

THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

IAFI News

Meeting between Shri Bharat Bhatia, President. IAFI and Telecom Minister



On July 30, 2024, Shri Bharat Bhatia, President of the IAFI, met with Shri Jyotiraditya Madhavrao Scindia, the Hon'ble Minister of Communication and Minister for the Development of the North Eastern Region (DoNER) for the Government of India. Shri Bhatia warmly welcomed and congratulated the Minister on his new role as Telecom Minister and extended an invitation to inaugurate the 4th India Spectrum Management Conference (ISMC-24), tentatively scheduled for November 7-8, 2024. The meeting was held in a very cordial atmosphere, during which the Minister assured to address the major challenges faced by Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) and the telecom industry. He also accepted the invitation and confirmed his participation in the ISMC-24.

The India Spectrum Management Conference (ISMC) is a major annual event that the ITU-APT Foundation of India (IAFI) has successfully organized for the past four years. The upcoming ISMC-24 will host many renowned national and international spectrum planners and managers.

National Frequency Allocation Plan Meeting (NFAP)



The NFAP Review/Revision Committee held its 2nd meeting on Friday under the chairman ship of Shri V J Christopher, Wireless Advisor to the Government of India (WA). Attendees included government representatives, private sector entities, startups, and academia. The meeting heard the reports from the chairs of three Working Groups, Mr. Viresh Goyal, JWA for the bands below 1 GHz, Mr. N K Bholia, JWA for the bands between 1-6 GHz and Mr. M K Pattanaik, Sr. DWA for the bands above 6GHz. There was a good discussion on various proposals including 6GHz.

TRAI new consultation paper regarding Reserve Prices for auction of FM Radio channels



On 01st Aug, 2024 TRAI released a Consultation Paper regarding "Reserve Prices for auction of FM Radio channels" for comments. MIB vide letter dated 19.03.2024 sent a list of 20 cities in Hilly states/UTs of Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Jammu & Kashmir, and requested TRAI to recommend reserve prices for these cities. MIB also conveyed introducing a new city category, i.e. Category 'E' and further proposed that all the technical parameters applicable for category 'D' cities, except for ERP may apply to category 'E'. The proposed ERP for Category 'E' is 750W to 1 KW. So, TRAI has issued a Consultation Paper (CP) to solicit comments and views of all stakeholders on the determination of reserve prices for auction of FM Radio channels, under FM Phase-III Policy and issues related to estimation of the reserve prices for auction of FM Radio channels.

Last date of submission of comments is 29-08-2024.

India-Made Telecom Equipment now being exported to more than 100 Nations



Ms. Madhu Arora, Member (Technology), Digital Communications Commission, Department of Telecom, during the "Defence Sector ICT Conclave" informed that many of our home-grown telecom companies have made their mark in Western nations, including the US, despite fierce global competition. Designed and manufactured in India, telecom equipment are now being exported to over 100 countries and last year, the country exported telecom equipment and services worth more than \$18.2 billion. She further informed that the Indian Army has recently integrated its first indigenous chip-based 4G mobile base station, developed by our own R&D firms. India has emerged as one of the top five investors in Africa, with cumulative investments of around \$75 billion.

TRAI Consultation Papers

Consultation Papers	Submission Dates	Status	Submission
The Issues Related to Critical Services in the M2M Sector, and Transfer of Ownership of M2M SIMs	22nd July 2024	Submitted	File1
The Framework for Service Authorisations to be Granted Under the Telecommunications Act, 2023	08th Aug 2024	Under Development	-

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates
ITU-T: Focus Group - Costing Models for Affordable Data Services	05th Aug - 06th Aug 2024	24th July 2024
APT: The 5th Meeting of APT Preparatory Group for WTSA-24 (APT WTSA24-5)	19th Aug - 23rd Aug 2024	09th Aug 2024
ITU-R: Working Party 7D- Radio astronomy	17th Sep - 26th Sep 2024	05th Sep 2024
ITU-R: Working Party 7B - Space radiocommunication applications	18th Sep - 27th Sep 2024	06th Sep 2024
ITU-R: Working Party 7C - Remote sensing systems	18th Sep - 27th Sep 2024	06th Sep 2024
ITU-R: Working Party 5D (WP 5D) - IMT Systems	03rd Oct - 11th Oct 2024	22nd Sep 2024
ITU-R: Working Party 4C (WP 4C) - Efficient orbit/spectrum utilization for MSS and RDSS	10th Oct - 18th Oct 2024	29nd Sep 2024
ITU-R: Working Party 4B (WP 4B)	16th Oct - 22nd Oct 2024	04th Oct 2024
ITU-R: Working Party 4A (WP 4A)	21st Oct - 31st Oct 2024	09th Oct 2024
ITU-R: Study Group 4 (SG 4)	01st Nov 2024	19th Oct 2024

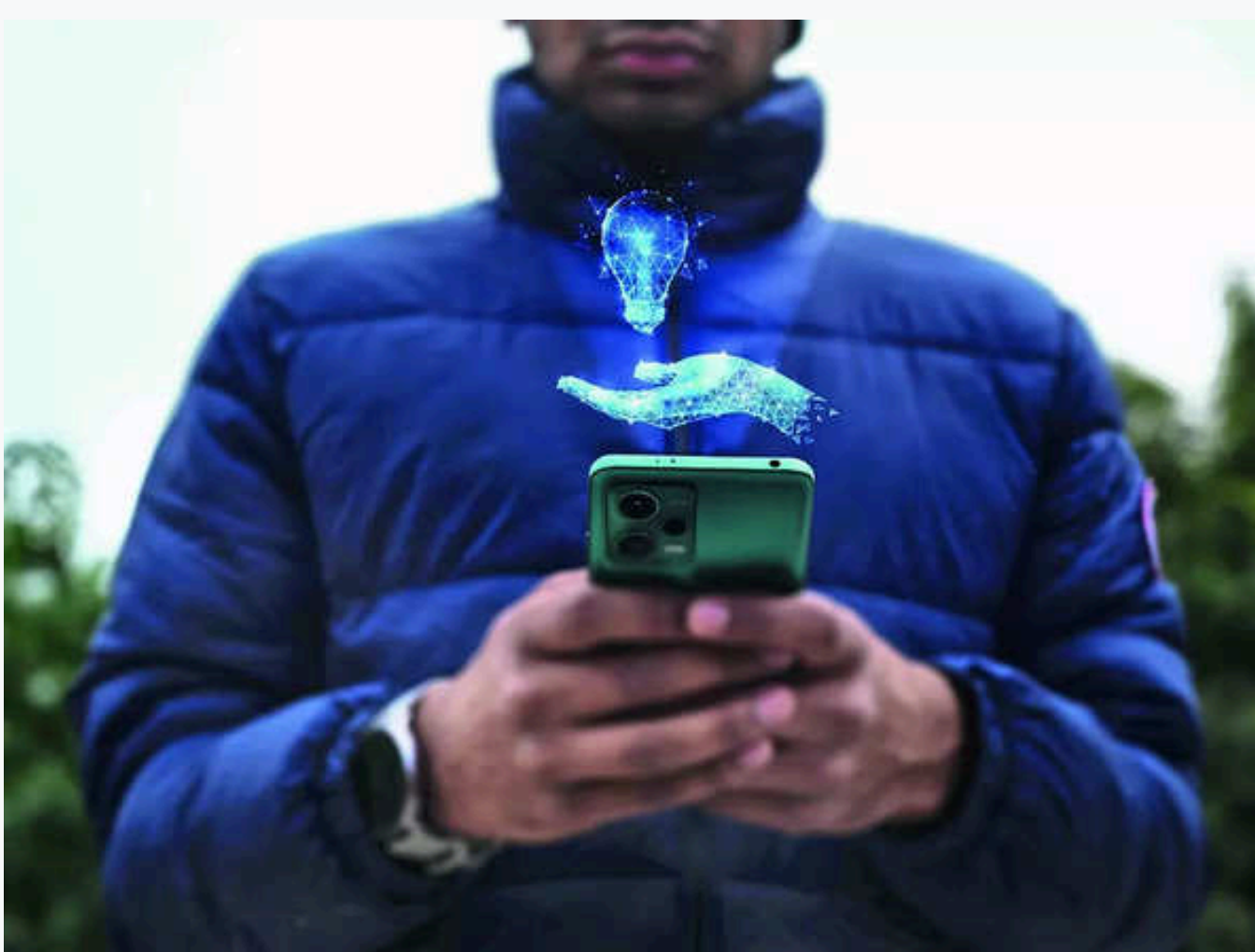
Telecom Stories:



Jyotiraditya M Scindia, Minister of Communications and Development of North Eastern Region, inaugurated the Network Operations Centre, along with Dr Pemmasani Chandra Sekhar, Minister of State for Communications & Rural Development, at the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT) Delhi Campus today. The Centre hosts indigenously developed security infrastructure for identification & monitoring of cyber threats in the telecom network in the country. Various malicious activities such as malware, ransomware, DoS, DDoS, DNS amplification, malicious domain communications, etc can now be actively identified.



The telecom regulator has tightened quality norms around 4G and 5G networks, increased the financial penalties for not meeting benchmarks and directed telcos to compensate mobile phone users with rent rebates and validity extensions in case mobile service outages continue for more than 24 hours, in a bid to reduce instances of call drops and slow network downtime problems. To achieve time bound action on quality of service (QoS) related issues, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Trai) Friday increased the financial penalty to Rs 1 lakh from Rs 50,000 earlier for not meeting the benchmarks. The regulator has also introduced a graded penalty system of Rs 1 lakh, Rs 2 lakh, Rs 5 lakh and Rs 10 lakh for different scales of rule violations under revised regulations, which will come into effect from October 1.



New Delhi: The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has allocated spectrum to all the three private telecom operators who bought airwaves in the June auction. "The frequency assignment letters have been issued to the companies today (Thursday)," an official aware of the details told ET. The companies had made the upfront payments on July 26, allowing DoT to garner over ₹1,000 crore from the spectrum sale. While the timeframe to allocate frequencies was 30 days after receiving payments, DoT has moved fast in allocating spectrum as a harmonisation exercise was initiated earlier.

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ITU-APT Foundation Of India 504, Fifth Floor World Trade Center (Behind Lalit Hotel) Barakhamba Road New Delhi-110001, India.

Contact No.: +91-11-45005163, 7017210403, 9999797700 - Website: iafi.in

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