

THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

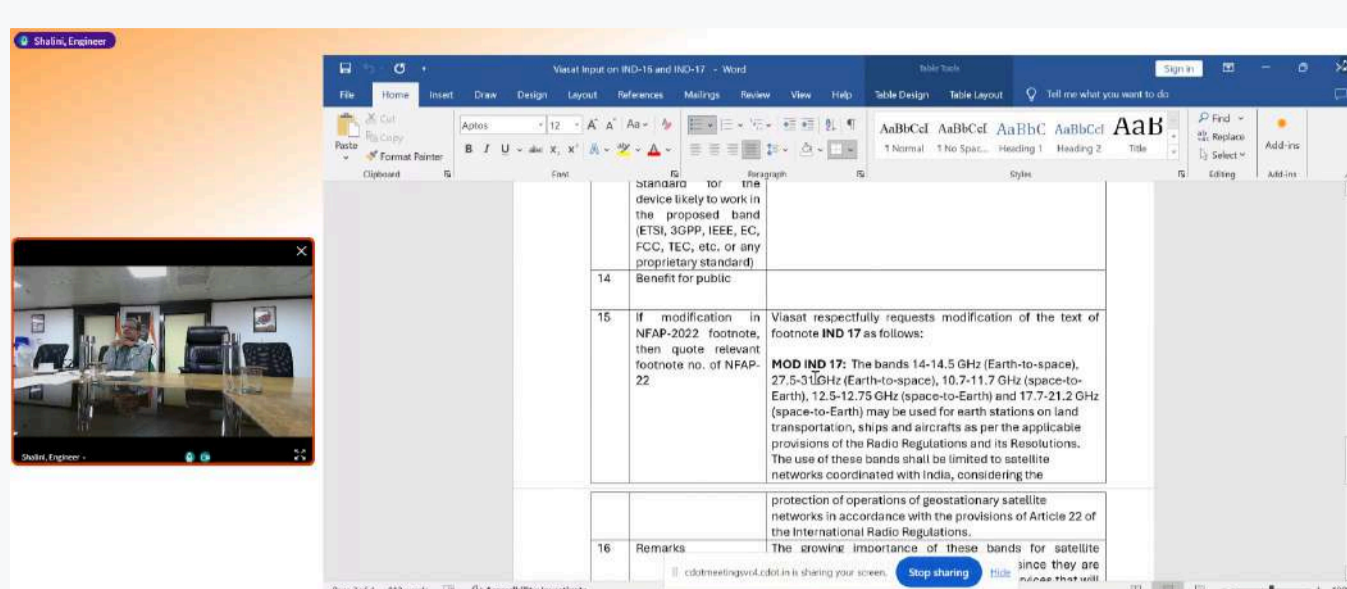
IAFI News

IAFI comments on TRAI Consultation Paper regarding UCC



IAFI examined the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) consultation paper seeking public comments on "Review of the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2018 (TCCPCR-2018)" in detail and after due consultation with members, submitted detailed reply to TRAI on 08-10-2024, on all the issues raised by TRAI. IAFI has drawn the attention of TRAI to SCAM communications which are currently not covered by UCC regime.

Meeting of the WG-3 of NFAP

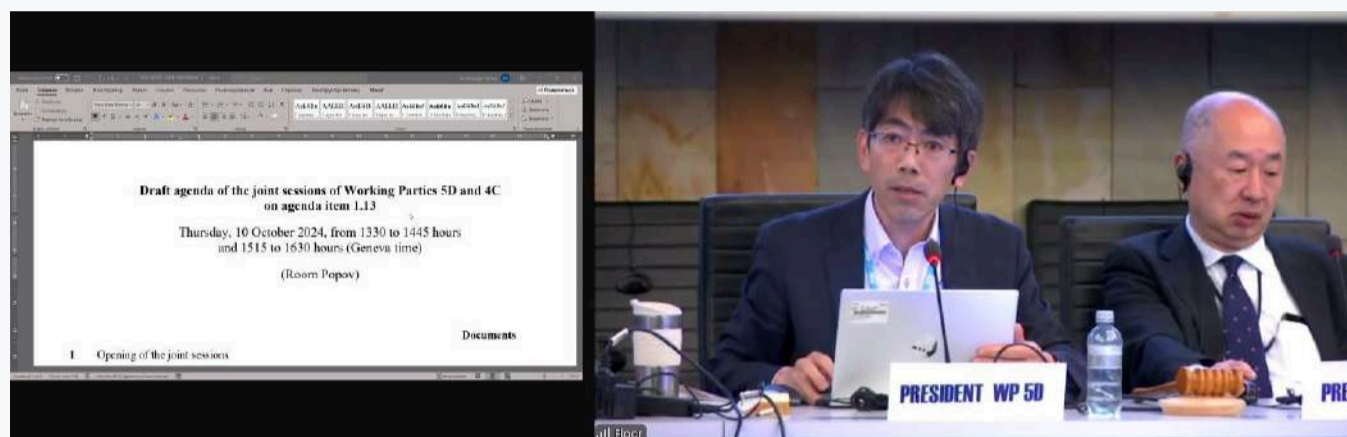


A virtual meeting of the WG-3 of NFAP was held on October 9, 2024, under the chairmanship of Shri M K Pattanaik, Joint Wireless Advisor, WPC Wing of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), to review and revise the NFAP-2022. Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI participated in the meeting remotely from Geneva, Switzerland, while attending the WP-5D meeting. During the last meeting of WG-3, held on 27-08-2024, IAFI submitted following three documents.

1. IAFI proposed modifications to Footnote-IND 17 concerning frequency bands 14-14.5G Hz, 28.5-30 GHz, 10.7-11.7 GHz, 12.5-12.75G Hz, and 18.7-20.2 GHz for ESIM services.
2. IAFI suggested Input to add remarks in accordance with footnotes 5.521A and 5.523DA for frequency bands 18.1-1.8.6 G Hz, 1.8.8-20.2 GHz, and 27.5-30.0 GHz for Inter Satellite Links.
3. IAFI proposed revision of the India Footnote IND-16 with updated text for various frequency bands including of 24.25-27.5 GHz.

Shri Bharat Bhatia presented a report to the WG-3 meeting regarding the frequency band 5925-6425 MHz for consideration. He also discussed updates suggested by India concerning footnotes IND-16, 17, 34, and 35. All documents, including above three, were thoroughly discussed.

Joint Session of WP-5D and WP-4C

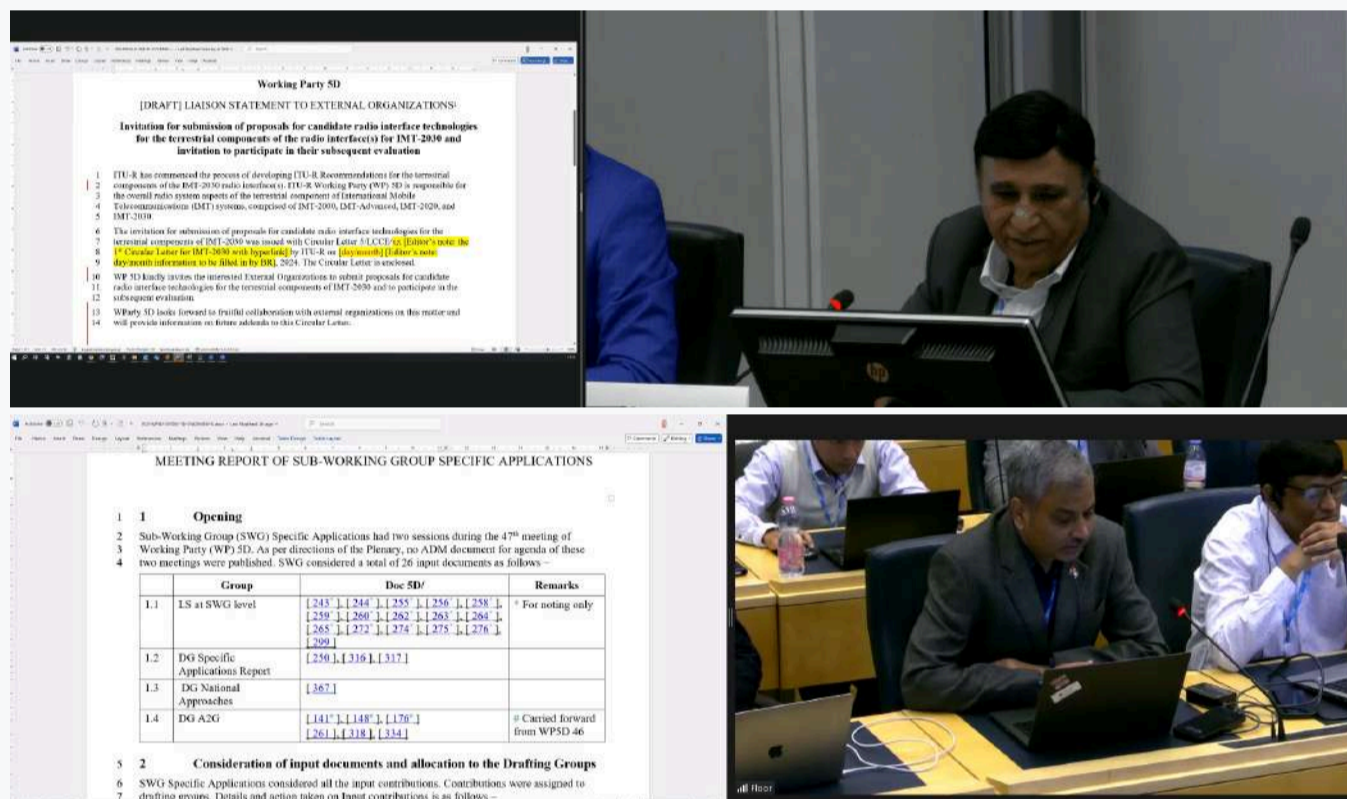


Considering the complexities involved in Agenda Item - 1.13, ITU-R organized a joint meeting of WP-5D and WP-4C on October 10, 2024, to deliberate and finalize roadmap for future studies of Agenda Item -1.13, as finalized by WRC-23/RA-23 for further study.

Agenda Item -1.13 states – "studies on possible allocations to the MSS in the frequency range between 694/698 MHz and 2.7 GHz, taking into account the IMT frequency arrangements addressed in the most recent version of Recommendation ITU-R M.1036 and studies on spectrum requirements and on technical, operational and regulatory matters related to the implementation of the mobile-satellite service for direct connectivity to the IMT user equipment to complement the terrestrial IMT network coverage".

After detailed discussion, meeting finalized roles/responsibilities and timeline for both the Working Parties 4C and 5D, for further study and submission of report and if required, hold a joint session in Oct, 2026 to finalize draft report for the CPM-27-2.

47th WP-5D of ITU-R Meeting



The 47th WP-5D meeting currently held in Geneva, Switzerland, from October 3 to 11, 2024, in a hybrid format. A total of 170 new contributions and 10 carry-forward documents from the previous WP-5D meeting were presented during the session. IAFI also submitted four contributions. Entire work was divided in three working groups, WG-General Aspects, WG-Technology Aspects and WG -Spectrum Aspects and WRC Preparations.

The plenary approved several documents, including a circular letter initiating a process to evaluate candidate RITs or SRTIs for IMT-2030. The document invites the formation of independent evaluation groups and the subsequent submission of evaluation reports on these candidate RITs or SRTIs. The ITU membership, standards organizations, and other independent evaluation groups will evaluate candidate RITs or SRTIs. Another important document approved by the plenary was regarding IMT-2030/2- Process, which describes the process and activities identified for the development of the IMT-2030 terrestrial components radio interface Recommendations.

The plenary also approved two documents regarding the unwanted emission characteristics of base stations and user equipment, using radio interfaces for the terrestrial component of IMT-2020. Additionally, one more document regarding the Characteristics of the terrestrial component of IMT for sharing and compatibility studies for all bands other than 14.8-15.35 GHz was finalized. These documents will be presented at the SG-5 meeting, likely to be held from December 2 to 3, 2024, in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting decided to carry forward five documents to the next WP-5D meeting, which will be held from February 4 to 13, 2025, in Geneva, Switzerland.

TRAI Consultation Papers

Consultation Papers	Submission Dates	Status	Submission
Terms and Conditions for the Assignment of Spectrum for Certain Satellite-Based Commercial Communication Services	18th Oct 2024	Under Development	-
Review of the Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference Regulations, 2018	9th Oct 2024	SUBMITTED	FILE1

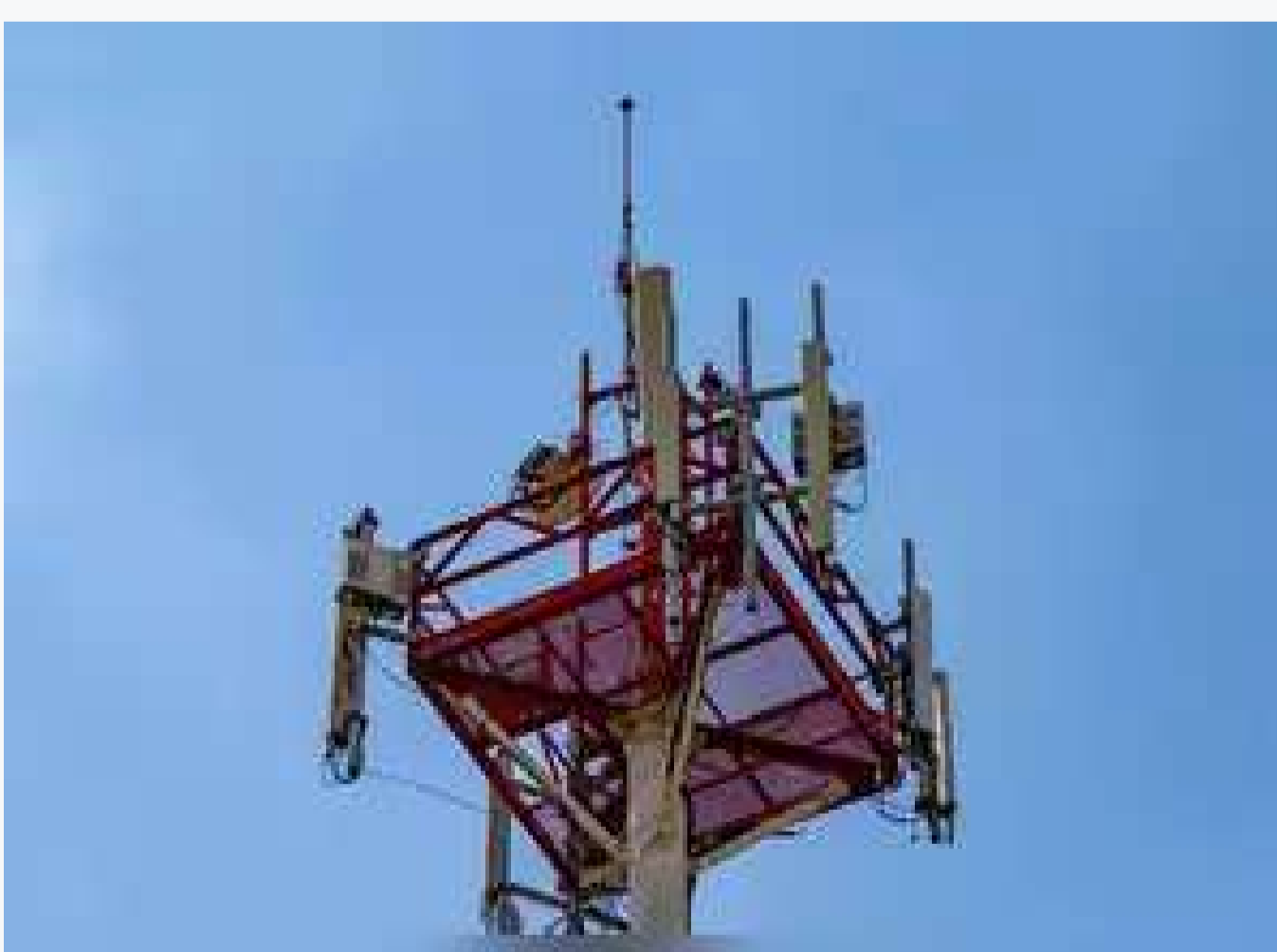
Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates	IAFI Preparatory Meetings
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	-
ITU-R: Working Party 6C (WP 6C)	04th - 08th Nov 2024	22th Oct 2024	-
ITU-R: Working Party 1B (WP 1B)	05th - 08th Nov 2024	23th Oct 2024	-
ITU-R: Working Party 6A (WP 6A)	05th - 13th Nov 2024	23th Oct 2024	-
APT: The 2nd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for WTDC-25 (APT WTDC25-2)	10th - 11th Dec 2024	30th Nov 2024	-

Telecom Stories:



After successfully deploying 5G across the nation in record time, India is fast advancing on 6G technology, and now ranks in the top league when it comes to filing patents related to 6G. The country now ranks among top six in global 6G patent filings. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has envisaged India to be a front-line contributor in the design, development and deployment of 6G technology by 2030. Under the 'Bharat 6G Ecosystem', the government is already evaluating 470 proposals on 'Accelerated research on 6G Ecosystem'. The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has funded two next-generation testbeds to advance the 6G research.



In a big step towards launch of satcom services in India, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has allowed provisional allocation of satellite spectrum to eligible players for a period of six months, giving a boost to firms like Bharti-backed Eutelsat Oneweb and Reliance Jio's satellite arm to test their services.

The spectrum will be given so that companies can demonstrate all the compliances related to security and technical conditions. The DoT has stated that spectrum can be given only to firms which have secured license from DoT as well as In-Space authorisation certificate. So far, apart from Oneweb and Jio-SES combine have got the requisite approvals.



Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel are adopting a cautious approach to expanding their 5G network. Reports indicate low capacity utilisation and delayed monetisation have slowed the rollout. Instead, Reliance Jio is placing greater emphasis on transitioning its 4G users to the more expensive, next-generation service. For now, telecom majors are prioritising need-based 5G expansion over aggressive growth.

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