

Article Overview

Communications in Afghanistan include mobile networks, limited internet access, broadcast media, and postal services, all regulated by the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology under Taliban oversight.

Telecommunications and Mobile Networks

Afghanistan's telecommunications sector is dominated by mobile services, with approximately 22.3 million cellular connections as of early 2025, representing over 50% penetration of the population, facilitated by four main operators: Afghan Wireless Communication Company (AWCC), Roshan, MTN Afghanistan, and Etisalat . Mobile networks provide 3G and 4G coverage, though infrastructure faces challenges such as rugged terrain, power shortages, and multiple SIM ownership, which reduces unique subscriber counts . Telecom companies also include Afghan Telecom, Salaam, and Afghan Wireless, with Afghansat 1 serving as the country's satellite for communications .

Internet Access

Internet penetration remains limited, with around 7.88 million users in January 2024, roughly 18% of the population . Internet services rely on mobile data and a national fiber backbone operated partly by Afghan Telecom, spanning over 9,138 kilometers by 2024 . The Taliban has periodically enforced internet shutdowns, including a nationwide blackout from mid-September to early October 2025, citing security and moral concerns, which disrupted education, commerce, and information flow . Afghanistan has over a dozen internet service providers, 327,000 IP addresses, and manages the .af domain through the Afghanistan Network Information Center (AFGNIC), .

Broadcast Media

Radio and television remain key platforms, especially in remote and mountainous areas. However, Taliban-imposed censorship restricts coverage of women's issues and criticism of authority, leading to self-censorship and closure of independent outlets . Radio retains significant reach in rural provinces, while television studios operate under surveillance, limiting editorial freedom .

Postal Services and Historical Context

Afghanistan's postal system dates back to 1870, with a central post office in Kabul and provincial offices . The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT), established in 1955, oversees postal, IT, and telecommunications services, aiming to provide high-quality, affordable communication and transform Afghanistan into an information society . Current priorities include expanding fiber optic networks, enhancing

national data centers, and leveraging Afghanistan's strategic location for regional data transit .

Challenges and Governance

Communications in Afghanistan are heavily influenced by Taliban governance, which prioritizes regime security and Islamic doctrine over open access . Infrastructure development continues, but growth trajectories seen before 2021 have been partially reversed due to regulatory restrictions, internet shutdowns, and censorship . Despite these challenges, mobile networks and broadcast media remain the primary means of communication for most Afghans.

The Taliban has denied implementing a nationwide internet ban, following a communications blackout across

The author reflects on our decade long conflict in Afghanistan and identifies what he considers a main contributor to the

In modern history, all three of the main approaches to development and communication, modernization, dependency and liberation

The communication strategy and the military operations in Afghanistan were inline with the ideas and outlook of the

GENEVA - New restrictions on internet access and social media channels in Afghanistan are a violation of the rights

Communications in Afghanistan is under the control of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT). It has

After 2001, the communications industry in our country revived and developed and expanded rapidly again. Afghanistan is among the

Afghanistan is without mobile or internet access nationwide. Here's how it affects the

Afghanistan's Taliban rulers blocked internet access nationally for two days without any explanation, but suddenly, the

The United Nations called on the Taliban to restore internet and telecommunications

In this challenging environment, the Afghanistan media community faces many ambiguities and uncertainties that may darken the

Communications in Afghanistan

Afghans are living under a near-complete communications blackout after Taliban authorities cut internet and mobile

In Afghanistan during the 20th century after civil war the communication was also comfortable for using by supporting

The Ministry of Communications and Information Technology provides an annual report to inform the public of advancements in

The Taliban has imposed a nationwide telecommunications shutdown in Afghanistan, cutting off Internet and mobile

Afghanistan's telecom sectors is evolving fast as the country emerges from three decades of

Web: <https://millstraining.co.za>

