

International Telecommunication Union

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International Telecommunication Union Latest News

India strengthened its position in the global telecommunications and digital policy landscape during the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Council 2026 meeting held in Geneva, Switzerland.

About International Telecommunication Union

- It is the **United Nations specialized agency** for information and communication technologies.
- **Historical Background**
 - It was established in 1865 as the **International Telegraph Union**.
 - **In 1947** the ITU became a specialized **agency of the United Nations**.
- It is an intergovernmental organization that coordinates between **governments and private sector bodies** with respect to global telecommunication and information communication technology (ICT) services.
- **Member countries:** It has a membership of **194 countries** and more than 1000 companies, universities and international and regional organizations.

- **India and ITU:** India has been an **active member of the ITU since 1869** and has been a regular member of the ITU Council since 1952.
- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland.

Functions of International Telecommunication Union

- Allocate global radio spectrum and satellite orbits;
- Coordination and setting of technical standards related to telecommunication/ICT;
- Work to improve access to ICTs in underserved communities worldwide;

Governance of International Telecommunication Union

- **ITU Council:** It acts as the governing body of the ITU and comprises **48 elected Member States**.
- It **meets annually** in Geneva to oversee the organisation's strategy, policy, budget and financial control.
- India has been a **member of the ITU Council since 1952**.

Source: DD News

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