

Abstract

Session :9 Challenges and opportunities facing Broadband Wireless

Topic: Infrastructure sharing

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Technology driven sector like telecommunications is characterized by steady growth with occasional leap forward due to introduction of new technology. Broadband technology facilitates convergence of Voice, Video and Data and is perceived as a key tool to the inclusive growth. Analysis consistently show that the economies that actively pursue promotion of technologies most often fare better in terms of access, economic gain and technological impact and Broadband technology is no exception to that. The benefit of the Broadband Technology and the need for its promotion must be realized in terms of its associated benefit for the different category of users and their actual need. Availability of Broadband primarily depends upon the Infrastructure for both categories of Broadband Technology – Wired and Wireless.

The paper discusses the need of the hour to roll out Broadband wireless services at faster pace and at affordable price to ensure higher penetration in rural areas. In order to maintain the affordability and faster roll out, leveraging on the existing infrastructure is necessary. Hence it is important to explore the possibilities of sharing existing as well as new infrastructure by wireless service providers. Status of infrastructure sharing in India and likely policy initiatives are outlined in this presentation.