

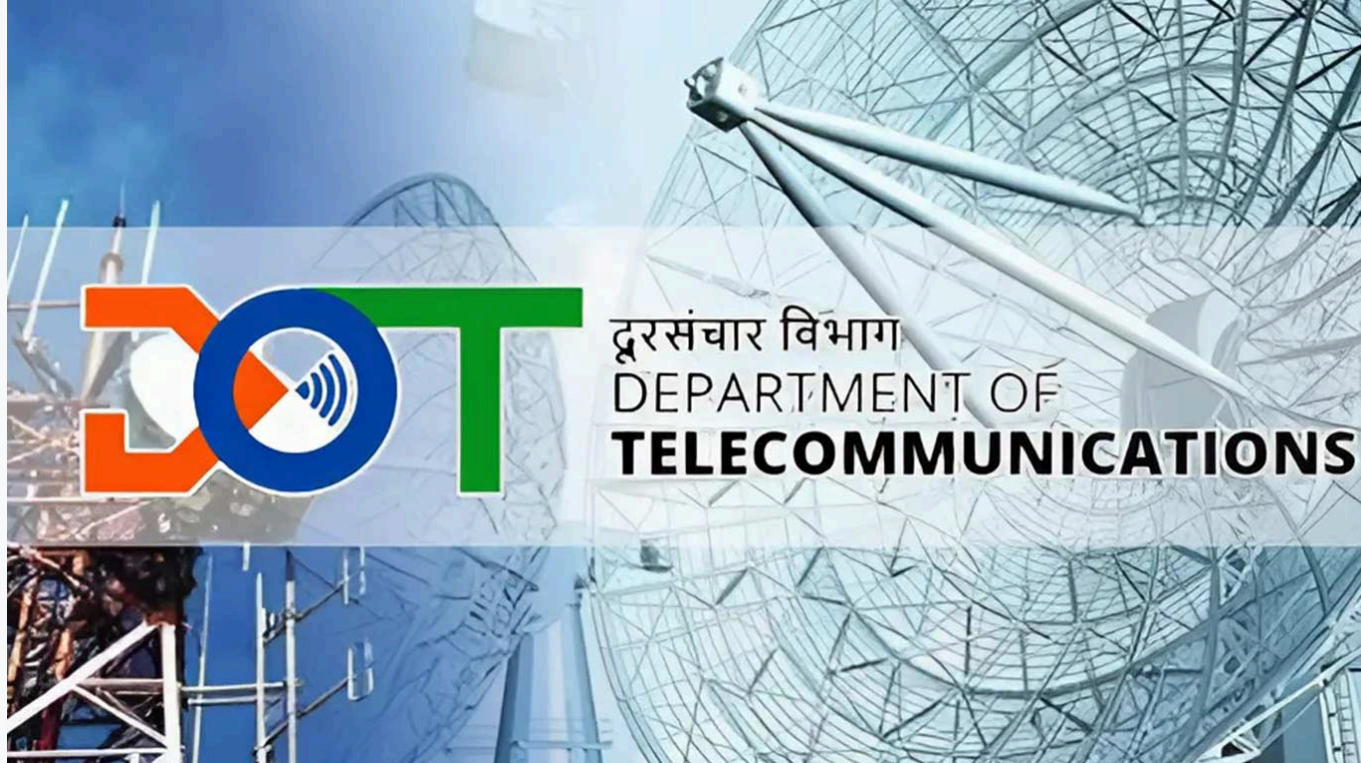
## IAFI News

### 11th Meeting of the National Study Group 4 (NSG4)



The 11th Meeting of the NSG-4 was held virtually on 27-09-2025 at 1500 Hrs, under the chairmanship of Ms. M. Revathi, Joint Wireless Adviser, WPC Wing and coordinated by Shri Amit Gulati, Sr DWA. Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI along with others attended the meeting. Six documents, as approved and received from NWP 4A-1, NWP 4A-2 and NWP 4C, were discussed in the meeting. These included (1) a proposal for draft CPM text on WRC-27 Agenda Item 1.5; (2) a draft on WRC-27 AI 1.3; (3) an initial sharing and compatibility studies between the systems operating in India under the existing MSS and BSS allocations and RDSS allocation and the envisaged MSS systems for direct connectivity in the 2.5/2.6 GHz frequency bands; (4) regulatory provisions for space-to-space links among non-geostationary and geostationary satellites in L and S Bands; (5) Characteristics of Giant Metre-wave Radio Telescope for WRC-27 Agenda Item 1.12; and (6) a proposal on aggregate interference from DC-MSS-IMT systems to terrestrial IMT for Agenda 1.13. After detailed discussion regarding document mentioned at S. No. (1) above, IAFI further updated the document and re-submitted for further discussion.

### IAFI submitted suggestions/comments on GSR-606



In alignment with the new Telecommunications Act, 2023, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) initiated the modernization of India's licensing regime by issuing the draft gazette notification regarding Telecommunications (Authorisation for Provision of Main Telecommunication Services) Rules, 2025 (GSR-606) for public consultation. This draft framework followed key inputs from the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI): the initial recommendations dated September 18, 2024, and TRAI's subsequent response to the DoT back-reference on February 28, 2025. IAFI conducted a detailed examination of the rules as proposed in the GSR-606 and based on this thorough review and extensive consultations with our members, IAFI submitted comprehensive comments and suggestions to the Joint Secretary (T), DoT for necessary action. IAFI's central and most critical request is for the DoT to reconsider its proposed regulatory framework for the satellite sector. Specifically, IAFI strongly urges the DoT to move beyond treating satellite technology as merely a delivery medium under existing licenses. Instead, IAFI advocates for the adoption of a separate, distinct authorization specifically tailored for satellite services, as recommended by TRAI on [18-09-2024](#) and reiterated on [28-02-2025](#). This approach is crucial for fostering investment and innovation within this rapidly evolving and specialized segment of the telecommunications industry.

### TRAI Launches Consultation on IMT Spectrum Auction



On September 30, 2025, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued a [Consultation Paper](#) to solicit comments from stakeholders regarding the upcoming auction of Radio Frequency Spectrum for International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) services. The consultation specifically addresses the auction of available spectrum across a comprehensive set of existing frequency bands. This includes - Low-Band: 800 MHz and 900 MHz; Mid-Band: 1800 MHz and 2100 MHz; TDD Bands: 2300 MHz and 2500 MHz and 5G/High-Band: 3300 MHz (mid-band) and the 26 GHz (millimetre-wave) band. The paper aims to gather stakeholder input on all aspects of the auction process for spectrum in these identified IMT frequency bands.

### India's 5G Milestone: BTS Count Surpasses Half a Million within three years



India has achieved a significant landmark in its rapid 5G rollout journey. According to data published by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), the official count of 5G Base Transceiver Stations (BTS) has crossed the half-million mark. As of the end of September 2025, the total number of [5G BTS](#) in the country reached 504,588. This figure represents robust growth, having increased from 498,135 at the end of the preceding month, August 2025. This milestone is particularly notable as it comes almost exactly three years after commercial 5G services were first launched in India by telecom operators in October 2022. Furthermore, DoT data indicates that the state of Uttar Pradesh (UP) currently leads the nation with the highest number of 57788 deployed 5G BTS sites.

### Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

| Meeting                                                                                   | Dates                | Submission Dates | IAFI Meeting |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------|
| ITU-R: Working Party 5D (WP 5D) - IMT Systems                                             | 07th - 16th Oct 2025 | 25th Sep 2025    | -            |
| APT: The 22nd APT Telecommunication/ICT Development Forum (ADF-22)                        | 14th - 16th Oct 2025 | 04th Oct 2025    | -            |
| ITU-R: Working Parties 4A, 4B and 4C                                                      | 15th - 24th Oct 2025 | 03rd Oct 2025    | -            |
| APT: The 26th Meeting of the South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC-26) | 05th - 07th Nov 2025 | 06th Oct 2025    | -            |

### Telecom Stories:



Union Telecom Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has announced that BSNL will upgrade its entire network of 4G towers to 5G within the next six to eight months. These 92,564 towers, based on indigenous technology and software, were deployed with the vision to serve every region from Kashmir to Kanyakumari and Bharuch to Arunachal Pradesh.

Scindia emphasized that India's entry into the exclusive club of 4G technology, previously dominated by global vendors, is a result of Indian innovation and enterprise. BSNL achieved this milestone by choosing domestic solutions over foreign vendors, showcasing the nation's capabilities in developing its own 4G stack within 22 months.



Union Minister Pemasani Chandra Sekhar has pulled up telecom operators and officials on public grievances particularly those related to call drops, network coverage and mobile number portability, official sources aware of the development said.

The minister held a meeting with telecom service providers, Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and DBN (Digital Bharat Nidhi) officials to deliberate on the issues raised by the public.

He advised Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) to ensure smooth and hassle-free mobile number portability, along with reliable network quality and urged all stakeholders to work in close coordination to provide seamless connectivity and better service experience for the public.



Indian telecom operators have been given an extension until December 31, 2025, to complete self-certification for 5G EMF (Electromagnetic Field) exposure compliance. This extension allows operators more time to adhere to regulatory requirements for monitoring and certifying that their 5G network installations meet safety norms regarding EMF emissions.

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