

## THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

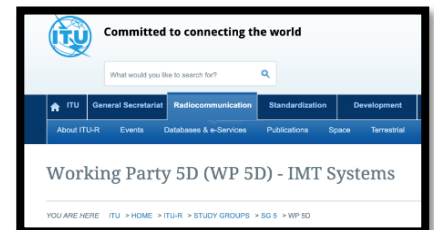
### Highlights of the week:

ITU-APT Foundation of India (IAFI) hosted a national e-workshop on “**New Spectrum for Wi-Fi**” in collaboration with Wi-Fi NOW and the global Wi-Fi Alliance. The event was a great success and witnessed a look into the future of Wi-Fi and how the new spectrum for Wi-Fi i.e., 6 GHz band supports new and innovative applications and services. The event was attended by global entities and also focused on conceptualization of 6 GHz Wi-Fi which is certain to deliver huge positive socio-economic impact across the world. This was well covered by the media:



- [Industry asks for Delicensing 6 GHz Spectrum at "New Spectrum for Wi-Fi" Voice&Data \(voicendata.com\)](#)
- [Department of Telecommunications: Govt may take a call on V-band, 6GHz band for Wi-Fi: DoT official, Telecom News, ET Telecom \(indiatimes.com\)](#)

ITU-R WP5D which is responsible for 4G,5G and 6G technologies, will start on **7<sup>th</sup> February 2022 4:30 p.m.** onwards and will conclude on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2022. Many IAFI delegates will be actively participating in these meetings. IAFI has submitted 8 contributions to this meeting. A list of working documents, additional drafts and active inputs can be seen at IAFI’s website.



Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) will hold an Open House Discussion, on **8<sup>th</sup> February 2022 at 10:30 am** through video conference via Air Meet platform for the Consultation Paper on ‘Auction of Spectrum in frequency bands identified for IMT / 5G’. The members of IAFI along with the delegates will also be an active participant in the Open House Discussion.



### *Forthcoming ITU and APT Meetings (Jan-Mar 2022)*

Meeting Groups	Meeting Dates	Submission Dates	IAFI Preparatory Meetings
<b>ITU-R: RAG</b>	24th Feb 2022	17th Feb 2022	-
<b>ITU-D: IAGDI-CRO</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2022	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2022	-
<b>APT: PP-22</b>	15th-17th Feb 2022	8th Feb 2022	-
<b>ITU-T: WTSA-20</b>	1st-9th Mar 2022	22nd Feb 2022	9 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2022
<b>APT: AWG 29</b>	21st-29th Mar 2022	14th Mar 2022	9 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2022

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### Telecom Stories:

India won't face issues of 5G services interfering with flights as the frequencies used for rendering the next generation technologies will be distant from those used by altimeters in aircraft communications and IT minister Shri. Ashwini Vaishnaw ji said. India's telcos had dismissed fears, citing examples of the EU, UK, Japan, South Korea, China and Australia where C-Band spectrum had already been deployed for 5G services without any glitches to air travel.



The Centre's allocation of 5% of the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF) annually towards research and development (R&D) activities would boost IPR creation locally, and lead to design led manufacturing in the fifth generation (5G), 5G advanced, and technologies. Shri K Rajaraman ji said the department is looking forward to "effectively deploying" it to enable local manufacturing especially in the areas of 5G.



The government has an ambitious plan to fiberize 6 lakh villages by 2025 will bridge the digital divide in the country, Shri. Devusinh Chauhan Minister of State (MoS) for Communications said that this will also bridge the digital divide, as well as fulfil the motto of 'minimum governance and maximum government, during the keynote address at the 15th Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) Awards.



India's central bank may consider other "centralised" technology models apart from blockchain the popular digital transaction ledger to host its proposed digital currency, Blockchain may not be the ideal technology due to its massive power consumption, Instead, the Reserve Bank of India could either offer a "digital Rupee" directly to citizens or use the "retail indirectly" method by issuing digital currency to banks that in turn offer it to citizens.

