

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
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**TRAI disallows higher call charges in respect of calls to
MTNL/BSNL Mobile (GSM) Networks**

TRAI has intervened in the tariff schemes of Idea Cellular and Hutch, which involved differential rates for calls terminated in the networks of Private GSM operators. Such differential rates created a situation where Idea & Hutch subscribers had to pay higher charges for calling the MTNL/BSNL mobile (GSM) subscribers.

Idea and Hutch had classified subscribers who terminate calls on private GSM networks as a separate class of subscribers for the purpose of applying differential tariff. The Authority viewed such classification as arbitrary and inconsistent with the provisions of Telecommunication Tariff Orders. Clause 10 of the Telecommunication Tariff Orders (TTO), 1999 provides that no Service Provider shall, in any manner, discriminate between subscribers of the same class and such classification of the subscribers shall not be arbitrary.

Both Idea and Hutch have withdrawn the differential tariffs and have reported compliance to the Authority.