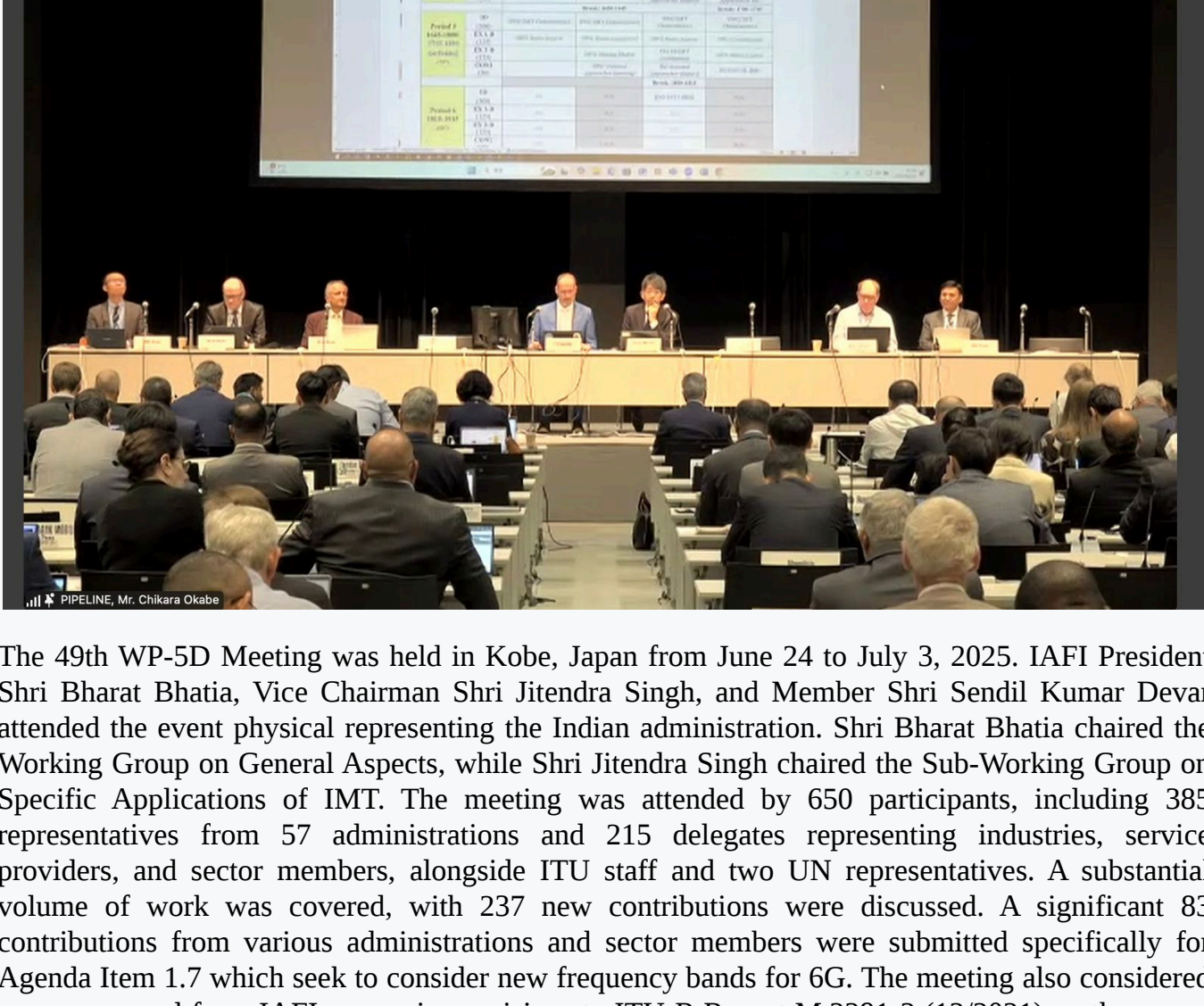


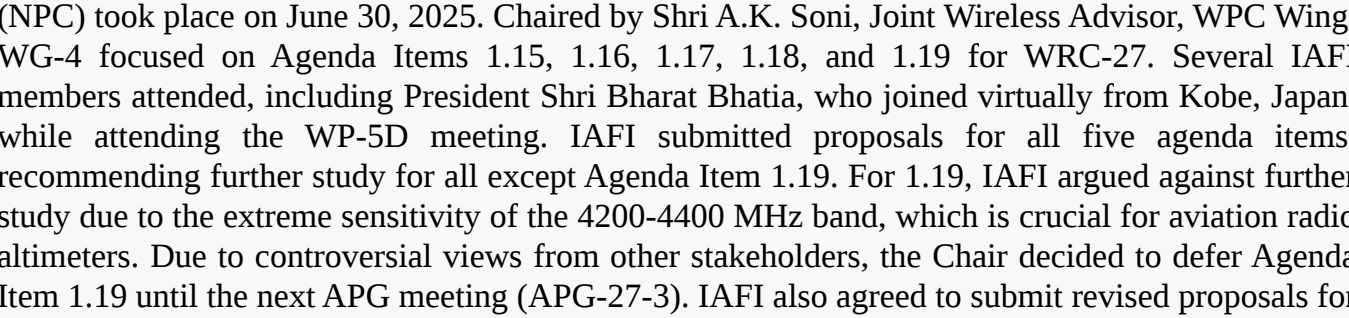
IAFI News

49th meeting of ITU-R WP-5D concludes on July 3, 2025



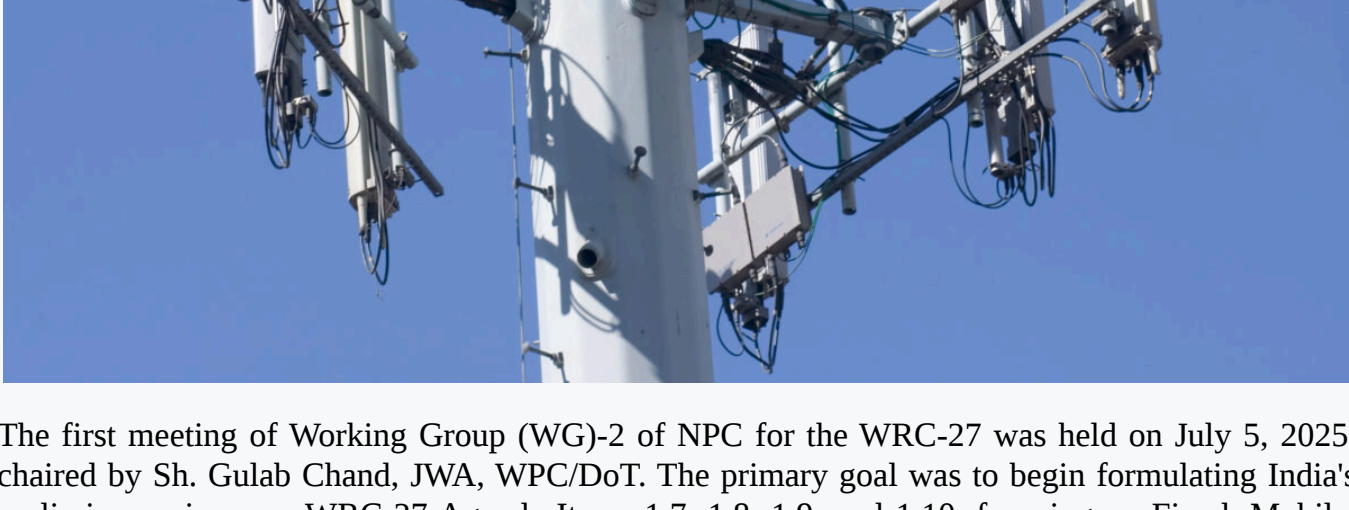
The 49th WP-5D Meeting was held in Kobe, Japan from June 24 to July 3, 2025. IAFI President Shri Bharat Bhatia, Vice Chairman Shri Jitendra Singh, and Member Shri Sendil Kumar Devar attended the event physical representing the Indian administration. Shri Bharat Bhatia chaired the Working Group on General Aspects, while Shri Jitendra Singh chaired the Sub-Working Group on Specific Applications of IMT. The meeting was attended by 650 participants, including 385 representatives from 57 administrations and 215 delegates representing industries, service providers, and sector members, alongside ITU staff and two UN representatives. A substantial volume of work was covered, with 237 new contributions were discussed. A significant 83 contributions from various administrations and sector members were submitted specifically for Agenda Item 1.7 which seek to consider new frequency bands for 6G. The meeting also considered a new proposal from IAFI, proposing revisions to ITU-R Report M.2291-2 (12/2021) on the use of International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) for PPDR applications. This proposal was agreed and a working document was developed to commence this activity.

First meeting of the Working Group 4 (WG-4) under NPC/DoT



The first hybrid meeting of Working Group-4 (WG-4) of the National Preparatory Committee (NPC) took place on June 30, 2025. Chaired by Shri A.K. Soni, Joint Wireless Advisor, WPC Wing, WG-4 focused on Agenda Items 1.15, 1.16, 1.17, 1.18, and 1.19 for WRC-27. Several IAFI members attended, including President Shri Bharat Bhatia, who joined virtually from Kobe, Japan, while attending the WP-5D meeting. IAFI submitted proposals for all five agenda items, recommending further study for all except Agenda Item 1.19. For 1.19, IAFI argued against further study due to the extreme sensitivity of the 4200-4400 MHz band, which is crucial for aviation radio altimeters. Due to controversial views from other stakeholders, the Chair decided to defer Agenda Item 1.19 until the next APG meeting (APG-27-3). IAFI also agreed to submit revised proposals for Agenda Items 1.15 and 1.18, incorporating minor updates suggested by other stakeholders.

Meeting of the Working Group-2 (WG-2) of National Preparatory Committee



The first meeting of Working Group (WG)-2 of NPC for the WRC-27 was held on July 5, 2025, chaired by Sh. Gulab Chand, JWA, WPC/DoT. The primary goal was to begin formulating India's preliminary views on WRC-27 Agenda Items 1.7, 1.8, 1.9, and 1.10, focusing on Fixed, Mobile, and Radiolocation issues. Proposals from IAFI were extensively discussed, with valuable inputs from ISRO and the Airport Authority of India (AAI), alongside contributions from industry and government. For Agenda Item 1.7 (IMT Spectrum Identification), India generally supports ongoing studies for IMT across the 4400-4800 MHz, 7125-8400 MHz, and 14.8-15.35 GHz bands. A key concern, strongly voiced by AAI and JCES, is the crucial protection of Radio Altimeters (RA) and Wireless Avionics Intra-Communications (WAIC) in the adjacent 4200-4400 MHz band. Industry noted that updated RA/WAIC performance characteristics, vital for further sharing studies, are expected by November 2025. Regarding Agenda Item 1.8 (Radiolocation Service Allocations), all participants unanimously backed IAFI's view supporting ITU-R studies for additional radiolocation spectrum in the 231.5-700 GHz range, emphasizing the need for robust protection of primary services. Regarding Agenda Item 1.9 (Aeronautical Mobile HF Modernization), the meeting unanimously supported IAFI's proposal for ITU-R studies to update Appendix 26 of the Radio Regulations, aiming for efficient HF band use and higher data rates, while ensuring the protection of existing aeronautical HF safety communication systems, as specifically incorporated from AAI's input. Finally, for Agenda Item 1.10 (PFD/EIRP Limits for Satellite Services), the meeting unanimously supported IAFI's proposal for ongoing studies to develop power flux-density and equivalent isotropically radiated power limits to protect fixed and mobile services in the 71-76 GHz and 81-86 GHz bands.

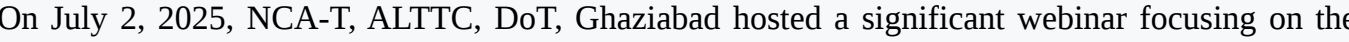
TRAI reiterates its earlier recommendation on Assignment of Additional Spectrum to Indian Railways for its Safety and Security Applications



DoT, through a reference dated 26.07.2023, informed TRAI that Indian Railways had requested for an additional 5 MHz of paired spectrum in the 700 MHz band to be allocated free of cost to them for enhancing its safety and security systems. Through the said reference dated 26.07.2023, DoT requested TRAI to examine and provide its recommendations on the subject. In this regard, after following a comprehensive consultation with stakeholders, TRAI, on 20.12.2024, sent its recommendations on 'Assignment of Additional Spectrum to Indian Railways for its Safety and Security Applications' to DoT. Subsequently, DoT, through, a back-reference dated 16.06.2025, referred back some of the TRAI's recommendations dated 20-12-2024 and requested TRAI to provide its reconsidered recommendations in respect of such recommendations.

TRAI after a careful examination has sent its response date 04-07-2025, to the back-reference to DoT, reiterates its earlier recommendation.

NCA-T Webinar on Critical Telecom Infrastructure Rules, 2024" & "Telecom Cyber Security Rules, 2024



On July 2, 2025, NCA-T, ALTTC, DoT, Ghaziabad hosted a significant webinar focusing on the recently enacted "Critical Telecom Infrastructure Rules, 2024" and "Telecom Cyber Security Rules, 2024." The webinar's primary objective was to thoroughly explain to participants the critical necessity of these new regulations. The Critical Telecom Infrastructure Rules, 2024, are designed to fortify the security, resilience, and operational continuity of telecommunications networks, which serve as the indispensable backbone of digital societies. With the ever-increasing demand for seamless connectivity and reliable communication, these rules prioritize safeguarding critical infrastructure from a spectrum of threats, including cyberattacks, natural disasters, and geopolitical risks.

Furthermore, the Telecom Cyber Security Rules, 2024, were expounded upon, detailing their purpose in protecting the vital telecom infrastructure that powers our connected world. By introducing a robust framework of security protocols and compliance measures, these rules aim to achieve several key objectives like Strengthen Cyber Resilience, Protect User Data, Enhance Network Integrity and Facilitate Incident Response Readiness. This webinar provided a comprehensive understanding of these pivotal rules, emphasizing their role in building a more secure and resilient telecommunications ecosystem for India's digital future.

Jio becomes World's Largest Fixed Wireless Access Provider



India's telecom leader, Reliance Jio, has achieved a significant global milestone, surpassing T-Mobile to become the world's top Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) service provider. This landmark accomplishment highlights Jio's rapid broadband expansion, driven by its cost-effective, 5G-powered Jio Air-Fiber solutions. Launched in September 2023 with entry-level plans starting at just ₹599/month, Jio Air-Fiber offers plug-and-play broadband via 5G technology, connecting millions of households and small businesses across India. As of mid-2025, Jio officially boasts over 20 million FWA subscribers, exceeding T-Mobile's 19.8 million and marking a historic shift in the global broadband market. Jio's successful model is now being studied by international telecom companies as a blueprint for FWA expansion in emerging economies.

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates
APT: The 4th Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for WDC-25 (APT WDC25-4)	14th - 18th July 2025	04th July 2025
APT: The 1st Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for PP-26 (APT PP26-1)	18th July 2025	08th July 2025
APT: The 2nd Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-27 (APG27-2)	28th July - 01st Aug 2025	18th July 2025
ITU-R: Working Party 7D (WP 7D) - Radio astronomy	15th - 24th Sep 2025	3rd Sep 2025
ITU-R: Working Party 7B (WP 7B) - Space radiocommunication applications	16th - 25th Sep 2025	4th Sep 2025
ITU-R: Working Party 7C (WP 7C) - Remote sensing systems	16th - 25th Sep 2025	4th Sep 2025

Telecom Stories:



India is setting the stage for a more competitive telecom sector by aiming to sustain 4-5 major players, reviving BSNL, and supporting Vodafone Idea. With the current duopoly driven by capital-heavy operators, the government is working to foster a more diversified market to enhance sector stability and innovation.

Government Pushes for Telecom Market with 4-5 Major Players

During the India Mobile Congress 2025 roadshow in Bengaluru, Minister of State for Communications Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani revealed that the government's strategic vision for the telecom industry includes nurturing 4-5 active players. The current dominance of Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel, he said, reflects market realities and capital intensity, not government policy. Despite the rapid 5G rollout achieved through these players, the government aims to reduce dependency on just 2 providers.



Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has said the process of approving TRAI's recommendations on satellite communications (SatCom) spectrum will take a couple of months, adding that the pricing mechanism for satellite spectrum cannot follow the telecom model due to its shared nature.

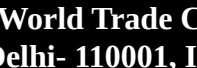
Speaking to CNBC-TV18, Scindia said, "TRAI has submitted their recommendations to us only in early May, and the DoT is now examining those recommendations. We are in dialogue with TRAI. It's important for DoT and TRAI to have that conversation and that dialogue. Normally, the process on a reference does take a couple of months. Hopefully, in a couple of months, that should be through."



In a double-dose bid to boost growth and employment prospects, the Union Cabinet on Tuesday approved a ₹2.07 trillion outlay for a research-development and innovation (RDI) Scheme to fund private sector innovations, and an employment-linked incentive (ELI) to create over 35 million new jobs over the next two years.

While both the schemes were first announced in the Union Budget for 2024-25 presented last July, the ELI, for which the Cabinet has cleared ₹1.07 trillion to be spent between August 2025 and July 2027, was part of the Prime Minister's package of five schemes to facilitate employment, skilling and other opportunities for 41 million youth with a total budget outlay of ₹2 trillion.

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