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'3 More Bills Soon to Upgrade Digital Rules'

Govt planning interactive framework to address concerns of all stakeholders, says Ashwini Vaishnaw

Our Bureau

New Delhi: Telecom minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Thursday said the government will bring in at least three more legislations to bump up the entire digital regulatory system in the country to global standards.

To start with, licensing reforms will follow the enactment of the new Telecommunications Act.

"In a very methodical way, we are moving step by step...by the end of which, we should see India's telecom sector among the best in the world," Vaishnaw said at an industry event.

He said in the next one-and-a-half years to two years, the government should be able to completely revamp the entire digital regulatory framework which aims to balance the societal objectives, duties and rights of individuals, technology

ASHWINI VAISHNAW
Telecom Minister

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agnostic framework etc. The minister said the new Telecommunications Bill will provide a clear roadmap for industry restructuring and innovation. The reforms process for the telecom sector was started in September last year, when the government announced a slew of structural

reforms including redefining adjusted gross revenue (AGR) and giving relief to telcos on payment of statutory dues. It was followed by reforms in the wireless promotion and coordination (WPC) wing and more recently the right of way rules (RoW).

The enactment of the new Telecommunications Act is the fourth set of reforms to be followed by licensing reforms.

"We will be bringing a series of at least three more legislations, in which the entire digital regulatory system will be brought up to global standards," the minister said.

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