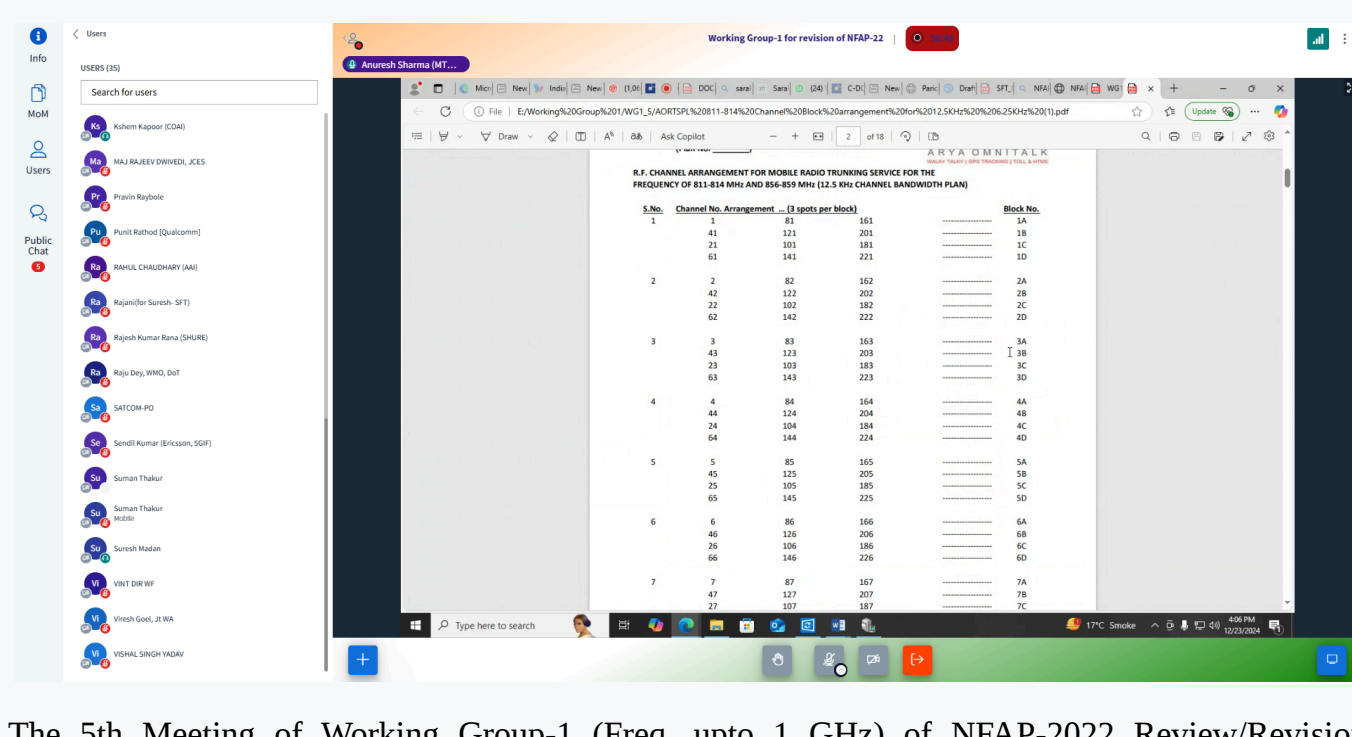


THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

IAFI News

Meeting of the Working Group -1(WG-1) of NFAP-2022



The 5th Meeting of Working Group-1 (Freq. upto 1 GHz) of NFAP-2022 Review/Revision Committee was held on 23.12.2024 under the Chairmanship of Shri Viresh Goeel, Joint Wireless Adviser, in the online mode. Representatives from Industry, Academia, officers from the Wireless Planning Co-ordination Wing of the Department of Telecommunications, and other Government Organizations such as JCES, AAI, CDOT, MIB, Doordarshan, NCRA-GMRT etc. participated in the meeting and took part in the discussions and deliberations. The meeting started with the welcome address and overview from the Chairman, highlighting the salient points of discussions and deliberations on various input documents received by WG-1.

It is pertinent to mention here that the 4th meeting of the WG-1 was held on 12th Dec, 2024, where IAFI presented three documents as detailed below.

1. Proposal for use frequency band 174-230 MHz and 470-612 MHz for Audio PMSE -IAFI presented their input contribution on Audio PMSE in frequency bands 174-230 MHz and 470-612 MHz. IAFI representative highlighted that Audio PMSE was limited to 612 MHz in order to avoid any kind of interference to future deployments to Cellular Mobile Services. It was also clearly mentioned by IAFI representative that in Region 3, the Land Mobile, PMSE along with Broadcasting is Primary Service along with IMT and Region 1 allocations does not have any impact on Region 3. IMT and PMSE (which comes under Land Mobile Service) both enjoy primary status in the frequency bands under consideration.
2. NB-IoT working in the frequency band 867-868 MHz, 918- 922 MHz - IAFI presented an input document to support NB-IoT in 918-922 MHz band. It is proposed to add the following text to NFAP as a new India footnote to support NB-IoT: "The frequency range 918-922 MHz band may be used for LPWAN & low power short range communications, in addition to the band 865-868 MHz."
3. Simplification of IND 16 table, deletion of Note 1 and Note 2 of IND 16 - IAFI also submitted a input document on NFAP footnote IND 16. The proposal of IAFI was to convert the table in IND 16 to paragraph format specifying that it would be easier to comprehend. More importantly, the proposal sought for deletion of Note 1 and Note 2 of IND 16.

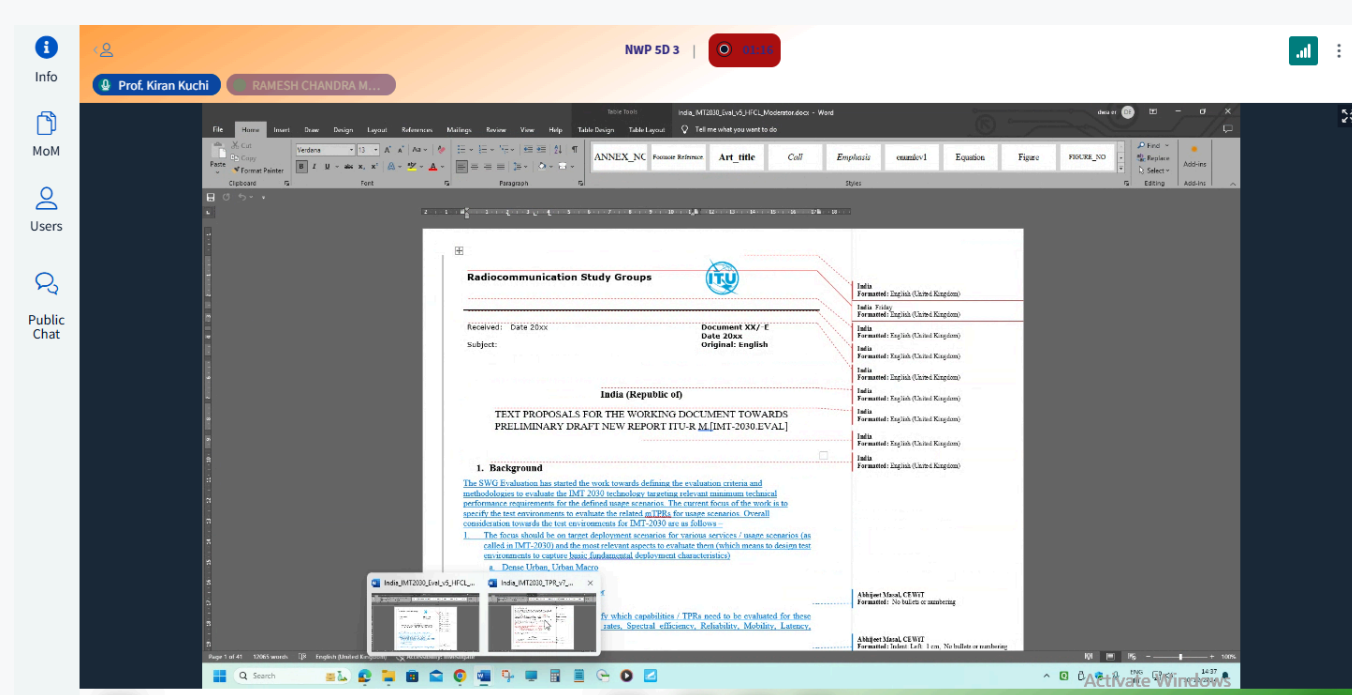
All these contributions were considered by the meeting and suitable incorporated in the draft NFAP after detailed discussions.

4th meeting of Working Group-2 (1 to 6 GHz) of NFAP review/ revision



Fourth meeting of Working Group-2 (WG-2) to review/ revise National Frequency Allocation Plan (NFAP) 2022 under the chairmanship of Sh. N K Bholia, Director(A), Wireless Monitoring Organization was held on 30.12.2024 in hybrid mode at Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi. IAFI along with stakeholders from various Government Departments, Telecom Service Providers, Manufacturers, Academia, Associations etc. participated in the meeting. All proposals including IAFI proposals were discussed and suitable amendments were made to the NFAP draft.

7th Meeting of the NWP-5D3



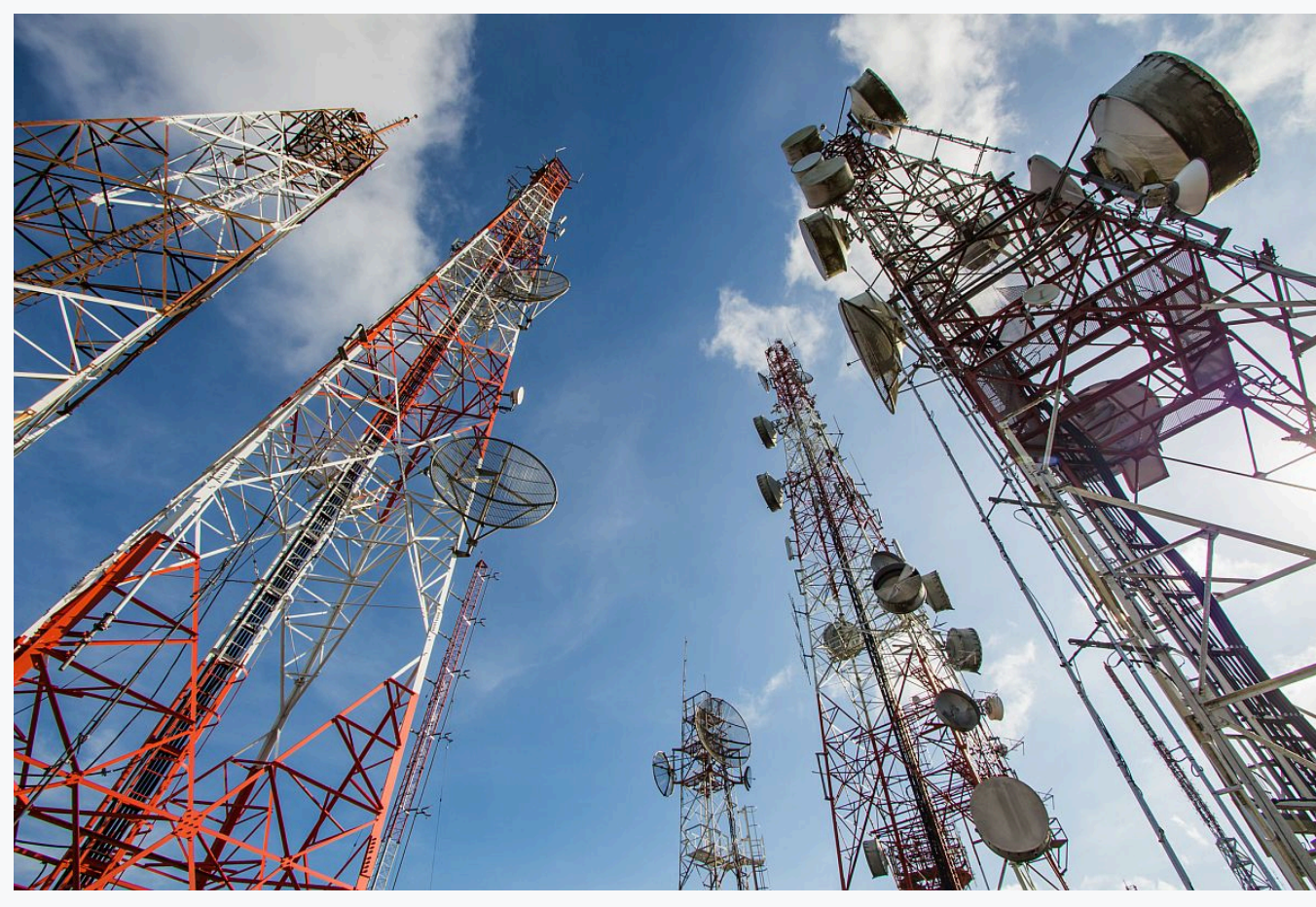
India along with IAFI is actively contributing to the ITU-R's work on defining the minimum technical performance requirements for IMT-2030 (essentially, 6G) candidate radio interface technologies. This includes proposing updates to key documents that will guide the evaluation and development of 6G standards. A major focus is on defining and refining the Technical Performance Requirements (TPRs) for 6G. India is working to ensure these requirements are comprehensive and address the needs of diverse usage scenarios and test environments. This is critical for ensuring that 6G technologies meet real-world demands. The transition from 5G (IMT-2020) to 6G (IMT-2030) requires a re-assessment of network metrics. This is important to accommodate new technologies and evolving user needs. IAFI's suggestion to include "connection density per square meter instead of existing practice of per square kilometre" was accepted and included in the report. This metric will help network operators plan and optimize their 6G networks more effectively, especially with the anticipated increase in connected devices in the Internet of Things (IoT) era.

9th Meeting of NSG5 held on 3rd January, 2025



9th Meeting of the NSG-5 was held under the chairmanship of Sh. Gulab Chand, JWA WPC Wing in online. All four input documents submitted by the NWPs were agreed and submitted to WPC. IAFI attended the meeting online.

DoT order for waiver of Bank Guarantee for spectrum auctions conducted in 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, and 2021.



In a move signalling continued government support for the Indian telecom sector, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) waived bank guarantees (BGs) worth Rs 33,000 crore for private operators on December 27, 2024. This decision, benefiting Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, and most significantly Vodafone Idea (VI) with a relief of Rs 24,800 crore, applies to spectrum auctions held between 2012 and 2021. Notably, the requirement for BGs in spectrum auctions was already removed for recent auctions conducted in 2022 and 2024 as part of the 2021 telecom reforms package. By waiving these BGs, the government aims to free up resources for telecom operators, enabling them to invest further in expanding 4G and 5G network infrastructure across India.

TRAI launched new website



On 23-12-2024, TRAI launches new website, and available at <https://traai.gov.in/>. TRAI has revealed that an upgraded website to broaden its reach to connect with a wider audience. Considering the growing importance of social media, new sharing features facilitate the broadcasting the regulatory information to all stakeholders. The new website includes the following additional features:

1. Introduction of a new dashboard for Telecom & Broadcasting sector.
2. Provision of data-download for research.
3. A Grid View feature, allowing users to view data in a new and interactive format.
4. In addition to sharing via email, users can now also share documents directly through major social media platforms, links for visualisation on Instagram, Youtube, LinkedIn, WhatsApp, Facebook, X etc.
5. Online Registration for subscription to TRAI latest releases and updates.
6. A blog with a facility for registered users to comment.
7. Provision to publish information about upcoming events.
8. Online registration for participation in Open House Discussions
9. Compliance to accessibility features.
10. Tenders and notices
11. Concise and compiled regulations at a single place with amendments mentioned in foot notes.

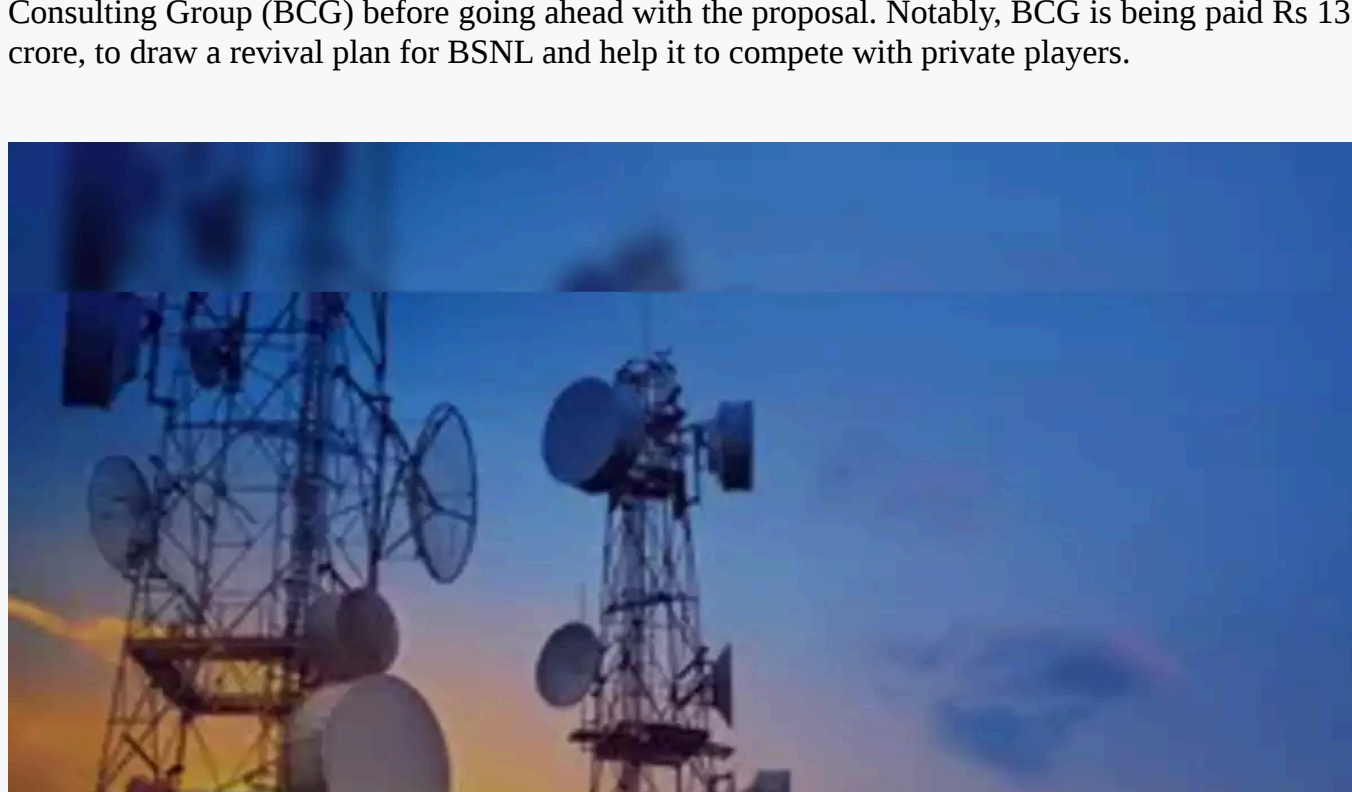
Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates	IAFI Preparatory Meetings
ITU-T SG20 - Internet of Things, digital twins and smart sustainable cities and communities	15th - 24th Jan 2025	03rd Jan 2025	-
ITU-T ITU Workshop on "Future video coding – advanced signal processing, AI and standards"	17th Jan 2025	05th Jan 2025	-
ITU-D Extra-ordinary Meeting of the TDAG	23rd Jan 2025	11th Jan 2025	-
APT: SATRC Workshop on Spectrum	21st - 23rd Jan 2025	11th Jan 2025	-
ITU-R Working Party 5D (WP 5D)	04th - 13rd Feb 2025	24th Jan 2025	08th Jan 2025
ITU-T SG3 Regional Group for Asia and Oceania (SG3RG-AO)	10th Feb 2025	30th 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 WTDC-25-3)	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	-

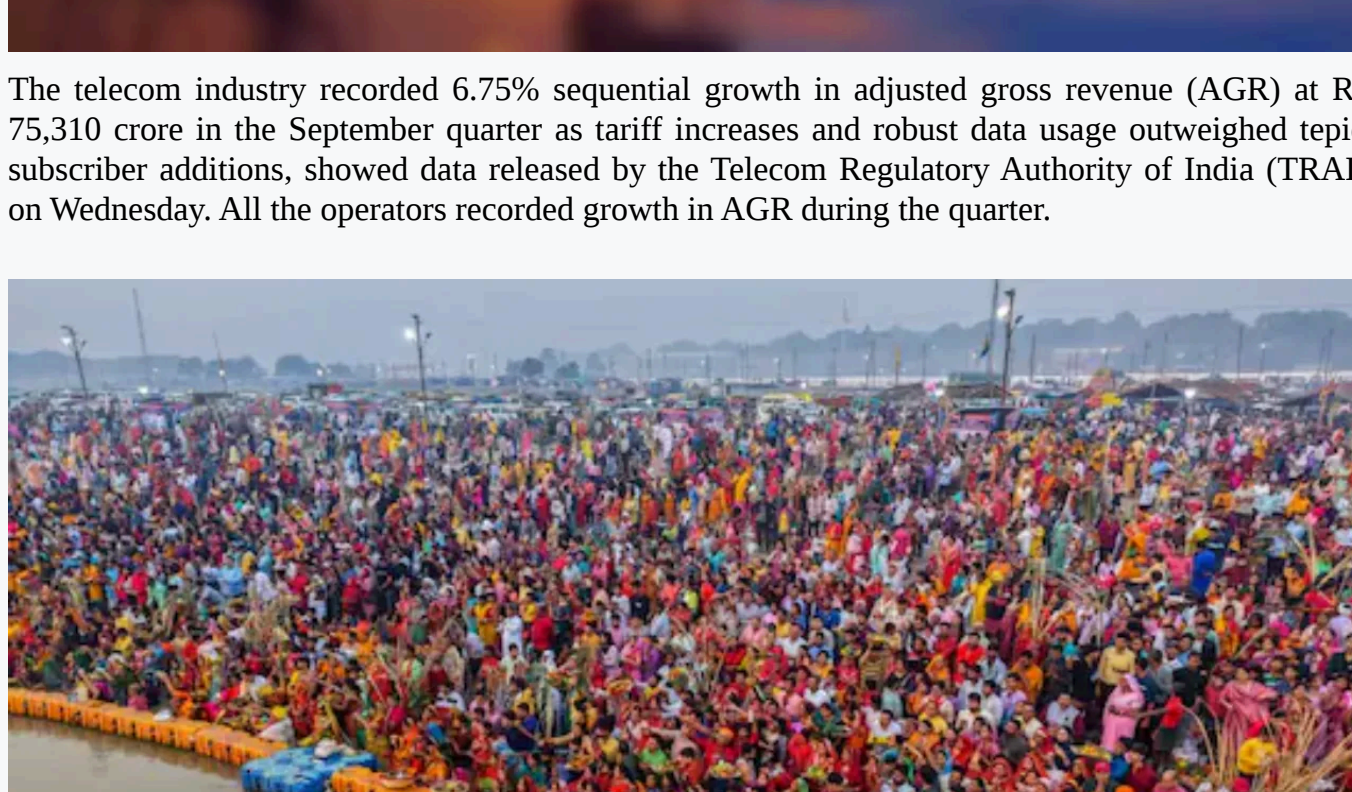
Telecom Stories:



After the second of the employees' unions, the department of telecommunications (DoT) has likely put the proposal for BSNL on hold. Officials said. The telecom department will hold further consultations internally and is also expected to loop in Boston Consulting Group (BCG) before going ahead with the proposal. Notably, BCG is being paid Rs 132 crore, to draw a revival plan for BSNL and help it to compete with private players.



The telecom industry recorded 6.75% sequential growth in adjusted gross revenue (AGR) at Rs 75,310 crore in the September quarter as tariff increases and robust data usage outweighed tepid subscriber additions, showed data released by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on Wednesday. All the operators recorded growth in AGR during the quarter.



To ensure seamless connectivity in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh during the Maha Kumbh Mela 2025, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has instructed telecom service providers to implement advanced technologies and optimise their networks. The initiative is designed to accommodate the massive influx of visitors anticipated at the world's largest religious gathering. Telecom operators, including Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, and Vodafone Idea (VI), have already installed 575 new Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) and upgraded 1,462 existing ones. Furthermore, 126 kilometers of optical fiber have been laid across Prayagraj city, complemented by the installation of 328 new towers and masts to enhance network coverage throughout the urban area.

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