

India Launches 'White Rabbit' Precision Timing Network To Secure Indian Standard Time

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India has launched a demonstration network using "White Rabbit" precision timing technology to securely distribute Indian Standard Time (IST) as part of its "One Nation, One Time" initiative. Developed jointly by the Department of Consumer Affairs, CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (CSIR-NPL), and ISRO, the indigenous system aims to provide a highly accurate, tamper-resistant time source for critical sectors such as banking, stock markets, telecom, power grids, and transportation. The move is designed to reduce India's dependence on foreign satellite-based timing services like GPS and strengthen the security and resilience of the country's digital infrastructure. The network distributes IST directly from India's official time-keeping authority using advanced precision timing technology capable of microsecond-level synchronisation. A successful verification test has already been completed between the Regional Reference Standard Laboratory in Bengaluru and the National Stock Exchange's Chennai facility with the participation of CSIR-NPL, ISRO, SEBI, NSE, and BSNL. The government says the initiative will improve cybersecurity, ensure reliable digital services, and position India among nations with sovereign precision time dissemination capabilities.
