

Jio Platforms gets Sebi nod for IPO

FE BUREAU
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JIO PLATFORMS, the digital services arm of Reliance Industries, has received the Securities and Exchange Board of India's (Sebi's) approval to proceed with its initial public offering (IPO), clearing a key regulatory hurdle for what could become the country's largest share sale.

The company received Sebi's final observations on August 28, according to an update on the market regulator's website. Jio Platforms had filed its draft papers on June 19 for the proposed offering.

The IPO will comprise up to 270 million fresh equity shares, equivalent to about 2.9% of the company's equity base after the issue, according to its draft red herring prospectus (DRHP). The company is expected to raise around ₹37,700 crore, valuing Jio Platforms at about \$137 billion, people familiar with the matters said.

At that size, the issue would surpass Hyundai Motor India's \$3.3-billion IPO in 2024 and become the largest IPO in India.

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THE PROPOSED IPO of the National Stock Exchange (NSE), estimated at around ₹30,000 crore, would also be smaller if Jio Platforms raises the expected amount.

The proceeds will be used primarily to repay or prepay, in full or in part, certain outstanding borrowings of Reliance Jio Infocomm, Jio Platforms' material subsidiary, besides being used for general corporate purposes. The limited dilution also means the issue is primarily a fund-raising exercise rather than a significant exit by existing investors.

The proposed listing will be closely watched by investors given Jio Platforms' scale and the global investors it has attracted.

In 2020, the company raised ₹43,574 crore from Meta for a 9.99% stake, while Google invested ₹33,737 crore for a 7.73% stake.

Jio Platforms also raised around ₹74,745 crore from a

ISSUE MAY BE LARGEST



Source: Prime Database



₹37,700 crore

Jio Platforms
Expected IPO size

group of global financial and strategic investors, including Silver Lake, Vista Equity Partners, General Atlantic, KKR, Mubadala, ADIA, TPG, LCatterton, PIF, Intel Capital and Qualcomm Ventures.

Reliance Industries currently holds 66.43% of the paid-up equity capital of Jio Platforms, while Meta and Google together hold 17.71%.

The IPO will mark the first public offering from the Reliance group since 2008 and the first listing of a consumer-focused company

within the conglomerate.

Jio Platforms owns Reliance Jio Infocomm, the country's largest wireless carrier, and has expanded beyond telecom into a broader digital services business.

Reliance Chairman and Managing Director Mukesh Ambani had first outlined plans to take Jio Platforms public in 2019.

At the group's annual general meeting last year, he said the company was targeting a listing by June 2026.