**Data on Shutdowns:**

Data downloaded at: <https://www.internetshutdowns.in/> First PDF downloaded from SFLC website.

Information about the data, directly copy/pasted from the FAQ on the website:

What is an Internet shutdown?

We define an Internet shutdown as "a Government-imposed disablement of access to the Internet as a whole within a particular locality or localities for any duration of time". There are two key-components to this definition:

1. An Internet shutdown is always Government-imposed i.e. Internet Service Providers serving the locality in question are ordered by an agency of the Government to cut-off Internet services to that area
2. An Internet shutdown always imposes a *blanket ban* on Internet access, where access to the Internet as a whole is disabled, and not a *surgical ban*, where access to particular content/services is disabled leaving access to other content/services unaffected.

What if only mobile Internet services are disabled and fixed-line services are left untouched, or vice-versa? Are these still Internet shutdowns?

An Internet shutdown may target Internet services delivered over any medium – mobile (GPRS, Edge, 3G, 4G/LTE), fixed-line (dial-up, wired/wireless broadband) – and these may be targeted in any combination i.e. mobile alone, fixed-line alone, or both. As almost 95% of India’s Internet users access the Internet over mobile, shutdowns in India are seen to mostly target mobile Internet services. There have been no shutdowns of only fixed-line Internet till date, though fixed-line Internet services have been shut down alongside mobile in some cases.

Why do you exclude surgical bans on Internet access (where access to particular online content/services is disabled) from your definition of Internet shutdowns?

During situations of conflict, the preferred practice in India seems to be to cut-off access to the entire Internet rather than to selected content/services. Surgical bans on Internet access are equally condemnable, and we maintain a separate record of blocked websites here. However, we have made the conscious decision to treat our fight against Internet shutdowns as an evolving one, where we first tackle the graver issue of blanket bans on Internet access and later expand to surgical bans.

Where do you get your data on Internet shutdowns?

At the moment, almost all of our raw data is collected from reports published in national and regional newspapers. Some information also reaches us by word-of-mouth, when friends and affiliates in and around affected areas bring Internet shutdown incidents to our attention. As the Government does not formally announce Internet shutdowns to the public before or after they happen, we currently rely entirely on secondary sources for information. We are working on technical methods to be notified of Internet shutdowns in real-time, but these are still in early stages of development and do not supply any information to our tracker as of yet. We urge the public to report any shutdowns that they experience through our website.

**CODING DECISIONS:**

The following coding decisions needed to be made on the basis of SFLC’s information on where the shutdowns occurred:

* Shutdown in Kashmir Valley: coded as Anantag, Baramulla, Budgam, Bandipore, Ganderbal, Kupwara, Kulgam, Pulwama, Shopian and Srinagar.
* Shutdown Itanagar (10/08/2016): coded as Pampum Pare.
* Shutdown in City of Sopore (9/7/2016): coded as Baramulla.
* Shutdown in Pulgam (9/7/2016): coded as Kulgam.
* Shutdown in North Kashmir (14/4/2016): coded as Baramulla.
* Shutdown in Garo Hills (11/10/2015): coded as East Garo Hills, North Garo Hills, South Garo Hills, South West Garo Hills and West Garo Hills.
* Shutdown in Gohdra (28/9/2015): coded as Panchmahal.
* Shutdown in “parts of Kashmir” (17/3/2014): coded as complete state, due to lack of additional information.
* Shutdown in “few areas in the state of Kashmir” (11/3/2014): coded as complete state, due to lack of additional information.
* Shutdown in “most parts of Kashmir” (9/2/2014): coded as complete state, due to lack of additional information.
* Shutdown in West Champaran (1/10/2017): coded as Pashchim Champaran.
* Shutdown in Hansi (11/12/2017): coded as Hisar.
* Shutdowns in Rajasthan (11/2/2018): Unclear in which districts of Rajasthan the shutdown was issued, so only the districts confirmed by the SFLC.in’s RTI reply are listed.
* Shutdown in South Kashmir Valley (1/4/2018) (5/5/2018) (10/10/2018): Coded as Kashmir Valley due to lack of additional information.
* Shutdown in Arunachal Pradesh (10/12/2019). coded as complete state, due to lack of additional information.
* Shutdown in Prajagarh (20/12/2019): coded as Allahabad.
* Shutdown in New Delhi, North, Central, Northeast and South Delhi. (19/12/2019): coded as NCT of Delhi (West).
* Shutdown that came with the abrogation of Article 370 in J & K lasted until March 2020 (4/8/2019): coded as all districts in Kashmir for all these months. All districts in Jammu & Kashmir faced at least 1 shutdown in August 2019. 5 districts in Jammu faced two shutdowns in August 2019.
* Shutdown in Navi Mumbai (26/7/2018). coded as both Raigarh1 district and Thane.
* Shutdown in Motphran, Mawkhar and adjoining areas of Shillong in East Khasi hills district of Meghalaya (01/06/2018): coded as East Khasi Hills.
* Shutdown in Garo Hills (08/06/2018): coded as West Garo Hills, South West Garo Hills, South Garo Hills, North Garo Hills, East Garo Hills.
* Shutdown in Khasi-Jaintia Hills (18/06/2018): coded as Jaintia Hills, East Khasi Hills, West Khasi Hills, South West Khasi Hills, Ri-Bhoi.