



No. ITU-APT/L/23-24/852-2

March 28, 2024

**Shri Neeraj Mittal,
Chairman, DCC & Secretary (Telecom)
Department of Telecommunications,
Ministry of Communications,
Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashoka Road,
New Delhi – 110001**

Subject: Assignment of Spectrum for Satellite Communication Services

Ref: Our earlier letter number ITU-APT/L/23-24/852 dated 05-02-2024

Dear Sir,

Please refer to our letter number ITU-APT/L/23-24/852 dated 05-02-2024, regarding assignment of spectrum for satellite communications.

In our letter we had highlighted the importance and urgency of implementing the Indian Space Policy 2023 which is fully aligned with the Prime Minister's vision to unlock the immense potential of SatCom for India's digital economy.

The Telecom Act 2023 outlines the administrative allocation of spectrum for specific satellite-based services, including: Radio backhaul for telecommunication services, In-flight and maritime connectivity, Teleports, Television channels, Direct To Home, Headend In The Sky, Digital Satellite News Gathering, Very Small Aperture Terminal, Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellites, National Long Distance (NLD), International Long Distance and Mobile Satellite Service in L and S bands.

Over the past two decades, the government has been assigning satellite spectrum to VSAT and other telecom players administratively. While the Industry looks forward to the issuance of Rules under the Telecom Act, the guidelines for the administrative allocation of spectrum

for satellite services, including VSAT and NLD, are already in place. VSAT and other similar operators have received satellite spectrum allocations in accordance with their requirements under the current guidelines and are actively providing satellite services.

To prevent any potential delays in service launch by new VSAT and other satellite operators, we respectfully request the immediate processing of spectrum assignment applications under the current guidelines for VSAT and similar services under Unified Licensing. These requests should proceed independently of the Telecom Act Rules' issuance. Naturally, once the Rules are finalized, they will equally applicable to all operators in this domain.

We hope our above submission will be considered favourably and necessary actions will be taken in this regard, ensuring timely deployment of critical satellite services. We are confident this will significantly contribute to India's digital transformation journey.

Thanking you.

Yours Sincerely,



Bharat B Bhatia,
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CC:

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