

October 12, 2024

National Stock Exchange of India Limited

BSE Limited

Trading Symbol: **NETWORK18**

SCRIP CODE: **532798**

Sub: Investors' Update – Standalone and Consolidated Financial Results for the quarter and half year ended September 30, 2024

Ref: Disclosure under Regulation 30 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015

Dear Sirs,

In continuation of our letter of today's date on the above subject, we send herewith a copy of the Investors' Update on the aforesaid Financial Results released by the Company in this regard.

The Investors' Update will also be available on the Company's website, www.nw18.com.

For **Network18 Media & Investments Limited**

Ramesh Kumar Damani
Group Chief Financial Officer

Encl.: As above

Network18 Media & Investments Limited

(CIN - L65910MH1996PLC280969)

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EARNINGS RELEASE: Q2 FY2024-25

Mumbai, 12th October, 2024 – Network18 Media & Investments Limited today announced its results for the quarter ended September 30, 2024.

Highlights

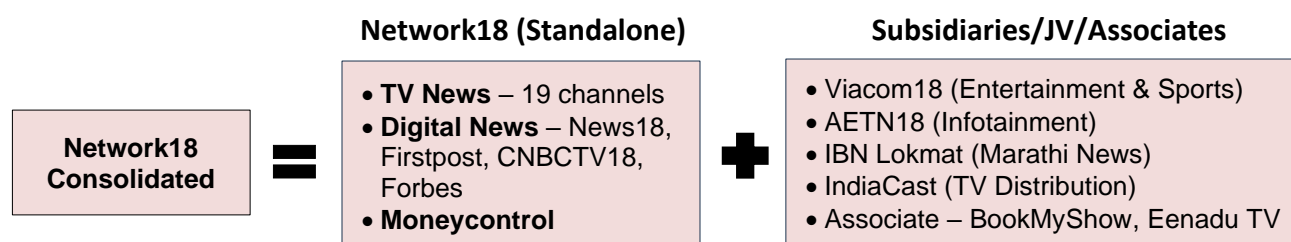
- **The Scheme of Arrangement for merger of Network18, TV18 Broadcast Ltd. (TV18) and e-Eighteen.com (E18) became effective on October 3, 2024**
- **The merger creates India’s largest platform-agnostic news media powerhouse with the widest footprint across languages, and a simplified corporate structure**
- **TV News network saw a 60bps QoQ improvement in viewership share, fortifying leadership in key markets**
- **Digital brands cemented leadership across genres with new initiatives witnessing a sharp uptick in traction; Moneycontrol Pro crossed 9.2 lakh subscribers**
- **JioCinema continued to be the fastest growing SVOD OTT platform, crossing 16mn paid subscribers; Viacom18’s TV viewership share grew 100bps QoQ**
- **Consolidated revenue for the quarter was Rs. 1,825 crore, with 6% growth in News business revenue and continued improvement in margins; Overall profitability was impacted due to Sports and Digital investments in Viacom18**

Merger of TV18 and E18 with Network18 completed

- The Scheme of Arrangement became effective on October 3, 2024, post receipt of approval from Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The Scheme was sanctioned by the Hon’ble NCLT, Mumbai bench, on September 5, 2024. The Appointed Date of the Scheme is April 1, 2023.
- Merger of TV18 and E18 with Network18 has created India’s largest platform-agnostic news media powerhouse with the widest footprint across languages, straddling both TV and Digital.
- The network has a monthly reach of over 350 mn on TV and around 250 mn Monthly Unique Visitors across its digital portfolio. As consumers and advertisers increasingly gravitate towards omni-channel experiences across different aspects of their lives, having a deep and integrated presence across both TV and Digital media will enable the merged entity to serve them better.
- The combination of the businesses will result in operational synergies, cost optimization and opportunities for increased revenue realization.

- Shareholders of TV18 to get 100 shares of Network18 for every 172 shares of TV18.
Shareholders of E18 to get 19 shares of Network18 for every 1 share of E18.
- The merger presents an opportunity to shareholders of all the 3 companies to participate in the media business of the group through one listed entity.
- Other than Viacom18, substantial investments of Network18 include BookMyShow (39.29%) and Eenadu Television Private Ltd. (24.5%).

Post-Merger Structure



Operating Highlights

Network18’s digital brands saw an all-round growth in operating metrics as the network continued its push towards overall leadership

- Network18’s digital portfolio continued to be ranked second with ~240mn monthly unique visitors. Network18 has consistently closed the reach gap with the leader over the last few quarters to just ~10%, compared to 50%+ in Mar’23.
 - **Moneycontrol** had 60%+ higher page views (PVs) and time-spent compared to the nearest competitor, establishing its dominance as the #1 player in terms of engagement. The platform saw a 50%+ YoY increase in Unique Visitors (UVs) and 30%+ growth in PVs. This strong position is driven by the comprehensive editorial coverage and addition of new product features which help consumers in better understanding of the financial markets.
 - Moneycontrol continued to strengthen its product offering by upgrading existing features and launching new analytical tools and data features that facilitate investment decision process of consumers. The platform rolled out ‘Portfolio Score’ which provides users with insights on their equity portfolio across quality, diversification and momentum parameters. It also launched ‘Stock Ideas’ which provides research and recommendation by brokerages across sectors.

- Moneycontrol saw a sharp uptick in adoption of its transaction-based offerings with consumers using the platform to check their credit scores, availing instant loans from multiple financial institutions or creating a fixed deposit.
 - Moneycontrol Pro crossed 9.2 lakh paid subscribers, fortifying its position as the #1 subscription-based news platform in India and amongst the top 3 in Asia as per FIPP's Digital Subscription Report.
- **News18.com** delivered a strong increase in engagement with a 40% YoY growth in PVs during the quarter. The platform continued to expand its reach with editorial and product initiatives, which also resulted in a 16% YoY increase in UVs. Along with being a top destination for Hindi language consumers, News18.com is present in 11 Indian languages and had strong positions in several of these regional markets including Tamil, Bengali, Punjabi, Gujarati, Odiya. The platform continued to launch new features to improve user experience and user retention. Organic growth in the install base of the revamped News18 mobile app led to an uptick in on-platform video viewers and video views. Addition of new Live TV feature in Connected TV app drove increase in engagement.
 - **Firstpost** continued to be India's leading platform for coverage of international events with an Indian perspective. Product interventions and editorial improvements powered growth in reach and engagement through the quarter. The platform continued to build on its success on YouTube, delivering more than 40% YoY growth in watch-time. Firstpost is nearing 6 million subscribers on YouTube, making it one of the fastest growing news platforms in India.

TV News business gained viewership share while maintaining leadership in key genres

- Network18's portfolio of 20 channels (including News18 Lokmat) continued to be the highest reach TV news network in the country with a weekly reach of 200+ mn¹ people across the country.
 - All-India viewership share of 11.9%² was 60bps higher on a QoQ basis, driven by growth in market shares of key channels. The network continued to be the leader in key markets with **CNBC TV18** (#1 business channel with 68.0%+³ viewership share), **CNN News18** (#1

¹ Source: BARC | Mkt: India, News Genre | TG: 15+ | Week 39'24

² Source: BARC | TG: 15+ | Market: All India | Wk 39'24

³ Source: BARC | Mkt: India, News Genre | TG: NCCS AB, Male 22+ | Week 27'24-39'24

English news channel with 39.5%⁴ viewership share), and **News18 India** (#1 Hindi news channel with 13.8%⁵ viewership share).

- Our TV network has the widest language footprint in the country through its portfolio of 14 regional channels. Along with being the leader in the Hindi speaking markets through region focused channels like UP/Uttarakhand, Bihar/Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Gujarat, its channels in West Bengal and Orissa were strong #2 players. Both News18 Bangla and News18 Odia have seen a sharp turnaround in performance during the last quarter.

JioCinema continued to be the fastest growing SVOD OTT platform; Viacom18's TV network saw growth across markets, leading to 100 bps QoQ growth in viewership share

- **JioCinema** continued to be the fastest growing subscription-based OTT platform, crossing 16 million paid subscribers with a 2x QoQ growth. Affordable monthly subscription plans of ₹29/month and ₹89/month (family plan) and an expanding content catalogue has helped the growth in subscribers. The third season of digital exclusive *Bigg Boss OTT* was the top driver of subscription and watch-time. *Bigg Boss Marathi* replicated its success on TV, becoming the third most-watched show on the platform. Network non-fiction shows like *Laughter Chefs*, *Khatron Ke Khiladi*, and *Splitsvilla* were complemented by digital exclusive shows like *Shekhar Home* and *Pill*. International content catalogue on JioCinema was amongst the top drivers of subscriber acquisition during the quarter. *Kung Fu Panda 4*, *Dune 2*, *Godzilla x Kong*, and *Fall Guy* were some of the popular international shows and movies added on the platform during the quarter.
- **Sports** – Viacom18's coverage of Paris Olympics 2024 delivered the highest ever viewership of the event with 170+ million viewers and 15 billion minutes of watch-time across JioCinema and Sports 18. JioCinema had up to 20 concurrent live streams spanning 17 dedicated feeds for sports and 3 curated streams for India matches and other high viewer interest events. A studio panel comprising eminent sports personalities and experts delivered surround content, bringing an unparalleled coverage of the event. A combination of comprehensive coverage and a growing interest in non-cricket sports led to high engagement of over 50 mins/day on JioCinema. The sports network also aired India vs Bangladesh cricket test series, Indian Super League and other popular sports events, cementing its position as the home of sports.

⁴ Source: BARC | Mkt: India, News Genre | TG: NCCS AB 15+ | Week 39'24

⁵ Source: BARC | Mkt: HSM, News Genre | TG: 15+ | Week | Week 39'24

- **TV network's** viewership share increased by 100bps QoQ to 11.1% with growth across all major channels.
 - **Colors** viewership share grew 240 bps QoQ, strengthening its position as the #2 prime-time Hindi entertainment channel. *Khatron Ke Khiladi* and *Laughter Chefs Unlimited* were the top 2 non-fiction properties in the genre. The channel had 3 of the top shows in fiction genre and launched 4 new shows to bolster its content offering in the run up to the festive season.
 - **Colors Kannada** continued to be a strong #2 channel, with over 10% QoQ growth in ratings. **Colors Marathi** also saw a sharp improvement in ratings, exiting the quarter as the #2 channel. **Colors Bangla Cinema** rose to leadership in the Bengali movie genre and the network maintained its undisputed leadership in niche genres – Kids, Youth and English.

Financial Performance¹

OPERATING REVENUES (Rs Cr)	Q2FY25	Q2FY24	YoY	H1FY25	H1FY24	YoY
A) News (TV, Digital, Print)	445	420	5.9%	898	814	10.4%
B) Entertainment (Viacom18)	1,339	1,416	-5.4%	3,988	4,242	-6.0%
C) Others (AETN18, Indiacast, Inter-Company Elims)	40	29	38.4%	80	49	62.6%
Network18 Consolidated	1,825	1,866	-2.2%	4,966	5,104	-2.7%
includes: Subscription	733	511	43.6%	1,277	1,044	22.3%
includes: Film production/distribution	44	374	-88.2%	51	393	-87.0%

OPERATING EBITDA (Rs Cr)	Q2FY25	Q2FY24	YoY	H1FY25	H1FY24	YoY
A) News (TV, Digital, Print)	7	-10	NM	10	-45	NM
B) Entertainment (Viacom18)	-194	-215	NM	-351	-262	NM
C) Others (AETN18, Indiacast, Inter-Company Elims)	8	6	NM	14	4	NM
C) Network18 Consolidated	(179)	(218)	NM	(328)	(303)	NM

¹Last year numbers have been restated, as per the Scheme

NM = Not Meaningful; Due to rounding, numbers presented above may not add up precisely to the totals provided

- **News:**
 - News portfolio revenue grew 6% primarily driven by growth in Digital segment ad revenue across all platforms. TV advertising was soft during the quarter as industry advertising volumes for the news genre declined by ~20% YoY. News' share in overall advertising inventory consumption also declined by over 200 bps YoY and QoQ.
 - EBITDA for the News business continued to improve with a sharp turnaround in the first half of the fiscal.

▪ **Entertainment:**

- Operating revenue for the quarter was down 5%, primarily due to the drop in movie segment revenue. In Q2FY24, Viacom18 Studios had released 2 big-ticket movies whereas there were no movies released this quarter, which had an impact of Rs. 330 crores on the revenue. This was largely offset by growth in subscription revenue aided by new pricing as well as the increased monetisation of sports portfolio. Growth in ad revenue was primarily driven by digital, across both sports and non-sports segments. JioCinema's recently launched SVOD plans witnessed strong traction and helped it become the fastest-growing subscription-based OTT platform in the country.
- EBITDA for the quarter improved marginally on a YoY basis, though continued to be impacted by Viacom18's investments in Sports and Digital segments. As a part of its strategy, Viacom18 is investing in these segments to build strong growth drivers for the future.

Mr. Adil Zainulbhai, Chairman of Network18, said: *"We are happy to have completed the merger of our news businesses. With a strong portfolio of TV channels and digital platforms, covering the breadth of the country and catering to its linguistic diversity, we are ideally positioned to become the most preferred news network of India. We are committed to push boundaries of innovation and lead the growth of the industry as we build on this strong foundation."*

Network18 Media & Investments Limited
Reported Consolidated Financial Performance for the Quarter ended 30th September 2024

(₹ in crore)

Particulars	Quarter Ended (Unaudited)			Half Year Ended (Unaudited)		Year Ended (Audited)
	30 th Sep'24	30 th Jun'24	30 th Sep'23	30 th Sep'24	30 th Sep'23	31 st Mar'24
1 Income						
Value of Sales and Services	2,118	3,650	2,164	5,768	5,954	10,826
Goods and Services Tax included in above	293	509	298	802	849	1,528
Revenue from Operations	1,825	3,141	1,866	4,966	5,104	9,297
Other Income	234	151	187	385	380	697
Total Income	2,059	3,292	2,052	54	5,484	9,994
2 Expenses						
Operational Costs	1,067	2,302	1,238	3,369	3,604	6,383
Marketing, Distribution and Promotional Expense	502	510	372	1,012	897	1,741
Employee Benefits Expense	341	360	346	701	665	1,315
Finance Costs	170	150	66	320	134	322
Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses	69	70	57	138	97	210
Other Expenses	94	118	128	212	240	522
Total Expenses	2,243	3,509	2,207	58	5,639	10,494
3 Profit/ (Loss) before Share of Profit/ (Loss) of Associates and Joint Ventures and Tax (1 - 2)	(184)	(217)	(155)	(4)	(155)	(500)
Share of Profit/ (Loss) of Associates and Joint Ventures	36	23	37	59	65	111
5 Profit/ (Loss) Before Tax (3 + 4)	(148)	(194)	(118)	55	(90)	(389)
6 Tax Expense						
Current Tax	5	1	1	6	1	1
Deferred Tax	-	-	-	-	(65)	(65)
Total Tax Expense	5	1	1	6	(64)	(64)
7 Profit/ (Loss) for the Period/ Year (5 - 6)	(152)	(195)	(119)	49	(27)	(325)
8 Other Comprehensive Income						
(i) Items that will not be reclassified to Profit or Loss	67	(9)	6	58	9	10
(ii) Income Tax relating to items that will not be reclassified to Profit or Loss	-	-	-	-	(2)	(2)
(iii) Items that will be reclassified to Profit or Loss	(1)	(0)	1	(1)	1	1
Total Other Comprehensive Income for the Period/ Year	66	(9)	6	57	8	9
9 Total Comprehensive Income for the Period/ Year	(86)	(205)	(113)	107	(19)	(315)
Net Profit/ (Loss) for the Period/ Year attributable to:						
(a) Owners of the Company	(221)	(125)	(83)	51	(37)	(206)
(b) Non-Controlling Interest	69	(70)	(36)	(1)	11	(118)
Other Comprehensive Income for the Period/ Year attributable to:						
(a) Owners of the Company	66	(8)	8	58	9	10
(b) Non-Controlling Interest	0	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Total Comprehensive Income for the Period/ Year attributable to:						
(a) Owners of the Company	(155)	(133)	(75)	109	(28)	(196)
(b) Non-Controlling Interest	69	(71)	(37)	(2)	10	(119)

Due to rounding, individual numbers presented above may not add up precisely to the totals provided

Network18 Media & Investments Limited
Reported Standalone Financial Performance for the Quarter ended 30th September 2024

(₹ in crore)

Particulars	Quarter Ended (Unaudited)			Half Year Ended (Unaudited)		Year Ended (Audited)
	30 th Sep'24	30 th Jun'24	30 th Sep'23	30 th Sep'24	30 th Sep'23	31 st Mar'24
1 Income						
Value of Sales and Services	512	528	489	1,040	946	2,115
Goods and Services Tax included in above	67	75	69	142	132	297
Revenue from Operations	445	453	420	898	814	1,818
Other Income	2	5	7	7	14	19
Total Income	448	458	427	905	828	1,836
2 Expenses						
Operational Costs	90	86	78	176	160	381
Marketing, Distribution and Promotional Expense	107	107	98	214	214	428
Employee Benefits Expense	180	191	190	371	360	703
Finance Costs	53	52	45	105	89	186
Depreciation and Amortisation Expense	31	30	34	61	55	101
Other Expenses	62	67	65	128	126	288
Total Expenses	522	532	510	1,054	1,003	2,087
3 Profit/ (Loss) Before Tax (1 - 2)	(74)	(75)	(83)	(149)	(176)	(251)
4 Tax Expense						
Current Tax	-	-	-	-	-	1
Deferred Tax	-	-	-	-	(65)	(65)
Total Tax Expense	-	-	-	-	(65)	(64)
5 Profit/ (Loss) for the Period/ Year (3 - 4)	(74)	(75)	(83)	(149)	(111)	(186)
6 Other Comprehensive Income						
Items that will not be reclassified to Profit or Loss	68	(6)	8	61	11	13
Income tax relating to Items that will not be reclassified to Profit or Loss	-	-	-	-	(2)	(2)
7 Total Comprehensive Income for the Period/ Year (5 + 6)	(7)	(81)	(74)	(88)	(102)	(176)

Due to rounding, numbers presented above may not add up precisely to the totals provided

INVESTOR COMMUNICATION:

Network18’s ongoing investor communication endeavors to adopt best international practices and the quarterly investor updates are designed to regularly provide detailed information to investors. Each update covers information pertaining to the reporting period under review. If you would like to get a sequential and continued perspective on the company this report should be read along with the updates sent out earlier. The previous updates can be accessed on request from the contact persons mentioned below, or from the company’s website www.nw18.com. This update covers the company’s financial performance for Q2FY25.



For further information on business and operations, please contact:

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Further information on the company is available on its website www.nw18.com.

<p>India’s largest omni-channel News Network</p> <p>(20 TV Channels across 16 languages, 4 online platforms across 13 languages)</p>	
<p>India’s leading Entertainment Network</p> <p>(42 TV Channels, OTT platform, Movie Studio)</p>	
<p>Presence across the value chain</p>	