

THE WEEKLY NEWS SUMMARY

IAFI News

National Workshop on Learning from WRC-23 and the way forward

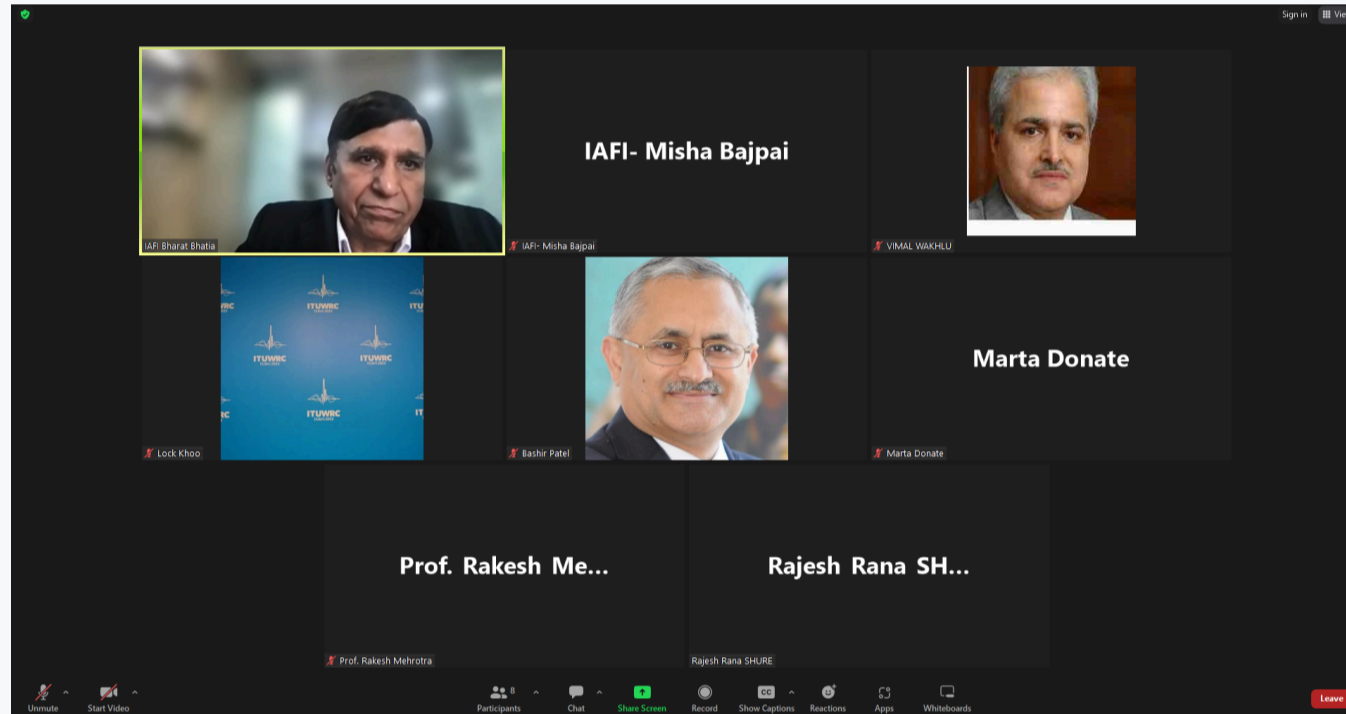


ITU-APT Foundation of India (IAFI) hosted a comprehensive “National Workshop on Learnings from WRC-23 and the way forward. Planning for WRC-27 and forthcoming ITU and APT meetings”, on 22-23 February 2024 at Hotel Hyatt Centric, MG Road, Bangalore.

- The day long workshop commenced with a welcome address by Shri Bharat Bhatia, President IAFI, who set the tone for the discussions and deliberations that were to follow in the day. The workshop was arranged in the hybrid format, combined physical attendance with limited virtual participation.
- More than 100 industry and government experts attended the event, including Smt Gunjan Dave, Member (Technology), DoT, as the Chief Guest. Shri Gulab Chand, Joint Wireless Advisor, WPC, DoT, expressed his appreciation for the consistent efforts put in by IAFI in organising seminars that provide a platform for discussions that has now put India on the global map.
- Detailed insights on WRC-23 IMT services was provided by Dr. Punit Rathod of Qualcomm along with a panel, including Dr Sendil Kumar Devar, Director, Standards and Spectrum, Ericsson; Shri Ashwani Kumar, Head of Spectrum and 6G Engagement, Nokia; Dr Punit Rathod, Shri Vinay Shrivastava, General Manager, Reliance Jio and Shri Diwakar Sharma, Sr. Chief Engineer, Samsung India.
- Session on WRC-23 outcomes relating to the satellite services, was chaired by Shri Munesh Kumar, Joint Wireless Advisor, DOT featuring insights from Mr. Bashir Patel of Inmarsat, Dr. Hanumantha Rayappa of ISRO, Ms. Sonali Nanda of InSpace and Mr. Cristian Gomez of Viasat.
- Session on preparations for WRC-27 was chaired by Shri Bharat Bhatia with Dr. Sendil Kumar Devar of Ericsson, Dr. Punit Rathod of Qualcomm, Ms. Marta Donate Fuente of Eutelsat and OneWeb, Ms. J Sofi Jebasoundaram of ISRO HQ and Mr Udrivolf Pica of SpaceX. Key issues on WRC-27 Agenda were highlighted including agenda Item 1.7, 1.13 and many more.
- The concluding session of the workshop was chaired by Shri Vikram Tiwathia, Deputy Director General of COAI and dealt with India’s participation in future spectrum studies in ITU and APT meetings. The participants included Shri N K Bholia, Joint Wireless Advisor, WPC, DOT, Shri Jishnu Aravindakshan of Tejas Networks Shri R Prakash, Scientist, CDOT, Shri Diwakar Sharma of Samsung India, Dr. Sendil Kumar Devar representing 5GIF and Shri Ashwani Kumar from Nokia

Well Covered By Media: <https://www.communicationstoday.co.in/iafi-workshop-on-wrc-23-and-the-way-forward-a-review/>
https://telecom.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/dot-to-resolve-5g-coexistence-with-radio-altimeters-start-studies-on-cbrs-official/107979610?utm_source=latest_news&utm_medium=homepage

IAFI Radio Group preparatory meeting for upcoming AWG-32 meeting at Pataya, Bangkok



The IAFI Radio Group, in collaboration with its industry partners, convened a meeting to finalize contributions for the upcoming AWG-32 meeting expected to take place in Pattaya, Bangkok, from March 4th to 8th. Following thorough discussions, 6 key issues were identified for further study and development of IAFI’s contribution for AWG-32 and relevant contributions have been finalized.

TRAI Consultation Papers

Consultation Papers	Submission Dates	Status
Assignment of Additional Spectrum to Indian Railways for its Safety and Security Applications	06th Mar 2024	Under Development

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates	IAFI preparatory Meetings
ITU-R: Radio Regulations Board (RRB)	04th - 08th Mar 2024	26th Feb 2024	-
APT: The 32nd Meeting of the APT Wireless Group (AWG-32)	04th - 08th Mar 2024	26th Feb 2024	-
ITU-R: Working Party 6A (WP 6A) - Terrestrial broadcasting delivery	05th - 13th Mar 2024	27th Feb 2024	-
ITU-T: SG13 - Future networks and emerging network technologies	04th - 15th Mar 2024	26th Feb 2024	-
ITU-R: Working Party 6B (WP 6B) - Broadcast service assembly and access	11th - 14th Mar 2024	04th Mar 2024	-

Telecom Stories:



Telecom equipment majors are likely to get some relief as the government has decided to provide incentives soon for increasing their production capacity. The move of the government aims to reduce dependence on imports from other countries. The incentives worth Rs 400-crore will be released in a week or so to some shortlisted firms after thorough verification in this regard. The government has already released some incentives to one or two companies, and the rest will be done soon, the source privy to development said on Tuesday.

The crucial decision of the government came after telecom equipment makers submitted their demand before the concerned department to provide incentives for increasing value addition in manufacturing to mostly reduce their dependence on imports. The government has also been informed about some companies who have been making fixed wireless access equipment that will be in high demand in India and other global markets.



The annual report of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India for the year 2022-23 detailing activities of the Authority, certified accounts and the audit report thereupon has been laid on the Table of Lok Sabha on 20th December 2023 and Rajya Sabha on 9th February 2024.

The annual report of TRAI details the policies and programmes, review of General. environment in the telecom sector and broadcasting sector, review of working and operation of TRAI, functions of TRAI in respect of matters specified in Section 11 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act 1997 and its organizational matters including financial performance.



The closure of 2G networks, dismissing a plea made by Reliance Jio, asserting that it falls within the purview of telecom operators’ commercial discretion, according to a report by the Economic Times. It’s estimated that there are approximately 250-300 million 2G subscribers in India.

Despite 5G technology being rapidly adopted by users, 2G technology is expected to persist as the primary mode of communication in India for the next two to three years, given the significant number of users, especially among those unable to afford smartphones. Industry data indicates that around 50 million 2G handsets are sold annually, with over 500,000 2G base tower stations deployed throughout the country, primarily owned by Bharti Airtel, followed by Vodafone Idea, and state-run BSNL/MTNL. Although incumbent telcos have opted to discontinue 3G networks, no definitive action has been taken concerning 2G networks.

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