

AGENDA AND DISCUSSION PLAN FOR THE  
WORKSHOP ON

**“TAKING THE INTERNET TO RURAL COMMUNITIES:  
LAST MILE MODELS FOR THE NOFN”**

Venue: **Conference Room- II, Main Building,  
India International Centre, New Delhi**

**9:30 am to 5:00 pm**

**Session wise breakup**

**09:30-10:00** - Registration, meeting co-participants and warming up

**10:00-11:10 - Opening session:** Here two speakers, from among those who have been involved with organising the workshop, will introduce the subject and lay out the key questions that we seek answers towards 'actually' universalising broadband connectivity in India in a relatively short time, say the next 3 - 5 years. The introduction will be followed by an open discussion where all participants can present their views, as well as questions and expectations.

**11:10 -11:30** -----Tea break-----

**11:30 - 01:00 - Technical session:** Here we will discuss the various technology models - wireless and wired - that are available, and are being tested out. We will have 4 short presentations here, 10 min each, that will aim at showing how the economic and social factors about a particular technology model may or may not be appropriate for different contexts. This will be followed by a full discussion on different technology models, and their contextual application.

**0:100 - 02:00** ----- Lunch break-----

**02:00 - 03:40 - Discussing India's options:** This will be the key session where the actual business, policy and institutional options - both in terms of unique opportunities and constraints - will be examined and explored. We will pick from lessons learned in other countries, especially developed ones (also some developing countries) which are ahead of us on this curve, and discuss their relevance to the Indian context and needs. We will also look at different efforts taken up in our own country. In this session we will try to draw possible recommendations and guidelines on how the key last mile question should be addressed for rural and other under-served areas.

**03:40 - 04:00** ----- Tea break-----

**04:00 - 05:00 - Going forward:** In this session, the possible recommendations and guidelines that come out of the exercise will be firmed up, and those participants who will like to explore ways to work together and develop means for a sustained engagement in this area will discuss possible ideas and activities that can be taken up.

**ENDS**