Outlook

Support for a security first approach to satellite spectrum assignment

From president@dcif.org.in <president@dcif.org.in>
Date Tue 2026-10-13 12:20
To assignments@pti.in <assignments@pti.in>
Cc prasoon.srivastava@pti.in <prasoon.srivastava@pti.in>; asdj1990@gmail.com <asdj1990@gmail.com>; ravikmishra12@gmail.com <ravikmishra12@gmail.com>; secretarygeneral@dcif.org.in <secretarygeneral@dcif.org.in>

1 attachment (677 KB)
DCIF_Satellite_Spectrum_Security_Letter_MoC_Oct2026.pdf;

To
The Hon'ble Minister for Communications
Government of India
New Delhi
Subject: Support for a security first approach to satellite spectrum assignment

Hon'ble Minister,
On behalf of the Digital Communications Industry Forum (DCIF),
Kind attention: Hon'ble Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia ji,

Respected Sir,

We write to express our full support for the Government of India's careful, security first approach to the authorisation of satellite communication services and assignment of satellite spectrum.

Recent public criticism of the time taken to complete the process should not distract from the Government's responsibility to protect national security, public safety and the sovereignty of India's communications infrastructure. The Ministry has stated that security assessments are underway for all three licensed satellite communication operators, and that each must satisfy the prescribed conditions before proceeding to the next regulatory stage. We welcome the application of a consistent and non-discriminatory framework to all providers.

Satellite connectivity can make an important contribution to extending coverage to remote, border, island and underserved communities. At the same time, reports concerning the use of satellite communication terminals in the Russia-Ukraine conflict highlight the operational and enforcement challenges that can arise when connectivity is difficult to monitor or control across borders. These risks reinforce the importance of completing robust security assessments before services are launched.

DCIF therefore supports the Government's decision to ensure that all operators meet India's security, lawful-interception, data-protection and operational-control requirements before spectrum is assigned and commercial services commence. We respectfully encourage the Government to maintain this standard, while providing transparent guidance on the applicable requirements and an orderly process for all applicants.

We also urge the Government to ensure that any final framework enables lawful access by authorised agencies, effective prevention of unauthorised use, and the ability to restrict or suspend services when required under Indian law. Security safeguards and timely regulatory decisions can and should advance together.

DCIF remains committed to working constructively with the Ministry and relevant agencies to support secure, reliable and inclusive satellite communications in India.

Yours sincerely,
Anil Kumar Jain
President
For and on behalf of Digital Communications Industry Forum (DCIF)
Asdj1990@gmail.com
12th October, 2026 at New Delhi