

India targets 1 billion 5G users by 2030; IMC 2026 theme unveiled

Union Communications Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia unveiled the theme for the 10th edition of India Mobile Congress 2026.

India Mobile Congress (IMC) is Asia's largest annual digital technology and telecommunications forum jointly organized by DoT and COAI.

KEY EXAM POINTS

- Union Communications Minister **Jyotiraditya Scindia** unveiled '**Scale without boundaries**' as the theme for IMC 2026.
- The **10th edition** of India Mobile Congress will be held from October 7 to 10, 2026 at **Yashobhoomi** in **New Delhi**.
- India aims to expand its 5G network user base to **1 billion** by **2030**, after reaching nearly **500 million** users in two-and-a-half years.
- India's first **Telecom Manufacturing Zone** (TMZ) will be established in **Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh**.
- India has invested around **₹4.5 lakh crore** in 5G infrastructure, deploying nearly **500,000** telecom towers in record time.
- The event is organized jointly by the **Department of Telecommunications** (DoT) and **Cellular Operators Association of India** (COAI).

STATICS & SYLLABUS FOCUS

Bharat 6G Alliance was launched by the Department of Telecommunications in **2023** to design and deploy 6G technology by **2030**.

Telecommunications Act, 2023 received Presidential assent on December 24, 2023, replacing the **Indian Telegraph Act, 1885**.

Digital Bharat Nidhi was established under the Telecommunications Act 2023, replacing the former **Universal Service Obligation Fund** (USOF).

Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Telecom and Networking Products was launched in **2021** with a financial outlay of **₹12,195 crore**.

National Digital Communications Policy (**NDCP**) was framed in **2018** aiming to attract **\$100 billion** in investments in digital communications.

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (**TRAI**) was established in **1997** under the **TRAI Act, 1997** with statutory status.

REVISION FLASHCARD

India's first Telecom Manufacturing Zone (TMZ) is being set up in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.

Syllabus Relevance: High relevance for Group 1/2 Mains (Science & Tech policy) and Group 4 (telecom schemes, national milestones).

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