

THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

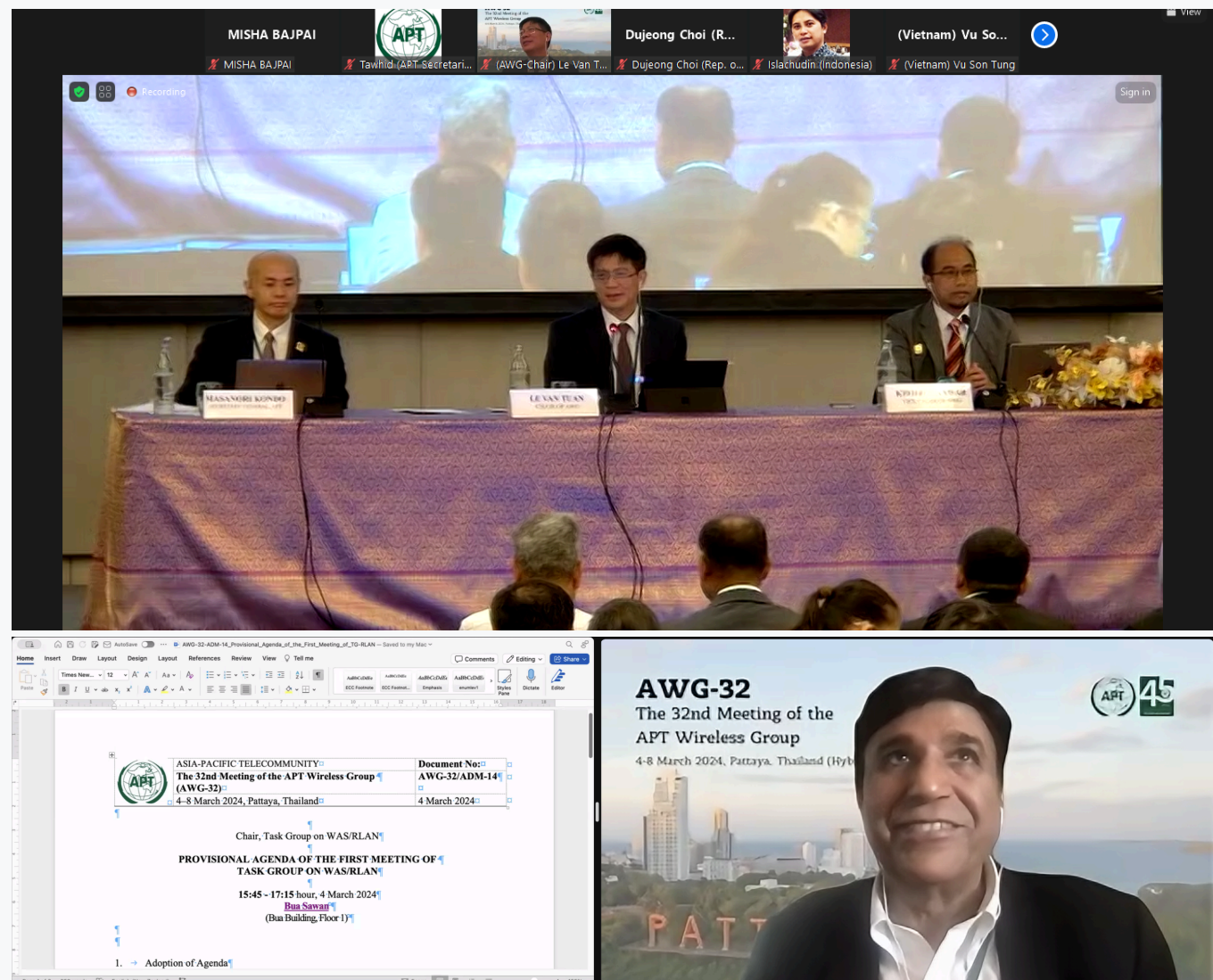
IAFI News

IAFI urged Hon'ble Minister of Communications to urgently delicense lower 6 GHz spectrum from 5925-6425 MHz for Wi-Fi use.



The ITU-APT Foundation of India (IAFI) urged the Minister of Communications to delicense the lower 6 GHz band (5925-6425 MHz) for Wi-Fi use, to boost domestic manufacturing, innovation, and exports across various sectors. Currently, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) permits Wi-Fi only in the 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz bands, offering a combined spectrum of 600 MHz, which falls short of the growing demand exceeding 2 GHz. IAFI highlights that several major economies, including the United States, Canada, France, Germany, the United Kingdom, Singapore, and the United Arab Emirates, have already delicensed the 5925-6425 MHz band for Wi-Fi 6e. Therefore, IAFI strongly urged the Minister to urgently delicense the 5925-6425 MHz band to support domestic innovation and align India with global trends in Wi-Fi spectrum allocation.

32nd APT/AWG-32 meeting started at Pataya, Bangkok



The IAFI Radio Group, in collaboration with its industry partners, convened a meeting to finalize contributions for the upcoming AWG-32 meeting expected to take place in Pattaya, Bangkok, from March 4th to 8th. Following thorough discussions, 6 key issues were identified for further study and development of IAFI's contribution for AWG-32 and relevant contributions have been finalized.

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1.	Updates to working document towards new APT Report on PMSE frequency usage in the 470-806 MHz band in Asia Pacific region
2.	AWG hosted 6G workshop
3.	Proposed updates to working document towards a draft new APT Report on technology and regulatory developments for the delivery of 5G/IMT-2020 applications in the mobile satellite service
4.	Proposed revision to working document towards a preliminary draft revision of APT Report on point-to-point radiocommunication systems operating in the frequency range 252-296 GHz
5.	Further updates to working document towards a draft new APT Report on deployment approaches and solutions for IMT-2020/5G use case
6.	Further updates to the proposed working document towards a draft new APT Report on WAS in Asia Pacific
7.	Finalization of working document towards a draft new APT Report on operational characteristics of a Non-GSO FSS earth station terminal on vessels and aircraft nominally operated under FSS operating in the frequency bands 10.7-12.75 GHz (space-to-earth) and 14-14.5 GHz (earth-to-space).

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates	IAFI preparatory Meetings
ITU-R: Radio Regulations Board (RRB)	04th - 08th Mar 2024	26th Feb 2024	-
APT: The 32nd Meeting of the APT Wireless Group (AWG-32)	04th - 08th Mar 2024	26th Feb 2024	-
ITU-R: Working Party 6A (WP 6A) - Terrestrial broadcasting delivery	05th - 13th Mar 2024	27th Feb 2024	-
ITU-T: SG13 - Future networks and emerging network technologies	04th - 15th Mar 2024	26th Feb 2024	-
ITU-R: Working Party 6B (WP 6B) - Broadcast service assembly and access	11th - 14th Mar 2024	04th Mar 2024	-
APT: The 3rd Meeting of APT Preparatory Group for WTS-24 (APT WTS-24-3)	30th April - 02nd May 2024	23rd April 2024	-

Telecom Stories:



Google on Saturday (March 2) restored some of the Indian applications like Bharat Matrimony and Naukri that it had delisted from its Play Store over a disagreement regarding service fee payments. The development comes hours after the Centre strongly opposed the tech giant's move stating that the delisting of Indian apps cannot be permitted and that the startup ecosystem is key to the Indian economy and their fate cannot be left to any big tech to decide. India's IT and Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw told news agency PTI, "India is very clear, our policy is very clear...our startups will get the protection that they need." Vaishnaw had said that next week he would meet the Google officials and the app developers who were delisted.



The Indian government is working on improving the performance-linked incentives (PLI) to improve the flow of foreign direct investments, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh said. India currently has 14 PLI schemes across sectors like bulk drugs, medical devices, pharmaceuticals, telecom, white goods, food processing, textiles, and drones, to name a few. Latest data showed that FDI inflows in India fell 13% between April and December 2023. The fall was prominent in computer hardware, software, telecom, automobiles, and pharmaceuticals. These are areas where the government has already offered production-linked incentives.



Commissioning UN telecom body ITU and state-run NICF conducted a workshop for the Department of Telecom officials and telecom industry representatives on the process for shaping up the country's proposals into global standards, an official statement said on Wednesday. The two-day workshop on "Bridging the Standardization Gap on Effectiveness in Standardization" was conducted in Geneva ahead of the first-ever global meet World Telecom Standardization Assembly to be hosted by India.

While India is a large data producer and consumer of Information and Communication Technology services, standardisation activities are at present dominated by China and the West.

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