

THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

IAFI News

IAFI submitted three contributions in the SG-3 RG-AO meeting



IAFI submitted three contributions for the upcoming meeting of the ITU-T SG-3 RG-AO, likely to be held on 10th Feb, 2025 virtually. The RG-AO plays a crucial role in shaping telecommunications policy within the Asia-Oceania region. IAFI's submissions address key issues impacting the region's digital landscape:

1. Contribution C-8: Proposes updates to the baseline text of the proposed ITU-T Recommendation D.502R concerning international mobile roaming rates.
2. Contribution C-9: Focuses on the implementation of IPv6.
3. Contribution C-10: Addresses enhancing digital inclusion through public Wi-Fi.

It may be noted that the Asia-Oceania region is the most dynamic region, for telecommunications development due to the following features.

- a. Large and diverse population: Home to 4.7 billion people (58% of the world's population), including the world's most populous nations like India, China, Indonesia, and Pakistan.
- b. Rapid urbanization and high population densities: Creating unique challenges and opportunities for infrastructure development and service delivery.
- c. Diverse economic landscape: Encompassing highly developed nations like Japan, Korea, Australia, and New Zealand, alongside rapidly developing economies like China, India, Vietnam, and Indonesia. This diversity requires tailored solutions to address varying needs and capabilities.
- d. Significant economic influence: Including major industrial powers like China, making the region a key driver of global technological advancement.

IAFI participated in the ITS conference at Hotel Le Meridien



The Intelligent Transport System (ITS) hosted a "Connected Vehicles Stakeholders Meet" on January 29, 2025, at Hotel Le Meridien, New Delhi. Sponsored by the ITI-APT Foundation of India (IAFI), the event, themed "Transforming India's Mobility Landscape with ITS," convened key players to discuss the future of connected vehicles in India. The event is very timely as India is on the verge of a mobility revolution, with Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) playing a central role. Rapid urbanization, a growing vehicle population, and escalating connectivity demands make ITS solutions, particularly Cellular Vehicle-to-Everything (C-V2X) technology, critical for safer, more efficient, and sustainable transportation. The event showcased how these systems enable real-time communication between vehicles, infrastructure, and pedestrians. This interconnectedness translates into significant improvements in road safety, reduced congestion, and optimized energy use. Participants explored the potential of connected vehicle technology to address India's unique mobility challenges and contribute to the development of smart cities.

Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI addressed the "Connected Vehicles Stakeholders Meet" hosted by the Intelligent Transport System (ITS) in New Delhi on January 29, 2025. He emphasized the urgent need for ITS solutions, particularly C-V2X technology, to address India's growing urbanization, vehicle population, and connectivity demands. Shri Bhatia highlighted the potential of these technologies for safer, more efficient, and sustainable mobility, specifically noting how 5G advancements can empower the next generation of connected vehicles.

ITU's Space Journey 2025: Inaugural webinar on LEO Constellations



The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Space Connect initiative successfully launched its "Space Journey 2025" series webinar on "LEO Constellations Fundamentals" held on January 30, 2025. This inaugural session explored the revolutionary advancements in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite technology.

The webinar provided a comprehensive overview of the intricate orbital mechanics of modern satellite constellations and the crucial role of radio spectrum in enabling global connectivity. The session opened with remarks from ITU Secretary General Ms Doreen Bogdan-Martin and Mr Mario Maniewicz, Director of Radio-communications, setting the stage for an insightful exploration of the technology and market dynamics driving the LEO satellite boom. Three leading experts shared their knowledge and insights:

1. **Constellations by the Numbers** - presented by Carissa Christensen, Founder & CEO, ByceTech LLC. The presentation provided an analysis of operational and planned satellite constellations, market trends, and key industry enablers.
2. **Constellation Architecture** - delivered by Tim Maclay, CEO, Celestial Insight, Inc. The session explored the impact of altitude and inclination on service delivery and space co-existence.
3. **Spectrum Foundations** - presented by John Pahl, Owner of Transfinite Systems Limited. This presentation offered an overview of frequency assignments and spectrum sharing approaches for constellation systems.

The webinar provided attendees with a foundational understanding of LEO constellations, covering key technical aspects and market considerations. The "Space Journey 2025" series aims to continue exploring critical topics in the evolving space sector.

Further details may kindly be seen at - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fqur6NzodA&t=42s>

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates
ITU:R Working Party 5D (WP 5D)	04th - 13rd Feb 2025	23th Jan 2025
ITU:T SG3 Regional Group for Asia and Oceania (SG3RG-AO)	10th Feb 2025	28th Jan 2025
ITU:R Working Party 6C (WP 6C) - Programme production and quality assessment	03rd - 07th Mar 2025	22nd Feb 2025
ITU:T SG13 - Future networks and emerging network technologies	03rd - 14th Mar 2025	22nd Feb 2025
ITU:R Working Party 6A (WP 6A) - Terrestrial broadcasting delivery	05th - 12th Mar 2025	24th Feb 2025
ITU:R Working Party 6B (WP 6B) - Broadcast service assembly and access	10th - 13th Mar 2025	28th Feb 2025
ITU:R Study Group 6 (SG 6)	14th Mar 2025	02nd Mar 2025
ITU:R Working Party 7B (WP 7B) - Space radiocommunication applications	17th - 26th Mar 2025	05th Mar 2025
ITU:R Working Party 7C (WP 7C) - Remote sensing systems	17th - 26th Mar 2025	05th Mar 2025
ITU:R Working Party 7D (WP 7D) - Radio astronomy	17th - 26th Mar 2025	05th Mar 2025
ITU:R Radio Regulations Board (RRB)	17th - 21st Mar 2025	05th Mar 2025
APT: The 3rd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-25 (APT WTDC25-3)	17th - 18th Mar 2025	07th Mar 2025
ITU:D Regional Preparatory Meeting for Asia & Pacific for WTDC-25	20th - 21st Mar 2025	08th Mar 2025

Telecom Stories:



Starlink has submitted its formal acceptance of the key conditions set by the government of India to secure a licence for launching satellite broadband services in the country. The company has specifically accepted the security and data storage requirements mandated by the government, sources said. These guidelines require the company to store all user data within the country and ensure it can facilitate data interception by intelligence agencies when needed. This is a prerequisite for obtaining any licences under the DoT. In a recent letter to the department of telecommunications (DoT), the company has also requested relaxation on some conditions, which it aims to comply with over a period once its application is approved, the sources stated.



The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) wants all telecom licence holders to migrate to an authorisation regime in a time-bound manner so that existence of two separate frameworks, leaving room for potential litigation, could be avoided. "We are finalising the structure of the authorisation regime based on the recommendations of the regulator, and will try to implement it in a time-bound manner," an official told ET, without sharing further details. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) has already shared its recommendations with DoT on the authorisation regime, majority of which have been approved by Digital Communications Commission (DCC), the highest decision-making body of DoT.



Telecom Stocks like HFCL, ITI Ltd, and MTNL surged as Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman proposed Rs 95,298 crore for the information technology and telecommunication sectors. While presenting the Union Budget for 2025-26, Sitharaman also proposed to reduce the basic customs duty on carrier-grade ethernet switches from 20% to 10%, bringing the component at par with non-carrier-grade ethernet switches. The government provides compensation to telecom service providers for creating infrastructure seeking a substantial jump, Rs 28,400 crore, up from Rs 13,700 crore last year.

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