

5G: Licensing and Right of Way Facilitation



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India: National Digital Communication Policy

- Broadband for All
- Enhancing India's contribution to Global Value Chains
- Ensuring Digital Sovereignty
- Propelling India to the Top 50 Nations in the ICT Development Index

Connect India

- Robust Digital Communication Infra
- Universal broadband at 50 Mbps to all
- Ensure connectivity to all uncovered areas

Propel India

- Harness emerging digital technologies i.e. 5G, AI, IoT, Cloud, and Big Data
- Catalyse Industry 4.0
- Promote Investments, Innovation and IPR

Secure India

- Safeguarding digital sovereignty
- Communication network security framework
- Data ownership, privacy and security



Policy, Licensing, and Regulatory Reforms undertaken before auction of spectrum for 5G services

- Encourage investment in Telecom Sector - 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) permitted under automatic route subject to necessary safeguards
- Rationalization of Revenue Base for License Fee calculation - revenue from non-telecom services excluded from the definition of AGR (Adjusted Gross Revenue)
- Cashflow improvement of Telecommunication Service Providers (TSPs) - 80% reduction in Bank Guarantee (BG) requirement for securing License Fee (LF) payments and 100% reduction in BG requirement for securing instalment payments of spectrum
- Liquidity improvement of TSPs - Moratorium/Deferment on due payments of spectrum purchased in past auctions (excluding the auction of 2021) and License Fee for up to four years with NPV protected
- Reduction in levies - No Spectrum Usage Charge (SUC) for spectrum acquired in 2022 spectrum auction and beyond
- Spectrum sharing encouraged - additional SUC of 0.5% for spectrum sharing removed

Policy, Licensing, and Regulatory Reforms undertaken before auction of spectrum for 5G services

- Risk sharing due to technology changes - Surrender of spectrum has been permitted for TSPs after 10 years
- Business certainty - spectrum auctions to be normally held in the last quarter of every financial year
- Improved transparency and efficiency - a single online interface for applicants to issue licenses, authorizations, and registrations -
- Facilitating faster rollout of mobile networks – procedures for telecom tower SACFA (Standing Advisory Committee on Frequency Allocation) clearance and Right of Way (RoW) permissions simplified, made online, and time bound
- Minimum rollout obligations simplified – shifted from coverage-based rollout obligations to minimum number of base stations in prespecified number of towns

RoW permissions – simplified and facilitated

- Amended RoW Rules under the telecommunication law to facilitate faster rollout of 5G networks
- Coordination and collaboration at each level of Governance: alignment of the Rules and Regulations relating to RoW permissions at National, States, and Local level
- PM GatiShakti Sanchar portal – an online workflow to expedite RoW permissions
- Deemed approval beyond the prescribed time period
- Mapping of street furniture on an online GIS layer for installation of small cells equipments

Policy, Licensing and Regulatory steps undertaken after auction of spectrum for 5G services

- Licensing framework for Captive Non-Public Networks (CNPN)
- Framework for leasing of spectrum by TSPs to CNPN licensees
- Facilitating availability of 5G capable and compatible devices in the market
- Promote use cases - 100 use case labs in academic institutions
- Coordination and collaboration for use of 5G technology and services across the socio-economic sectors
- Focus of annual India Mobile Congress on demonstrating 5G use cases
- Focus on updating engineering education and skill development curriculum frameworks for 5G technology
- In public-private partnership, indigenous development of 5G technology software products and equipment/ systems

Outcomes

- World's fastest rollout of 5G networks: With 4.4 lakh Base Stations installed in just 18 months, 5G services are available to approximately 80% of India's population in more than 90% of the total districts
- In just 18 months timeframe, more than 150 million mobile subscribers have started using 5G services in the country
- Global benchmarking – as per OOKLA's Speedtest Global Index:
 - India's Median Country Speeds have crossed 100 Mbps, and
 - India's rank has improved from 113 to 17
- To supplement the FTTH broadband proliferation, 5G technology based Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) services have been launched – providing fresh impetus for leveraging 5G networks

***India is committed for the 5G and beyond conducive
Policies & Regulations to redefine the telecom***

THANK YOU !