

IAFI News

WEEK IN BRIEF

IAFI held its 23rd Annual General Body Meeting and constituted the office-bearers for 2026–2028. IAFI and NITI Aayog convened a high-level workshop on the 6G Golden Band (6.425–7.125 GHz).

India and IAFI jointly contributed to ITU-R WP-6A on IoT-enabled roadside disaster-warning boards.

The 53rd ITU-R WP-5D meeting commenced in Geneva, with IAFI submitting seven contributions.

23rd Annual General Body Meeting – 2026



The 23rd Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) of the ITU-APT Foundation of India (IAFI) was held on 23 September 2026 at the Civil Services Officers' Institute (CSOI), KG Marg, New Delhi. The meeting was attended by 30 members and was held from 3:30 PM to 5:00 PM.

Shri Tilak Raj Dua, Chairman, welcomed the members and appreciated IAFI's active participation in domestic and international meetings, seminars and events organised by the ITU, APT, DoT, BIF, WWRF and other relevant organisations. He highlighted IAFI's growing global role and recognition as a key stakeholder in spectrum management and ICT standardisation, and commended Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, and his team for their financial achievements over the past five years.

The AGM approved the appointment of M/s Khaitan and Company, World Trade Center, as the auditor of the Foundation.

Following nominations and consultations in accordance with the Society's rules and regulations, the office-bearers for the 2026–2028 term were declared. The new governing structure comprises one Chairman, one Co-Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen, one President, six Vice-Presidents, one Secretary General, one Treasurer and fourteen Executive Members.

NITI Aayog – IAFI joint Workshop on the 6G Golden Band



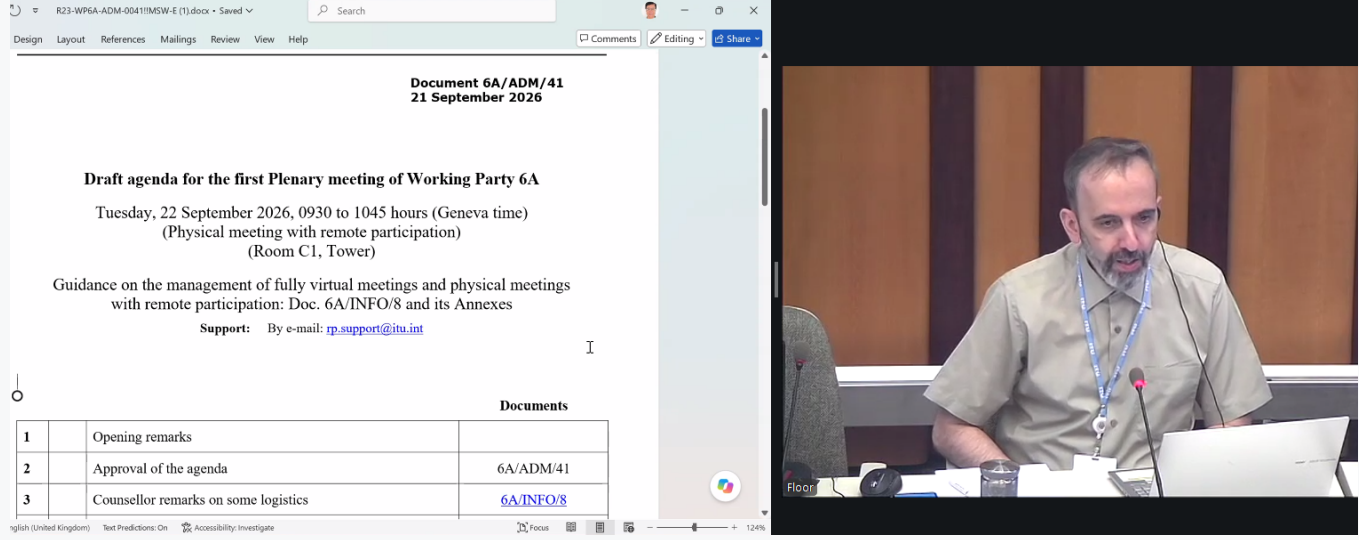
NITI Aayog and IAFI jointly organised a high-level workshop on 23 September 2026 on the strategic importance of the 6G Golden Band, focusing on the upper 6 GHz spectrum (6.425–7.125 GHz). Chief Guest Shri Abhay Karandikar, Member, NITI Aayog, emphasised India's opportunity to contribute to the global spectrum framework for 6G and called for a coordinated national approach. He indicated that NITI Aayog would lead the Golden Band dialogue as a national mission. Industry perspectives highlighted the growing requirement for additional mid-band spectrum. Shri Ravi Gandhi of Reliance Jio stressed the need for significantly more mid-band spectrum, while Shri Ashish Garg of GSMA highlighted the importance of internationally harmonised 200–400 MHz channels for supporting data-intensive 6G applications, including AI and immersive communications, while helping maintain device affordability. The workshop brought together senior representatives from the Department of Telecommunications, ISRO, Bharat 6G Alliance, industry and research institutions. Discussions focused on developing a coordinated Indian approach for WRC-27 and strengthening India's contribution to the global 6G spectrum agenda.

In his concluding remarks, IAFI President Shri Bharat Bhatia outlined the way forward: “The golden band offers the coverage, capacity, and contiguous bandwidth that 6G will need. India should therefore build a clear national position, backed by strong technical studies and protection of incumbent services, and work with APT countries to build regional support.” The workshop received significant media attention, reflecting growing national interest in India's emerging 6G spectrum strategy.

Media Coverage:

<https://www.communicationstoday.co.in/niti-aayog-iafi-push-for-6g-golden-band-ahead-of-wrc-27/>
<https://telecom.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/india-can-define-global-spectrum-framework-for-6g-golden-band-niti-aayogs-abhay-karandikar/134500092>

India Contribution to ITU-R WP-6A



India and IAFI jointly submitted a contribution to ITU-R Working Party 6A on the “Utilization of IoT Devices in roadside disaster warning boards in rural, remote, and hilly areas.” Following detailed discussions, the proposal was accepted and WP-6A agreed to develop a Working Document for further study.

53rd ITU-R Working Party 5D Meeting



The 53rd meeting of ITU-R Working Party 5D (WP-5D) commenced in Geneva, Switzerland, on 28 September 2026 and will continue through 8 October 2026. Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI, along with several IAFI members, is participating in person.

IAFI has submitted seven contributions to the meeting, while one contribution has been submitted by the Indian Administration. A key objective of the meeting is to finalise the draft CPM text for WRC-27, scheduled for 18 October–12 November 2027 in Shanghai, China.

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates
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
ITU-R: Study Group 6 (SG 6) - Broadcasting Service	02nd October 2026	20th September 2026
ITU-R: Working Party 4C (WP 4C)	12th - 16th October 2026	25th September 2026
ITU-R: Working Party 4B (WP 4B)	14th - 20th October 2026	02nd October 2026
ITU-R: Working Party 4A (WP 4A)	19th - 29th October 2026	07th October 2026
APT: The 27th Meeting of South Asian Telecommunication Regulators' Council (SATRC-27)	20th - 22nd October 2026	10th October 2026

Telecom Stories:



India's semiconductor push gains momentum as global investments grow and the government targets startups, skilled talent and a stronger domestic chip ecosystem.

With five semiconductor units in commercial production and global companies lining up fresh investments, the initial questions around India's chip strategy have given way to a growing vote of confidence, IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Saturday, adding that he has full faith that youth-driven startups in India will build homegrown Qualcomms and Intels.



The government has started a consultation process to explore the development of indigenous power semiconductors and modules for power grids.

The Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY), along with the Power Ministry and Powergrid, on Thursday invited industry players for a pre-request for proposal stakeholder consultation to gather input before issuing the final proposal.



Indian global capability centres (GCCs) are increasingly looking to retrain and reskill their employees to become proficient in artificial intelligence (AI), rather than just depending upon hiring externally from information technology (IT) services and technology product companies, as they look to build teams who can deliver instant business impact.

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