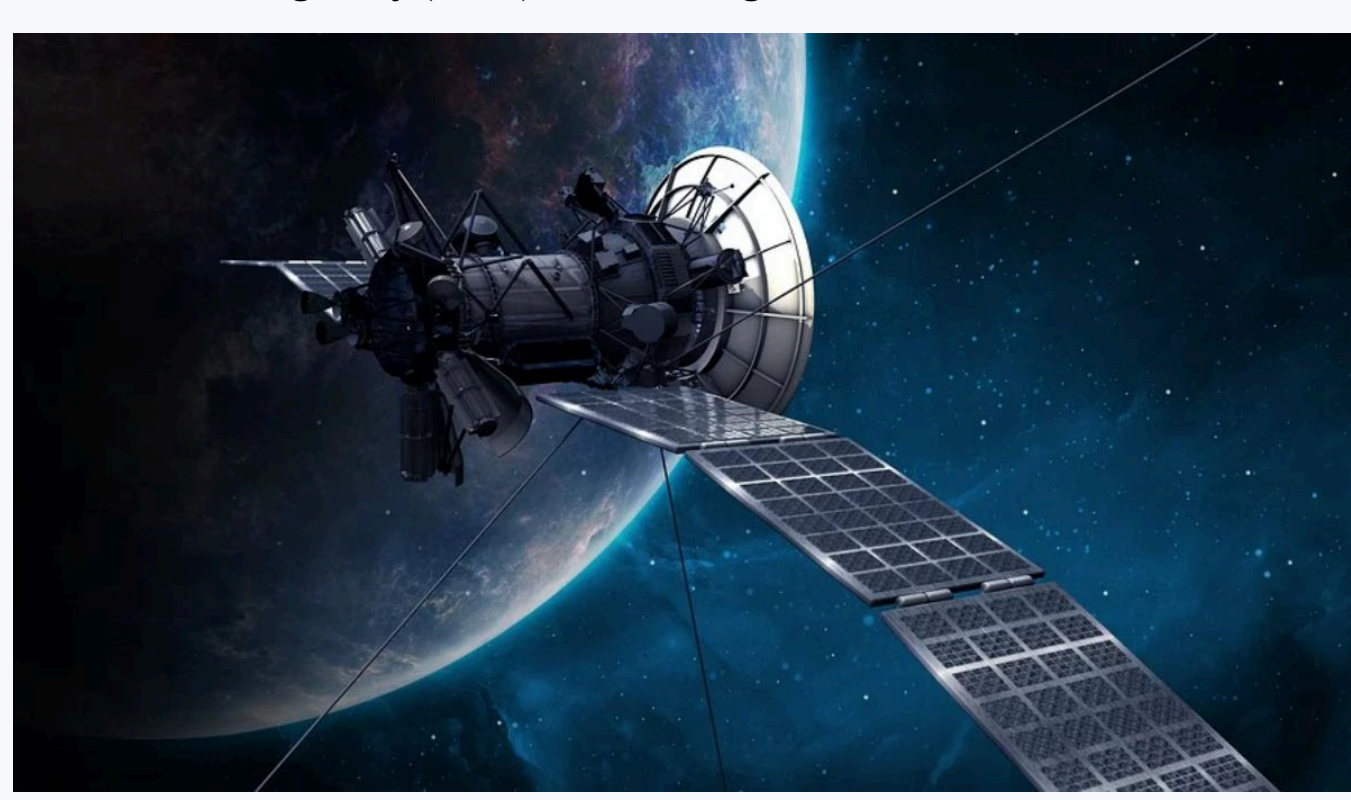


APT Plenipotentiary Conference (APT PP26-3)



The Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) organized the 3rd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2026 (APT PP26-3) from 30 March to 2 April 2026 in Bangkok, Thailand, via a physical meeting with a remote participation modality. Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI attended the meeting physically along with many other IAFI members. The Meeting was hosted by the National Broadcasting and Telecommunications Commission (NBTC) of the Kingdom of Thailand. A total of 231 people attended the meeting, including 156 physical participants. A total of 36 contributions were discussed, with India submitting the highest number (12 contributions) and China submitting 10. Four information documents from CITEEL, CEPT, RCC, and the ITU were also presented and discussed. The 4th Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2026 (APT PP26-4) will be held from 15 to 19 June 2026 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

National Working Party (NWP) – 4C Meeting



WPC wing of DoT organized a virtual meeting of the National Working Party (NWP)-4C on 30-03-2026 at 14030 Hrs. under the Chairmanship of Ms. Sofi of ISRO. IAFI proposal regarding CPM text of Agenda Item 1.13 was discussed and approved with some editorial changes

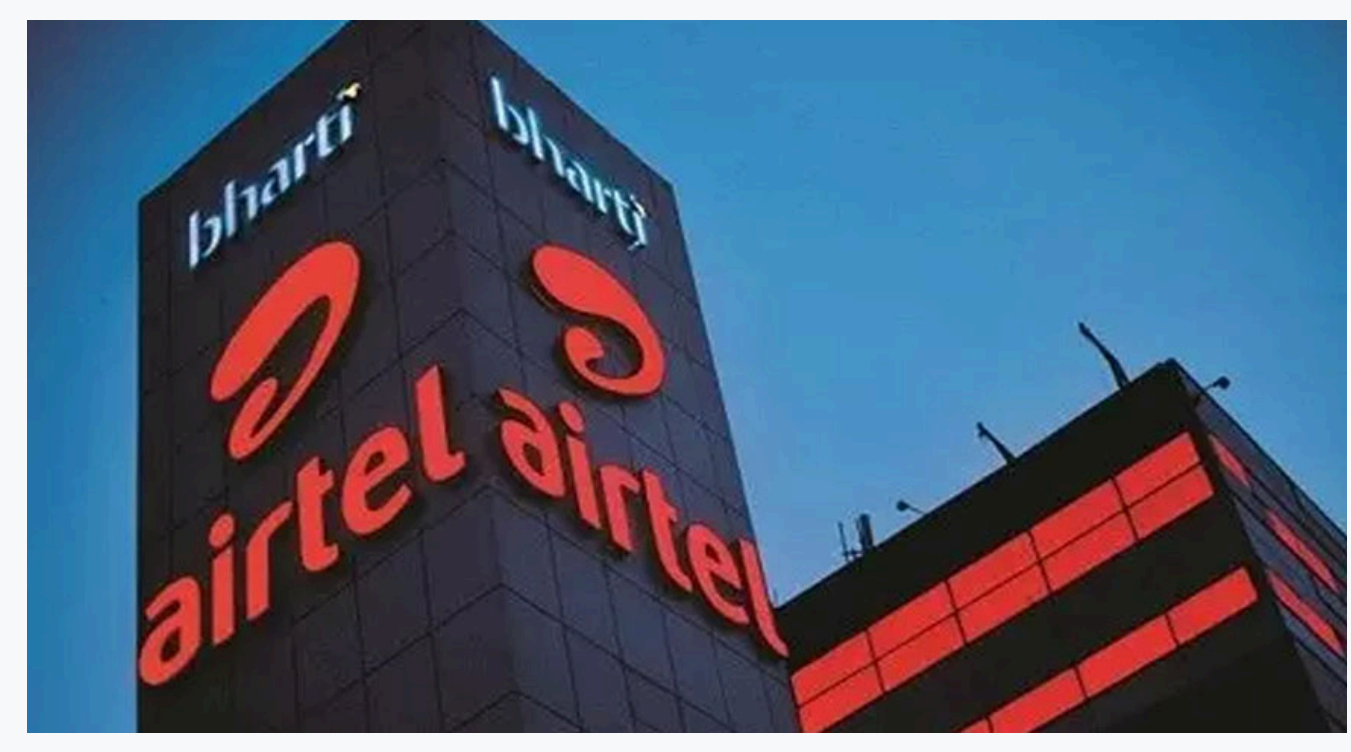
National Study Group 4 (NSG – 4) Meeting



WPC wing of DoT organized a virtual meeting of the National Study Group 4 (NSG – 4) on 01-04-2026 at 14030 Hrs. under the Chairmanship of Ms. Revathi Mannepalli, JWA, WPC. The meeting considered the following documents and took appropriate actions as described below:

1. The document on "Sharing and compatibility studies between the incumbent RDSS systems (i.e., NavIC in the 2 483.5 - 2 500 MHz band) and the envisaged MSS systems for DC-MSS-IMT in the 2.5/2.6 GHz frequency bands for Agenda Item 1.13 of WRC-27" was approved with the condition that ISRO should make the "methodology of the study" section before the "Results" section and resubmit to NSG-4.
2. The document on "Incumbent system characteristics in the 2.4/2.5/2.6 GHz frequency bands for sharing and compatibility studies for Agenda Item 1.13" was approved with a few editorial corrections.
3. The document on "system characteristics for conducting sharing studies under WRC-27 agenda item 1.11" was approved with the condition that ISRO would work with Coordinator NWP 4A-2 to improve the Introduction part of the document.
4. The document on "Preliminary Draft Revision to Recommendation ITU-R M.1787" was approved with the condition that ISRO would suitably incorporate text at the beginning of this document to reflect that this document is being resubmitted for consideration of WP4C.
5. The document on "update to the working document towards draft CPM text for agenda Item 1.13 of WRC-27" was approved with the condition that IAFI would correct the error in Table in the resolves 1.
6. The document on "Compatibility study between RAS and MSS for DC-MSS-IMT space stations and IMT U/E under WRC-27 Agenda Item 1.13" to be reintroduced to the stakeholders by NCRA, Pune.

Bharti Airtel Crosses 650 Million Global Subscriber Milestone



Bharti Airtel has officially reached 650 million subscribers across its operations in India and Africa. This achievement firmly establishes Airtel as the world's second-largest telecommunications operator by mobile customer base. China Mobile currently retains the top spot globally, boasting over 1 billion mobile subscribers on its network.

TRAI Consultation Paper

Consultation Paper	Submission Dates	Status
Consultation on Draft Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2026.	12th April 2026	Under Development

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates
ITU: Telecommunication Development Advisory Group	07th -10th April 2026	24th March 2026
APT: The 36th Meeting of the APT Wireless Group (AWG-36)	06th - 10th April 2026	30th March 2026
APT: The 38th APT Standardization Program Forum (ASTAP-38)	20th - 24th April 2026	13th April 2026
ITU-R: WP 4C – Efficient Orbit/Spectrum Utilization for MSS and RDSS	22nd April - 01st May 2026	10th April 2026
ITU-R: WP 4B – Systems, air interfaces, performance and availability objectives for FSS, BSS and MSS	29th April - 05th May 2026	17th April 2026
ITU-R: WP 4A – Efficient Orbit/Spectrum Utilization for FSS and BSS	04th - 14th May 2026	22nd April 2026
ITU-R: SG 4 – Satellite Services	15th May 2026	03rd May 2026
ITU-R: WP 5A – Land mobile service above 30 MHz; amateur and satellite services	18th - 26th May 2026	06th May 2026
ITU-R: WP 5C – Fixed wireless systems; HF and other systems below 30 MHz	18th - 29th May 2026	06th May 2026
ITU-R: WP 5B – Maritime mobile service including GMDSS; aeronautical mobile service	19th - 28th May 2026	07th May 2026
ITU-R: WP 5D – IMT Systems	27th May - 05th June 2026	15th May 2026
APT: The 3rd Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-27 (APG27-3)	27th - 31st July 2026	20th July 2026

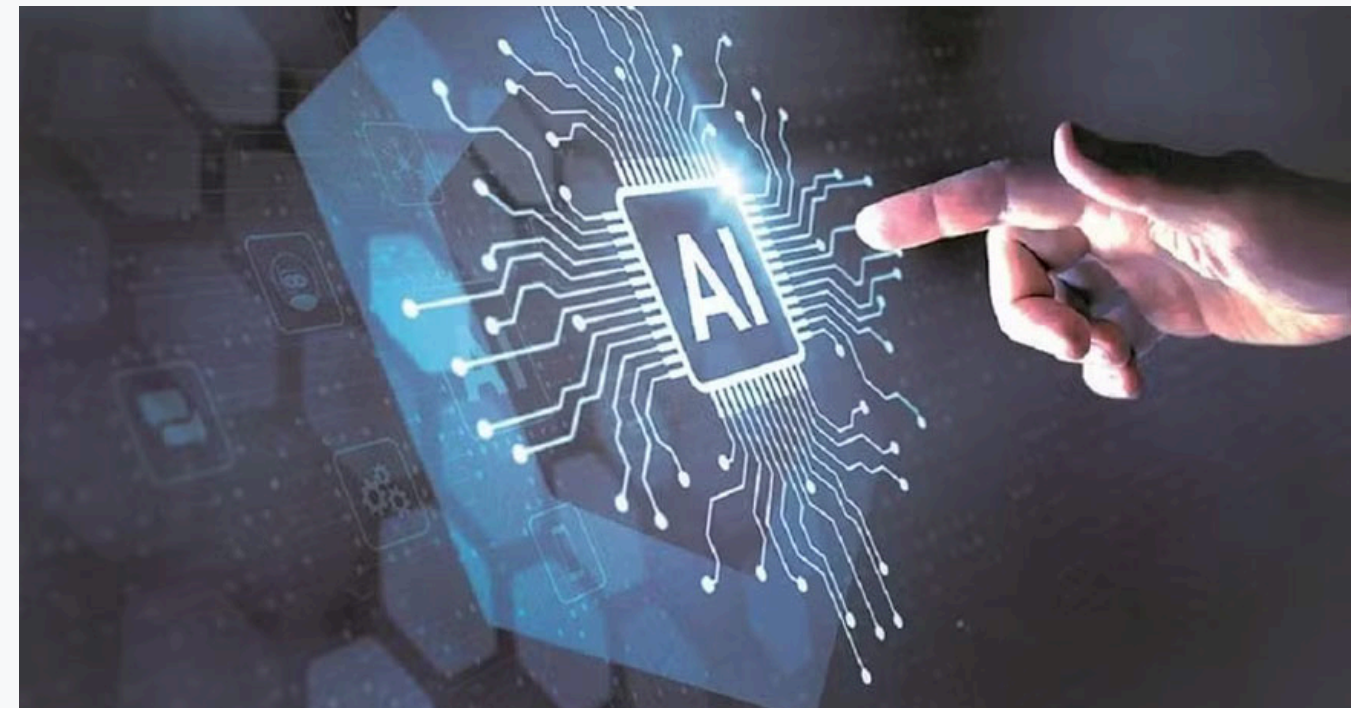
Telecom Stories:



Union Minister of Communications and Development of North Eastern Region, Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, informed the Lok Sabha about the quality of telecom services in YSR Kadapa district of Andhra Pradesh. In a written reply to a question on the subject, the Union Minister stated that the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has laid down Quality of Service (QoS) benchmarks for telecom service providers and mandates them to declare typical download and upload speeds in their tariff offerings. He informed that these benchmarks have recently been made more stringent and TRAI also publishes monthly reports on the performance of telecom service providers against these parameters.



Union Electronics and Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said four semiconductor plants are expected to be ready in India by 2026, as he outlined an accelerated roadmap for the sector following the inauguration of a new facility in Gujarat. In comments after Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Keynes Semicon's OSAT plant in Sanand, Vaishnav said: "In 2026, four plants will be ready, and two plants in 2027. India's first fabrication unit will be ready in Dholera by 2028." The Sanand unit is the country's second semiconductor plant to be inaugurated in quick succession, he noted. "The first plant of Micron Technology was inaugurated on February 28, and today, on March 31, the second plant has been inaugurated. The third plant will be inaugurated in July," he said.



The Government of India is taking measures to promote adoption of Artificial Intelligence and digital technologies, including for MSMEs. The IndiaAI Mission is a comprehensive initiative, approved by the Government on 7th March 2024 with a budgetary outlay of ₹10,371.92 crore. India AI mission encompasses key pillars of the AI ecosystem including, India AI Compute Capacity, India AI Innovation Centre, India AI Datasets Platform, India AI Application Development Initiative, India AI Future Skills, India AI Startup Financing etc.

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