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**DIRECTOR**

**Message on the occasion of launch of SIA-India**

It's my pleasure and privilege to be part of the occasion wherein the SATCOM Industry Association India (SIA-India) is coming to existence.

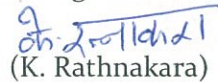
I am delighted to note that the SATCOM industries have got together to form an association in India. It is timely and appropriate as India has opened up the space sector for the larger participation of industry.

From the humble beginning, ISRO has developed the technologies and capabilities for realization of satellites, launch vehicles and various payloads. It has leveraged the benefits of space for national development as well as citizens of India through a wide range of applications. Satellite systems have been brought into operations in areas of communication, navigation, remote sensing and space science. In this endeavour ISRO involved a large number of industries to be part of various projects for delivery of systems and solutions with stringent specifications. Thus, today we see matured industry with lot of potential to contribute at a larger scale to both national and global requirements on their own strengths.

In the recent times, we are seeing tremendous advancements in technology and applications that demand a larger satellite capacity at affordable and competitive price points. Especially the High Throughput Satellites and NGSO systems would bring substantial capacity by effective utilization of spectrum resources. The applications like Direct to home broadband, communication on the move, IFMC, IOT are expected to drive the SATCOM sector.

The regulatory regime is being revised to have enabling mechanisms in place for the industry to bring cutting edge technologies and new age applications. I believe, SIA-India would play an important role to steer the satcom industry in India with professional support. Ultimately the benefits should reach the common man at an affordable cost, which is the intent of the government too.

I wish the Association a great success in all its endeavours towards realisation of its mission to address the challenges of the industry and creating an enabling business environment in India.

  
(K. Rathnakara)

Director, SATCOM-PO

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Indian Space Research Organisation