

Consolidated Press Release Based Coverage (Online)

Government Decision to Delicense Lower 6 GHz Band to Benefit End-User Economy

Newspaper/Portal	Title of the Article	Link
Communications Today	Delicense Lower 6 GHz Band to Benefit End-User Economy	https://www.communicationstoday.co.in/delicensing-lower-6-ghz-band-to-benefit-end-user-economy/
The Hindu Businessline	Govt de-licenses 500 MHz in 6 GHz band: A massive win for next-gen Wi-Fi	https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/govt-de-licenses-500-mhz-in-6-ghz-band-a-massive-win-for-next-gen-wi-fi/article70538489.ece
Tele.net	Government decision to delicense lower 6 GHz band to benefit end-user economy, says BIF	https://tele.net.in/government-decision-to-delicense-lower-6-ghz-band-to-benefit-end-user-economy-says-bif/
Medianama	Indian Govt. Delicenses Half of 6 GHz Band for Wi-Fi Despite Opposition from Telecom Operators	https://www.medianama.com/2026/01/223-india-delicenses-6ghz-wifi-spectrum/
ET Telecom	India delicenses lower 6 GHz frequency band for faster indoor Wi-Fi service	https://telecom.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/india-licenses-6ghz-band-for-next-gen-wi-fi-technology/126958261
Mint	India allows licence-free use of 6GHz spectrum in a win for Big Tech	https://www.livemint.com/news/india/india-allows-licence-free-use-of-6ghz-spectrum-band-big-tech-telecom-operators-11769001974521.html
MSN	India allows licence-free use of 6GHz spectrum in a win for Big Tech	https://www.msn.com/en-in/money/news/india-allows-licence-free-use-of-6ghz-spectrum-in-a-win-for-big-tech/ar-AA1UFhOB
Electronics For You	Government Frees Lower 6 GHz Spectrum for Better Wi-Fi Strength	https://www.electronicstoday.biz/industry-buzz/government-frees-lower-6-ghz-spectrum-for-better-wi-fi-strength/
Broadcast & Cablesat	Government decision to delicense lower 6 GHz band to benefit end-user economy	https://www.broadcastandcablesat.co.in/government-decision-to-delicense-lower-6-ghz-band-to-benefit-end-user-economy/
Voice&Data	BIF backs lower 6 GHz delicensing move, Wi-Fi 6E/7 set to gain	https://www.voicendata.com/policy/bif-backs-lower-6-ghz-delicensing-move-wi-fi-6e7-set-to-gain-11024229

Media Coverage (Print Media)

Businessline Delhi

Friday-January 23-2026

10 • **bl** • news

DELHI
businessline.
 FRIDAY - JANUARY 23 - 2026

Industry bodies hail govt's decision to de-license 6 GHz spectrum for Wi-Fi

S Ronendra Singh
 New Delhi

The government's decision to de-license 500 MHz of spectrum in the lower 6 GHz band has drawn strong endorsement from technology and electronics industry bodies, while underscoring the sharp divide with telecom operators who had lobbied against licence-free allocation of this high-demand airwaves.

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on Wednesday notified de-licensing of 500 megahertz (MHz) of spectrum in the lower frequency range of the 6 GHz band, a move which is expected to boost Wi-Fi services in the country.

BIG TECH

Broadband India Forum (BIF), the industry body representing big tech, on Thursday said that the decision is crucial to match and excel technological advancements and aim high for the common man. In contrast, Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) that represents telcos like Bharti Airtel, Reliance Jio and Vodafone-Idea, kept mum on the latest notification regarding



SHOT IN THE ARM. The move is expected to boost Wi-Fi services in the country

de-licensing of the 6GHz band. In the past, these telecom operators have been urging the 500 MHz band in the 5925-6425 MHz be identified for international mobile telecommunications (IMT) because of the population's density in India and the rapid growth in mobile data consumption.

"This notification reflects a process of detailed deliberation and stakeholder consultations conducted over the past three years which was extremely beneficial for arriving at such balanced outcomes that take into account consumer interests, development of the digital economy especially R&D, start-ups & innovation and national interest," TV Ramachandran, President, BIF, said.

The decision makes the

5925-6425 MHz frequency band available on a licence-exempt basis for low-power indoor and very low-power indoor wireless access systems, including radio local area networks, he said.

HIGHER BANDWIDTHS

He further said that by enabling higher channel bandwidths of up to 320 MHz, the band is expected to significantly enhance broadband (Wi-Fi) speeds, capacity and performance. "This decision would greatly benefit the common man as it would help bridge indoor outdoor divide since higher mobile frequencies associated with 5G/6G have poor penetration indoors and the common man consumes 80 per cent or more indoors," Ramachandran noted.

The lower 6 GHz band also

enables the deployment of advanced and next-generation wi-fi technologies such as wi-fi 6E and wi-fi 7, which enables data intensive applications including next-generation gaming platforms, AR/VR devices, smart wearables, and immersive digital services that operate exclusively in the de-licensed 6 GHz band, he added.

CRUCIAL STEP

"India has a unique opportunity to become a global leader in Wi-Fi technology, given the high level of readiness to adopt Wi-Fi in the ecosystem. The estimated value of unlocking this potential is about \$250 billion, which makes the de-licensing of the 6GHz spectrum a crucial step towards achieving this goal," Aruna Sundararajan, Chairperson, BIF, said.

Meanwhile, the India Cellular and Electronics Association said that this move by DoT will be critical in addressing India's rapidly growing data consumption, supporting dense indoor and enterprise environments, and enabling emerging use cases including Industry 4.0, smart manufacturing, digital healthcare, smart campuses, and the expansion of digital public infrastructure.