

NATIONAL

■ 5G Services Rolled Out in 8 Cities; to Cover Entire Country by 2023 End

India has joined a select group of countries that offer 5G telephony. While Airtel was the first telecom major to launch 5G services in the four metropolitans and other major cities from 1st October 2022, Reliance Jio and Vodafone Idea are set to follow suit. The entire country will be covered by 5G by the end of December 2023. Apart from



enabling the common citizen to enjoy high speed internet services, the 5G technology will ensure very high speed mobile broadband with ultra accurate positioning that will propel the growth of all sectors of the economy. 5G will aid the farmers in carrying out precision agriculture, pest control, aquaculture, livestock monitoring etc by ensuring real-time transmission of data using Internet of Things (IoT)/sensors/video, controlled delivery of water, nutrients, and pesticides to increase yield. High speed, accurate and real time transmission of data will also provide a major fillip to other sectors like Health, FinTech, Education, Logistics, Transport, Tourism and Disaster Management. It will also lend a major push to Industry 4.0 by enabling Robot-Robot, Worker-Robot communication for higher efficiency and output. Meanwhile, the Centre has approved Rs 36 thousand crore to install 25 thousand new telecom towers in next 500 days in the country.