even on fixed line networks to restrict the spread of rumors and messages.
4.	2017	Jammu and Kashmir	Kashmir valley	On 13 <sup>th</sup> April, 2017, <a href="#">broadband services were suspended</a> yet again in light of re-polling in 38 stations of Budgam district. Both, broadband services, as well as the mobile Internet that was suspended since 9 <sup>th</sup> April, 2017 was <a href="#">restored in the evening</a> of 13 <sup>th</sup> April, 2017.
5.	2017	Odisha	Bhadrak	As a preventive measure in the area that recently witnessed communal violence over derogatory remarks about Hindu deities, Internet services were reportedly suspended for 48 hours under Section 5 of the Telegraph Act on <a href="#">9<sup>th</sup> April, 2017</a> . These services were reportedly restored on <a href="#">11<sup>th</sup></a>

\*This data was updated on 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. If you know of an incident we have missed from the list, please write to us at [mail@sflc.in](mailto:mail@sflc.in) with the subject line 'Missed Internet shutdown', preferably with a news report for corroboration.

				<a href="#">April, 2017.</a>
6.	2017	Jammu and Kashmir	Kashmir valley	Both, mobile and broadband services were suspended from midnight in three districts of Srinagar, Budgam, and Gandarbal on <a href="#">8th April, 2017</a> as a precautionary measure to curb spread of rumors ahead of the Srinagar bypoll. However, the restriction on Internet services was extended to the entire Kashmir valley on 9th April, 2017.  Whereas broadband services were restored on <a href="#">11th April, 2017</a> , mobile Internet services remained suspended till <a href="#">13th April, 2017</a> .
7.	2017	Rajasthan	Sikar	Mobile Internet services were suspended in the Sikar district of Rajasthan on <a href="#">31st March, 2017</a> after clashes amongst youngsters during a religious procession resulted in stone-pelting, injuring one policeman. Mobile Internet services were restored in the evening on <a href="#">5th April, 2017</a> .
8.	2017	Haryana	Rohtak, Sonipat, Jhajjar, Bhiwani, Panipat, Hisar, Kaithal, Charkhi Dadri, Fatehabad, Jind and Sirsa	Mobile Internet services were suspended in 'sensitive' districts including Rohtak, Sonipat, Jhajjar, Bhiwani, Panipat, Hisar, Kaithal, Charkhi Dadri, Fatehabad, Jind and Sirsa on <a href="#">18th March, 2017</a> as a precautionary measure in the wake of Jat protests outside the Parliament. The services were restored on <a href="#">19th March, 2017</a> .
9.	2017	Haryana	Rohtak and Sonapat	Internet services were suspended in the districts of <a href="#">Rohtak</a> and <a href="#">Sonapat</a> for 24 hours – from 5 pm on 25 <sup>th</sup> February to 26 <sup>th</sup> February, 2017 while the Jats observed 'Black Day' in Haryana on February 26, 2017.
10.	2017	Haryana	Jhajjar, Panipat, Sonipat, Hisar, Rohtak, Jind and Bhiwani	Mobile Internet services were suspended indefinitely on <a href="#">17th February, 2017</a> in the districts of Jhajjar, Panipat, Sonipat, Hisar, Rohtak, Jind, and Bhiwani following violent protests during the ongoing Jat agitations, and were reportedly restored on <a href="#">19th February, 2017</a> .
11.	2017	Haryana	Rohtak, Bhiwani,	Mobile Internet was suspended in districts

			Hisar, Sonipat, Panipat	of <a href="#">Rohtak</a> , <a href="#">Bhiwani</a> , <a href="#">Hisar</a> , <a href="#">Sonipat</a> , and <a href="#">Panipat</a> starting 31 <sup>st</sup> January, 2017 due to the ongoing Jat agitations in various parts of the state.
12.	2017	Nagaland	Entire state	Mobile Internet services were disrupted in the entire state starting <a href="#">30<sup>th</sup> January, 2017</a> as clashes ensued between the locals and police over the State government's decision to apply reservation in civic body elections. The services were restored on <a href="#">20<sup>th</sup> February, 2017</a> .
13.	2017	Haryana	Jhajjar	Owing to the agitations being held by the Jat community, mobile Internet services were suspended in <a href="#">Jhajjar</a> starting 29 <sup>th</sup> January, 2017.
14.	2017	Nagaland	Wokha and Phek	Mobile Internet services were suspended in <a href="#">Wokha</a> and <a href="#">Phek</a> districts starting 19 <sup>th</sup> January, 2017 due to violence in the area on the issue of reservation in local body elections. The suspension later spread to the entire state of Nagaland on 30 <sup>th</sup> January, 2017, and Internet services resumed on <a href="#">20<sup>th</sup> February, 2017</a> .
15.	2016	Rajasthan	Bhilwara	Internet services were suspended in the district of Bhilwara to <a href="#">maintain law and order</a> for reportedly 72 hours starting <a href="#">27<sup>th</sup> December, 2016</a> as the Nagrik Suraksha Manch (a citizens' group) called for a city wide Bandh to protest lack of action taken against the accused in the ongoing communal riots.
16.	2016	Rajasthan	Bhilwara	Mobile internet services were disrupted in the district of Bhilwara on <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> December, 2016</a> due to the ongoing communal tensions.
17.	2016	Manipur	East and West Imphal	Orders were issued by the District Magistrate to disconnect mobile Internet services in <a href="#">East</a> and <a href="#">West</a> Imphal from <a href="#">18<sup>th</sup> December, 2016</a> due to law and order turmoil over economic blockade by the United Naga Council (UNC). Mobile Internet services were reportedly restored on <a href="#">30<sup>th</sup> December, 2016</a> after a 12 day disruption.

18.	2016	Rajasthan	Bhilwara	Internet services were suspended under Section 144 on <a href="#">13<sup>th</sup> December 2016</a> till 5 pm in the district of Bhilwara due to the onslaught of communal tensions coinciding with the preparations of a Muslim religious function, Barafwat.
19.	2016	Jammu and Kashmir	Anantnag	Mobile phone services were reportedly suspended in parts of Kashmir, including Anantnag on <a href="#">8<sup>th</sup> December, 2016</a> as a gun-fight ensued between militants and the security forces.
20.	2016	Bihar	Bhojpur, East Champaran, Gopalganj	Both, mobile and broadband internet services were disconnected from <a href="#">15<sup>th</sup> October</a> to prevent misuse of social media platforms due to violent communal clashes in the area. They were restored in Bhojpur on <a href="#">18<sup>th</sup> October, 2016</a> , whereas East Champaran was connected back to internet on <a href="#">20<sup>th</sup> October, 2016</a> .
21.	2016	Maharashtra	Nashik	Mobile Internet services and bulk SMS were blocked for two days (48 hours) on <a href="#">10<sup>th</sup> October, 2016</a> in Nashik district as protests emerged over the alleged rape attempt of a 5 year old girl by a teenage boy.
22.	2016	Uttar Pradesh	Bijnor district	Internet services were suspended in the Bijnor district on <a href="#">18th September, 2016</a> for reportedly 48 hours after communal clashes ensued in the region due to the alleged harassment of a school girl.
23.	2016	Rajasthan	Bhilwara	Internet services were blocked for 24 hours in Bhilwara on <a href="#">16th September, 2016</a> after the stabbing of a 21 year old as he was returning home from Ganpati Puja.
24.	2016	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir	Ahead of Eid celebrations, fixed-line Internet services were suspended in Kashmir on <a href="#">12th September, 2016</a> as a precautionary measure in light of the ongoing violence in the region. These services were reportedly resumed on <a href="#">17th September, 2016</a> . However, mobile Internet services remain suspended since 9th July, 2016

25.	2016	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir valley	After the disconnect from mobile internet services since 9th July, 2016, broadband internet services were also suspended in the Kashmir valley on <a href="#">13th August, 2016</a> for <a href="#">5 days</a> as a precautionary measure to prevent rumor mongering due to unrest between the protestors and the security forces.
26.	2016	Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	Mobile internet services were disrupted for two days in Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh on <a href="#">10th August, 2016</a> following the death of former Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, Kalikho Pul.
27.	2016	Bihar	Saran district	Due to communal clashes in the Saran district after a video of the desecration of hindu deities went viral on social media, all internet services were shut down in the district under Section 144 of CrPC on <a href="#">6th August, 2016</a> till <a href="#">8th August, 2016</a> to prevent spread of rumors.
28.	2016	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu region	Due to bandhs being declared in the Chenab valley to show solidarity with protests being undertaken by Kashmiris, mobile internet services were suspended in Jammu region on <a href="#">5th August, 2016</a> . The services were reportedly <a href="#">restored</a> on the same day.
29.	2016	Jammu & Kashmir	Pulwama district and the towns of Ananatnag, Shopian, Pulgam and Sopore, and some parts of Srinagar	Following the killing of Burhan Wani, Kashmir valley and the Jammu region experienced a suspension of mobile internet services to check the spread of rumors by anti-social elements on <a href="#">9th July, 2016</a> . However, mobile internet services were restored in Jammu region on <a href="#">26th July, 2016</a> ; after being suspended for 17 days. Reportedly, mobile internet services were restored in Kashmir valley on 19 <sup>th</sup> November for post paid connections and on <a href="#">27th January, 2017</a> for pre-paid connections.
30.	2016	Rajasthan	Barmer and Jaisalmer	After the death of a person in police firing, mobile internet services were shut down in Barmer and Jaisalmer for 48 hours on <a href="#">30th</a>

				<a href="#">June, 2016</a> as calls for a Bandh was announced by the community members of the person who was killed.
31.	2016	Jammu & Kashmir	Poonch district	Over a controversial issue, mobile internet services were suspended in the Poonch district on <a href="#">22nd June, 2016</a> on operational and security grounds and to prevent law and order situations and were restored the same day
32.	2016	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu	Mobile internet services were suspended in Jammu region on <a href="#">22nd June, 2016</a> ahead of a wrestling match, the venue for which is disputed between two communities, and experienced violence in 2014 as well. There is no exact information available as to when the services were restored.
33.	2016	Jammu & Kashmir	Entire state	Mobile internet services were suspended in the entire state after a youth resorted to vandalization and desecration of a temple in Jammu, that led to a spur of violence in the region on 15th June, 2016. The services were reportedly restored on <a href="#">18th June, 2016</a> .
34.	2016	Haryana	Rohtak	Mobile internet services and bulk SMS were blocked in Rohtak on <a href="#">5th June, 2016</a> , along with the prolonged shut down in Sonipat as well, to curb the use of social media from instigating violence in the Jat agitation. There is no information available regarding the restoration of internet services.
35.	2016	Haryana	Sonipat	Mobile internet services were blocked in Sonipat, Haryana on <a href="#">4th June, 2016</a> until further notice to prevent spread of misinformation prior to the agitation organized by the Jat community on 5th June, 2016. There is no information available regarding the restoration of internet services.
36.	2016	Uttar Pradesh	Azamgarh	In Azamgarh, the local administration resorted to suspension of mobile & broadband services from 16 <sup>th</sup> to <a href="#">18th May</a> .

				<a href="#">2016</a> as a precautionary measure to check the outbreak of riots due to communal tension in the area.
37.	2016	Gujarat	Ahmedabad, Mehsana, Surat and Rajkot,	Pursuant to the Patel reservation agitation, mobile internet services were suspended in various parts of Gujarat on <a href="#">17<sup>th</sup> April, 2016</a> and restored on <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> April, 2016</a>
38.	2016	Jharkhand	Bokaro	Subsequent to the communal clashes in the city of Bokaro during celebration of Ram Navami, internet services were cut off from <a href="#">16<sup>th</sup> April, 2016</a> to <a href="#">18<sup>th</sup> April, 2016</a> to prevent spreading of communal fear and hatred through social media.
39.	2016	Jammu & Kashmir	North Kashmir, Srinagar and south Kashmir's Pulwama district	To check rumor mongering about an incident that led to death of 4 people in a firing by security forces, mobile internet services were suspended in the area on <a href="#">14<sup>th</sup> April, 2016</a> and restored on <a href="#">18<sup>th</sup> April, 2016</a>
40.	2016	Haryana	Rohtak, Jhajjar	Mobile internet services were suspended in various districts in Haryana as a prohibitory measure in light of the possible re-agitation of the Jat community for classification as Other Backward Classes (OBC) on <a href="#">18<sup>th</sup> March, 2016</a> and restored on the <a href="#">same day.</a>
41.	2016	Gujarat	Mehasana	Mobile Internet services were suspended in the district of Mehasana on <a href="#">28<sup>th</sup> February, 2016</a> for 12 hours from 8 am to 8 pm as the Patidar Anamat Andolan Samiti (PAAS) decided to continue with their women's conference despite being officially refused permission by the district Government.
42.	2016	Gujarat	Entire state of Gujarat	Mobile Internet services were suspended for 4 hours in the entire state to prevent cheating on the Revenue Accountants Recruitment Exam on <a href="#">28<sup>th</sup> February, 2016</a>
43.	2016	Rajasthan	Bharatpur	Due to the agitations of the Jat community for reservations as OBC, internet services were shut down on 22nd February, 2016 and restored on the evening of <a href="#">23rd</a>

				<a href="#">February, 2016</a> in the Bharatpur district.
44.	2016	Haryana	Jhajjar, Panipat, Sonipat, Hisar, Rohtak, Jind and Bhiwani	Subsequent to the Jat reservation protest in Haryana, mobile Internet, and SMS services were blocked in many areas beginning <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> February, 2016</a> .
45.	2016	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir	On the occasion of Republic Day, mobile internet services were snapped for a few hours as a precautionary measure on <a href="#">26<sup>th</sup> January, 2016</a>
46.	2015	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir	On the visit of Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, the mobile internet services were temporarily blocked in the Kashmir region as a precautionary measure for his high profile address at a public rally on <a href="#">7<sup>th</sup> November, 2015</a> .
47.	2015	Rajasthan	Bhilwara	In an incident of communal tension over the alleged killing of a muslim youth, internet services were suspended in Bhilwara for 24 hours on <a href="#">24<sup>th</sup> October, 2015</a> .
48.	2015	Gujarat	Rajkot	On <a href="#">17<sup>th</sup> October, 2015</a> , mobile internet services were suspended for 2 days in the area due to threats made by Hardik Patel to hold a protest in the stadium where a one day international cricket match was scheduled between the teams of India & South Africa.
49.	2015	Meghalaya	Garo Hills	Internet services were blocked in the Garo Hills region for 24 hours to prevent spread of inflammatory messages during the voting period for the Garo Hills Autonomous District Council (GHADC) elections on <a href="#">11<sup>th</sup> October, 2015</a> .
50.	2015	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu	Jammu experienced suspension of mobile internet services on <a href="#">8<sup>th</sup> October, 2015</a> for around <a href="#">5 hours</a> to prevent misuse of social media after three carcasses of slaughtered cows were found in the Udhampur area, and the organization of a beef party by an independent MLA
51.	2015	Gujarat	Godhara	Mobile internet services were shut down as a precautionary measure in the town for 24 hours on the occasion of Ganesh



				Visarjans, when derogatory messages against Islam started making rounds on Whatsapp on <a href="#">28<sup>th</sup> September, 2015</a>
52.	2015	Jammu & Kashmir	Entire state of Jammu & Kashmir	Mobile, and wireless internet services were shut down during Eid celebrations on <a href="#">25<sup>th</sup> September</a> and <a href="#">28<sup>th</sup> September, 2015</a> , apprehending violence against the prohibition on cow slaughter and selling of beef in the State.
53.	2015	Gujarat	Surat	The city of Surat experienced suspension of mobile internet services on <a href="#">19<sup>th</sup> September, 2015</a> as Hardik Patel was detained by the police for violating prohibitory orders against taking out a rally in the area.
54.	2015	Gujarat	Navsari district	From <a href="#">12<sup>th</sup> September</a> to 13 <sup>th</sup> September, 2015, <a href="#">mobile internet services</a> were cut off in the district of Navsari, Gujarat in lieu of a march organized by Hardik Patel & his affiliated political organization.
55.	2015	Manipur	Entire state of Manipur	Complete internet shut down (mobile and broadband, except for certain BSNL lines) starting <a href="#">2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2015</a> for <a href="#">a week</a> after violence in Churachandpur district.
56.	2015	Gujarat	Entire state of Gujarat, with prolonged bans in Surat & Ahmedabad	Mobile Internet services shut down in the entire state of <a href="#">Gujarat</a> from 25 <sup>th</sup> August to 2 <sup>nd</sup> September, 2015 after a mega rally led by Hardik Patel seeking OBC status for the Patel community. Mobile internet remained blocked in Ahmedabad & Surat, even post 2 <sup>nd</sup> September, 2015
57.	2015	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir	Due to the sudden rise in militant activities in Kashmir, as a preventive measure, mobile internet services were suspended from 8:30 am till 12:00 noon during the Independence Day celebrations in the area on <a href="#">15<sup>th</sup> August, 2015</a> . Similar measures are adopted on both, Republic Day & Independence Day in the area <a href="#">every year</a> .
58.	2015	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu	Both, mobile and broadband Internet services were temporarily blocked in Jammu due to the ongoing clashes between the Sikh groups and the state

				police of Jammu & Kashmir on <a href="#">5<sup>th</sup> June, 2015</a> . Although broadband services were restored on <a href="#">6<sup>th</sup> June, 2015</a> , there is no information available about the restoration of mobile Internet services.
59.	2015	Nagaland	Entire state of Nagaland	Mobile and broadband Internet services were suspended for 48 hours on <a href="#">7<sup>th</sup> March, 2015</a> , after lynching video of a rape accused goes viral
60.	2014	Gujarat	Vadodara	Mobile Internet blocked for three days starting <a href="#">27<sup>th</sup> September, 2014</a> in the city of Vadodara, after riots over a morphed picture of a Muslim religious shrine
61.	2014	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir Valley	Mobile Internet services were blocked as a part of a security protocol on the occasion of Independence Day on <a href="#">15<sup>th</sup> August, 2014</a> . The services were restored within a few hours after the official ceremony was completed.
62.	2014	Jammu & Kashmir	Parts of Kashmir	Internet blocked in parts of Kashmir to stop political leaders from addressing a UNHRC event in Geneva via video link on <a href="#">17<sup>th</sup> March, 2014</a> . There is no conclusive information available with respect to the restoration of internet services.
63.	2014	Jammu & Kashmir	Few areas in the state	The Defence Ministry had asked the Department of Telecom to selectively ban mobile Internet in some places considered 'hot spots' in the state on <a href="#">11<sup>th</sup> March, 2014</a> . There is no information available about the restoration of services in the area.
64.	2014	Jammu & Kashmir	Most parts of Kashmir	Due to organization of protests at the first death anniversary of Afzal Guru on <a href="#">9<sup>th</sup> February, 2014</a> , mobile internet services, and internet through plugged in devices was blocked in most parts of the Kashmir valley as a precautionary measure against apprehended violence till around 5:30 pm on <a href="#">10<sup>th</sup> February, 2014</a> .
65.	2014	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir Valley	As a precautionary measure on <a href="#">26<sup>th</sup> January, 2014</a> , mobile internet, along with mobile telecommunication services was

				suspended for a few hours.
66.	2013	Jammu & Kashmir	Entire state	Mobile internet and telephony services were suspended on <a href="#">15<sup>th</sup> August, 2013</a> for security reasons on Independence Day.
67.	2013	Jammu & Kashmir	Entire state	The entire state experienced a blackout of mobile internet services, lasting almost <a href="#">5 days</a> , starting <a href="#">10<sup>th</sup> August, 2013</a> , due to communal riots that spurred in the Kishtwar district of the state.
68.	2013	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir Valley	Disconnect of internet services through mobiles & dongles in the Kashmir valley post the killing of four people in the Ramban district after clashes with the Border Security Forces (BSF) on <a href="#">18<sup>th</sup> July, 2013</a>
69.	2013	Jammu & Kashmir	Entire state of Jammu & Kashmir	TV News channels and mobile Internet banned immediately after Afzal Guru's execution on <a href="#">9<sup>th</sup> February, 2013</a> till <a href="#">15<sup>th</sup> February, 2013</a>
70.	2013	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir Valley	On the occasion of Republic Day, as a part of a security drill, mobile phone and Internet services were suspended on <a href="#">26<sup>th</sup> January, 2013</a>
71.	2012	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir valley	Mobile internet services were suspended on <a href="#">21<sup>st</sup> September 2012</a> till 5:00 pm owing to the protests over the movie 'Innocence of Muslims'
72.	2012	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir valley	Mobile services were suspended on <a href="#">15<sup>th</sup> August, 2012</a> as a precautionary measure for an hour owing to Independence Day.
73.	2012	Jammu & Kashmir	Kashmir valley	Mobile Internet as a part of a larger mobile telephony ban was restricted on <a href="#">26<sup>th</sup> January, 2012</a> as a standard security protocol.