

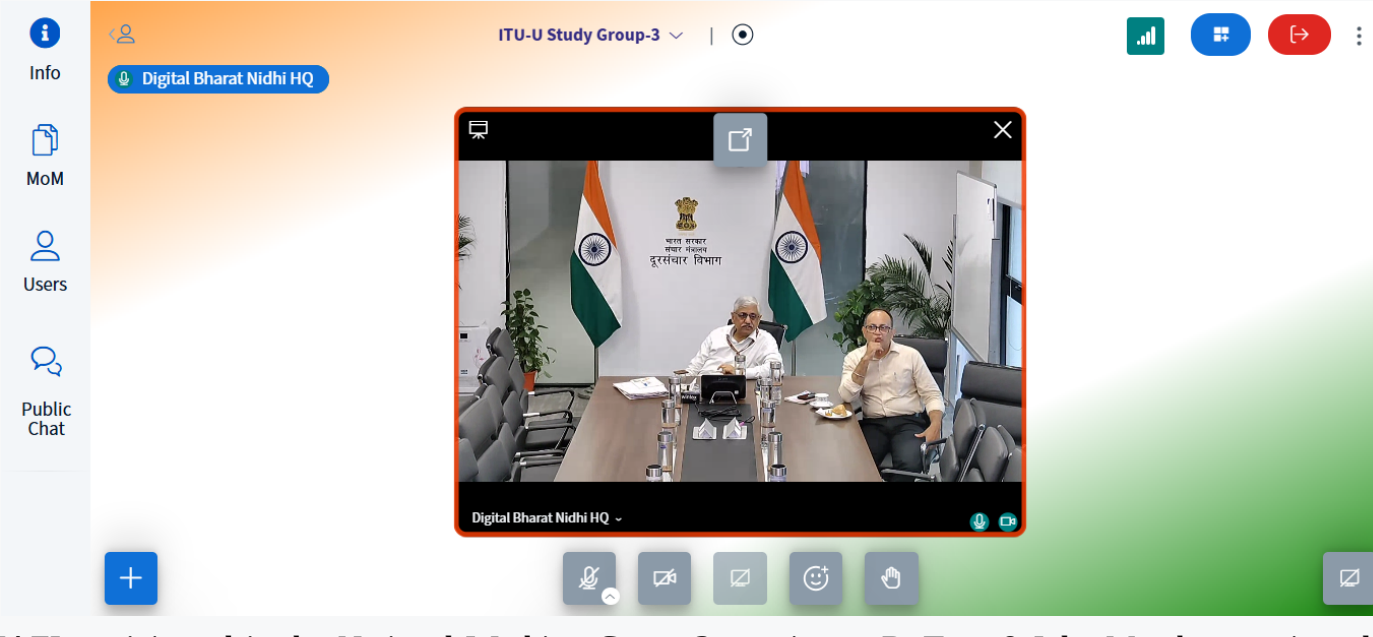
IAFI News

WSIS Forum 2026



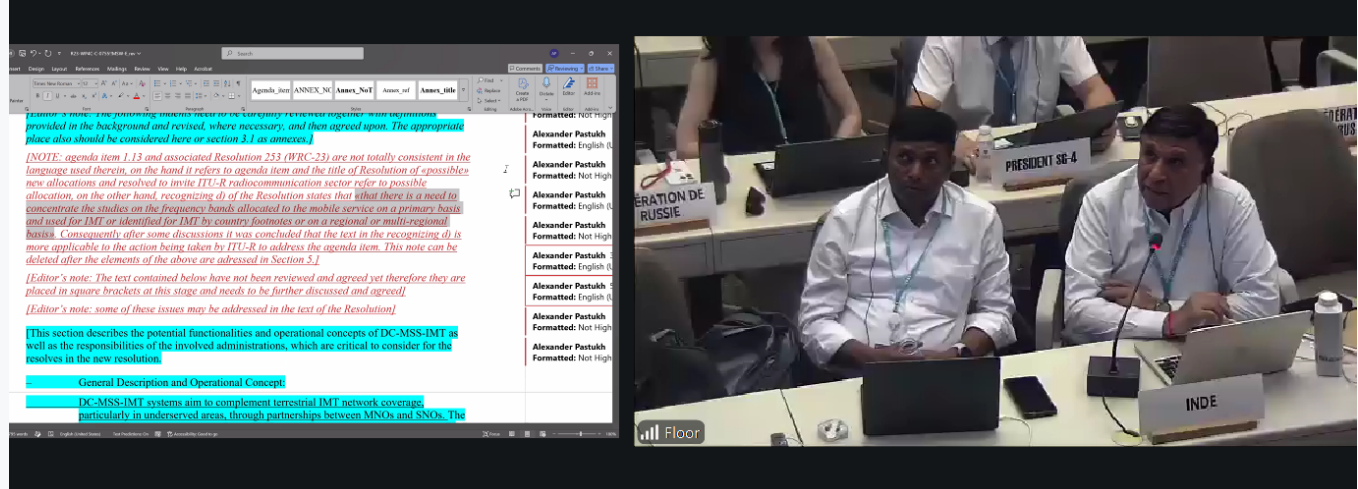
The WSIS Forum 2026 (6–10 July, Geneva) was the first global WSIS gathering following the WSIS+20 UNGA review. Discussions focused on digital inclusion, connectivity, and digital governance. IAFI President Bharat Bhatia participated in a high-level session alongside ITU, TRAI, NCA and international experts. India also secured a WSIS Prize 2026 for DoT's 'Samridh Gram' initiative, recognising BharatNet-enabled digital services for rural communities.

NWG-3 Meeting



IAFI participated in the National Working Group-3 meeting at DoT on 8 July. Members reviewed work related to ITU-T Study Group 3, including a draft paper on satellite service tariff principles. The Chair recommended further refinement before advancing the document.

IAFI at ITU-R WP4A/WP4C



IAFI President Bharat Bhatia and IAFI corporate member Dr. Sendil Kumar Devar participated in the ITU-R WP4A and WP4C meetings (6–10 July, Geneva) as delegates representing the Indian Administration. The main focus of the meeting was to further develop the draft CPM text for WRC-27 Agenda Items 1.5 (unauthorised NGSO earth stations) and 1.13 (Direct-to-Device satellite connectivity). Both groups made significant progress and will continue work at their October 2026 meetings.

TRAI OHD on V2X



TRAI will hold an Open House Discussion on its V2X consultation on 23 July via video conference. Following comments from 33 stakeholders, including IAFI, the OHD will discuss the future regulatory framework for Vehicle-to-Everything communications.

TRAI OHD on Public Wi-Fi



TRAI has scheduled an Open House Discussion on 'Proliferation of Public Wi-Fi Networks in India' for 29 July. IAFI has submitted detailed comments and will participate in the stakeholder discussions.

BSNL Launches Satellite Phone Service



BSNL has introduced the Inmarsat IsatPhone 2 satellite phone at ₹1,34,166 (inclusive of taxes). The service targets defence, disaster response, maritime and remote-area users. Operation requires DoT authorisation and approved satellite service subscriptions.

DoT Wins WSIS Prize 2026

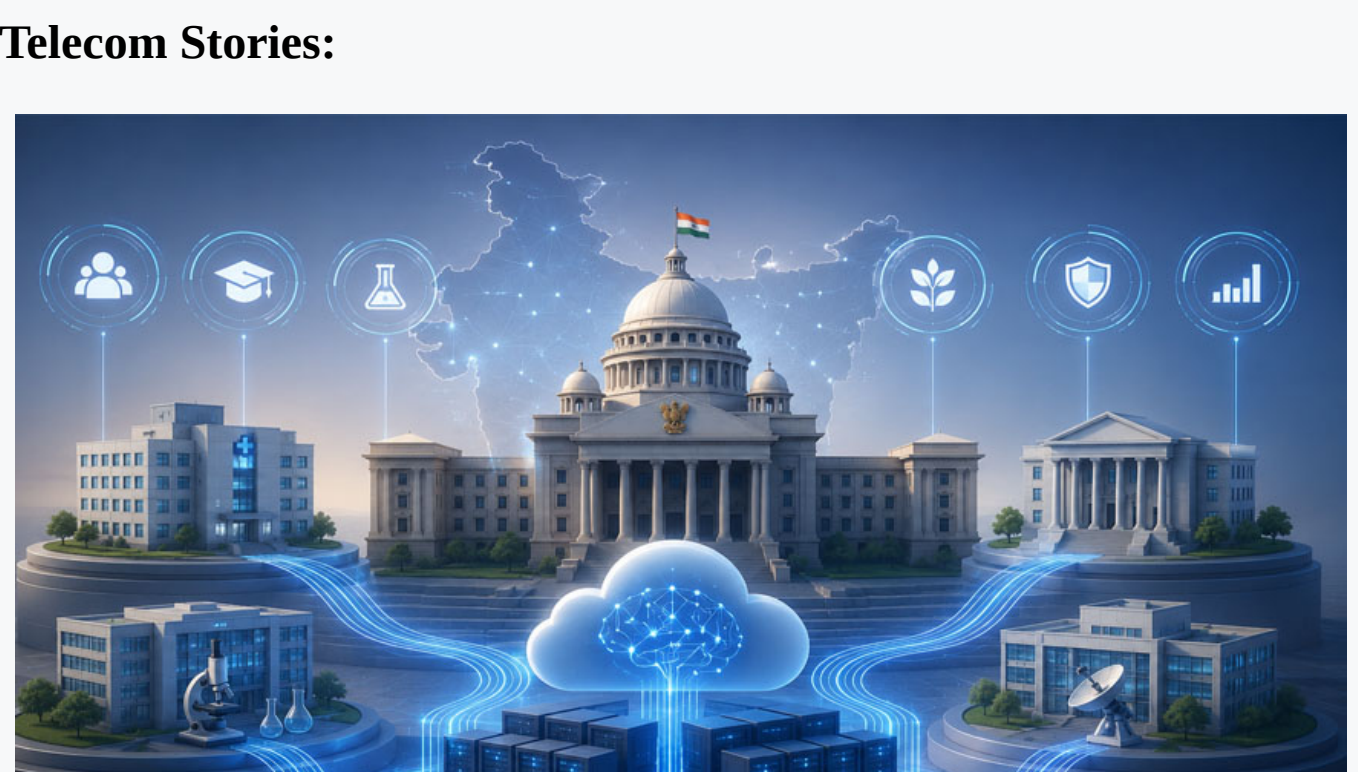


The Department of Telecommunications received the WSIS Prize 2026 under Action Line C6 for the 'Samridh Gram' project. The award recognises India's use of BharatNet to deliver integrated digital services, including healthcare, education and agriculture, to rural communities.

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

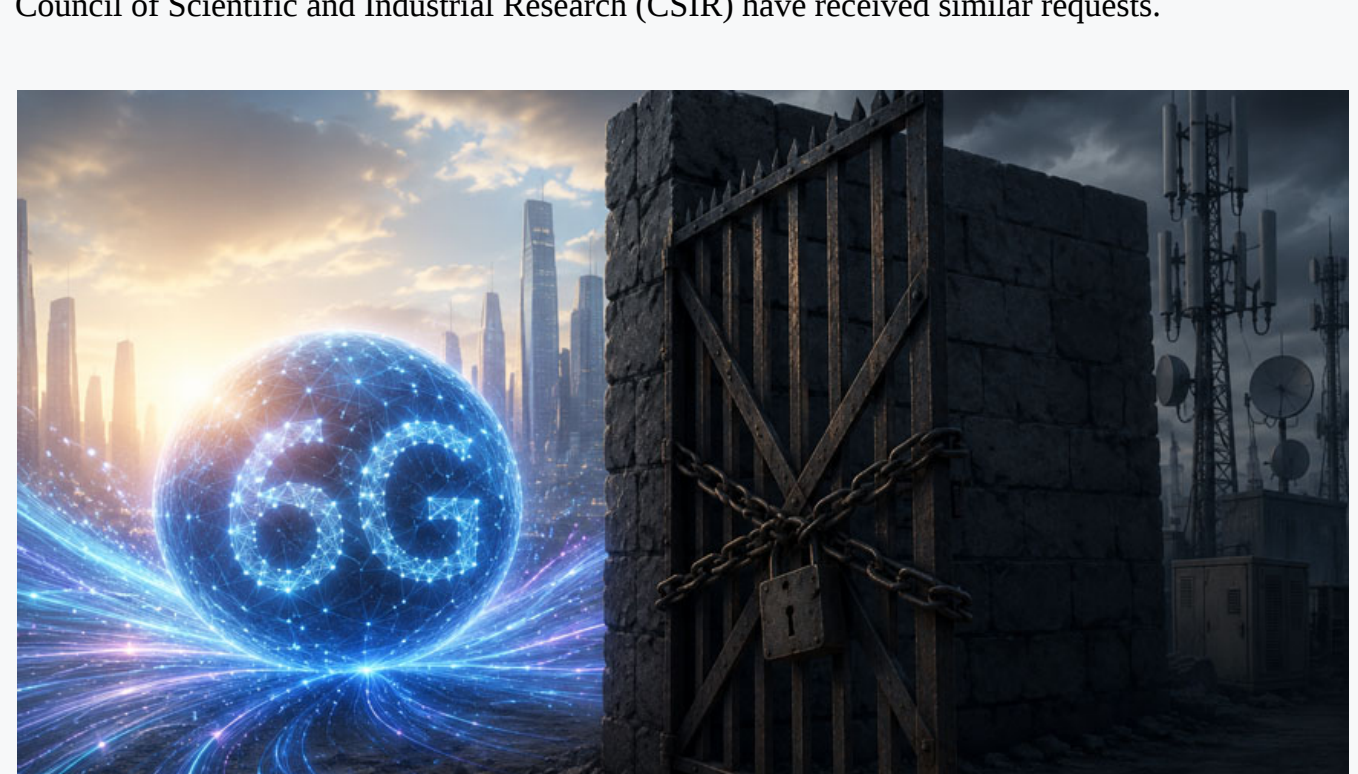
Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates
APT: The 3rd Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-27 (APG27-3)	27th - 31st July 2026	17th July 2026
APT: The 5th Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2026 (APT PP26-5)	24th - 28th August 2026	14th August 2026
ITU-R: Working Party 7B (WP 7B) - Space radiocommunication applications	14th - 24th September 2026	02nd September 2026
ITU-R: Working Party 7C (WP 7C) - Remote sensing systems	14th - 24th September 2026	02nd September 2026
ITU-R: Working Party 7D (WP 7D) - Radio astronomy	14th - 24th September 2026	02nd September 2026
ITU-R: Working Party 5D (WP 5D) - IMT Systems	28th Sep - 08th Oct 2026	16th September 2026

Telecom Stories:



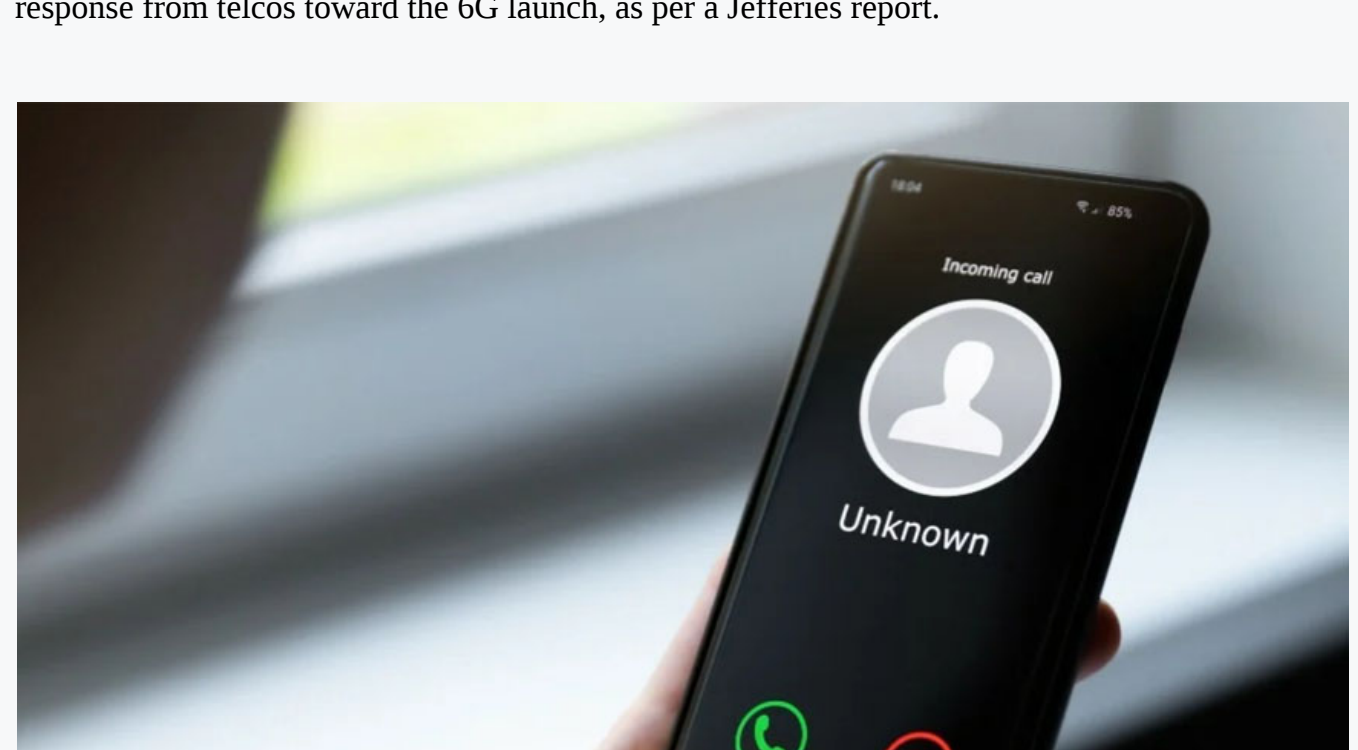
The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology is preparing to significantly expand government departments' access to subsidized AI computing hardware under the IndiaAI Mission, according to internal memoranda reviewed by Mint.

In a memorandum dated June 4, Meity asked all central ministries to project their future demand for graphics processing units (GPUs), the specialized chips used to train and run AI models. Ministries have in turn asked affiliated departments and institutions to submit their own estimates. Within the Department of Telecommunications, for instance, the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT) and Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd (BSNL) have been asked to assess their compute needs; Meity's own Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) have received similar requests.



Governments across the globe are excited about the possibility of 6G by early 2029, but telecom companies remain lukewarm.

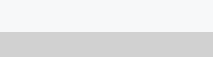
Little to no commercial use-case viability, insufficient returns on earlier technology investments like 5G, and the dilemma of integrating 6G with AI without hiking CapEx garner a muted response from telcos toward the 6G launch, as per a Jefferies report.



Telecom regulator TRAI has sought authorisation from the IT ministry to act against call management apps like Truecaller, sources aware of the development said.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has already floated a draft regulation to tighten the noose on pesky and fraudulent calls with a provision to regulate call management apps – a move which has been countered by caller identification app Truecaller CEO Rishit Jhunjhunwala.

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