

IAFI News

IAFI Participates in 30th RCC Executive Committee Meeting in Kyrgyzstan



The 30th Meeting of the RCC Executive Committee was held in hybrid format from 17–21 August 2026 in Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan. Discussions focused on radio- frequency spectrum, satellite orbits and preparations for RA-27 and WRC-27. Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI, participated in person and spoke on the growing spectrum requirements for IMT beyond 2030 and the forthcoming IMT-2030 (6G) era. He highlighted the rapid growth in mobile data consumption, particularly across developing economies, and noted India's position as a global leader in data usage. He also pointed to emerging 6G capabilities such as AI integration, sensing and ubiquitous connectivity, together with the expected growth in data-intensive applications including AR, VR and MR. A major session focused on radio-frequency spectrum needs, challenges and opportunities for the timely deployment of new technologies. The meeting also discussed preparations for RA-27 and WRC-27. Presentations were made by the ITU, CITELE and APT on various WRC-27 agenda items. Representing APT, Shri Bhatia presented the views of APT members, reflecting the outcomes of the recently concluded APG27-3 meeting in Sapporo, Japan.

DoT Hosts BRICS ICT Track in Pune

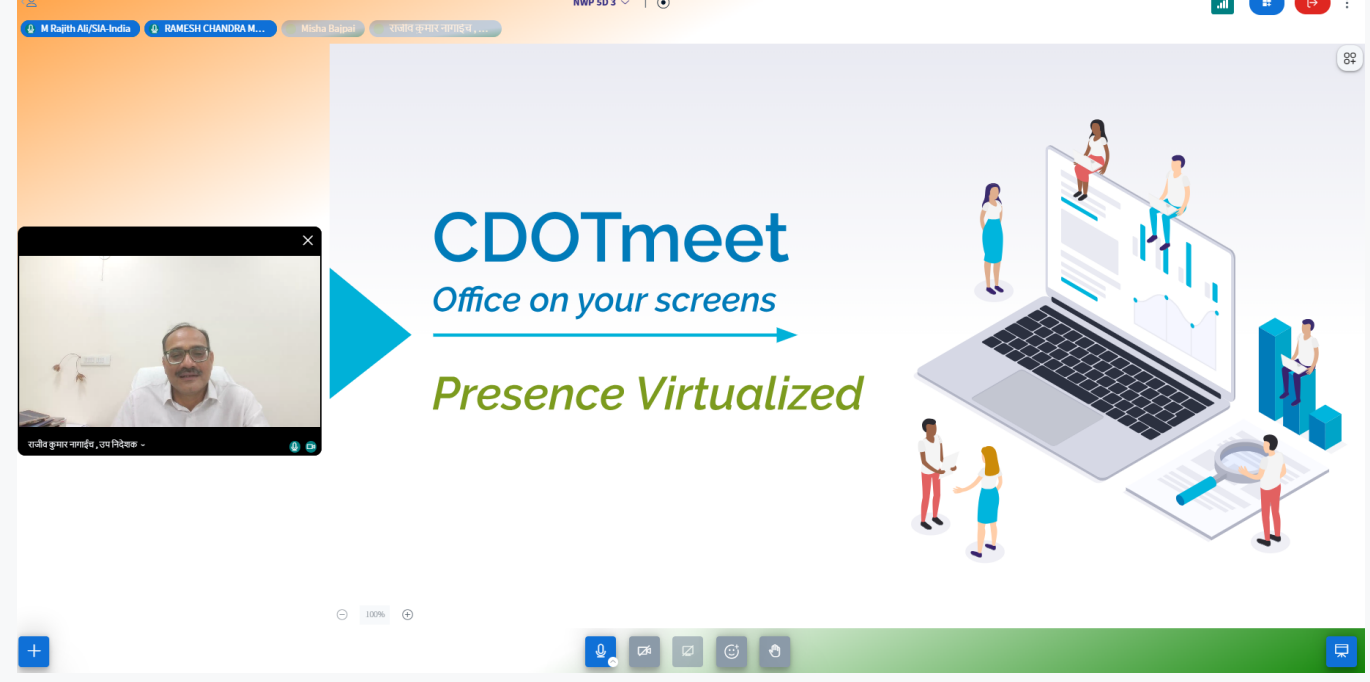


As part of India's BRICS Chairmanship 2026, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) hosted the BRICS ICT Track in Pune from 17–21 August 2026 under the theme: "Innovate, Cooperate and Transform (ICT) for a Resilient Future." The five-day programme brought together Communications Ministers, senior government officials and ICT experts from BRICS member countries to strengthen cooperation in ICT and promote a secure, inclusive and resilient digital future. As a part of this, three major events were held:

- 7th Meeting of the BRICS Working Group for Cooperation in ICTs – 17–19 August
- Digital BRICS Forum and Expo – 20 August
- 12th BRICS Communications Ministers' Meeting – 21 August

The Communications Ministers' Meeting was chaired by Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Union Minister of Communications. Discussions focused on resilient digital infrastructure, future networks, cybersecurity, Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), innovation and capacity building.

NWP-5D-3 Reviews India's Contributions for Upcoming ITU WP-5D Meeting



The National Working Party (NWP)-5D-3 met virtually on 19 August 2026 to review India's contributions for the forthcoming ITU-R Working Party 5D (WP-5D) meeting, scheduled for 28 September–8 October 2026 in Geneva. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Kiran Kuchi, IIT Hyderabad, with Shri R. C. Mallick, DWA, coordinating the proceedings. Dr. Sendil Devar of Ericsson provided an update on India's contributions submitted at the previous WP-5D meeting. The group also reviewed contributions from IIT Chennai and other members. The deadline for submitting revised documents has been set for 28 August 2026. The final NWP-5D-3 meeting will be held on 4 September 2026 to finalize India's contributions.

DoT Limits Mobile Connections to Nine SIMs per Subscriber



The Department of Telecommunications has directed Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) to decline new mobile connections to subscribers who already have nine SIMs registered in their name. The new requirement takes effect from 24 August 2026. TSPs are required to identify subscribers who have reached the prescribed limit and inform them that no additional mobile connection can be issued. This measure is aimed at strengthening control over the number of mobile connections registered to individual subscribers.

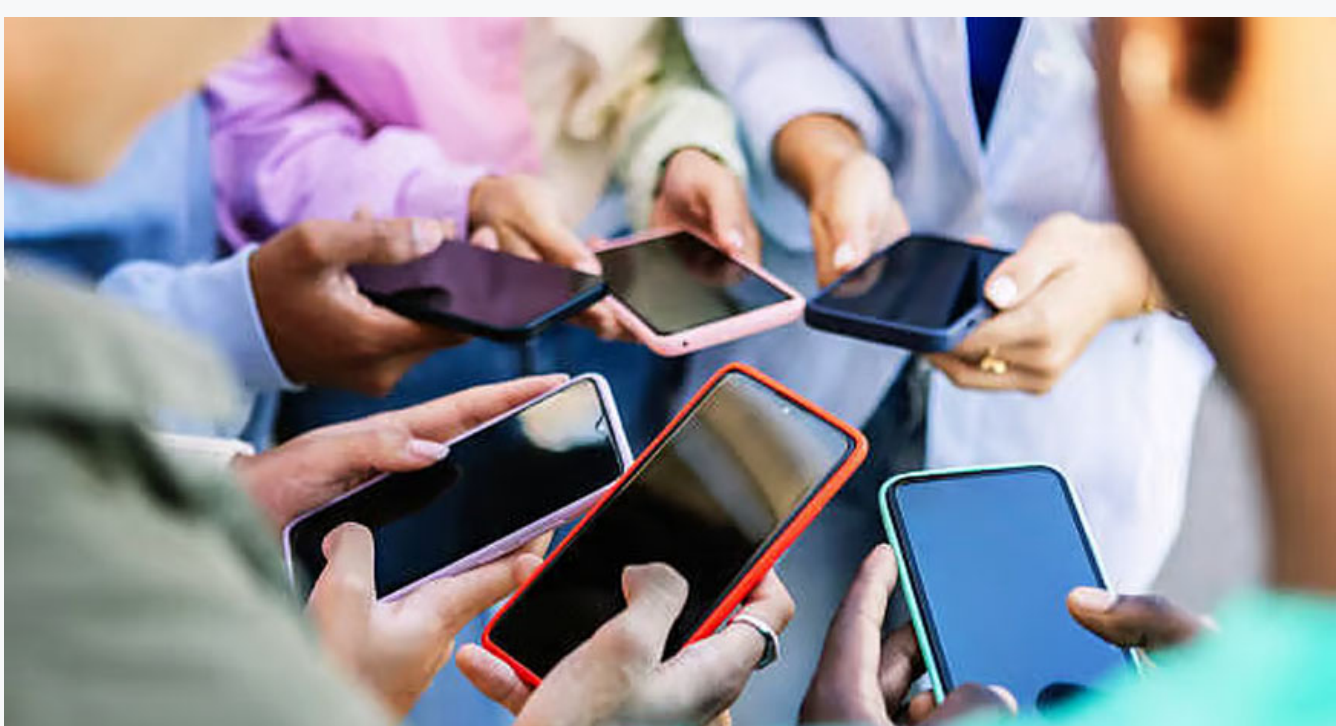
Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates	IAFI preparatory Meetings
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	-
APT: The 37th Meeting of APT Wireless Group (AWG-37)	07th - 11th September 2026	28th 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 6B (WP 6B) - Broadcast service assembly and access	21st - 25th September 2026	09th September 2026	-
ITU-R: Working Party 6A (WP 6A) - Terrestrial broadcasting delivery	22nd - 30th September 2026	10th September 2026	-
ITU-R: Working Party 6C (WP 6C) - Programme production and quality assessment	28th September - 01st October 2026	16th September 2026	-
ITU-R: Working Party 5D (WP 5D) - IMT Systems	28th September - 08th October 2026	16th September 2026	31st August 2026
ITU-R: Study Group 6 (SG 6) - Broadcasting Service	02nd October 2026	20th September 2026	-
APT: The 27th Meeting of South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC-27)	20th - 22nd October 2026	10th October 2026	-

Telecom Stories:



Rejecting the view that India is falling behind in the AI race, Union Minister for Information & Broadcasting, Electronics & Information Ashwini Vaishnaw said that country's strength lies in applying the technology across industries, expanding data-centre capacity and utilising its pool of chip-design talent. Speaking to Morgan Stanley's Head of India Research and Chief India Equity Strategist, Ridham Desai, Vaishnaw said, "Our biggest strength is in the applications layer. The biggest strength of our IT industry is to go into any enterprise, understand the enterprise, understand the operating system of the enterprise and provide a solution based on that operating system."



The government has notified the Mobile Phone Manufacturing Scheme (MPMS), aimed at strengthening domestic mobile phone manufacturing and supporting the growth of Indian mobile phone brands. The scheme has been structured around two target segments. Target Segment 1 will focus on incentivising mobile phone manufacturing, while Target Segment 2 will support Indian mobile phone brands.

Under the second target segment, eligible applicants will be provided a gestation period of one year, giving them time to scale operations and meet the required criteria before becoming eligible for financial incentives.



The Department of Telecommunications has started the formal process of dissolving the Digital Communications Commission, the apex body that has sat at the center of India's telecom policymaking since 1989. The move needs Cabinet approval before its final, but officials confirm the paperwork is already in motion, and the reasoning behind it says as much about how India's telecom bureaucracy actually functions today as it does about the commission itself.

Follow us on:-   

ITU-APT Foundation Of India 504, Fifth Floor World Trade Center (Behind Lalit Hotel)
Barakhamba Road New Delhi- 110001, India.

Contact No.: +91-11-45005163, 7017210403, 9999797700 - Website: iafi.in

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