

Starlink and Eutelsat

Source: IE

Ukraine's military and civilians rely on **Starlink for communication**, but SpaceX's restrictions on its **use for attack drones** have raised concerns. As a result, **Eutelsat**, a European satellite company, is being considered as an alternative.

- Starlink: Developed by SpaceX, it is a satellite-based internet service designed to provide high-speed, low-latency connectivity, especially in remote areas.
 - Starlink's around 7,000 <u>low-earth orbit (LEO) satellites</u> form a <u>mega-constellation</u>, ensuring global coverage.
 - India has not approved Starlink due to security, privacy, and pricing concerns, along with opposition from the local telecom and satellite industry.
- **Eutelsat:** Eutelsat, Starlink's closest competitor, operates 630 LEO satellites and 35 geostationary satellites, offering speeds up to 150 Mbps.
- India lacks widespread commercial satellite internet, but the <u>Telecommunications Act</u>, <u>2023</u> provides for the <u>assignment of spectrum through an administrative process for satellite-based services</u>, whereas terrestrial spectrum is <u>allocated</u> through auctions.

Read more: Starlink Project

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