



Message from the Minister of Communications — Department of Telecommunications



May 2026 Edition

Namaskar!

At the beginning of this month, many of us across the country were startled by the emergency alert test messages that buzzed on our phones. While such alerts may momentarily shock us, they bring to the fore something extremely critical. It is the realisation that in moments of crisis, timely communication can save lives. It is with this sense of responsibility that we launched the indigenous Cell Broadcast System (CBS), developed by C-DOT in collaboration with NDMA and the Ministry of Home Affairs. We sincerely hope such systems are rarely needed, but whenever disaster strikes in any part of the country, India will now have a robust, indigenous and reliable mechanism to reach and alert its citizens swiftly.

This spirit of building resilient and citizen-centric digital infrastructure continues to guide our work across the telecom sector. Over the past month, the Department of Telecommunications has taken several important steps towards strengthening connectivity, encouraging indigenous innovation, expanding digital inclusion, and deepening India's engagement with the global digital community.

A significant step in this direction was the release of revised guidelines for the Technology Development and Investment Promotion (TDIP) Scheme. The revised framework is designed to support Indian innovators, strengthen indigenous telecom technologies, and encourage greater participation of Indian institutions and industry in emerging areas such as 6G, Artificial Intelligence, Quantum technologies, and global telecom standardisation processes. Our endeavour remains clear: India must not only adopt future technologies, but also help shape them.

Expanding digital access to every corner of the country remains equally important. During the month, Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) signed an agreement with the Government of Andhra Pradesh, APBIL, BSNL and APSFL for implementation of the Amended BharatNet Programme in the State under the State-led model. This partnership will help strengthen broadband connectivity in rural areas and create new opportunities for citizens through improved digital access and services.

I also had the opportunity during the month to review the annual results and future roadmap of BSNL along with senior officials of DoT and the BSNL leadership team. Strengthening our public sector telecom institutions and preparing them for the opportunities of a rapidly evolving digital future remains an important priority for us.

India also continues to actively contribute to global conversations on telecom and digital cooperation. An Indian delegation led by the Department of Telecommunications participated in the ITU Council 2026 meeting in Geneva, reaffirming India's growing role in shaping future global telecom frameworks and policy discussions. I had the opportunity to interact during this engagement, particularly as India continues to build momentum following WTSA and our wider global telecom partnerships.

Under India's BRICS Presidency 2026, the Department of Telecommunications also successfully organised the Second Meeting of the BRICS Working Group for Cooperation in ICTs. The discussions reflected a shared commitment amongst BRICS nations towards future networks, innovation ecosystems, Digital Public Infrastructure, capacity building, and inclusive digital growth.

As India moves steadily towards becoming a global digital leader, our focus remains firmly on creating a telecom ecosystem that is secure, inclusive, innovative and deeply citizen-centric. Every initiative we undertake, whether in connectivity, public safety, indigenous technology, or international cooperation, is ultimately about empowering people and preparing India for the opportunities of the future.

Jai Hind!

Warm regards,

Jyotiraditya M. Scindia

Minister of Communications

Government of India

