

THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

IAFI News

The 24th Meeting of the South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC-24)



IAFI virtually attended the 24th annual meeting of the South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC-24), organized by the APT in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 03 rd to 05 th October, 2023, to discuss issues in the area of telecommunication and ICT that are common for the regulators of SATRC Members. The meeting was hosted by the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC). The meeting discussed the key policy and regulatory issues of the SATRC countries and approved the outcomes of SATRC Action Plan Phase VIII and adopted SATRC Action Plan Phase IX.

India's telecom success story specially the Digital Revolution and speediest 5G launch was discussed, as Indian telecom operators have surpassed the three-year 5G network rollout target given to them within six months and acquired 100 million customers in less than a year, the second largest 5G subscribers in the world after China.

First meeting of the Focus Group - Costing Models (FG-CD) for Affordable Data Services



The first meeting of the FOCUS GROUP (FG) on Costing of Data to study and explore the various costing models for providing affordable data services was held in New Delhi India on 05 th to 06 th October, 2023. This focus group has been created by the ITU-T SG3 based on an initiative by the IAFI. It may be recalled that IAFI had submitted a contribution number SG-3-C028 in SG-3 of ITU-T meeting, held on 11-11-2022, with a proposal to create a FOCUS GROUP (FG) on Costing of Data to study and explore the various costing models for providing affordable data services. Initially countries from several regions found interest in the proposal and recognized its importance, to study the costing models, as a standardized benchmarking model as currently not available. However some countries wanted to see the detailed Term of Reference (ToR) of the FG. Therefore IAFI re-submitted the proposal jointly with Indian Administration, TRAI and TCOE, in the SG-3 meeting (SG-3-C64), held in March, 2023. Meeting agreed to create a new Focus Group on costing model for the affordable data services, under the chairmanship of Shri Shailendra Kumar Mishra of India.

The ITU and the TRAI also organized a workshop on "Cost Models for Data Services and International Internet Connectivity", on 4 th October 2023 at Lalit Hotel, New Delhi.

Meeting of National Preparatory Workshop for WRC-23



IAFI continued to participate in the various Working groups under the WRC-23 National preparatory Committee. This week WG1 and WG4 meetings were held.

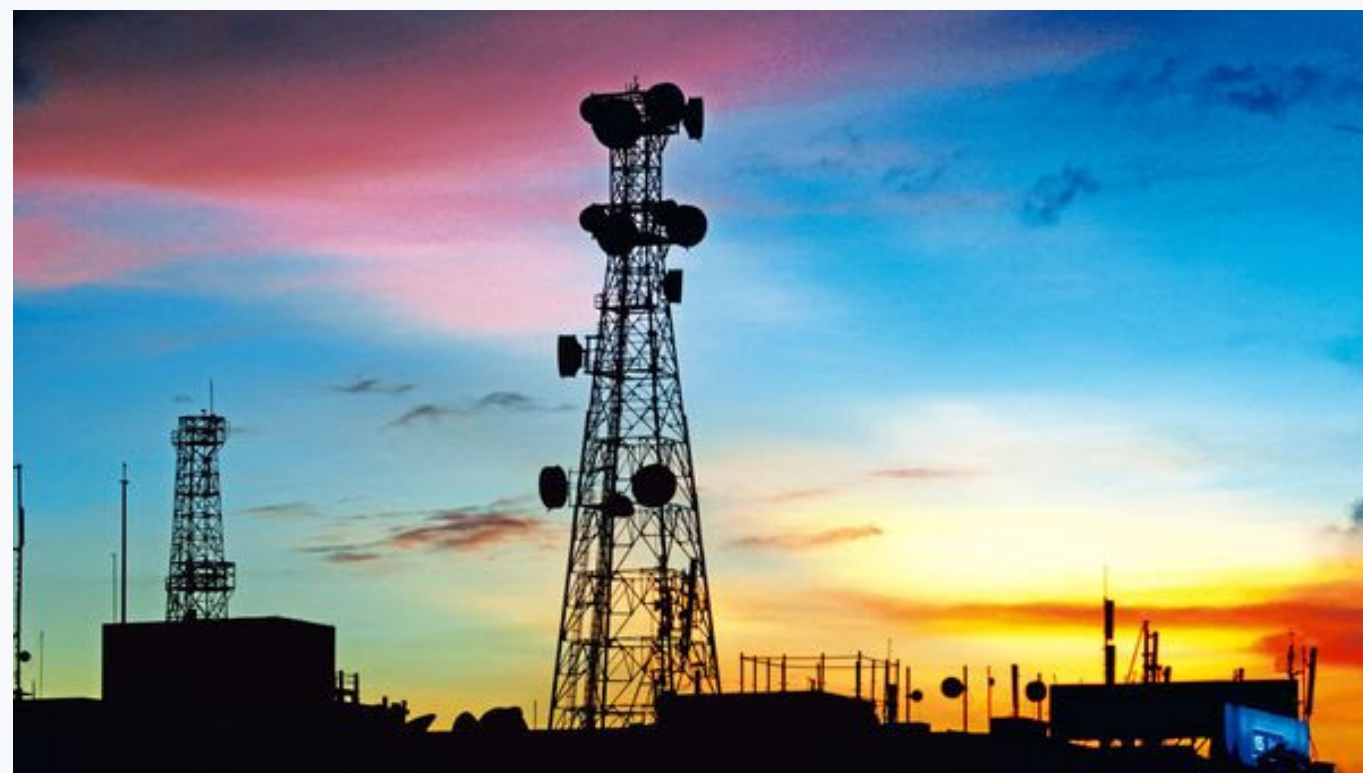
TRAI Consultation Papers

| Consultation Papers | Submission Dates | status |
|--|------------------|-------------------|
| OPEN AND DE-LICENSED USE OF UNUSED OR LIMITED USED SPECTRUM BANDS FOR DEMAND GENERATION FOR LIMITED PERIOD IN TERA HERTZ RANGE | 25th Oct 2023 | Under Development |
| ASSIGNMENT OF SPECTRUM IN E&V BANDS, AND SPECTRUM FOR MICROWAVE ACCESS (MWA) & MICROWAVE BACKBONE (MWB) | 25th Oct 2023 | Under Development |
| REVIEW OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF PMRTS AND CMRTS LICENSES | 24 Oct 2023 | Under Development |

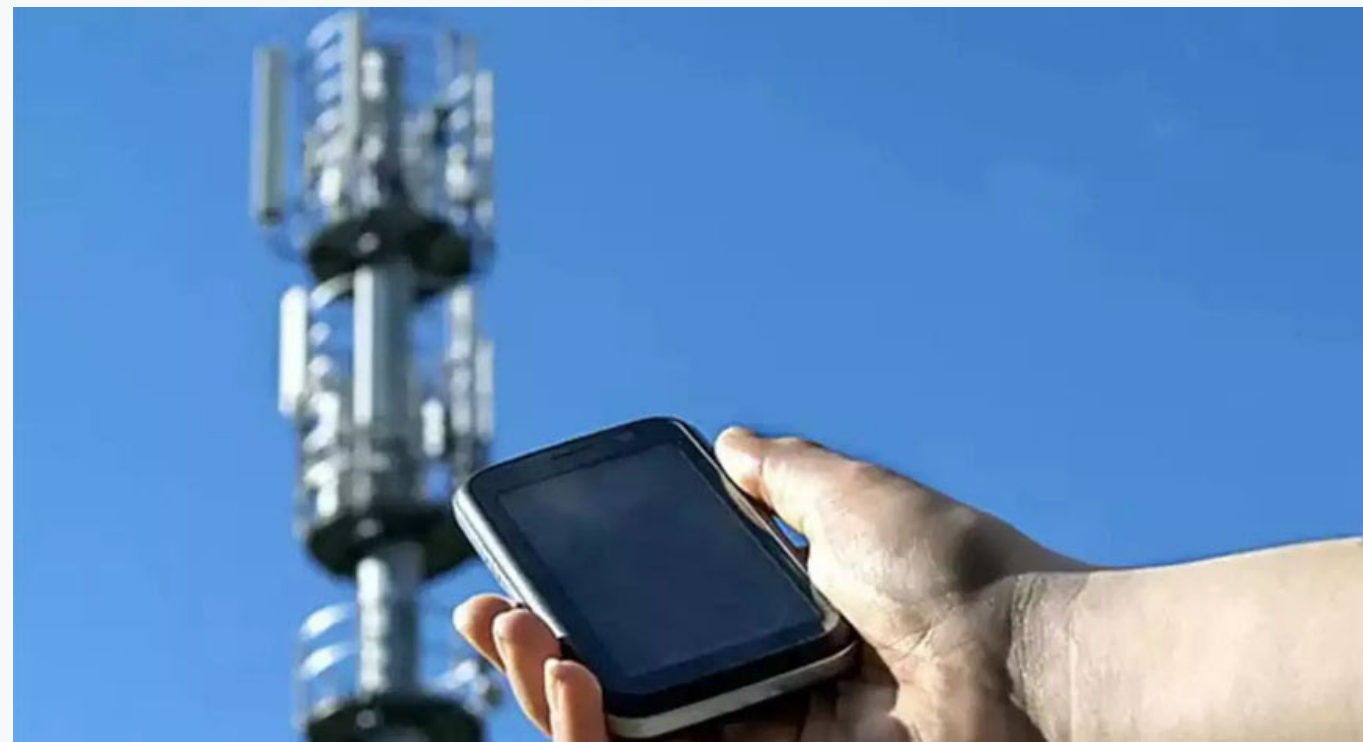
Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

| Meeting | Dates | Submission Dates |
|---|--------------------------|------------------|
| ITU: Council Working Group on WSIS & SDGs | 17th Oct 2023 | 10th Oct 2023 |
| ITU-R: Radio Regulations Board (RRB) | 23rd Oct - 27th Oct 2023 | 16th Oct 2023 |
| ITU-T: SG13 - Future networks and emerging network technologies | 23rd Oct - 3rd Nov 2023 | 16th Oct 2023 |
| ITU-R: ITU World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23) | 20th Nov - 15th Dec 2023 | 20th Oct 2023 |

Telecom Stories:



JM Financials report on telecom industry has stated that Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel, two major telecom players in India, are expected to invest about ₹75,000 crore in the current financial year to strengthen their networks, reported PTI The report said Reliance Jio may invest around ₹42,000 crore and Bharti Airtel around ₹33,000 crore in FY24, but the investment will taper down after their 5G network rollout target is met as per their announcement.



The department of telecommunications (DOT) and the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) are at loggerheads over the high connection rates charged by telcos and internet service providers (ISPs) from public data offices (PDOs). PDOs are local outlets deploying public Wi-Fi hotspots under the Prime Minister Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM Wani) programme.



NEW DELHI: Indian telecom operators' 5G monetisation strategy will be a mix of different offerings and use cases as they expand their coverage and capacity across the country, Ericsson India's managing director said, adding that the launch of Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) is a good start for them to kick start their 5G monetization strategy as it will add up to their revenues.

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