

Telecom surprise: BSNL gains, private telcos lose one crore subscribers this September

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Private telcos Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea cumulatively lost over one crore wireless subscribers in September, even as state-owned BSNL surprised with net adds of almost 8.5 lakh mobile users, as per monthly data released by TRAI.

Reliance Jio lost 79.69 lakh mobile subscribers in September compared to the previous month, Bharti Airtel (14.34 lakh users), and Vodafone Idea (15.53 lakh users).

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. (BSNL) added 8.49



lakh users to its wireless subscriber tally.

The wireless subscriber base of Reliance Jio stood at 46.37 crore in September, while that of Bharti Airtel was 38.34 crore.

The wireless user base of Vodafone Idea was 21.24 crore as of September

2024. BSNL's gains in September pushed its subscriber tally to 9.18 crore.

It is pertinent to mention that the three private telcos had hiked mobile tariffs by 10-27% in July.

'No tariff rise'

BSNL, however, refrained from following in the footsteps of its larger rivals, and its Chairman and Managing Director Robert Ravi recently ruled out an increase in tariffs, in the near future.

"We can clearly say we are not going to increase our tariffs in the near future," Mr. Ravi had told reporters in October.

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