



Indian Telegraph Right of Way (Amendment) Rules, 2021

Why in News

Recently, the Central Government has notified the **Indian Telegraph Right of Way (Amendment) Rules, 2021**.

- The rule aims to incorporate the provisions related to **nominal one-time compensation and uniform procedure for establishment of Overground Telegraph Line** in the Indian Telegraph Right of Way Rules, 2016.

Key Points

▪ About:

- **Compensation:** The amount of one-time compensation for establishment of an overground telegraph line will be **a maximum one thousand rupees per kilometre**.
- **Right of Way (RoW):** These amendments will ease RoW related permission procedures for establishment and augmentation of digital communications infrastructure across the country.
 - Earlier, the RoW Rules had covered only underground Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) and mobile towers.
- **Fees:** There will be **no fee other than Administrative fee and Restoration charges** for establishing, maintaining, transferring or shifting the underground and overground telegraph infrastructure.

▪ Significance:

- The **digital divide** between **rural-urban** and **rich-poor** will be bridged, in line with the **Digital India mission** and **BharatNet project**.
- **E-governance** and financial inclusion will be strengthened.
- **Doing business** will be easy.
- **Information and communication needs** of citizens and enterprises will be fulfilled (including **5G**).
- The dream of India's transition to a **digitally empowered economy** and society will be translated into reality.

Source: PIB