

## IAFI News

### 6th NWP-4A1 Meeting



The 6th NWP-4A1 meeting convened on April 1, 2025, to review input documents related to Agenda Items 1.1 through 1.4 (AI 1.1-1.4). A key discussion point was the joint contribution (4A/289) from Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, Thailand, and India, submitted during the previous WP-4A meeting (October 21-31, 2024). This contribution addressed “Operational and technical limitations for FSS earth stations in the frequency band 13.75-14 GHz (Earth-to-space)” and proposed updates to the Working Document, which was Annex 4 of the WP 4A Chair’s Report (Document 4A/128). Subsequently, Working Document 4A/128 was further revised, incorporating numerous contributions from China, Ghana, USA, Canada, France, and WP-7B, and was presented as 4A/343 in the Chairman’s report. Following the 5th NWP-4A1 meeting, a revised version of document 4A/289 was received from M/s Intelsat (representing the Papua New Guinea Administration) and was discussed during this 6th meeting. Furthermore, M/s Viasat India submitted an input contribution concerning the draft CPM text for AI 1.3, which also underwent discussion. The outcome of the meeting was a decision to further refine these discussed documents for potential submission at the upcoming WP- 4A1 meeting scheduled for April 4, 2025.

### 7th Meeting of the National Study Group-4 (NSG-4) for ITU-R



The 7th Meeting of the National Study Group-4 (NSG-4) for ITU-R for the Study Cycle-2024-2027 was held at 03:00pm on 02 April 2025 in the Spectrum Room, 6th Floor, Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi. Meeting was chaired by Ms. M Revathi Mannepalli, Joint Wireless Adviser, WPC Wing. In addition to other issues, meeting discussed the Agenda Item 1.5, proposing regulatory measures to limit unauthorized operations of non-geostationary-satellite orbit (non-GSO) earth stations in the fixed-satellite service (FSS) and mobile-satellite service (MSS).

### Brief about the AWG-34 meeting held at Kathmandu, Nepal



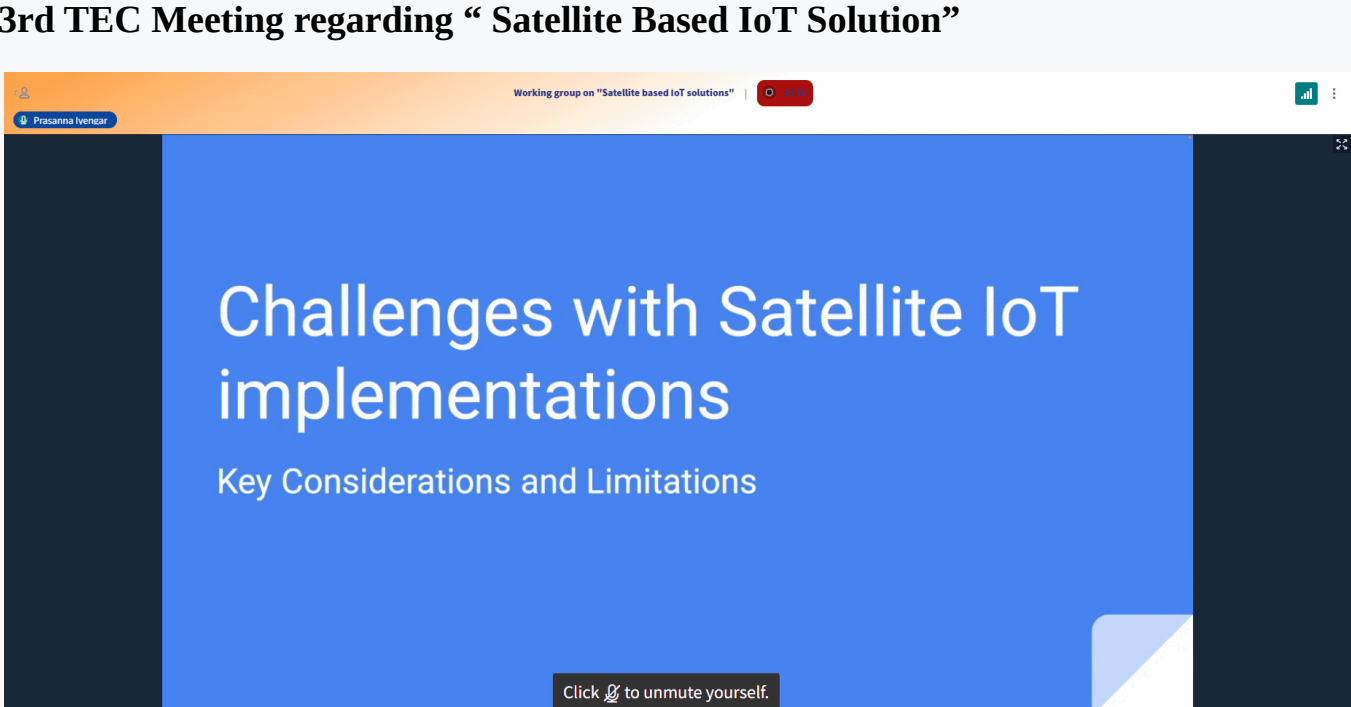
The 34th Meeting of the APT Wireless Group (AWG-34)  
31 March - 4 April 2025, Kathmandu, Nepal

AWG-34 meeting was held from 31st March to 04th April, 2025 at Kathmandu, Nepal. Many IAFI members from India joined the meeting physically as well as virtually. Total five contributions, likely to be submitted by IAFI, were discussed in the meeting. Total 329 participants attended the meeting, 277 from 22 member states, 41 affiliate members, 1 associate member, 2 from international organizations and 8 from the APT Secretariat. Total 77 documents were considered by the meeting, including of 5 documents submitted by the IAFI.

1. AWG-34/INP-40- Proposal for draft Liaison Statement on completion of APT/AWG-REP- 144 on WAS/RLAN.
2. AWG-34/INP-41- Proposal for further updates to the working document, toward draft revision of APT recommendation APT/AWG/REC-08 on frequency arrangements for the implementation of IMT in the band frequency range 612-806 MHz (612-703 MHz and 698- 806 MHz).
3. AWG-34/INP-42- Working document towards a preliminary draft of new APT Report on emerging satellite technologies.
4. AWG-34/INP-43- Proposal for updating working document towards revision of APT Report- 136 on trends and spectrum developments for IMT usage in 2025 ~ 2030 in Asia-Pacific region.
5. AWG-34/INP-44-Proposals for working document towards a draft new survey report on usage of cooperative vehicle-infrastructure ITS systems.

All IAFI contributions were thoroughly discussed and accepted for carry-forward to the next meeting, with the exception of AWG-34/INP-41, regarding IMT frequency arrangements, where Australia proposed to submit further updates at the next meeting.

### 3rd TEC Meeting regarding “ Satellite Based IoT Solution”

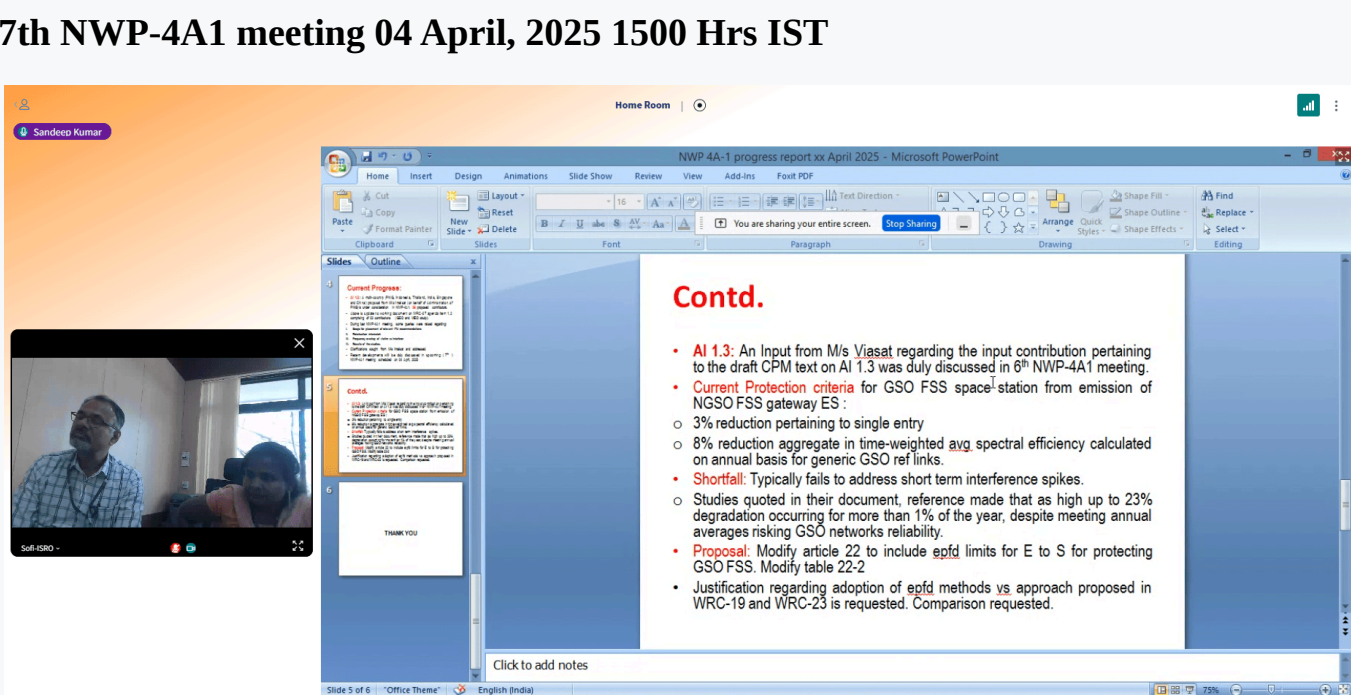


The 3rd virtual meeting of newly constituted working group under the Chairmanship of Shri R S Singh, DDG (IoT) TEC was held on 03-04-2025, to discuss further development took place after 2nd meeting held on 11-03-2025. Three contribution submitted by IAFI regarding

1. Further updates to the Term of Reference of the Working Group, as circulated by the TEC after 2 nd meeting.
2. List of topics suggested for study by the newly formed Working Group.
3. A framework document for submitting detailed study on the topic “Comparative Analysis of 3GPP NB-IoT over NTN (Release 17+) and LoRaWAN via Satellite.

All the documents were discussed in detail. It was suggested to develop a template document, for submission of the study report by various stakeholders and academia.

### 7th NWP-4A1 meeting 04 April, 2025 1500 Hrs IST



The 7th meeting of the NWP-4A1 was held on 04.04.2025, to discuss the input documents/ comments submitted by the various stakeholders on agenda items, AI 1.1, 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4. During the 6th NWP-4A1 meeting, multi country proposal from M/s Intelsat (on behalf of PNG administration) was duly discussed and some queries were raised. Document was updated and improved version was discussed in the meeting.

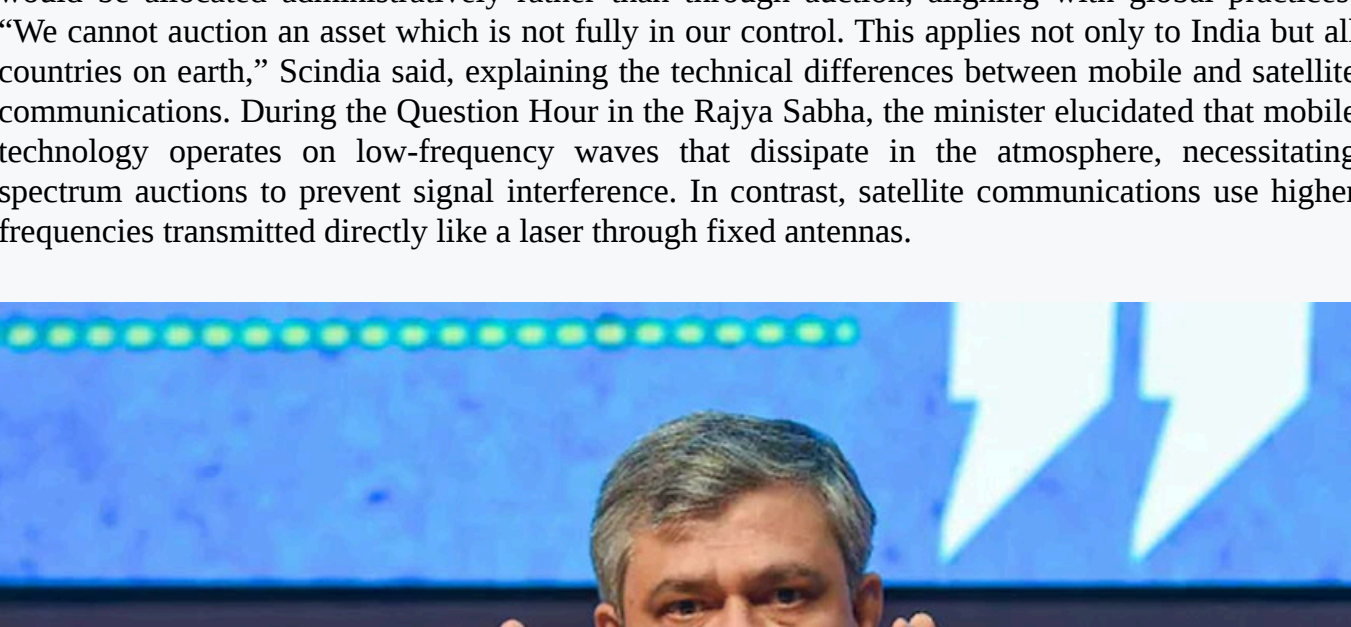
### Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates
ITU-R Working Party 4C (WP 4C) - Efficient orbit/spectrum utilization for MSS and RDSS	23rd April 05th May 2025	11th April 2025
ITU-R Working Party 4B (WP 4B)	30th April - 05th May 2025	18th April 2025
ITU-R Working Party 4A (WP 4A) - Efficient orbit/spectrum utilization for FSS and BSS	05th - 16th May 2025	24th April 2025
APT: The 2nd Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-27 (APG27-2)	28th July - 01st Aug 2025	18th July 2025

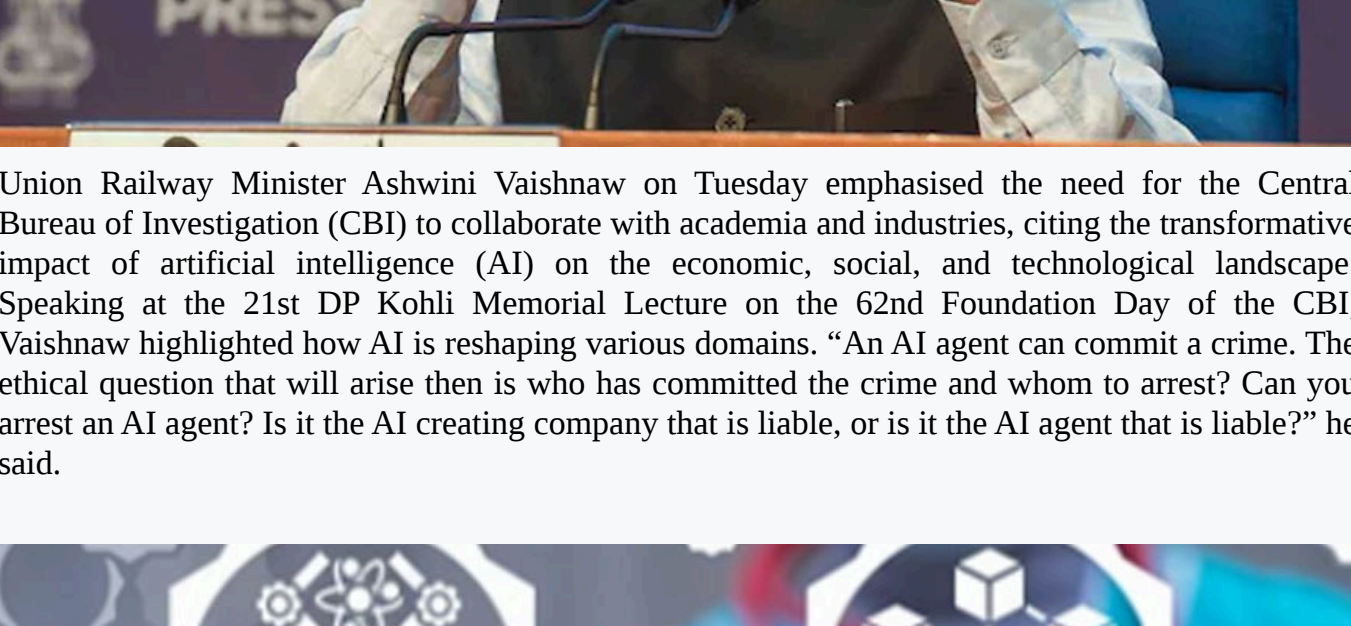
### Telecom Stories:



Communications Minister Jyotiraditya M Scindia in Parliament made it clear that satellite spectrum would be allocated administratively rather than through auction, aligning with global practices. “We cannot auction an asset which is not fully in our control. This applies not only to India but all countries on earth,” Scindia said, explaining the technical differences between mobile and satellite communications. During the Question Hour in the Rajya Sabha, the minister elucidated that mobile technology operates on low-frequency waves that dissipate in the atmosphere, necessitating spectrum auctions to prevent signal interference. In contrast, satellite communications use higher frequencies transmitted directly like a laser through fixed antennas.



Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw on Tuesday emphasised the need for the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to collaborate with academia and industries, citing the transformative impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on the economic, social, and technological landscape. Speaking at the 21st DP Kohli Memorial Lecture on the 62nd Foundation Day of the CBI, Vaishnaw highlighted how AI is reshaping various domains. “An AI agent can commit a crime. The ethical question that will arise then is who has committed the crime and whom to arrest? Can you arrest an AI agent? Is it the AI creating company that is liable, or is it the AI agent that is liable?” he said.



The Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal’s recent criticism of Indian start-ups and their lack of focus on deep tech has sparked a flurry of debate in the ecosystem. However, data also show that the Indian start-up activity is merely following sectors/areas that are more lucrative and have the potential to attract funding. The share of venture capital (VC) funding for those innovating on deep tech business models has been on the decline in the last few years, per data from research firm Venture Intelligence. While 11 per cent share of VC deal counts and 13 per cent of the VC investment value was held by deep tech firms in calendar year 2023, this dipped to 9 per cent and 6 per cent of count and value, respectively, in 2024. In the first three months of 2025, just 9 per cent of total amount invested by VCs in start-ups went to deep tech ventures.

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