

Interview with J. Jefferies

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tele.net spoke to Jim Jefferies, president and chief executive officer, Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), on the sidelines of IMC 2018. Excerpts from the interview...

What should the government do to achieve its goal of 5G deployment in line with the global timeline?

The Indian government should provide test beds besides working towards standards adoption.

Through test beds and standards, the government would actually be able to provide a direction to 5G network implementation.

Tell us about IEEE's 5G World Forum.

Through the 5G World Forum, we are trying to bring together all stakeholders. Currently, it is more research focused but we will soon be discussing technology trade-offs. If you want more power, you have to give back something. If you want to achieve faster speeds, you may have to give up something too. So, it a great platform to discuss technology trade-offs.

What are the gaps in the deployment and development of 5G?

There are a number of gaps in the following areas:

Radio connection: Which frequencies would be used and how these would be



handled with new antennas is a big question.

Structures like massive MIMO: This will allow thousands of things to be connected at the same time and sharing of bandwidth.

Edge computing

Underlying network configuration solutions software.

All of these are components of 5G, and the challenge is that we cannot have any one of these without the others.

What are the key regulatory roadblocks in the development of 5G?

It would be helpful to have full commitment from the government. The government should shortlist some key focus areas to ensure best and cost-effective implementation of 5G. So, setting priorities and a direction for manufacturers and developers is what is needed from the government.

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