

SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD LAUNCHES NATIONAL BROADBAND MISSION

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Ministry of Communications

Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad launches National Broadband Mission

All villages in the country will be covered by 2022

Broadband Mission to fulfill all aspirations of the people

Enables fast track growth of digital communication infrastructure

Bridges digital divide for digital empowerment and inclusion

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The Minister for Communications, Law & Justice and Electronics and Information Technology, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad has said that the National Broadband Mission is to fulfill all aspirations of the people and enables fast track growth of digital communication infrastructure. He was addressing the gathering after launching the **National Broadband Mission (NBM)** at an event, here today. The Minister of State for Communications, Human Resources Development and Electronics & Information Technology, Shri Sanjay Shamrao Dhotre, the Secretary (Telecom), Shri Anshu Prakash and other senior officials were present on the occasion. A large number of representatives from the telecom industry, officers from various Ministries of the Government of India, various State Governments and senior officers of the Department of Telecommunications participated in the event.

Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad also launched the Logo of the NBM, a Booklet on this occasion.

The vision of the NBM is to fast track growth of digital communications infrastructure, bridge the digital divide, facilitate digital empowerment and inclusion and provide affordable and universal access of broadband for all. Some of the objectives of the Mission which is structured with

strong emphasis on the three principles of universality, affordability and quality are:

- Broadband access to all villages by 2022
- Facilitate universal and equitable access to broadband services for across the country and especially in rural and remote areas
- Laying of incremental 30 lakhs route km of Optical Fiber Cable and increase in tower density from 0.42 to 1.0 tower per thousand of population by 2024
- Significantly improve quality of services for mobile and internet
- Develop innovative implementation models for Right of Way (RoW) and to work with States/UTs for having consistent policies pertaining to expansion of digital infrastructure including for RoW approvals required for laying of OFC
- Develop a Broadband Readiness Index (BRI) to measure the availability of digital communications infrastructure and conducive policy ecosystem within a State/UT.
- Creation of a digital fiber map of the Digital Communications network and infrastructure, including Optical Fiber Cables and Towers, across the country
- Investment from stakeholders of USD 100 billion (Rs 7 Lakh Crore) including Rs 70,000 crore from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)
- Address policy and regulatory changes required to accelerate the expansion and creation of digital infrastructure and services
- Work with all stakeholders including the concerned Ministries / Departments/ Agencies, and Ministry of Finance, for enabling investments for the Mission

Snapshot of growth in Telecom Parameters

Year	2014	2019
Mobile Subscribers (in millions) 30% Growth	907.42	1173.75
Internet Subscribers(in millions) 165% Growth	251.59	665.31
Broadband Subscribers(in millions) 530% Growth	99.2	625.42
Tele-density (%) 20% Growth	75.23 %	90.52 %
Rural Tele-density (%) 31% Growth	44.01 %	57.59 %
Data Consumption (in GB per subscriber per month) 1120% Growth	Less than 0.80 GB	9.77 GB

BN/BK

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