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Starlink's Move into Kuwait Could Open the Door for Regulated Gaming

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Internet service provider Starlink recently announced the launch of its services in Kuwait, expanding its presence in the Middle East.

Starlink will bring its satellite-powered internet into a market where traditional telecommunications companies have long held the reins.

SpaceX continues its aggressive global rollout, and Kuwait has now joined the growing number of Middle Eastern countries embracing its low Earth orbit (LEO) connectivity.

Starlink will provide faster, more flexible internet access in Kuwait. The firm has teamed up with Sama X, a licensed local partner, to deliver their services.

While Kuwait already boasts solid connectivity in the metropolitan areas, offshore and remote environments do not enjoy the same speed and reliability.

Starlink Will Boost Connectivity in Kuwait

Starlink launched in 2020 and has since deployed over 10,000 satellites, catering to more than 10 million users across the globe.

Its network can bypass the limitations of ground-based systems. In Kuwait, this network can transform sectors that fibre and mobile networks do not serve adequately.

Industries such as oil and gas, maritime logistics and emergency services will be eager to tap into Starlink to bolster their operations.

Offshore rigs in the Gulf, cargo vessels in the waters and remote research or healthcare facilities can now ditch patchy alternatives to use Starlink's limitless network for communication.

Executive chairman of Alghanim Industries, Kutayba Y Alghanim, believes the launch is a step forward for Kuwait's digital infrastructure.

He placed heavy emphasis on sectors such as healthcare, education and government, reiterating broader plans to use connectivity to achieve national development goals.

Starlink will enable a more robust telemedicine industry, improve access to online education in underserved areas and support remote work.

While the move into Kuwait brings satellite internet into the Gulf country, the overarching goal is to provide competition for the recognised players.

Kuwait has an advanced telecommunications sector which operates in a controlled environment. The addition of Starlink into the mix will push local providers to innovate their technology. But cost remains a major issue.

Starlink's hardware and subscription fees are significantly higher than those of conventional broadband networks, which may hamper adoption for everyday consumers in Kuwait.

The value is easy to justify for businesses and government agencies, but to garner interest from households, they will need to make considerable adjustments to their pricing and subsidies.

Opportunities Abound for Kuwait Following Starlink's Arrival

Kuwait strictly oversees its digital and media industry. The government runs a tight ship with no room for errors, immediately raising questions around control, access, and data governance.

The partnership with Sama X shows Starlink is willing to work within existing frameworks, but authorities must continually adapt to keep pace with its capabilities.

Starlink's arrival will reopen the debate on Kuwait's stance on iGaming. Kuwait strictly prohibits all forms of gambling, offline and online, in line with its religious laws.

However, **Kuwait online casino sites listed on ????????????** offer their services to Arab players. They are licensed and regulated by authorities in other jurisdictions. With other Middle East countries reconsidering their position on gambling, Kuwait cannot afford to be left behind.

Digital gaming is an exciting pathway to boosting tax revenue, and Starlink's technology can provide a new dynamic for responsible gaming mechanisms.

Starlink can help to keep a firm grip on licensed operators if the country ever decides to release the brakes on gaming. While their arrival won't immediately spur a policy shift, it can trigger a rethink.

In other markets, improved connectivity typically leads to growth in digital entertainment sectors such as iGaming.

Some policymakers may argue that regulating and controlling digital gaming is a more pragmatic approach than outright banning the sector.

That being said, introducing iGaming will need to be a carefully calculated process. There are major social and legal hurdles to navigate, and other sectors must participate.

Starlink's expansion mission in Kuwait undoubtedly reinforces the country as a potential powerhouse in the Middle East's digital scene.

Other satellite providers such as OneWeb and Amazon's Project Kuiper are also preparing to enter

the market, intensifying competition. This will lead to better services, lower costs and boost innovation, a blessing for both consumers and businesses.

For Kuwaiti start-ups and entrepreneurs, the improved connectivity can open new opportunities in cloud computing, remote collaboration and digital services.

That ability to operate seamlessly across different locations, in Kuwait or a remote oil field, can help bridge gaps that have inhibited growth.

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