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special stories

Stampede...for what?

What began as a trickle for telecom licences when TRAI recommended lifting of the cap on the number of players in a circle, ended as a deluge when the communications minister surprised everyone by announcing October 1 as the deadline for receiving applications. Verticals of all hues – from real estate developers to white goods manufacturers – clamoured for a slice of the telecom action, leading to utter chaos. What prompted the great licence rush? Will the move lead to spectrum hoarding and arbitrage? *tele.net* examines these and other concerns...



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