

**Report on the 52nd Working Party 5D Meeting**



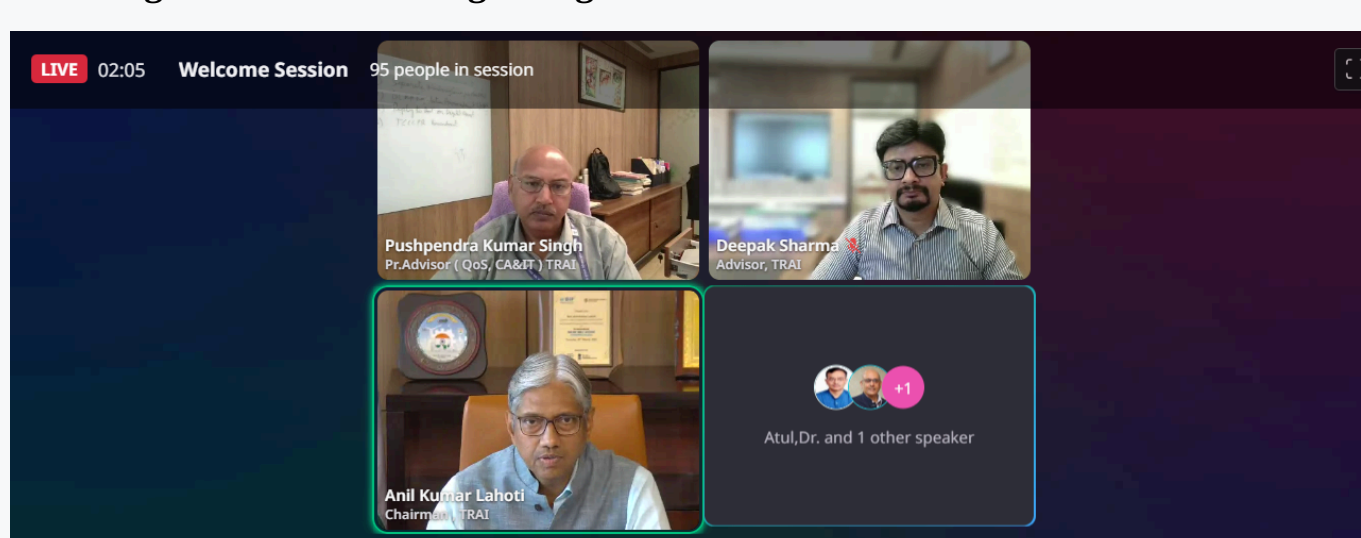
The 52nd meeting of the ITU-R Working Party 5D (WP 5D) convened in Geneva, Switzerland, from May 27 to June 5, 2026. Conducted in a hybrid format, the meeting processed over 200 submitted documents and featured significant leadership and physical participation from the Indian Administration, Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI (Chairman of Working Group General Aspects) and Shri Jitendra Singh, Vice Chairman, IAFI (Chairman of Sub Working Group Specific Applications), Mr. Sendil Kumar Devar from Ericsson (Chairman of Drafting Group Evaluation), and Dr. Punit Rathod from Qualcomm (Chairman of Drafting Group WRC-27 Agenda 1.7), participated in the meeting as delegates from Indian Administration physically, while several other members joined the meeting virtually.

The primary focus of the meeting centered on advancing studies and frameworks crucial to the future of global telecommunications, specifically - WRC-27 Agenda Items on AI 1.7 and AI 1.13; IMT- 2030: Evaluation guidelines, submission processes, criteria for RIT/SRIT; Upcoming IMT-2030 Workshop; Review of four working documents regarding M.2291-2 (PPDR), M.2528 (IMT-Multimedia), Air-to-Ground (ATG), and Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) and elevation of working documents M.2527 (IMT Usages) and M.2480 (National Approaches) to Preliminary Draft Revision of Reports (PDRR).

Agenda Item 1.7 - which addresses sharing and compatibility studies between IMT systems and incumbent services in the 4 GHz, 7/8 GHz, and 14/15 GHz bands, drew the most attention. Of the more than 200 documents considered during the session, Sub-Working Group 1.7 (SWG-1.7) evaluated the 105 contributions. A heavy concentration of these (68 contributions) was dedicated specifically to the 7/8 GHz band. During the WP 5D Plenary, significant debate and controversial views were expressed regarding the CPM Text on AI 1.7, specifically concerning proposals to introduce a new method (F) to satisfy the agenda item.

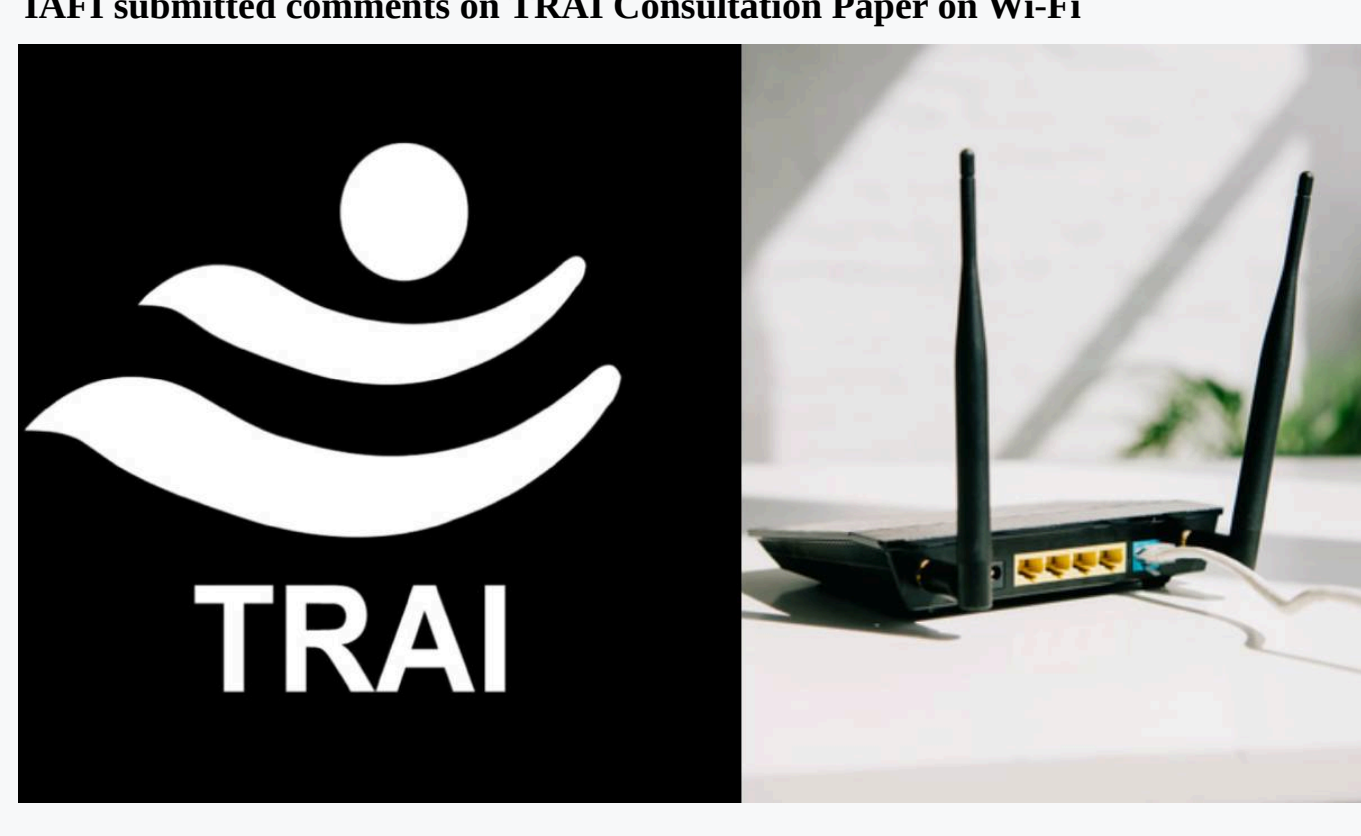
Contributions submitted by the IAFI were thoroughly reviewed and yielded several successful outcomes. Through the efforts of the Chairman of the Working Group General Aspects, the meeting successfully appointed two new Drafting Group (DG) Chairs to lead ongoing work on IMT-Multimedia and FWA. A significant technical outcome was the agreement to send a formal Liaison Statement to 3GPP, to align WP 5D and 3GPP regarding the latest technical capabilities and specification advancements for IMT-Multimedia. A joint proposal by IAFI and WWRF to arrange an IMT-2030 Workshop was deliberated and officially agreed upon. IAFI's proposal to upgrade the working documents for M.2480 (National Approaches) and M.2527 (IMT Usages) was adopted by the meeting. IAFI's contributions regarding ATG non-safety communications, PPDR, IMT-Multimedia, and FWA were well-received and advanced the ongoing studies. The 52nd meeting of WP 5D successfully solidified India's positioning on crucial mid-band spectrum and future IMT usage frameworks. As IAFI secured leadership roles, so adopting crucial updates to Reports M.2480 and M.2527, and anchoring the upcoming 2027 IMT-2030 Workshop, the IAFI has effectively safeguarded national and regional interests as the global community moves closer to WRC-27.

**TRAI organized the OHD regarding TCCPR-2018 on 03-06-2026**



IAFI participated in the Open House Discussion (OHD) regarding the Draft Telecom Commercial Communications Customer Preference (Third Amendment) Regulations, 2026, held on June 3rd, 2026, via virtual mode. Shri A.K. Lahoti, Chairman, TRAI, joined the OHD along with two whole-time TRAI members - Shri Ritu Ranjan Mittar and Dr. M.P. Tangirala and Secretary, TRAI - Shri Atul Kumar Chaudhary. The OHD was convened by Shri P.K. Singh, Principal Advisor (CA, QoS, IT) and Shri Deepak Sharma, Advisor (QoS-II), TRAI. It was a comprehensive discussion that continued for five hours.

**IAFI submitted comments on TRAI Consultation Paper on Wi-Fi**



The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) issued a Consultation Paper on the "Proliferation of Public Wi-Fi Networks in India" to address persistent challenges in the country's public Wi-Fi ecosystem, specifically focusing on expanding fixed-wireless internet delivery as a more cost-effective alternative per gigabyte compared to cellular networks. The primary objective of the paper was to review the existing regulatory framework, evaluate global public Wi-Fi ecosystems, and invite stakeholder inputs on key areas. These included evaluating the flagship Prime Minister's Wi-Fi Access Network Interface (PM-WANI) framework, examining commercial friction between Telecom Service Providers (TSPs)/ISPs and Public Data Offices (PDOs) regarding backhaul bandwidth costs, and reducing customer drop-offs caused by repetitive authentication, app downloads, or SMS-based OTP setups, while exploring novel technical approaches.

The IAFI thoroughly examined the various issues raised in the Consultation Paper. Following a detailed analysis and comprehensive consultations with its industry partners, IAFI submitted its detailed comments and structural suggestions to TRAI for consideration.

**IAFI submitted comments on TRAI Consultation Paper on V2X**



In a significant stride toward advancing Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) and enhancing road safety in India, the ITU-APT Foundation of India (IAFI) has formally submitted its detailed comments and stakeholder recommendations to the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) regarding its recent Consultation Paper on the "Regulatory Framework for Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) Communication". IAFI aligned with global best practices by evaluating the allocation of the 5.9 GHz band (5875-5925 MHz), emphasizing the vital importance of setting aside the initial 30 MHz (5875-5905 MHz) for immediate V2X commercial and safety deployments, with the remaining 20 MHz reserved for future expansion. IAFI highlighted Cellular V2X (C-V2X) as the definitive foundation to enable cross-border interoperability and integration with India's expanding 5G public digital infrastructure. The IAFI thoroughly examined the various issues raised in the Consultation Paper and after detailed analysis and comprehensive consultations with its industry partners, IAFI submitted its detailed comments and structural suggestions to TRAI for consideration.

**5G BTS Deployment as on 31-05-2026**



According to reports published by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on 01-06-2026, India's cumulative 5G Base Transceiver Station (BTS) deployment has reached 5,52,202 sites nation-wide. The state-wise distribution shows steady infrastructural growth, led by Uttar Pradesh (East + West): 64,361 BTS (Highest deployment nationally) and Maharashtra: 59,148 BTS (Second highest deployment). 5G deployment in India officially commenced on October 1, 2022, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the 6th India Mobile Congress in New Delhi. Over a highly accelerated rollout period, 5G services have been commercialized across all States and Union Territories (UTs), scaling coverage to 99.6% of the districts in the country. The adoption rate of any technology can be assessed through the growth of its user base and installed infrastructure. Since the initial launch, consumer migration has been significant, with approximately 25 crore mobile subscribers now actively utilizing 5G services across the country.

**TRAI Consultation Paper**

| Consultation Paper   | Submission Dates | Status    | Submission |
|--|------------------|-----------|------------|
| Consultation Paper on the Regulatory Framework for Vehicle-to-Everything (V2X) Communication | 04th June 2026   | Submitted | File1      |

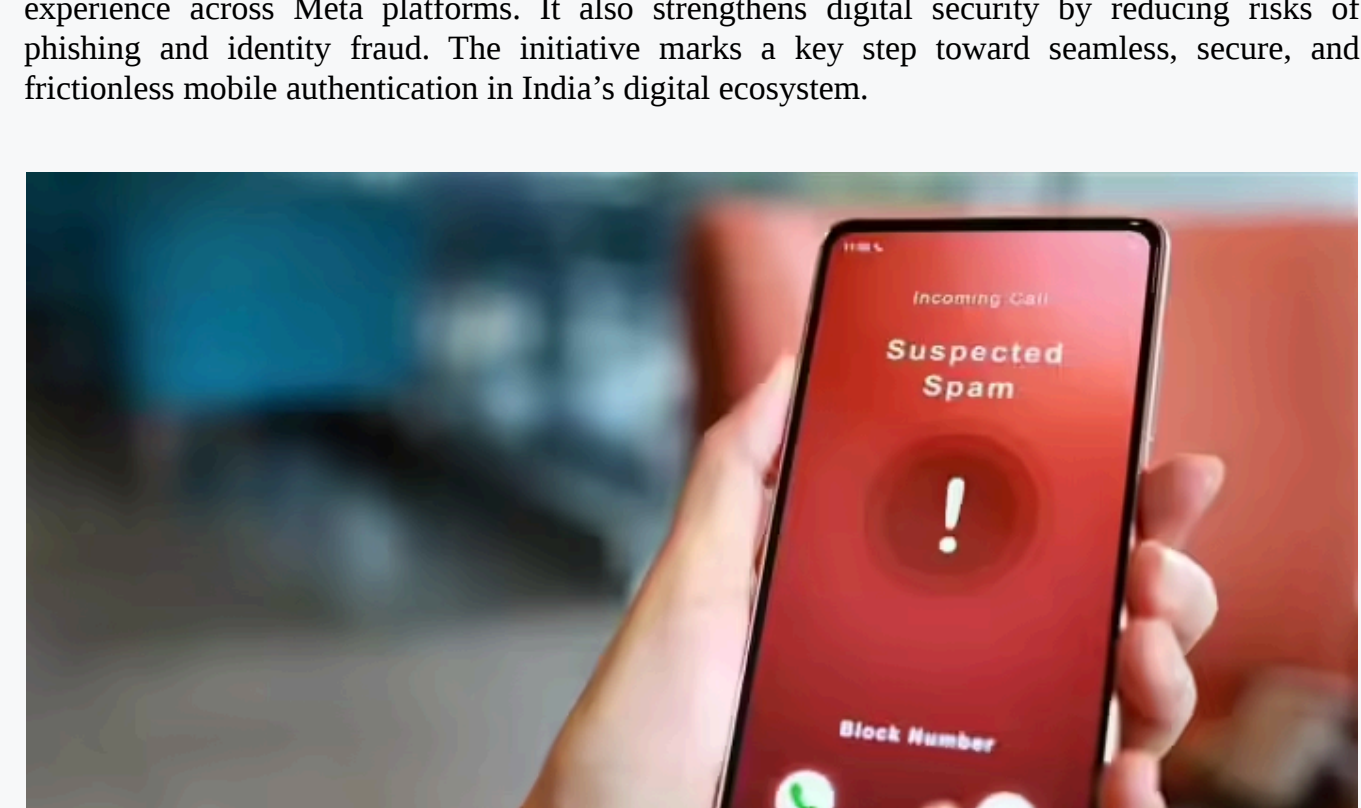
**Important Meeting that IAFI will attend**

| Meeting  | Dates                 | Submission Dates |
|--|-----------------------|------------------|
| APT: The 4th Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2026 (APT PP26-4) | 15th - 19th June 2026 | 05th June 2026   |
| APT: The 3rd Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-27 (APC27-3)                          | 27th - 31st July 2026 | 17th July 2026   |
| APT: The 5th Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2026 (APT PP26-5) | 24th - 28th Aug 2026  | 14th Aug 2026    |

**Telecom Stories:**



Vodafone Idea has launched Silent Mobile Verification (SMV) in partnership with Meta, enabling OTP-free authentication on WhatsApp, Facebook, and Instagram for its users. The system verifies mobile numbers in the background through the telecom network, removing the need for manual OTP entry or app switching. This leads to a smoother onboarding, faster login, and improved user experience across Meta platforms. It also strengthens digital security by reducing risks of phishing and identity fraud. The initiative marks a key step toward seamless, secure, and frictionless mobile authentication in India's digital ecosystem.



Spammers are increasingly shifting up to 80% of unwanted calls to OTT platforms, as telecom operators highlight major regulatory gaps that make enforcement difficult across internet-based communication channels. Operators warn that while traditional spam controls are improving on telecom networks, OTT apps remain largely outside the same strict regulatory framework. This migration is weakening consumer protection efforts and complicating spam detection and blocking mechanisms. Industry stakeholders are urging regulators to develop unified frameworks to address spam across both telecom and OTT ecosystems.



Cybersecurity experts warn that fibre optic networks are becoming a new and often overlooked attack surface, as operators focus mainly on core IT systems while leaving gaps in physical and transmission-layer security. The report highlights "blind spots" in fibre infrastructure where misconfigurations, unprotected nodes, and limited monitoring can expose critical communication backbones to threats. It notes that attackers are increasingly targeting these weak points to intercept, disrupt, or manipulate data traffic. Industry stakeholders are calling for stronger end-to-end security frameworks that integrate fibre, network, and cyber layers for better resilience.

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