

Broadband India Forum welcomes Smt. Aruna Sundararajan, IAS (Retd.) as its Chairperson

20 February 2023 (New Delhi): The Broadband India Forum (BIF) today welcomed Smt. Aruna Sundararajan IAS (Retd.), Former Secretary (Telecom), and Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications & Chairperson, Digital Communications Commission (DCC) and one of the most respected persons of the sector, as the Chairperson of the organization with immediate effect. BIF shared that Smt. Sundararajan accepted to chair the forum and to guide the organization in its mission of improving affordable broadband proliferation and usage in India.

Smt. Sundararajan has served as the Secretary to the Government of India in the Ministries of Steel, Information Technology and Telecom; and retired as Chairperson of the Digital Communications Commission in July 2019. During her tenure, Smt. Sundararajan played a pioneering role in steering various important tech policies and initiatives across the domains of telecom and hardware manufacturing, e-governance, digital payments, data protection, cyber security and tech start-ups.

Post her retirement, Smt. Sundararajan served on the Boards of leading companies including Delhivery, Infoedge and Bharat FIH, India's National Bank of Infra Financing and Development (NabFID), Cochin International Airport, and a neo-banking start-up Digi Vridhhi. She is also an active member of various tech mentoring and angel financing initiatives.

Announcing the Chairmanship of Smt. Aruna Sundararajan, Mr. T.V. Ramachandran, President of Broadband India Forum, stated, "We are most fortunate and honoured to have the leadership of Madam Smt. Aruna Sundararajan in our avowed mission of 'Broadband for All' in a technology-neutral and all-inclusive manner. We are confident that she would guide us to higher heights of excellence in serving the economy, the nation, and the consumer".

Smt. Sundararajan has had several firsts to her credit during her illustrious career. As the Chairperson of DCC, she was one of the primary forces behind the creation of the highly-acclaimed world-class telecom policy - NDCP 2018 and has been keenly involved in giving initial support and encouragement to the unique WANI architecture. She was the Chairperson of the 5G High-Level Forum and played a key role in formulating the way forward for India to go to 5G.

Commenting on her joining BIF and sharing her vision for digital India, Smt. Aruna Sundararajan said, "I am absolutely delighted to accept the invitation to be Chairperson of Broadband India Forum and contribute my best efforts to lead the think tank in its pursuit of 'Broadband for All' and the digital transformation of India."

About Broadband India Forum

Broadband India Forum (BIF) functions as an independent policy forum and knowledge-based think-tank that works for the development and enhancement of the entire broadband ecosystem in a holistic, technology-neutral and service-neutral manner. BIF has established itself as a thought leader and a credible and effective voice, to help propel the nation to achieve the country's ambitious vision of creating a Digital India. To achieve this, BIF works to promote the rapid development of policies, so as to facilitate affordable and high-speed ubiquitous broadband throughout the country.