

The Telecom Times

GLOBAL & REGIONAL TRENDS IN TARIFF PLANS AND PRICING

MOBILE TARIFFS CAME DOWN BY 95 PER CENT IN LAST 10 YEARS: TELECOM MINISTER SCINDIA

In the last 10 years, mobile tariff rates have come down by 95 per cent in terms of voice calls and 97 per cent in terms of data, Minister of Telecommunications, Jyotiraditya Scindia said here on Monday.

“The tariff in India has come down from 51 paise to 3 paise which is a 95 per cent drop. One GB of Internet bandwidth has gone down from ₹297 per GB to ₹8.7 per GB over 10 years, which is 97 per cent drop. On the other hand, moving from 3G to 4G and 4G to 5G, telcos have undertaken a capex of ₹4.26 lakh crore just only over the last two fiscals. If you put in more investments there has to be a return,” Scindia said when asked about tariff increase impact on affordability of mobile services.

In July, the three private telecom operators, Bharti Airtel, Reliance Jio (Jio) and Vodafone-Idea (Vi), had increased entry-level tariffs by 11-25 per cent. Airtel and Vi have increased their entry-level tariffs more than 100 per cent in the last three years from about ₹99 to ₹199, for around a month long use of mobile service.

Post tariff increase in July, BSNL has seen a surge of over 29.47 lakh subscribers while the three private.



Reliance Jio, Airtel hike entry-level data plan, Vodafone Idea may follow suit

AFTER JIO’S MOVE, THE MUKESH AMBANI-OWNED TELCO’S NEW BASE DATA PLAN, OFFERING 1.5GB PER DAY,IS PRICES 17% COSTLIER AT RS.299. IN COMPARISON ,BHARTI AIRTEL’S SIMILAR DATA OFFERING OF 1.5 GB DAILY WILL COST RS.319

New Delhi: Consumers are set to pay more to start using data on their mobile phones. After Reliance Jio’s move to discontinue its entry-level ₹249 prepaid plan offering 1 GB data a day, rival Bharti Airtel followed suit by removing its similarly priced plan from Wednesday. India’s third-largest telecom operator, Vodafone Idea (Vi), too, is expected to join its rivals soon, according to industry executives and analysts.

As a result, consumers wanting to use data would need to start with a 1.5 GB a day plan, which is priced higher.

Analysts said the move will boost average revenue per user (ARPU) for the telecom operators, who are using this strategy in the absence of a headline tariff hike, which is expected next year.

Ofcom enforces ban on ‘nasty surprise’ mid-contract telecoms price rises

UK phone, broadband and pay-TV firms can no longer impose hikes linked to unknown future rates of inflation

Millions of consumers will be protected from “nasty surprises” from Friday as new rules take effect that mean telecoms firms must tell people upfront – in “pounds and pence” – about any future price rises. It means mobile phone, broadband and pay-TV companies are now banned from imposing mid-contract price increases linked to unknown future rates of inflation.

The changes come 18 months after a Guardian investigation exposed “greedflation” in the telecoms sector, with millions of people facing mid-contract rises in monthly payments of up to 17.3%. Ofcom, the telecoms regulator, is forcing firms to set out upfront, in clear monetary terms, details of any expected

rises throughout the duration of their deals. To illustrate how the new rules work, Ofcom gave a sample scenario of an individual taking out a £30-a-month mobile phone contract. Until now, their contract might have stated that the monthly cost “will increase every April by the consumer price index rate published in the previous December, plus an additional 3.9%”.

US-China Trade War Tariffs: An Up-to-Date Chart

Average US tariffs on Chinese exports now stand at 57.6 percent and cover 100 percent of all goods. China's

average tariffs on US exports are at 32.6 percent and cover 100 percent of all goods. US tariffs have risen by 36.8

percentage points since the second Trump administration began on January 20, 2025. Chinese tariffs have risen by 11.4 percentage points over the same period.

TRUMP'S 50%
TARIFF ON
INDIA KICKS
IN AS MODI
URGES SELF-
RELIANCE

MODI HAS URGED SMALL SHOP OWNERS AND BUSINESSES TO PUT UP "MADE IN INDIA" BOARDS OUTSIDE THEIR STORES

US tariffs of 50% on goods from India took effect on Wednesday as Donald Trump sought to punish Delhi for buying Russian oil and weapons.

The tariffs – among the highest in the world – include a 25% penalty for transactions with Russia that are a key source of funds for its war in Ukraine.

India, a vital strategic US partner in the Indo-Pacific, has shown no signs of stopping its purchases, calling the tariffs unfair and vowing to choose the "best deal" on buying oil to protect its 1.4 billion people.

But there are fears exports and growth in the world's fifth largest economy could suffer. The US was, until recently, India's largest trading partner. The tariff setback has sent the Indian government into firefighting mode.

Earlier this month, Prime Minister Narendra Modi promised to cut taxes to mitigate the impact of the tariffs which will disrupt millions of livelihoods across the country's export-driven industries that supply everything from clothes to diamonds and shrimp to American consumers.

He said a Diwali gift in the form of a "massive tax bonanza" was on its way for the common man and the millions of small businesses that power Asia's third largest economy. Wearing a bright saffron turban and addressing crowds of spectators from the ramparts of Delhi's Red Fort during Independence Day celebrations, Modi also urged small shop owners and businesses to put up boards of "Swadeshi" or "Made in India" outside their stores



Tariffs: Shield or Setback for Global Trade?

Balancing protection of local industries with the cost to consumers.

Tariffs, or import taxes, are duties imposed by governments on goods entering their borders. While they can generate revenue and protect local industries by making foreign products more expensive, they also risk disrupting trade and raising costs for consumers.

Supporters argue tariffs encourage domestic production, protect infant industries, and reduce dependence on imports. They are often justified as a defense against dumping, export subsidies, or currency manipulation. However, most economists warn that tariffs are counterproductive. By increasing prices, they can harm consumers,

raise costs for industries relying on imports, and provoke retaliatory measures from trading partners. In the long run, tariffs may slow economic growth and hurt the very sectors they aim to protect. Free trade, on the other hand, lowers costs, boosts efficiency, and supports global economic growth. The debate continues, but the consensus among experts

'We Don't Take Part In Wars': China Hits Back At Trump's 100% Tariffs Threat

'We Don't Take Part In Wars': China has hit back at the US over President Donald Trump's proposal that NATO impose 50-100% tariffs on Beijing over its purchase of Russian oil. Reiterating that Beijing is committed to promoting peace talks for resolving hot-spot issues, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi has said wars cannot solve problems and highlighted that sanctions would only complicate them.

He made the remarks at a press conference in Ljubljana on Saturday, after meeting Slovenia's Deputy PM and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs, Tanja Fajon, China Daily reported.

"China does not participate in or plan wars, and what China does is to encourage peace talks and promote political settlement of hotspot issues through dialogue," Wang Yi said

"China and Europe should be friends rather than rivals, and should cooperate rather than confront each other. Making the right choices amid the greatest changes in a century demonstrates the responsibilities that both sides should fulfill towards history and the people," Wang Yi said, as reported by Global Times. His veiled reference comes shortly after US President Donald Trump on Saturday proposed that NATO impose tariffs of 50 per cent to 100 per cent on China.

What tariffs has Trump announced and why?

President Donald Trump has introduced tariffs on goods reaching the US from countries around the world. Trump argues that the move will boost American manufacturing and create jobs, but critics warn

of forgetting the very foundation that made Chicago more than a dot on a map: its history, its glittering towers, billion-dollar developments, and tech-driven "solutions"—we risk forgetting

the very foundation that made Chicago more than a dot on a map: its history, its glittering towers, billion-dollar developments, and tech-driven "solutions"—we risk forgetting