



Union Minister Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia Inaugurates Workshop on 5G Use Case Labs at IMC 2026; Highlights Role of Young Innovators in Advancing India's 5G and 6G Vision

Union Minister Shri Scindia Awards Winners of the 5G Innovation Hackathon

"100 5G Use Case Labs to Nurture Young Innovators and Develop Solutions for India and the World": Union Minister Shri Scindia

Minister Shri Scindia commends officers of DoT on completion of the specialised Capacity Development Programme on Network and Mobile Security, Distributes Certificates and Badges to them

Initiative aims to transform academic research into practical solutions for India's next-generation telecommunications ecosystem

Discussions cover AI-native networks, intelligent connectivity, scalable 5G use cases, 6G spectrum roadmap, global standardisation and industry-academia collaboration

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Union Minister for Communications and Development of North Eastern Region Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia inaugurated the Workshop on 5G Use Case Labs at the 10th edition of India Mobile Congress (IMC) 2026, underscoring the Government of India's commitment to strengthening indigenous innovation, promoting research and empowering young innovators in the telecommunications sector. Held under the theme "Building Intelligent Networks: Innovations Driving the 5G Advanced and 6G Era," the workshop aims to foster industry-academia collaboration and accelerate the translation of academic research into practical, technology-driven solutions. The initiative highlights the pivotal role of students, researchers and academic institutions in developing innovative 5G applications and preparing India's talent ecosystem for next-generation communication technologies.

The workshop also highlighted the importance of bridging the gap between academic research and industry requirements, enabling young talent to contribute to India's evolving digital and telecommunications landscape. Through these laboratories, students and researchers can explore emerging technologies, experiment with real-world applications and develop solutions with potential benefits across sectors.

"The networks of tomorrow will be imagined not only in exhibition halls but also in our universities, research laboratories and the minds of young innovators. The 100 5G Use Case Labs were established not merely to provide infrastructure, but to nurture innovators capable of developing solutions for India and the world," said Union Minister Shri Scindia.



Addressing the gathering, Shri Amit Agrawal, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications, emphasised the importance of nurturing innovation beyond conventional infrastructure development and empowering the country's academic and research ecosystem to shape the future of telecommunications.

The workshop reaffirmed the Government's focus on fostering collaboration among academia, industry and research institutions to accelerate technology development, promote indigenous solutions and prepare India's talent pool for the 5G Advanced and 6G era.

By placing young innovators and academic research at the centre of technological advancement, the initiative supports India's ambition to emerge as a global hub for telecommunications innovation and contribute to the vision of a technologically empowered and self-reliant nation.



Inaugural session features awards distribution to the winners of the 5G Innovation Hackathon (Edition-2) 2026

Addressing the participants at the One-Day Workshop on 5G Use Case Labs, the Union Minister Shri Scindia congratulated the winners of 5G Innovation Hackathon (Edition-2) 2026 and 50 finalists for demonstrating the innovative potential of India's young talent and encouraged all 1,400 participating teams to continue pursuing new ideas and technological solutions.





Distribution of Certificates to DoT officers Capacity Development Programme

Minister Shri Scindia commended the officers of Department of Telecommunications (DoT), who completed the specialised Capacity Development Programme on Network and Mobile Security. This program included prestigious International certifications like CISSP, CEH, PenTest, CySA etc. Recognising successful completion of the program and their role in strengthening the security of India's digital infrastructure, Union Minister Shri Scindia distributed the Certificates and Badges to the officers.



Emphasising the vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047, the Union Minister underscored the importance of 5G Advanced, 6G and research laboratories in shaping India's telecommunications future. The Minister called for collaborative efforts to develop intelligent networks that are designed and built in India and trusted globally, and formally declared the One-Day Workshop on 5G Use Case Labs open.

Secretary, DoT congratulated the participating teams and highlighted that innovation should extend beyond competitions and prototypes to intellectual property creation, entrepreneurship, industry partnerships and commercial deployment.

Building Intelligent Networks for Viksit Bharat 2047

The workshop reinforced the importance of connecting academic research, industry requirements and national technology priorities to accelerate India's transition from technology adoption to indigenous technology development.

The Department of Telecommunications reiterated its commitment to strengthening research, encouraging entrepreneurship and fostering collaboration among academia, startups and industry to advance India's capabilities in 5G Advanced, 6G and next-generation telecommunications.

About 100 5G Use Case Labs Strengthen India's Innovation Ecosystem

In October 2023, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi awarded 100 5G Use Case Labs to academic institutions across the country. Established under a Government initiative with an outlay of ₹97.67 crore, all 100 labs became operational by April 2025.

The initiative aims to strengthen practical learning, promote research and development in 5G technologies, encourage industry-academia collaboration and enable startups and micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to access 5G infrastructure for developing innovative applications.

The initiative has delivered encouraging results. By August 2026, more than 17,400 students had utilised the labs, while 97 institutions were conducting 5G courses with over 21,000 students enrolled. The initiative has contributed to the development of 634 products and use cases, with 158 intellectual property filings and 32 patents granted. The participating institutions have also strengthened partnerships with startups, MSMEs and other academic and research organisations.

About 5G Innovation Hackathon 2026

This year, the Hackathon received more than 1,400 proposals across emerging telecommunications domains, including 5G Advanced, artificial intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT), non-terrestrial networks, Fixed Wireless Access (FWA), network slicing and telecommunications security. The 5G Innovation Hackathon has further strengthened the innovation ecosystem established through the 100 5G Use Case Labs initiative.

Of these, 50 teams were selected and supported with seed funding to develop their ideas. As many as 35 teams are showcasing their innovations at IMC 2026, providing an opportunity to demonstrate their solutions, engage with industry stakeholders and explore avenues for further development and commercialisation.

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