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## Press Release

**RailTel, today launched Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) scheme based access of its Public WiFi services across 100 Railway Stations**

**The soft launch of this public friendly services was done by Shri Puneet Chawla Chairman and Managing Director, RailTel., at a programme held here today.**

**Later, PM-WANI based access of RailTel's public Wi-Fi services would be extended to all 6102 Railway Stations (where Wi-Fi facility is already available) in phases by the end of June 2022.**

**To access this WiFi network, presently android based Mobile App named 'Wi-DOT' can be used which is available on Google Play Store**

**PM-WANI is ambitious program of Department of Telecom, Government of India to connect all silo Wi-Fi networks for ease of use and proliferate broadband usage for masses.**

**RailTel being the most widespread integrated WiFi network of country supporting the largest footfall of Wi-Fi users is taking an anchor role in entire PM-WANI eco-system. Sh. Puneet Chawla, CMD, RailTel**

**The synergistic engagement between C-DOT and RailTel will spur innovation leading to design, development & deployment of indigenous technologies in national networks including Indian Railways:**

**Dr. Rajkumar Upadhyay Executive Director and Chairman C-DOT**

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In a milestone achievement, RailTel, a mini Ratna PSU under Ministry of Railways today launched Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) scheme based access of its Public WiFi services across 100 Railway Stations having 2384 WiFi hotspots. These stations are spread in 22 states and include 71 Category A1, A stations and 29 stations of other category. List of hundred station is attached here with this press note.

The soft launch of this public friendly services was done by Shri Puneet Chawla Chairman and Managing Director, RailTel., at a programme held here today. Dr. Rajkumar Upadhyay Executive Director and Chairman of Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), an autonomous Telecom R&D centre of DoT, Govt. of India was specially present on the occasion.

To access this WiFi network, presently android based Mobile App named 'Wi-DOT' can be used which is available on Google Play Store. Mobile App can be downloaded from the link: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=in.cdote.wani.app.android.tnt>.



This app has been developed in closed coordination with C-DOT.

This method of accessing Wi-Fi through ‘ **mobile app** ’ would be in addition to existing method of accessing WiFi at these stations through conventional method of selecting RailWire Service Set Identifier(SSID).

PMWANI based access will facilitate ease of use through one time Know Your Customer (KYC) to avoid One Time Password (OTP) based authentication, every time one tries to use WANI based Public WiFi.

RailTel’s WiFi network is now spread across 6102 Rly Stations across India has 17, 792 WiFi hotspots, and is still growing. Later, PM-WANI based access of RailTel’s public Wi-Fi services would be extended to all 6102 Railway Stations (where Wi-Fi facility is already available) in phased manner by the end of June 2022 (total 1000 Stations by 10<sup>th</sup> June, 3000 Stations by 20<sup>th</sup> June and all 6102 by 30<sup>th</sup> June’22). WiFi, the world over is adopted to complement Long Term Evolution ( LTE)based broadband access.

WiFi hotspots hold an important place in last mile connectivity for delivery of broadband internet access to users. PM-WANI is an ambitious program of Department of Telecom, Government of India to facilitate ease of use and proliferate broadband usage for masses C-DOT has designed and developed the framework of PM-WANI. The small shopkeepers can become PDOs (Public Data Offices) as last mile access service providers and take services from PDOAs (PDO aggregators) for Internet & backend services (ISPs or Wi-Fi service providers).

RailTel’s Wi-Fi network at Railway Stations is serving more than 1.2 mn unique users/day (pre-covid). RailTel offers free Wi-Fi for first 30 minutes at Railway stations, beyond which paid Wi-Fi usage can be bought through online digital channels.

Talking about it, Chairman and Managing Director Shri Puneet Chawla said, “RailTel being the most widespread integrated Wi-Fi network of country supporting the largest footfall of Wi-Fi users, is taking an anchor role in entire PM-WANI eco-system, by continuous engagement with regulatory bodies and industry players, to enhance evolving framework. RailTel will extend its WiFi footprints beyond Rly Stations by leveraging its partnership with more than 7000 last mile service providers to establish Wi-Fi hotspots in underserved areas. RailTel is also making continuous effort in providing broadband internet connectivity to more and more rural areas as part of digital India mission. ” .

Speaking at the event, Dr. RajKumar Upadhyay, Executive Director and Chairman Board C-DOT underscored the key role of indigenously designed & developed technologies in meeting the specific requirements of diverse geography of India including rural and remote areas. He stressed upon the synergistic engagement between C-DOT and RailTel that will spur innovation leading to design, development & deployment of indigenous technologies in national networks including Indian Railways. PM-WANI hotspots would prove effective in extending cost-effective Internet to passengers at rural and remote railway stations across the country. He congratulated RailTel for the launch of prestigious PM-WANI framework and assured that C-DOT will work relentlessly towards aligning its indigenous Telecom R&D endeavours with the specific requirements of RailTel for meeting the overarching objectives



रेलटेल कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड ( भारत सरकार का उपक्रम )  
RailTel Corporation of India Ltd. ( A government of India Enterprise)  
[www.railtelindia.com](http://www.railtelindia.com)

of national development. As we have signed a MOU with RailTel, we will collaborate in many more areas.

#### **About RailTel:**

RailTel, a "Mini Ratna (Category-I)" Central Public Sector Enterprise under Ministry of Railways, is one of the largest neutral telecom infrastructure providers in the country owning a Pan-India optic fiber network covering several towns & cities and rural areas of the country. Along with a strong a reliable network of 61000+ RKM of Optic fibre, RailTel has two MeitY empaneled tier III data centers as well. With its Pan India high-capacity network, RailTel is working towards creating a knowledge society at various fronts and has been selected for implementation of various mission-mode projects for the Government of India in the telecom field. RailTel offers a bundle of services like, MPLSVPN, Telepresence, leased line, Tower Co-location, Data center services etc. RailTel is also working with the Indian Railways to transform railway stations into digital hub by providing public Wi-Fi at railway stations across the country and 6100+ stations are live with RailTel's RailWire Wi-Fi.

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