

Telecom sector to attract \$100 b by 2022, says Aruna

NEW DELHI, DHNS: Despite facing many challenges, the telecom sector offers ample growth potential to ensure profitability, Telecom Secretary Aruna Sundararajan said on Thursday.

She said that \$100 billion investment in telecom and digital communication sector was not an over-estimate compared to opportunities and growth in the sector in the coming years as the government is working on to roll out 5G.

Speaking at a panel discussion on 'Digital Infrastructure for Transforming India' organised by Broadband India Forum, she pointed out how China and the world at large are committing huge investments in the digital communications space, given that nearly everything - from education and healthcare, and livelihoods to entertainment -- will be delivered on the digital highways. "The global spend on telecom is expected to touch \$4 trillion, and China is spending around \$ 188 bil-



Aruna Sundararajan

lion every year on digital communications infrastructure... For 5G alone, China's budget is expected to be of \$500 billion. Estimates suggest that the impact of 5G on global GDP can be a potential doubling of GDP and so countries are infusing investments in telecom infrastructure," she said.

The Department of Telecom while announcing the National Digital Communication Policy 2018, said it aims to attract \$100 billion in investments in telecom and digital communication sector by 2022.