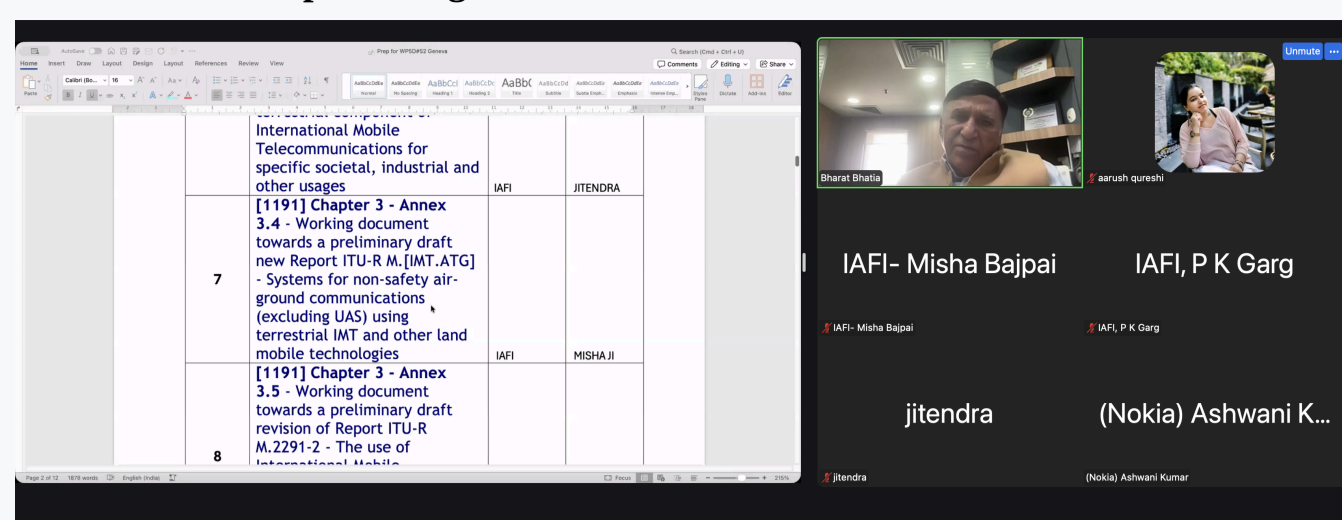
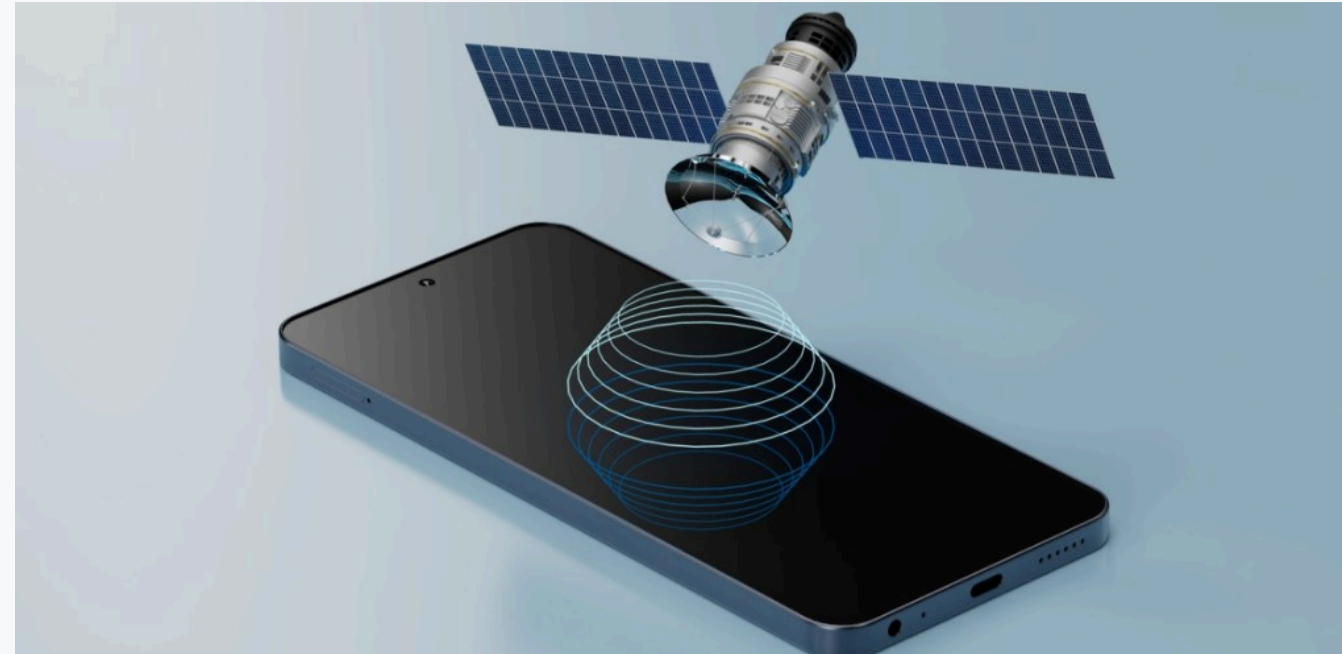


IAFI Radio Group Meeting



The IAFI Radio Group meeting was held virtually on 16-04-2026 to discuss and finalize the work items for which IAFI will submit contributions to the upcoming WP-5D Meeting. All ongoing issues were discussed in detail, and the group finalized the list of action items for IAFI. Please note that the deadline to submit contributions to WP-5D is 15th May 2026, and the 52nd WP-5D meeting will be held from 25th May to 5th June 2026 in Geneva, Switzerland. It was decided that the next Radio Group meeting will be held virtually at 16:00 Hrs on 23-04-2026.

IAFI Contribution to WP-4C Meeting



IAFI submitted a contribution to the WP-4C meeting regarding the "Updates to the Working Document draft CPM Text regarding Agenda Item 1.13," which deals with Direct Connectivity between MSS and IMT user equipment (DC-MSS-IMT) in the 694 MHz to 2.69 GHz range. The document proposes preliminary text for the Conference Preparatory Meeting (CPM) for WRC-27. This agenda item explores allowing Mobile-Satellite Services (MSS) to connect directly with standard terrestrial mobile devices (such as smartphones) to complement existing terrestrial network coverage. It may be noted that the WP-4C hybrid meeting will take place from 22 April to 01 May, 2026 at Geneva, Switzerland.

NWG-20 Meeting organized by TEC



IAFI participated in the 11th virtual meeting of the National Working Group 20 (NWG-20) of TEC, corresponding to ITU-T Study Group 20 on "Internet of Things (IoT), Digital Twins and Smart Sustainable Cities & Communities (SSC&C)," which was held on April 10, 2026. Shri R. S. Singh, DDG, chaired the meeting, and Ms. Namrata Singh, Dir (IoT), TEC, served as the coordinator. TEC presented a proposal to introduce a new work item [ITU-T Y.HyBioT-Agri] on the "Requirements and reference architecture for hybrid IoT network systems for remote agriculture." It is pertinent to mention that the ITU-T SG-20 hybrid meeting is scheduled to be held from May 12-21, 2026 at Geneva, Switzerland.

IAFI organized bid farewell and joining of new Wireless Advisor

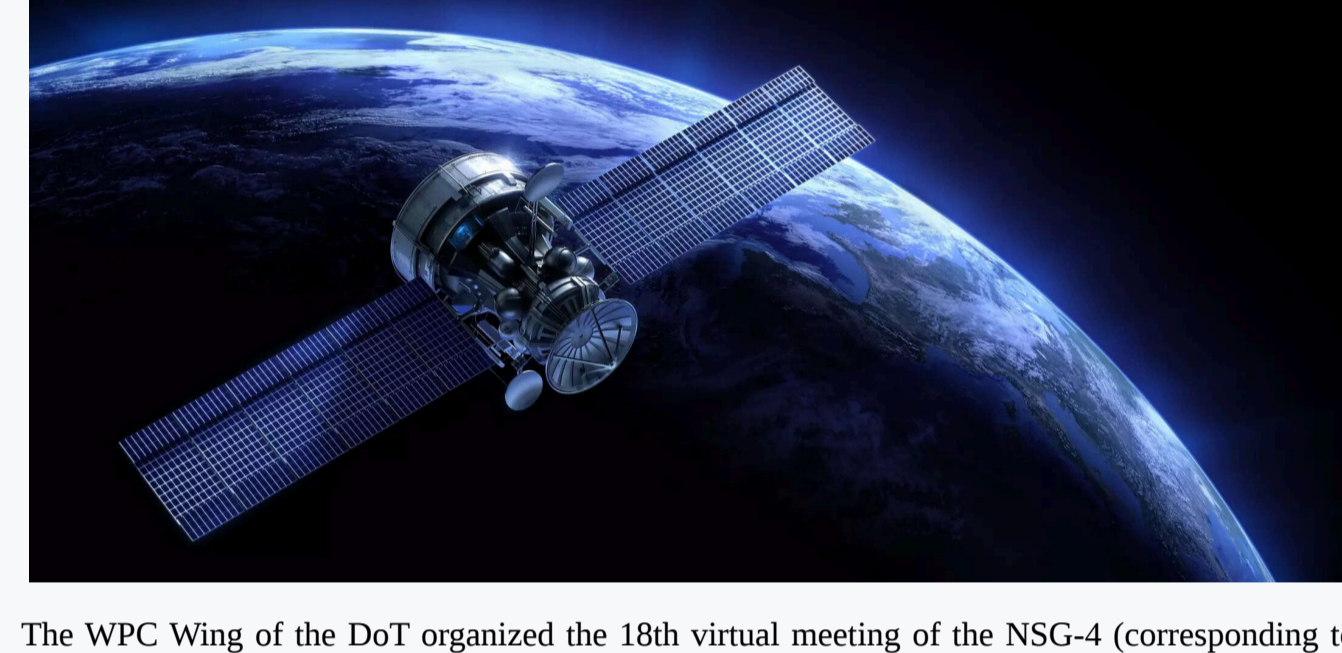


IAFI organized a bid farewell to ex-Wireless Advisor, Shri V J Christopher and welcome of the new Wireless Advisor, Shri Naresh Kumar Bhole on 17-04-2026 at CSOI K G Marg, New Delhi. Shri Bhole, Sr Wireless Advisor assumed charge as the Wireless Adviser to the Government of India in the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on April 1, 2026. He succeeds Shri V.J. Christopher, who retired on superannuation on March 31, 2026.

Shri Christopher began his career as an IRRS Officer with the Wireless Monitoring Organization (WMO) in 1991, serving at various Monitoring Stations, the Satellite Monitoring Station in Jalna, and the Regional Headquarters in Mumbai. In 2006, he was posted to the Wireless Planning and Coordination (WPC) Wing, working across different licensing divisions. He was promoted to Joint Wireless Adviser (JWA) in 2018 and posted at RLO Mumbai, before being elevated to Wireless Adviser in November 2022. During his distinguished tenure, he acted as the Chairman of the India National Preparatory Committee (NPC-23) for WRC-23 and was heavily involved in 6GHz band planning and India's 6G spectrum strategy. Additionally, the National Frequency Allocation Plan-2025 was released on schedule largely due to his immense efforts and leadership.

In addition, Shri Bhagirath, who recently promoted and joined as Joint Wireless Advisor was also welcomed. He joined as Group-A IRRS Officer in 1997 and participated in the six international conferences at Geneva, Switzerland, Hanoi and Da Nang, Vietnam, and Bali, Indonesia.

The 18th Meeting of the NSG-4



The WPC Wing of the DoT organized the 18th virtual meeting of the NSG-4 (corresponding to SG-4 of the ITU-R) on 18-04-2026, to discuss and finalize the various contributions to be submitted to the upcoming WP-4A meeting. IAFI had earlier submitted four contributions focusing on AI-1.1, 1.2, 1.3, and 1.5, for submission to WP-4A meeting as well as one contribution for WP4C on agenda item 1.13 While the contribution on 1.1 and 1.5 were already agreed, the meeting could not reach a consensus on contributions for 1.2 and 1.3.

DoT and SEBI Sign MoU to Strengthen Fight Against Telecom-Linked Financial Fraud



In a significant move to reinforce the security of India's financial ecosystem, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) have entered into a strategic partnership. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aims to enhance cooperation in tackling the misuse of telecom resources in securities market frauds and investment-related scams.

The MoU was signed by Shri Sanjeev Kumar Sharma, Deputy Director General of the AI & Digital Intelligence Unit (AI&DIU) at DoT, and Shri Sandip Pradhan, Whole Time Member of SEBI, in the presence of Shri Deb Kumar Chakrabarti, Member (Services) of the Digital Communications Commission. This agreement marks a major step toward deeper convergence between telecom intelligence and financial market regulation.

Now, DoT will share the Financial Fraud Risk Indicator (FFRI) with SEBI to help identify mobile numbers linked to suspicious patterns through multi-dimensional analysis. The Mobile Number Revocation List (MNRL) will also be shared automatically, enabling SEBI regulated entities, including brokers and asset management companies, to ensure that investor accounts are associated only with active and valid mobile connections. In a reciprocal arrangement, SEBI will provide inputs on telecom resources linked to accounts involved in cyber fraud, impersonation or money mule activities, allowing swift action in the telecom domain.

Government likely to roll out mobile PLI 2.0 with outlay of over \$5 billion by May, 2026



The government is preparing to launch a new production-linked incentive scheme by May to double India's mobile phone exports. Backed by an outlay of over \$5 billion (approx. ₹46,000 crore), the initiative builds on the success of the 2020 Scheme for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing (LSEM). The new initiative aims to double the export of mobile phones from India. It follows the Scheme for Large Scale Electronics Manufacturing (LSEM), commonly known as the PLI scheme for mobile phones, which was launched in 2020 to boost domestic manufacturing with an initial outlay of ₹40,995 crore (about \$5.7 billion at the time).

According to official data, smartphones worth ₹2.62 lakh crore (roughly \$28 billion) were exported in 2025, with Apple emerging as the major success story of the initiative. As of February 2026, total exports under the existing scheme have crossed ₹6.2 lakh crore. This figure surpasses the scheme's original target of ₹4.87 lakh crore by 27 percent.

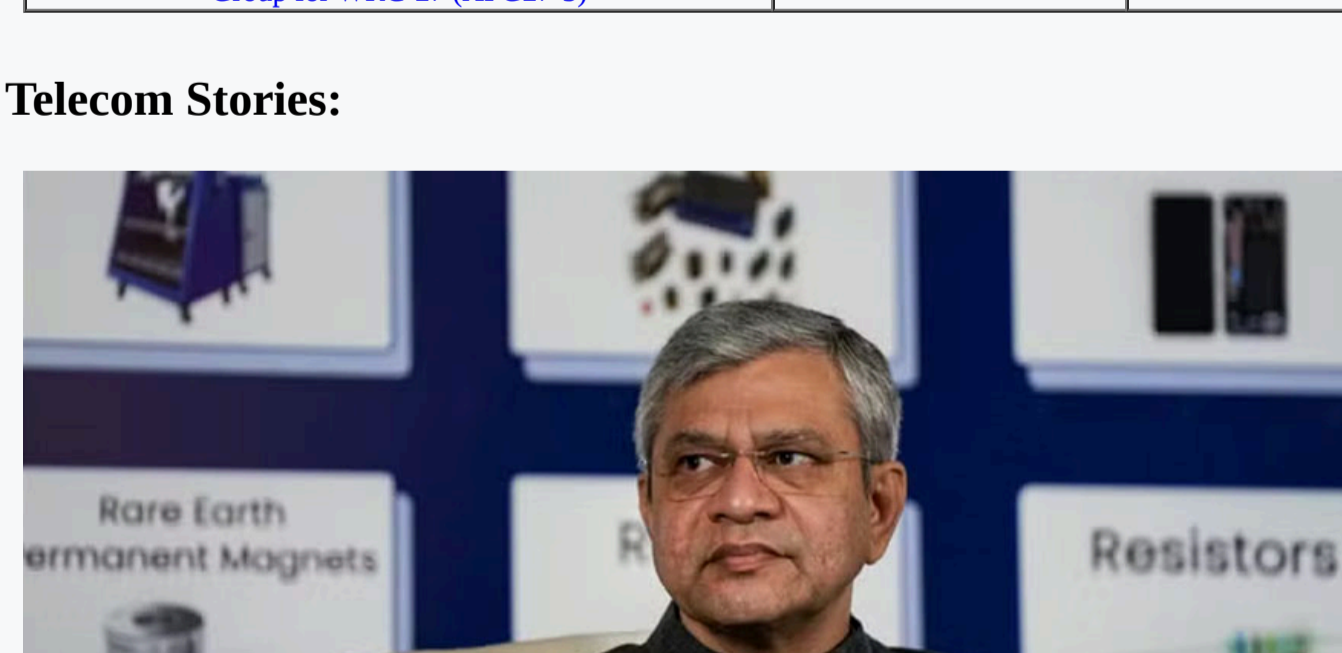
TRAI Consultation Paper

Consultation Paper	Submission Dates	Status
Consultation Paper on the Framework for Satellite Communication Network Authorisation, and Assignment of Spectrum to Satellite Communication Network Providers	06th May 2026	Under Development

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

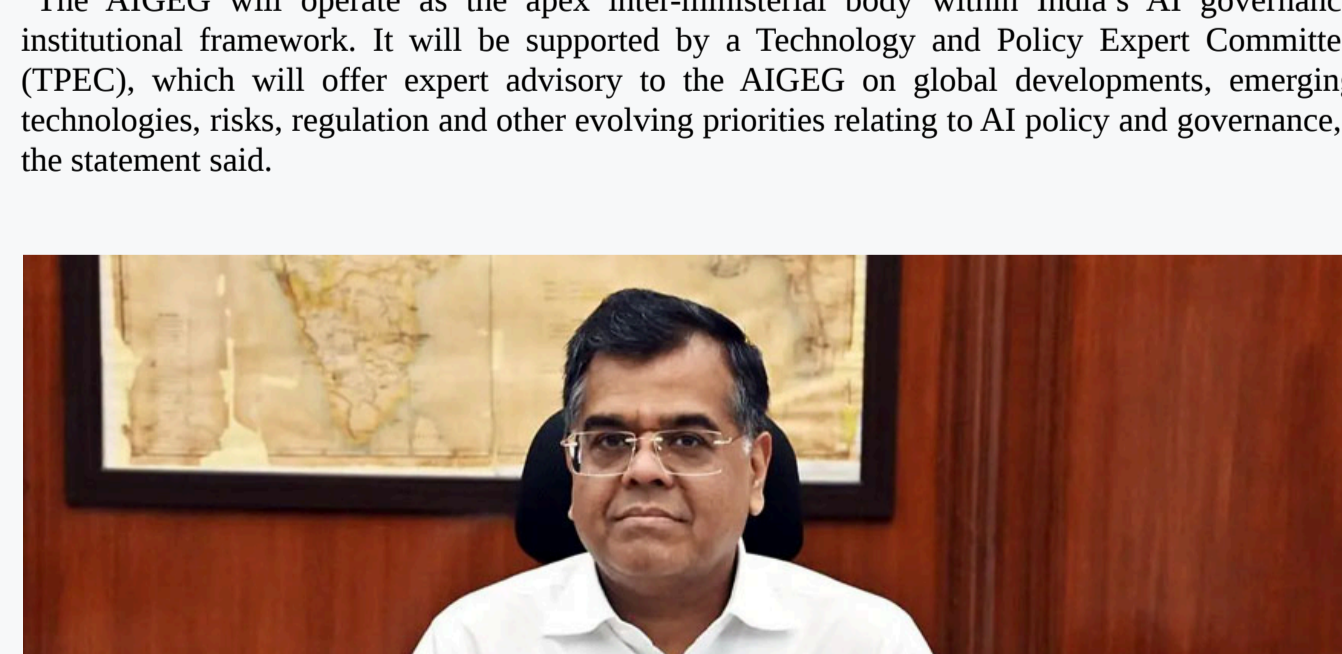
Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates
APT: The 38th APT Standardization Program Forum (ASTAP-38)	20th - 24th April 2026	13th April 2026
ITU-R: WP 4C – Efficient Orbit/Spectrum Utilization for MSS and RDSS	22nd April - 01st May 2026	10th April 2026
ITU-R: WP 4B – Systems, air interfaces, performance and availability objectives for FSS, BSS and MSS	29th April - 05th May 2026	17th April 2026
ITU-R: WP 4A – Efficient Orbit/Spectrum Utilization for FSS and BSS	04th - 14th May 2026	22nd April 2026
ITU-R: SG 4 – Satellite Services	15th May 2026	03rd May 2026
ITU-R: WP 5A – Land mobile service above 30 MHz; amateur and satellite services	18th - 26th May 2026	06th May 2026
ITU-R: WP 5C – Fixed wireless systems; HF and other systems below 30 MHz	18th - 29th May 2026	06th May 2026
ITU-R: WP 5B – Maritime mobile service including GMSS; aeronautical mobile service	19th - 28th May 2026	07th May 2026
ITU-R: WP 5D – IMT Systems	27th May - 05th June 2026	15th May 2026
APT: The 3rd Meeting of the APT Conference Preparatory Group for WRC-27 (APG27-3)	27th - 31st July 2026	20th July 2026

Telecom Stories:



A high-level inter-ministerial body, AI Governance and Economic Group, headed by Union IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnav, has been constituted to steer the country's national AI governance strategy, an official statement said.

AI Governance and Economic Group (AIGEG) will coordinate policy across ministries, departments and sectoral regulators and oversee cross-sectoral governance issues. "The AIGEG will operate as the apex inter-ministerial body within India's AI governance institutional framework. It will be supported by a Technology and Policy Expert Committee (TPEC), which will offer expert advisory to the AIGEG on global developments, emerging technologies, risks, regulation and other evolving priorities relating to AI policy and governance," the statement said.



Cabinet Secretary TV Somanathan addressed the senior leadership of the Indian Army and highlighted key strategic imperatives for national preparedness in an increasingly complex global environment during the ongoing Army Commanders' Conference in New Delhi. According to the statement, Somanathan emphasised the critical need to develop sovereign Artificial Intelligence models and underscored the importance of resilient supply chains to safeguard national interests amid evolving geopolitical challenges.

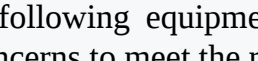
He also stressed the necessity of stronger civil-military cooperation and observed that a whole-of-nation approach remains essential for achieving optimal outcomes in both conflict and peacetime.



Satellite communication players Starlink and Eutelsat OneWeb remain in a regulatory holding pattern as they await the Department of Telecommunications ("DoT") final commercial approval, even after successfully clearing India's stringent security requirements.

Both companies have fulfilled key security compliance conditions, including lawful interception mandates and data localisation norms requiring international gateways to remain on Indian soil. Starlink crossed a critical milestone last year following equipment testing in Mumbai, while Eutelsat OneWeb resolved earlier compliance concerns to meet the required conditions.

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