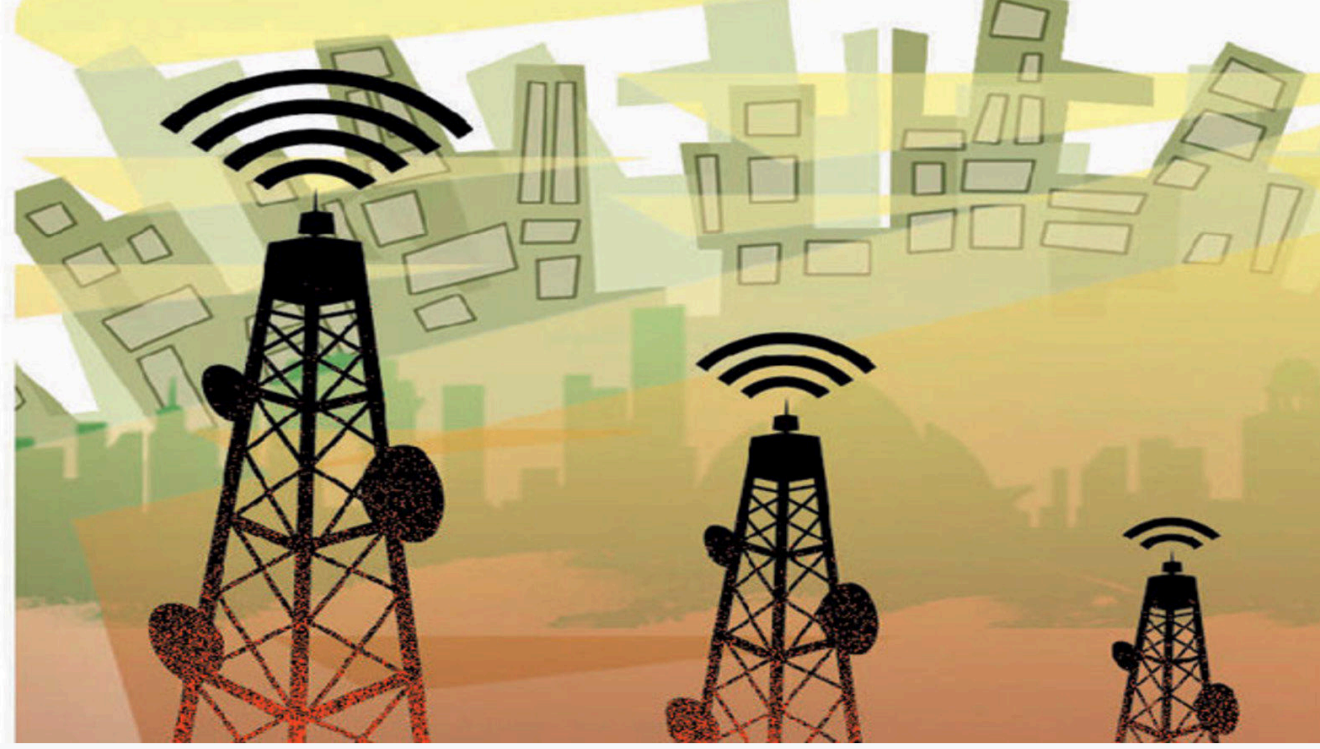


THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

IAFI News

IAFI comments on TRAI consultation paper regarding M2M



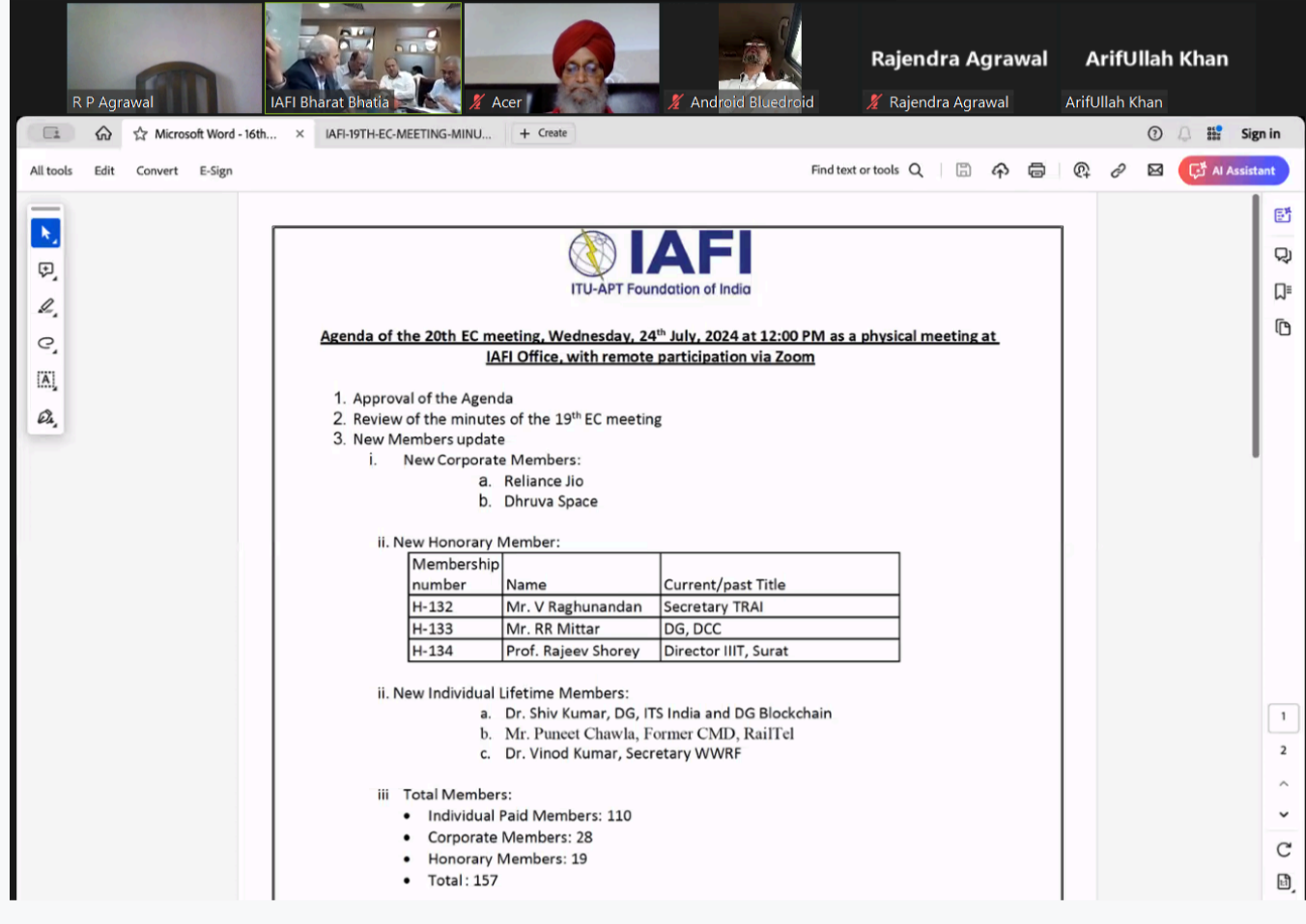
In Sept, 2017, TRAI provided its recommendations on 'Spectrum, Roaming and QoS for Machine-to-Machine (M2M) Communications. One of the recommendations was regarding the identification of Critical Services in M2M sector. Considering the specific and critical needs of such services and to have a wider understanding of sectorial requirements of critical M2M applications, an Inter-Ministerial Working Group (IMWG) was constituted in Nov. 19 to deliberate all issues. IMWG submitted its report in March 21, identifying 20 services to be classified as critical. However, the DoT did not approve the IMWG recommendations and requested again TRAI to provide recommendations on the Identification of Critical Services in the M2M Sector and on the transfer of Ownership of M2M SIM. Therefore, TRAI released a new consultation paper to solicit comments of stakeholders on specific issues related to critical services in the M2M sector and the transfer of ownership of M2M SIMs. Consultation Paper was thoroughly examined by IAFI and after due consultation with industry partners, comments have been submitted to TRAI.

IAFI submitted a new contribution to FG-CD



During the last FG-CD meeting held at Lilongwe, Malawi from 9-10 April 2024, IAFI submitted a contribution I-038 regarding Infrastructure Sharing, wherein IAFI proposed to update the ITU-T recommendation D.264 regarding "Shared use of telecommunication infrastructure as possible method for enhancing the efficiency of the telecommunications", as these recommendations were issued by ITU-T in April, 2020 and since then many technological development has been taken place, in respect of infrastructure sharing. Contribution was discussed in detail and consented by the floor. In continuation of the above, IAFI now proposed to submit a contribution for updating the existing recommendation D.264, in the upcoming meeting of the FG-CD likely to be held from 05-06 Aug, 2024, in virtual mode.

IAFI's 20th EC Meeting held on 24-07-2024 and Call for IAFI Biannual elections



IAFI's 20th EC Meeting was held on 24-07-2024 at IAFI office, Barakhamba Road, New Delhi in a hybrid mode. ECM was attended by 22 IAFI members, EC members received an update on Individual, Lifetime, and Corporate Memberships. The ECM also welcomed new Lifetime Members: Ms. Gunjan Dave, former Member (Technology), Digital Communication Commission; Shri V. Raghunandan, former Secretary (TRAI); Shri R R Mittra, former Director General, Department of Telecom and Chairman, WTS-24; Prof. Rajeev Shorey, Director, IIIT, Surat; Dr. Shiv Kumar, Principal Advisor, BIF; and Shri Puneet Chawla, former CMD RailTel. In addition to the above, two new corporates joined as IAFI corporate member, M/s Reliance Jio and M/s Dhruv Space. The EC also decided to hold the next AGM of IAFI on 30th August at CSOI New Delhi. Members were also informed that the IAFI biannual elections for the management team are now due and will be held on August 30, 2024. Some members suggested deferring the election process for two years, citing the smooth operation of the current body. However, Shri Bhatia advocated for adhering to the established procedure and completing the election process as scheduled. So, it has been decided to hold the election of the Governing Body of the IAFI, on 30th Aug, 2024. Detailed notice has been issued calling for nominations. Following is the schedule for IAFI Elections:

- Receipt of Nominations Forms: 29-07-2024 to 16-08-2024
- Scrutiny / Withdrawal of Nominations: 19-08-2024 to 23-08-2024
- Publication of the Final List of Nominees: 28-08-2024
- Date of Election: 30-08-2024 at 3:00 PM at CSOI, K. G. Marg, New Delhi-110001

Union Budget earmark Rs 1.29 Lakh Crore for Telecom Sector



Union Government has proposed the allocation of Rs 1.28 lakh crore for telecom projects and public sector firms under the telecom ministry with a majority of funds earmarked for state-owned BSNL. Of the total proposed allocation, over Rs one lakh crore is meant for BSNL and MTNL-related expenses, including Rs 82,916 crore infusion in BSNL for technology upgradation and restructuring of BSNL. The budget has made provision of Rs 34.46 crore for Technology Development and Investment Promotion, Rs 70 crore for Champion Service Sector Scheme and Rs 1,806.34 crore for Production Linked Incentive Scheme.

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	File 1
Revision of National Numbering Plan	01st Aug 2024	Under Development	-
The Framework for Service Authorisations to be Granted Under the Telecommunications Act, 2023	01st Aug 2024	Under Development	-

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates
ITU-T: TSAG- Telecommunication Standardization Advisory Group	29th July - 02nd Aug 2024	17th July 2024
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 WTS-24 (APT WTS-24-5)	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

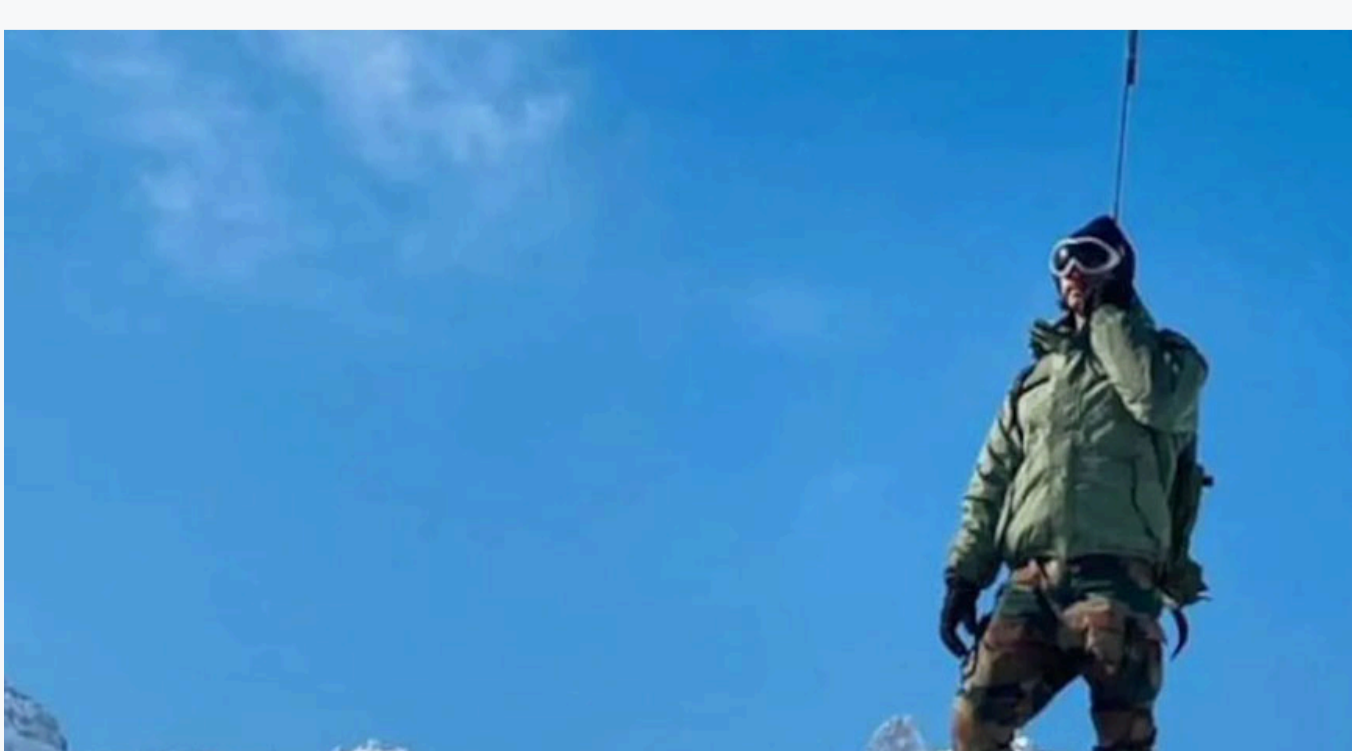
Telecom Stories:



The Government is cognizant of the need to create guardrails to ensure that AI is safe and trusted. Accordingly, the Central Government after extensive public consultations with relevant stakeholders has notified the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 ("IT Rules, 2021") on 25.02.2021 which were subsequently amended 28.10.2022 and 6.4.2023.



Mobile phone and specified components makers under the PLI scheme for large scale electronics manufacturing have cumulatively invested Rs 8,282 crore till June 2024, Parliament was informed on Wednesday. Minister of State for Electronics and IT Jitin Prasad in a written reply to Lok Sabha said that a total of 32 companies were approved with committed investment of Rs 11,324 crore and a projected production target of Rs 10.7 lakh crore under the PLI (Production Linked Incentive) scheme for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing.



The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) shared an update on telecom infrastructure in Kargil to ensure seamless mobile connectivity for jawans stationed in the region. On the occasion of Vijay Diwas on July 26, 2024, the DoT shared an image on its social media platforms of a man standing atop a snowy peak in Kargil. "Enabling telecom connectivity for our Jawans in Kargil," read the post. The message also highlighted the remarkable altitude of "16,000 ft," emphasising the achievement in providing connectivity at such heights. The DoT concluded the tweet with the hashtag, "KargilVijayDiwas".

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