

THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

IAFI News

The 33rd Meeting of the APT Wireless Group (AWG-33)



The Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) will host the 33rd Meeting of the APT Wireless Group (AWG-33) from September 9 to 13, 2024, in Bangkok, Thailand. This hybrid plenary will address critical aspects of emerging wireless systems to navigate the rapidly evolving digital landscape in the Asia-Pacific region. By fostering effective radiocommunication solutions and facilitating technology and knowledge transfer, the AWG-33 will review ongoing initiatives, assess progress, and explore new avenues for collaboration.

IAFI has been an active participant in all previous AWG meetings, consistently contributing to discussions on critical issues. The deadline for submitting contributions to the upcoming AWG-33 is September 2, 2024.

IAFI comments on the TRAI Consultation Paper regarding the Service Authorisations



In December 2023, the Indian Parliament passed the Telecommunication Act, 2023, consolidating and amending regulations for the development, expansion, and operation of telecommunication services and networks, spectrum allocation, and related matters. The Act empowers the Central Government to authorize entities or individuals to provide telecommunication services under specified terms and conditions, including fees.

Following the Department of Telecommunications letter of June 21, 2024, TRAI released a comprehensive consultation paper on July 11, 2024. This paper outlined the framework for service authorizations under the new Telecommunication Act and sought stakeholder input on 61 questions. The deadline for comments, initially August 1, 2024, was extended to August 8, 2024. IAFI conducted a detailed analysis of the consultation paper, engaging with industry partners to develop a comprehensive response, which was submitted to TRAI on the extended deadline of August 8, 2024.

Revision of the National Frequency Allocation Plan (NFAP)-2022



WPC wing of DoT constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of the Wireless Advisor, to review and revise the National Frequency Allocation Plan (NFAP) -2022. Entire work of the committee was divided in three working groups as detailed below.

1. Working Group -1 - for frequency bands up to 1GHz.
2. Working Group -2 - for frequency bands from 1GHz to 6 GHz.
3. Working Group -3 - for frequency bands beyond 6 GHz.

Purview of the committee is to review/revise the NFAP-2022, taking into consideration of World Radio Conference (WRC) -2023, national requirement and latest development in the field of the radiocommunication technologies etc. It was also decided that the committee will take the views of the stakeholders, while reviewing and revising the NFAP-2022.

IAFI is continuously participating in various NFAP meetings and, following consultations with industry partners, submitted detailed proposal for revising NFAP-2022.

TRAI Consultation Papers

Consultation Papers	Submission Dates	Status	Submission
The Framework for Service Authorisations to be Granted Under the Telecommunications Act, 2023	08th Aug 2024	Submitted	File1
Reserve Prices for auction of FM Radio channels	29th Aug 2024	Under Development	-

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates	IAFI Preparatory Meetings
APT: The 5th Meeting of APT Preparatory Group for WTSA-24 (APT WTSA24-5)	19th Aug - 23rd Aug 2024	09th Aug 2024	-
APT: The 33rd Meeting of the APT Wireless Group (AWG-33)	09th Sep - 13th Sep 2024	31st Aug 2024	14th 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:



State-run telecom firm Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd will roll out 4G and 5G compatible over-the-air (OTA) and Universal SIM (USIM) platform which will enable subscribers to choose their mobile numbers as well as replace SIMs without geographical restrictions. BSNL said that the platform, developed in collaboration with Pyro Holdings, was inaugurated in Chandigarh, with a disaster recovery site in Trichy. "The new 4G and 5G compatible platform is designed to serve all BSNL customers across the country, offering unparalleled connectivity and service quality," BSNL said on Friday. The company is rolling out 4G network gradually across the country.



Global satcom biggies such as Elon Musk's Starlink, Luxembourg's SES, Amazon's Kuiper and Apple's satcom partner Globalstar have taken opposing views on Indian telecom regulator's proposal to merge the authorisation regime for two different satellite communication services. Kuiper, Globalstar and US communications firm Viasat are backing a unified licence for GMPCS - a permit needed for broadband from space services for personal communication using voice, text and data - and VSAT-CUG, representing commercial satellite services suited for machine-to-machine (M2M) and internet of things (IoT) connectivity and in-flight and maritime services, among others.



The Government has taken necessary steps to start the trial and assessment of implementation of calling name presentation (CNAP) service by telecom service providers, Parliament was informed on Thursday. Recommendations of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) on 'Introduction of Calling Name Presentation (CNAP) in Telecommunication Networks' was received on February 23, 2024, where the regulator recommended that prior to the implementation of CNAP service on pan-India basis in Indian telecommunication network, a trial and assessment of implementation of CNAP service should be undertaken in one licensed service area (LSA).

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