

1st Convergent Conference on Subsea Cables and Digital Cloud Infrastructure Connecting Continents, Scaling Digital Cloud

24 February, 2026 at Hotel Shangri-La, New Delhi

INAUGURAL SESSION (0955-1115 Hrs) PROGRAMME

0925 - 0955Hrs	Registration & Networking Tea
0955 - 1003 Hrs (8 min)	Ms. Alka S Asthana, Global Head Regulatory, TCL and Chair Subsea Cable Committee BIF – Welcome Address and Introductory remarks
1003 – 1013 Hrs (10 min)	Mr. Ajay Chitkara, Managing Director – Indo-Pacific, Global Infrastructure, Google
1013 - 1023 Hrs (10 Mins)	Mr. Amajit Gupta, Group CEO & MD, Lightstorm
1023 - 1033 Hrs (10 mins)	Mr. Ashutosh Zutshi, Sr. VP Submarine Network Solutions, NEC
1033-1043 Hrs (10 mins)	Mr. Nico Roehrich, Director Network Investment, APAC, Meta Platforms Inc, USA
1043-1053 Hrs (10 mins)	Shri R. N. Palai, Member (Technology), DoT - Special Guest of Honour
1053 –1108 Hrs (15 mins)	Shri A K Lahoti, Chairman TRAI- Chief Guest
1108-1115 Hrs (7 mins)	Summing up and Vote of Thanks – Mr. T. V. Ramachandran, President, BIF
1115- 1145 Hrs	Networking Tea Break
1145 – 1300 Hrs	Session :2 Technical presentations Building Robust and Resilient Subsea Infrastructure for Viksit Bharat
1145 – 11.55 Hrs (10 mins)	Session Chair: Mr. Ashutosh Zutshi, Sr. VP NEC India
1155-1255Hrs (10 Mins each)	Mr. Philip Ng, Network Development Manager, Meta
	Mr. Ashish Ahuja, Founder & CEO, Sloka Partner, USA
	Mr. Neeraj Sonkar, CTO Constl
	Mr. Anish Kohli, Director, India & Head of Carrier & SP Business South Asia, Middle East & Africa (MEA), Telstra
	Mr. Somesh Gaur, AVP & Head – Subsea cables & Satellite Operations
	Mr. Santosh Iyer, Head Enterprise, Bharti Airtel
1255-1300Hrs	Closing remarks by Session Chair
1300 - 1345 Hrs	Networking Lunch

1345-1450 Hrs	Session :3 TECHNICAL SESSION (Panel Discussion) "Subsea Cable Infrastructure: Strategic Asset or Business Infrastructure?"
1345 - 1355 Hrs (10 mins)	Session Chair: Shri Arun Kumar Agarwal DDG (Sat), DoT
1355 - 1445Hrs (50 mins)	Moderator – Mr. Priyabrata Das, MD Managing Director, One Consulting: TMT PwC
	Mr. Nico Roehrich, Director, Network Investment, APAC, Meta Platforms Inc, USA
	Mr. Anup Gupta President India & SAARC, AP Telecom
	Mr. Ashok Tiwari, President Regulatory and Policy Reliance Jio
	Mr. Lalit Chowdhary, CTO, Lightstorm
1445-1450 Hrs (5 mins)	Audience Q & A
1450 – 1550 Hrs	Session :4 TECHNICAL SESSION (Technical Presentations) "Towards 2030: Data Centers as the Pillars of India’s Digital Economy"
1450 - 1500Hrs (10 mins)	Session Chair- Brig. Anil Tandan, DG-BIF
1500-1510 Hrs (10 mins)	Mr. Praveen Sharma, CEO AA Plus Consultants
1510- 1520Hrs (10 mins)	Mr. Kirtikar Ojha CMO, Head Business Development & Govt Sales, L&T
1520-1530 Hrs (10 mins)	Mr. Avaneesh Vats, Head - Information Technology, Techno Digital
1530-1540 (10 mins)	Dr. S N Gupta Chairman, Digigaon Foundation
1540-1550 Hrs (10 mins)	Closing remarks of Session Chair
1550 – 1700 Hrs	Session :5 Technical Session (Panel Discussion) "Domestic Optical Fiber Networks: Enabling Data Centers and Subsea Cable Links"
1550 – 1600 Hrs (10 mins)	Session Chair: Shri R. K. Soni, DDG CS, DoT
1600-1610	Special Address: Mr. Ashok Kumar DDG (SRI) & OSD to Secretary (T)
1610-1615 Hrs (5 mins)	Moderator– Mr. Suvesh Chattopadhyaya, Sr. Director Edge & Networks, STT Global Data Center
1615 – 1655 Hrs (40 mins)	Mr. Rohit Chandra, Head- Product and Strategy, Constl
	Mr. Jatinder Khurana, Director Sales, Ciena
	Mr. Chandan Kumar, Head-Optical Networks, India Business Center, Nokia
	Ms. Sonia Jorge, Founder and ED, GDIP
1655-1700 (5 mins)	Closing remarks of Session Chair and Q&A
1700 Hrs	Vote of Thanks by Brig. Anil Tandan, DG, BIF
1700 Hrs	Close of Session & Networking Tea