

India-UK Connectivity and Innovation Centre (CIC)

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India-UK Connectivity and Innovation Centre (CIC) Latest News

India and the United Kingdom recently announced the launch of the India-UK Connectivity and Innovation Centre.

About India-UK Connectivity and Innovation Centre (CIC)

- It is a **strategic partnership between India and the United Kingdom** launched at India Mobile Congress 2025.
- The initiative aims to **advance digital inclusion** and shape the future of **secure**, innovative, and resilient **communications between the two nations**.
- It will be **implemented under the UK-India Technology Security Initiative, jointly delivered by the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and India's Department of Telecommunications (DoT)**.
- The Centre will bring together the complementary strengths of India and the UK in **advanced connectivity** – linking **cutting-edge university research with lab testing, field trials**, and pathways for market deployment.

- **Over the next four years** – a critical phase for shaping the technological and commercial contours of 6G – the Centre will focus on **three strategic areas**:
 - **Transforming Telecom with AI**: Using advanced artificial intelligence tools to optimise networks, enhance efficiency, and enable new digital services.
 - **Non-Terrestrial Networks (NTNs)**: Developing **satellite and airborne systems** to deliver high-speed, reliable connectivity to rural and remote regions.
 - **Telecoms Cybersecurity**: Strengthening network resilience through open, interoperable, and **secure communication** systems for businesses and consumers.
- **Funding**:
 - **Both nations** have **jointly committed an initial £24 million (approximately ₹250 crore) over four years** to drive the initiative.
 - The funding will **support applied research through collaborations** between academic and industry partners, establishment of joint testbeds, and participation in global standards development for emerging telecommunications technologies.

Source: DDN

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