

MARCH HIGHLIGHTS

Monthly Newsletter-3



Dear Respected Member,

ITU-APT Foundation of India (IAFI) is delighted to share about the previous month's activities.

ITU-T- SG3 approves IAFI proposal to create a new ITU Focus Group (FG) on costing models for affordable data services: The meeting began on 1st of March 2023 and concluded on 10th of March 2023. DOT and IAFI have jointly submitted a contribution on the creation of Focus Group (FG) on costing models for affordable data services. This contribution will be discussed in this meeting with a view to approve the creation of the new FG. IAFI and other members from DoT actively participated in this meeting and got the proposal approved. The meeting also approved the nomination of Mr. Shailendra Kumar Mishra, Advisor Finance, DoT, as the first chairman of the focus group and Zimbabwe as the first vice chairman.

IAFI Recommends TRAI to permit full sharing of active infrastructure and sharing of inter-band spectrum between various licensees: IAFI has told TRAI that sharing must be permitted across all telecommunication service licenses it will substantially reduce the entrance and operational costs and further reduce the development risks for all operators when offering new services and applications. This was well covered in the media: <u>IAFI tells</u> <u>TRAI to permit full sharing of active infrastructure | Communications Today</u>

6Ghz spectrum delicensing: IAFI has been pushing for delicensing of the 6GHz band for Wi-Fi usage. As 6Ghz spectrum includes scope for improved Wi-Fi speeds leading to the boosting of government's internet accessibility programme. IAFI in its recent letter to Ashwini Vaishnav also emphasized that Wi-Fi using the 6Ghz radio band open up over 1Ghz of extra bandwidth a boon for high congestion.



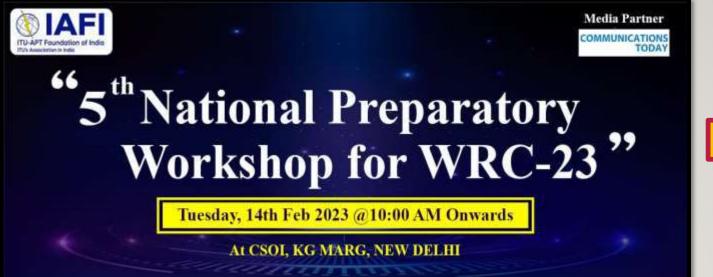
Inauguration of Area Office & Innovation Centre: The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri. Narendra Modi inaugurated the ITU-Area Office & Innovation Centre on 22nd March 2023 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. He noted that a new beginning is taking place in the telecom sector in India on the auspicious day i.e., the start of the Hindu New Year. He emphasized that this decade is India's techade. India's telecom and digital model is smooth, secure and transparent. The Hon'ble PM also unveiled the Bharat 6G Vision document and launched the 6G R&D Test Bed. IAFI along with its delegates actively participated in this event and expressed that it is a proud moment for India and that this innovation center and foster many sustainable goals that ITU aims and aspires for.

Regional Innovation Forum & Exhibition by Innovators: Key dignitaries from participating South Asian countries and India visited the newly launched ITU Area Office and Innovation Centre at C-DOT, Delhi on 23rd March 2023. This Regional Innovation Forum (RIF) aims to facilitate exchange of knowledge among a pool of multi-stakeholder audience and will provide support towards building partnerships that mainstream entrepreneurship-driven innovation and competitive digital ecosystems

IAFI Update on Wi-Fi 6 & 6E: : CUTS International along with IAFI has been conducting an consumer study on 6Ghz Wi-Fi in India to understand, examine, highlight its benefits to the community and consumers as well as future expectations from the 6GHz band. IAFI organized a briefing call with CUTS on 14th March 2023 to brief the stake holders about the Focus Group approach taken by CUTS International in this study. They presented their common choice experiment results along with the way forward with the help of a Questionnaire. The Questionnaire can be found here: <u>Understanding Consumer Perceptions on Wi-Fi Usage (google.com)</u>

#ET5GCongress, India's 6G ambition with the role of Academia and Industry Global Standards: It is in the interest of the entire telecommunications ecosystem to get people on the 6G bandwagon along with the affordability schemes which will be crucial to drive adoption. This session was moderated by Mr. Bharat B Bhatia, President, IAFI. This was indeed a fruitful session as it laid down the roadmap for India, right after our Hon'ble Prime Minister launched the 6G Vision document, emphasizing India's Global role for the implementation of 6G services.

PAST IAFI EVENT



<u>Insights</u>

UPCOMING IAFI EVENT



LINKS TO OUR ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES

1) <u>ITU – R CPM Document by IAFI</u>

2) Consumer Perspectives on the 6 GHz Band

3) TRAI Consultation Paper on

Telecommunication Infrastructure

<u>Sharing,</u>

Spectrum Sharing, and Spectrum

Leasing

4) <u>TEC document on Technical</u> <u>Requirements and Operational</u> <u>Requirements for all Non-Geostationary</u>

satellite orbit

5) IAFI seeks for the creation of a national 6G Mission

6) Letter to Secretary Telecom on

Licensing framework for establishing and operating Satellite Earth Station Gateway (SESG)

7) <u>Letter to MOC on the License exempt</u> <u>use of 6GHz</u>

<u>8)Letter to Chairman TRAI on CNPN</u> <u>Pricing</u>

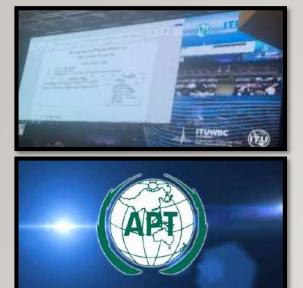


IAFI MEMBERSHIP



ITU-APT Foundation of India (IAFI) is a non-profit, non-political, non-partisan Industry foundation registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1960. IAFI is working for the last 20 years with the prime objective of encouraging the involvement of professionals, corporate, public/private sector industries, R&D organizations, academic institutions, and such other agencies engaged in the development of Indian Telecom sector. The 16th EC meeting of IAFI took place on Tuesday, 28th February 2023 at 12:30 PM at the IAFI office with remote participation. The meeting reviewed both past events and current activities of IAFI. The EC also approved 2 new corporate members i.e., Amazon and Conqueror Innovations respectively. The EC further also approved the roadmap and tentative Calendar of events for 2023 and emphasized on the activation of Bangalore Centre office of IAFI. Making the corporate members 20 in number with 125 individual members and a total of 144 members. The EC also emphasized on Creation of a new member category for academia and a campaign to register Eminent educational institutes as members. The benefits provided to the members include an invitation to all the events of the Foundation which include: Training programs, seminars, workshops, etc. conducted by the society on a complimentary basis, EC Members shall have access to information related to ITU and APT and other telecom journals where members can subscribe. Members are eligible to participate in ITU-T, ITU-D, and APT activities under our membership. The individual Membership Fee of IAFI has been reversed to the previous fee that was applicable since the beginning. Please click: <u>Membership details</u>









ACTIVITIES IN OUR FOCUS AREAS DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH 2023

ITU-R CPM 23-2: The second session for CPM for WRC-23, CPM23-2 opened in Geneva for 11 day meeting on 27th March with over 2000 participants. IAFI has submitted a one direct contribution and one contribution through the Indian administration to this meeting. Our inputs suggested proposed modifications of the draft CPM report to WRC-23 for Agenda Item 1.2 and Agenda 7, Topic B. A strong IAFI delegation is attending the meeting, it has been thrilling to see a large and effective Indian delegation participation with 18 physical delegates and many more virtually.

APG 23-5: The Preparatory meetings regarding the discussions on WRC-23 agenda items in preparations for NPC-23 and APG23-5 meetings have been initiated by IAFI. Furthermore, A few editorial and some suggestive text was finalized in the document of IMT Applications along with WRC Article 21.5. IAFI had also presented and finalized the document on generic unwanted emission characteristics of base stations using the terrestrial radio interfaces of IMT-2020 to indicate the uplink & downlink indicators for IMT bands.

Letters to DoT by IAFI: Two different letters were addressed to Shri. Ashwini Vasihnaw, the first letter elucidated about the economic benefits of 6 GHz Wi-Fi, such as the capabilities required for advanced use cases as Wi-Fi 6E it delivers faster speed, lower latency, higher efficiency, and higher density. The second letter focused on the urgency of accelerating momentum for 6G. IAFI also proposed the Creation of a national 6G mission with a fixed budget, time plan, office and mandate, website, logo to drive and fund research into 6G technology. Furthermore, IAFI also wrote a letter to MOS-C regarding the Recommendations of the 2nd India Spectrum Management Conference (ISMC-22). Lastly IAFI also wrote a letter to K Rajaraman (Secretary Telecom) about the recommendations on "Licensing Framework for Establishing and Operating Satellite Earth Station Gateway (SESG), explaining on how there is should be a commitment to a fair and non-discriminatory treatment of service licensees/ permission holders.

IAFI response to the consultation paper on Enabling Convergence of Carriage of Broadcasting and Telecommunication

services: IAFI has finalized its response on this consultation while emphasizing about the need for a Converged Statutory & Regulatory Framework, a must carry-must provide principle. IAFI also included the response from the satellite sector as well as PMSE sector and suggested a unification of the Infrastructure.