

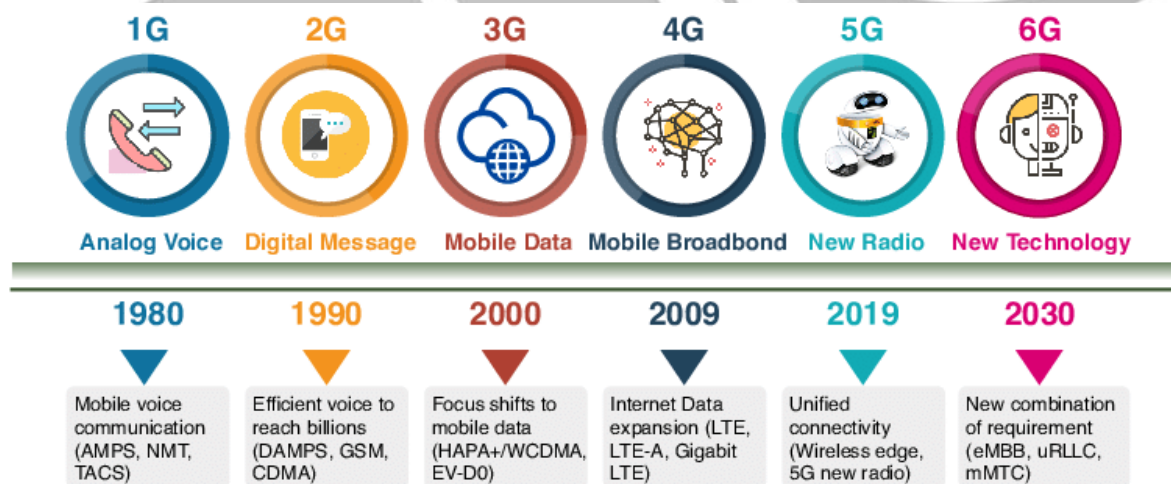


World Telecommunication and Information Society Day

Source: PIB

The [Department of Telecommunications \(DoT\)](#), celebrated World Telecommunication and Information Society Day on **17th May 2024**, with the theme “**Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development**”.

- The day marks the anniversary of the founding of the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** on 17th May 1865, when the first **International Telegraph Convention** was signed in **Paris**.
- [Centre for Development of Telematics \(C-DOT\)](#), the premier Telecom R&D Centre of DoT announced special Initiatives “**NIDHI**” & “**STAR Program**” for the development of **indigenous telecom solutions & technologies**.
 - **STAR Program** provides scholarship and mentorship support from C-DOT research leaders to PhD students.
- The [Telecom industry in India](#) is the **2nd largest** in the world with a subscriber base of 1.179 Billion as of August 2023 (wireless + wireline subscribers).
 - It is integral to the **digital economy** and is projected to reach around **USD 1.5 billion** by **2025-26**, making up approximately **15%** of the [GDP](#).



Read more: [India's Booming Telecom Sector](#), [Transformative Impacts of Telecommunications Act 2023](#), [6G Technology](#)

