

Theme: "Satcom: Enabler for Digital Inclusivity and Transformation"

18th August, 2026
PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

0930 - 1000 Hrs	Registration
1000 - 1010 Hrs (10 min)	Welcome address by Smt. Aruna Sundararajan, IAS (Retd), Chairperson BIF, Special Address
1010 – 1020 Hrs (10 min)	Context Setting - Mr. P J Nath, MD & CEO Tata Nelco Ltd and Chair Satcom Committee BIF
1020 - 1030 Hrs (10 Mins)	Mr. Rahul Vatts, Director Corporate Affairs & Group CRO, Bharti Airtel and Co-Chair Satcom Committee of BIF (Industry Perspective)
1030-1038 Hrs (8 mins)	Brief presentation on White Paper on D2D
1038-1040 Hrs (2 mins)	Release of White paper on D2D by Dr Abhay Karandikar & other dignitaries on the dais
1040-1050 Hrs (10 mins)	Shri Manish Sinha, Member (Finance), DCC, DoT, Special Guest of Honour
1050-1100 Hrs (10 mins)	Ms Sophia Nestius-Booth, Director of Science & Technology, British High Commission in India-Special Guest of Honour
1100-1115 Hrs (15 mins)	Dr. Abhay Karandikar, Member, Niti Aayog-Chief Guest of Honour
1115- 1125 Hrs (10mins)	Mr. T.V. Ramachandran, President, BIF – Vote of Thanks

1125- 1140 Hrs Networking Tea

**Session 2 (1140 – 1245hrs IST) Theme:
“Spectrum for Next Generation Satcom”
Panel Discussion
18th August, 2026**

1140- 1145 Hrs (5 mins)	Session Chair and Moderator Shri M K Pattanaik , Joint Wireless Advisor, RLO Mumbai- Opening Remarks
1145 - 1150 Hrs (5 mins)	Address by Co-Chair, Ms. J. Sofi , Associate Director, ISRO
1150- 1235 Hrs (45 Mins)	Panelist 1 – Lt. Gen. AK Bhatt, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM (Retd), Director General, ISpA
	Panelist 2 –Mr. Ravi Gandhi, President & CRO, R-Jio & Reliance Retail/onsumer Products
	Panelist 3- Mr. Punit Rathod, Lead Technical Standards and Spectrum Engineering, Qualcomm
	Panelist 4- Access partnership (Online)-Mr. Gokhan Tok, Associate Director, Space & Connectivity, Access Partnership, London
	Panelist 5: Mr Jose Feu Vidal, APAC Regulatory Lead for WRC Spectrum strategy, Amazon Leo
1235 - 1245 Hrs (10 mins)	Closing Remarks by Session Chair

1245 - 1330Hrs Networking Lunch

Session3 (1330-1450Hrs)

Theme- Satcom: Bridging the Digital Divide through Affordable Connectivity
18th August 2026
(Panel Discussion)

1330-1335 Hrs (5 mins)	Welcome address by Shri T V Ramachandran, President BIF
1335-1345 Hrs (10 mins)	Special address by Shri Manish Sinha, Member (Finance) DoT- Session Chair
1345-1355 Hrs (10 mins)	Special address by Shri M K Pattnaik, JWA, RLO, DOT, Mumbai - Co-Chair
1355-1400 Hrs (5 mins)	Presentation of White Paper on Cyber Security in Satcom by BIF & Release of Paper by Shri Manish Sinha & Dignitaries on the dais
1400-1405 Hrs (5 mins)	Session Moderator- Ms Sonali Nanda, Dy. Director (PMAD), IN-SPACe
1405-1440 Hrs (35 mins)	Panelist 1: Shri Tarun Chitkara, VP Regulatory, Airtel
	Panelist 2: Shri N. Jayaram Hughes Network Systems India Ltd
	Panelist 3: Ms. Kopal Shrivastava, Public Policy Lead, Amazon Leo
	Panelist 4: Shri Brajendra Bhuwan Urmalia, VP – Product & Solutions, Nelco Limited
1440-1445 Hrs (5 mins)	Q&A
1445-1450 Hrs	Closing remarks by Shri Manish Sinha --Session Chair

Session 4 (1450 – 1550 Hrs IST)
Theme: **Satcom for Viksit Bharat: Connecting Sky to Society**

Panel Discussion
18th August, 2026

1450-1500 Hrs (10 mins)	Opening Remarks by Session Chair and Moderator- Shri Prabhat Dikshit, DDG Satellite, DoT
	Panelist 1: Ms. Ambika Khurana , Chief Regulatory & Corporate Affair Officer, Vi
	Panelist 2: Shri Keyur Gandhi , Director- Space, Regulatory, and Commercialization, Dhruva Space
	Panelist 3: Col K V S Tanwar, VSM (Retd) , Head of Business Development – Defence, Astrome
1545-1550 Hrs (5 mins)	Closing remarks by Session Chair

Session 5 (1550-1700Hrs)

Theme: **"Beyond Connectivity: Satellite Communications as strategic Enterprise Infrastructure"**

18th August 2026

(Technical Presentation)

1550-1600 Hrs (10 mins)	Session Chair- Shri Manish Kumar Garg DDG (SMC)– Opening Remarks
1600 – 1650 Hrs (50 mins)	Industry Presentation 1: Mr. Keyur Gandhi , Director- Space, Regulatory, and Commercialization, Dhruva Space
	Industry Presentation 2: Ms. Alka S Asthana , Global Head Regulatory, TCL
	Industry Presentation 3: Mr. Priyabrata Das , Managing Director, TMT Consulting, PwC India
	Industry Presentation 4: Mr. Alaqshendra Singh , Sr. Advocate, TMT Law Practice
1650-1700Hrs (10 mins)	Concluding remarks by Session chair

Close of session & the event

Networking Tea 1700

*Invited