

India will see fastest satcom rollout: Scindia



India will see the fastest global rollout yet for satellite communication, Union Telecom Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia (*pictured*) said on Tuesday. This would expand the satcom market in India to \$20 billion by 2028, 10 times larger than the current \$2.3 billion, he said.

Addressing a seminar at the headquarters of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, Scindia said satellite telecom technology is complementary to the existing bouquet of services. The Minister's comments came as Elon Musk's Starlink announced the launch of telecom services in Bangladesh.

While the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has cleared Starlink's application for satellite communication services in India, the company still needs to secure IN-SPACe clearance in record time if it wants to roll out signals alongside others, industry insiders say. Its competitors Airtel-backed Eutelsat OneWeb had received a GMPCS license effective from August, 2021 while Jio Satellite Communication Ltd has held it since March 2022. SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY