

Official Authorizations of Starlink/SpaceX in Selected Countries

Japan

- **Radio & Ground Station Licenses:** Japan's Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC) has granted SpaceX's local subsidiary (Starlink Japan Godo Kaisha) the necessary radiofrequency licenses for Starlink's network. In 2021, MIC issued an **experimental radio license** to operate a Starlink gateway (ground station) at KDDI's Yamaguchi Satellite Communication Center ¹. By 2022, Starlink had obtained a full **blanket license** covering its user terminals in Japan – on the Ku/Ka band frequencies – under the name "Starlink Japan Godo Kaisha." This blanket authorization encompasses about **130,000** Starlink dish terminals as of 2023 ². These licenses enable Starlink to legally provide its low-latency satellite internet service in Japan.
- **Business Registration:** SpaceX established **Starlink Japan Godo Kaisha (スターリンクジャパン合同会社)** as its Japanese operating entity. This entity is listed as the licensee on MIC records for Starlink's wireless stations ². Having a locally registered company allows Starlink to comply with Japan's telecom business regulations (e.g. registration as a telecom provider) and to hold spectrum licenses in-country.

Azerbaijan

- **Space Agency Agreement:** In Azerbaijan, Starlink's service was authorized through a partnership with the national space agency **Azercosmos**. In May 2023, Azercosmos (the Space Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan) signed an official **cooperation agreement** with SpaceX to become the local **reseller of Starlink broadband** services ³ ⁴. This agreement, signed during a meeting with the Ministry of Digital Development and Transportation, effectively permits Starlink to operate in Azerbaijan under Azercosmos' auspices. Following the deal, Starlink user terminals were **successfully tested in Azerbaijan** by Azercosmos, demonstrating the service's viability in remote areas, on ships, railways, etc. ⁵. By channeling Starlink through a government-agency partner, Azerbaijan ensured regulatory compliance (instead of issuing a standalone ISP license to SpaceX). *(No separate public telecom license was published; the Azercosmos-Starlink reseller arrangement serves as the official authorization.)*

Greece

- **Telecom Service Authorization:** In Greece, Elon Musk's SpaceX sought approval via its European affiliate **Starlink Holdings Netherlands B.V.**. The Hellenic Telecommunications & Post Commission (**EETT**) began reviewing Starlink's application in late 2020 ⁶. Greek authorities created a special licensing framework (under Law 4635/2019 and a 2021 EETT decision) to accommodate non-geostationary satellite internet services and the installation of thousands of small terminals (satellite dishes). By **2022**, all regulatory hurdles had been cleared – notably, EETT's president **approved the licensing of Starlink's end-user equipment** in May 2022, marking the final step for service

activation ⁷ . This EETT decision essentially gave Starlink a **General Authorization** to operate in Greece (allowing Starlink's dishes to be deployed and used legally).

- **Regulatory Filings:** Official records from EETT's meetings document Starlink's licensing process. For example, EETT's agenda (Meeting No. 1006, Sept 13, 2021) noted the **examination of Starlink Holdings Netherlands B.V.'s request** for satellite internet service authorization ⁸ . Furthermore, Greece's government adapted its antenna permitting rules – a **controlled trial regime** for satellite terminals – to facilitate Starlink's rollout. With the equipment license and spectrum use cleared by EETT, Starlink began offering service in Greece as a registered telecom provider under EU free establishment rules (no separate Greek-incorporated company was required).

India

- **Business Incorporation:** SpaceX created a dedicated Indian subsidiary, **Starlink Satellite Communications Private Limited (SSCPL)**, to pursue licenses and operations in India. According to the Ministry of Corporate Affairs registry, SSCPL was **incorporated on 01 November 2021** (registered with the Registrar of Companies, Delhi) ⁹ ¹⁰ . This local entity allows Starlink to **apply for telecom licenses, obtain a PAN/TAN (tax registrations)**, open bank accounts, etc., as required by Indian law ¹¹ . (The company's Corporate Identification Number is U64200DL2021PTC389275, indicating a telecom services classification ¹² .)
- **License Applications:** The Indian Department of Telecommunications (**DoT**) requires satellite internet providers to obtain a **GMPCS license** (for satellite services) and associated permissions (VSAT, ISP authorization, wireless operating licenses for spectrum). In a December 2021 official Parliament reply, the Government confirmed that **Starlink's India unit applied for an experimental/trial license** from DoT and intended to seek all required authorizations for a commercial launch ¹³ ¹⁴ . The DoT, at that time, directed Starlink to cease pre-selling services in India until licenses were granted, and SpaceX's subsidiary complied by stopping preorders ¹⁵ .
- **Regulatory Progress:** As of 2023-2024, Starlink's licensing in India has advanced. **DoT issued a Letter of Intent (LoI)** to Starlink, signaling in-principle approval for the **Global Mobile Personal Communication by Satellite (GMPCS) service license** (along with VSAT and ISP licenses) ¹⁶ ¹⁷ . According to government officials, this LoI was granted after Starlink agreed to stringent security conditions and other requirements under India's new satcom policy. The **LoI serves as a precursor to the formal GMPCS license**, which will be awarded once Starlink's Indian arm meets all conditions ¹⁷ . In summary, India's official records show Starlink is on track: the company is registered domestically and has obtained **government clearance** (LoI) to operate satellite internet, pending final license issuance.

Vietnam

- **National Policy & Company Registration:** Vietnam moved in 2024–2025 to accommodate Starlink through a pilot program. In February 2025, the National Assembly of Vietnam passed **Resolution 193/2025/QH15**, creating a legal exemption to allow 100% foreign-owned entities to provide satellite internet services on a trial basis ¹⁸ . This legislative change was a **precondition set by SpaceX** – it permits SpaceX/Starlink to establish a wholly-owned local subsidiary and retain full ownership of any Vietnamese telecom enterprise it sets up ¹⁹ . Following this, Vietnam's Prime Minister Phạm Minh Chính publicly **directed the Ministry of Science and Technology** to quickly issue a pilot license for Starlink's internet service ²⁰ .

- **Pilot License (2025):** On **March 23, 2025**, the Prime Minister signed **Decision No. 659/QĐ-TTg** authorizing SpaceX to **pilot Starlink's satellite internet service in Vietnam** under government supervision ²¹. This official decision permits SpaceX (USA) to invest in and deliver low-Earth-orbit (LEO) satellite telecom services in Vietnam for a period of **up to 5 years** ²². Key conditions from the decision include a maximum of **600,000 subscribers** during the trial, nationwide coverage (both fixed satellite internet and mobile satellite services, e.g. maritime and in-flight connectivity), and adherence to Vietnam's cybersecurity and national security requirements ²³ ²⁴. The Decision 659/QĐ-TTg also grants SpaceX a special radio frequency use authorization: Starlink can obtain a blanket spectrum license for its user terminals and gateways (instead of licensing each end-user device) as part of the pilot ²⁵. A **Vietnam-based entity** will be formed by SpaceX to hold the telecom service business license and spectrum licenses under this pilot framework ²². In sum, Vietnam's government has officially green-lit Starlink on a trial basis via a Prime Ministerial decision, with regulatory oversight by the Ministry of Science & Technology and Ministry of Information and Communications.

Sources: Official government releases and filings as cited above include regulatory agency documents, press releases, and legal decisions (e.g. MIC Japan licensing data, Azerbaijan's Azercosmos agreement, EETT Greece records, India's Lok Sabha reply and DoT communications, and Vietnam's Prime Ministerial Decision 659/QĐ-TTg) ¹ ² ³ ⁴ ⁷ ⁶ ¹³ ¹⁶ ²³. These confirm the **official authorization status** of Starlink/SpaceX in each listed country. Each country's entries above summarize the key points from these public records.

¹ KDDI selects SpaceX's Starlink for cellular backhaul | 2021 | KDDI CORPORATION

<https://news.kddi.com/kddi/corporate/english/newsrelease/2021/09/13/5400.html>

² スターリンク - Wikipedia

<https://ja.wikipedia.org/wiki/%E3%82%B9%E3%82%BF%E3%83%BC%E3%83%AA%E3%83%B3%E3%82%AF>

³ ⁵ Azercosmos

<http://azercosmos.az/en/media-center/news/azercosmos-enters-reseller-agreement-with-space-x-s-starlink>

⁴ Azercosmos, SpaceX Strike Cooperation Agreement

<https://www.e-gov.az/en/news/read/874>

⁶ ⁸ eett.gr

<https://www.eett.gr/opencms/export/sites/default/admin/downloads/ImerDiataxeis/Imerisia1006.pdf>

⁷ Η ΕΕΤΤ έδωσε το πράσινο φως στο δορυφορικό internet του Elon Musk — InfoCom

<https://www.infocom.gr/2022/05/10/eett-edose-prasino-fos-sto-doryforiko-internet-tou-elon-musk/58835/>

⁹ ¹⁰ Starlink Satellite Communications Private Limited

<https://www.thecompanycheck.com/company/starlink-satellite-communications-private-limited/U64200DL2021PTC389275>

¹¹ Musk's Starlink registers India unit, targets rural districts - Reuters

<https://www.reuters.com/business/media-telecom/musks-starlink-registers-india-unit-targets-rural-districts-2021-11-01/>

¹² STARLINK SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS PRIVATE LIMITED

<https://www.zaubacorp.com/company/STARLINK-SATELLITE-COMMUNICATIONS-PRIVATE-LIMITED/U64200DL2021PTC389275>

¹³ ¹⁴ ¹⁵ mylawrd.com

https://www.mylawrd.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Starlink-satellite_LS-reply.pdf

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<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/starlink-gets-nod-for-satellite-internet-services-in-india-loi-issued-by-dot-sources-13016546.html>

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<https://media.chinhphu.vn/tao-thuan-loi-toi-da-de-cac-doanh-nghiep-hoa-ky-dau-tu-tai-viet-nam-102250319001252537.htm>

20 Vietnam PM pledges quick licensing for Musk's Starlink, more imports | Reuters

<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/vietnam-pm-vows-quick-licensing-musks-starlink-2025-03-01/>

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<https://thesaigontimes.vn/600-000-thue-bao-se-duoc-su-dung-dich-vu-internet-ve-tinh-starlink/>