

THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

Highlights of the week:

ITU-APT Foundation of India (IAFI) organized a dinner reception for the international delegates attending the 4th Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 22 (PP-22), which took place from 1st to 5th August 2022 in Bangkok, Thailand to promote Mrs. Revathi Mannepalli, Senior Deputy Wireless Advisor, Department of Telecommunication (DoT) as a candidate of the Republic of India for the post of Member ITU Radio Regulation Board (RRB). The dinner was hosted by the Indian Government. The event was well covered by the media: [Asian countries to support India's candidate for ITU Regulation Board elections](#) | [Communications Today](#)



IAFI continued with its Weekly Radio Group meeting on APG23-4 last week; the Government of India has also constituted National Preparatory Committee (WG) for the same and has shared their preliminary views, leading to acknowledging and the streamlining of work.



IAFI has been drafting appropriate responses to the latest consultation paper on the need for a New Legal Framework Governing Telecommunication in India. The paper has been circulated among IAFI members for their value comments and inputs. This consultation paper focuses on the updating and enabling a future – ready framework for the development of new technologies. Furthermore, a new law needs to bring in regulatory clarity and lay down specific legal framework.



Bharat Bhatia President, IAFI presented our views to the TRAI on need for supporting captive non public networks during the TRAI sectoral brainstorming / interactive session on August 1 for preparing a vision document for the next twenty-five years to coincide with hundred years of India's independence with participation from industry leaders from service providers and industry associations of Telecom and Broadcasting Sectors. Our views have also been submitted to the Authority.



Department of Telecommunication Consultation Paper under process:

Consultation Papers	Comments Date	IAFI Preparatory Meeting
New Legal Framework Governing Telecommunication in India	25 th August 2022	10 th August 2022

Forthcoming ITU and APT Meetings (Aug -Sept 2022)

Meeting Groups	Meeting Dates	Submission Dates	Next IAFI Preparatory Meetings
ITU-T: SG3RGA-0	08 th - 12 th August 2022	01 st August 2022	-
APT: APG23-4	15 th - 20 th August 2022	08 th August 2022	10 th August 2022
APT: PRFP-15	30 th - 01 st Sept 2022	24 th August 2022	-

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APT: AWG 30	05 th - 09 th Sept 2022	29 th August 2022	10 th August 2022
APT: SATRC	20 th - 22 nd Sept 2022	13 th September 2022	-

Telecom Stories:

After the withdrawal of the personal data protection bill, the government is hopeful of getting a new legislation passed by the Budget session of Parliament. The joint committee gave a very detailed report in which there was a recommendation of 81 amendments in a bill of 99 sections. He also added that “there are 12 more major recommendations, so with this as background, there was no way but to put a fresh draft.”



Within days of conducting the 5G auctions, the government has completed the spectrum harmonisation process. The spectrum harmonisation process is critical for 5G services as it brings together a bunch of radio waves holdings within a band into one contiguous block with the consensus of all telecom service providers. A telecom department official, explaining the concept of spectrum harmonisation, drew a parallel with distributed land holdings with gaps being brought together into contiguous holdings.



India plans to overhaul competition law so that global technology companies will have to seek the country's anti-trust approval for many overseas mergers and acquisitions, an ambitious move by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government to gain the kind of influence over big tech that Europe & China have. India's current anti-trust rules allow the regulator to examine deals based on asset size and turnover of the companies involved, but the amended law will allow the competition commission to scrutinise transactions based on their value.

