



BROADBAND PENETRATION IN NIGERIA

The International Telecommunications Union (ITU) has called for national broadband policy in Nigeria, saying that it is the next big thing in the global economic revolution.

Reacting to the statement by the ITU, the Minister of Communication, Mrs. Omobola Johnson said that the goal of the Nigerian government is to achieve one national network capable of delivering broadband speeds not less than 50 per cent of the average speeds available worldwide at the consumer end within the next five years.

Since then there has been a commitment by two submarine cable companies, Glo 1 and Main One to the deployment of fibre optic cables to facilitate faster internet access to reduce cost to the end user and this according to the former president of Nigeria Internet Group, Mr. Lanre Ajayi has gradually brought down the cost of internet in the past one year.

According to experts, any country seeking growth, job and wealth creation must address how it can increase its access to broadband and if governments can improve broadband penetration in the continent most Africans would have increased access to the internet.

Today, people are realising their life goals due to broadband services with greater access to researches and findings about education, culture and entertainment.

To achieve broadband penetration in Nigeria, there is the need for government to encourage and enforce the principle of open access and infrastructure sharing to already built transmission networks in order to facilitate an integrated national backbone, the minister said.

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