

Convergence India Expo 2026



The 33rd Convergence India Expo (March 23-25, New Delhi) drew 50,000+ attendees, 1,000+ exhibitors, and delegates from 25+ countries. Shri Chirag Paswan, Cabinet Minister, Government of India attended as Chief Guest, with keynote addresses from Shri Anil Kumar Lahoti, Chairman TRAI. Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI, spoke at the inaugural session on "5G, AI & Quantum", highlighting the future of intelligent connectivity.

IAFI Pushes for Inclusion of Satellite IoT



IAFI has urged DoT and IN-SPACE to align the draft Telecommunications Act framework to include satellite-based IoT services in MSS bands. Current provisions under the Internet Service Authorisation (ISA) exclude such use cases. IAFI has proposed targeted amendments to enable MSS-based M2M/IoT services. Without these changes, low-revenue IoT services risk falling under heavy licensing regimes, threatening commercial viability.

Urgent Call to Fast-Track NGSO Clearances



IAFI has called on DoT to expedite in-principle clearances for NGSO systems, noting delays of over a year despite a six-week timeline. Faster approvals are critical to enable service rollout, attract investment, and expand connectivity in underserved areas.

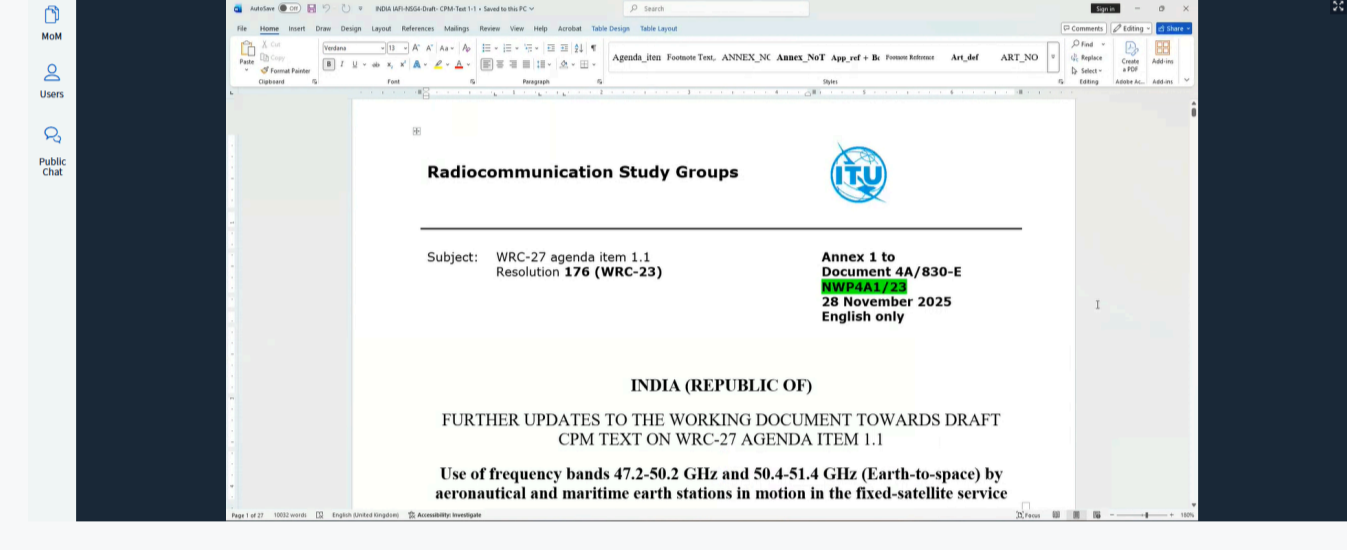
Media coverage: <https://www.communicationstoday.co.in/iafi-urges-expeditious-clearance-of-ngso-satellite-services/>

Gateway Policy: IAFI Seeks Early Decision



IAFI has urged DoT to finalize revised guidelines on allowing foreign operators to use Indian gateways. Comments were submitted in August 2025, but no decision has been taken. IAFI has called for priority review and rationalized compliance requirements.

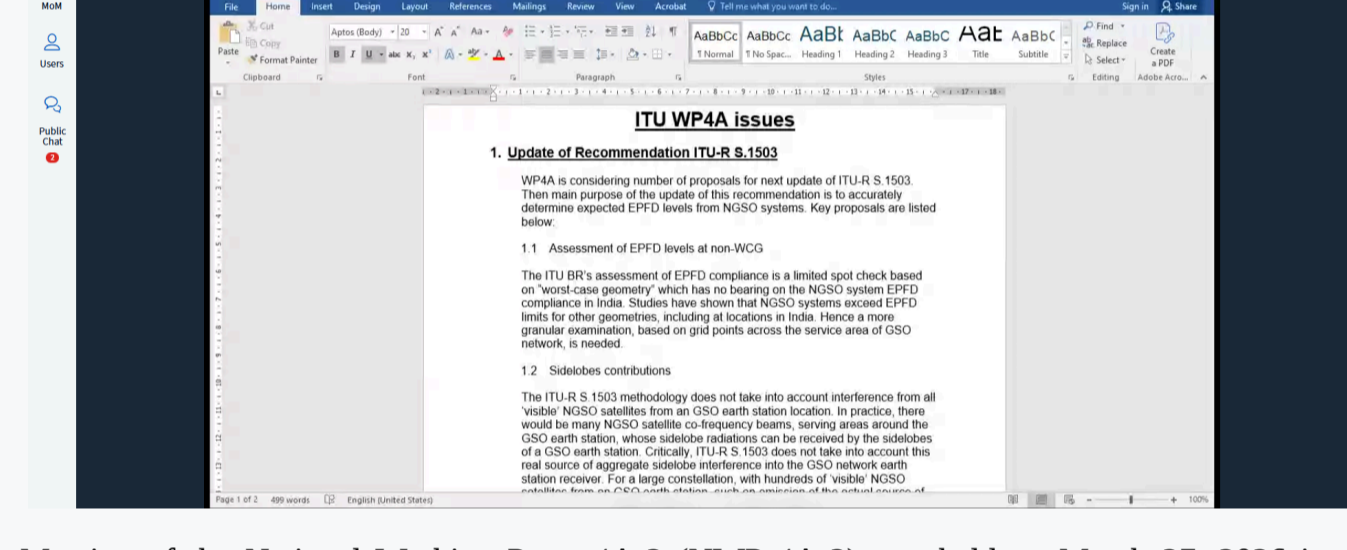
WPC Meetings: IAFI Contributions on WRC-27 Agenda Items 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 for WP4A May Meeting Accepted



The WPC Wing of the DoT organized a virtual meeting of the 14th NWP-4A1 (corresponding to WP-4A/ITU-R) on March 23, 2026, to discuss contributions submitted by various stakeholders regarding Agenda Items 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, and 1.4, as well as questions covered under the scope of NWP-4A1.

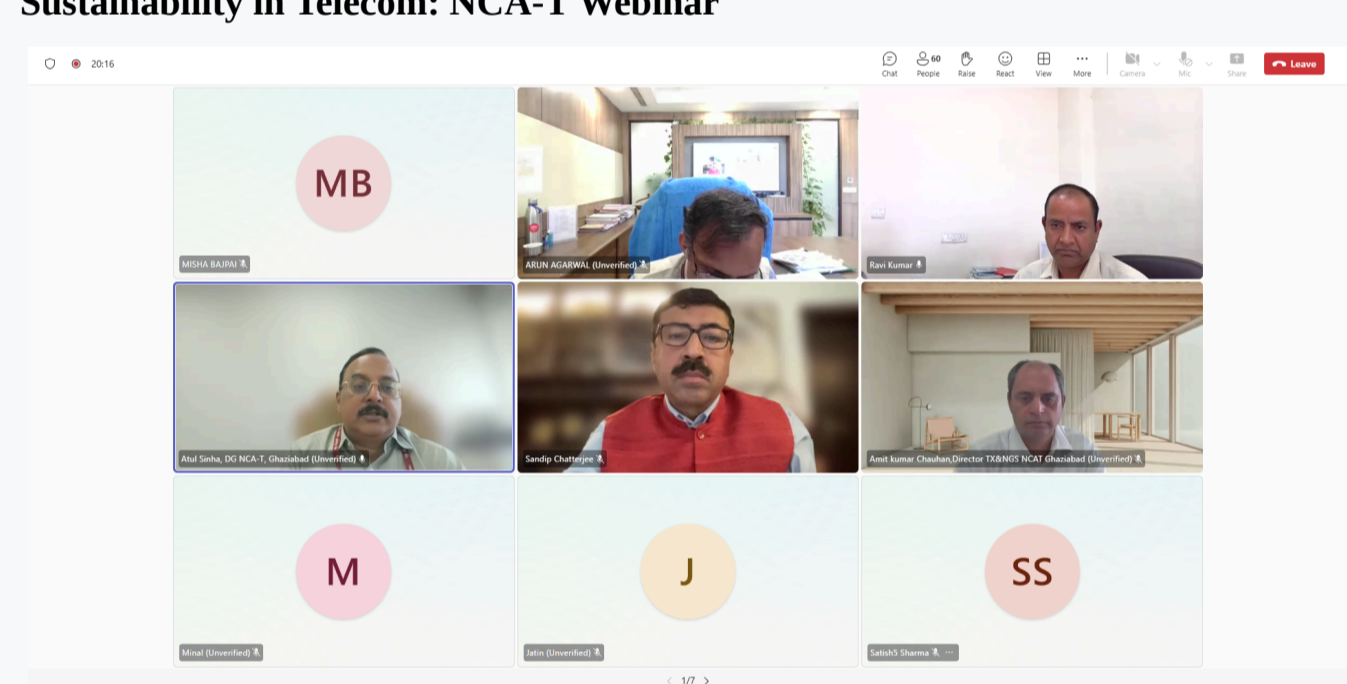
IAFI submitted three contributions focusing on AI-1.1, 1.2, and 1.3. Shri Bharat Bhatia, President, IAFI, along with other IAFI members, attended the meeting to present all three contributions and address various queries raised by the attendees. All contributions were accepted during the meeting and circulated to the members for further comments and discussion, pending finalization and submission to the upcoming NSG-4 meeting.

WPC Meetings: IAFI Contributions on WRC-27 Agenda Items 1.5 for WP4A May Meeting Accepted



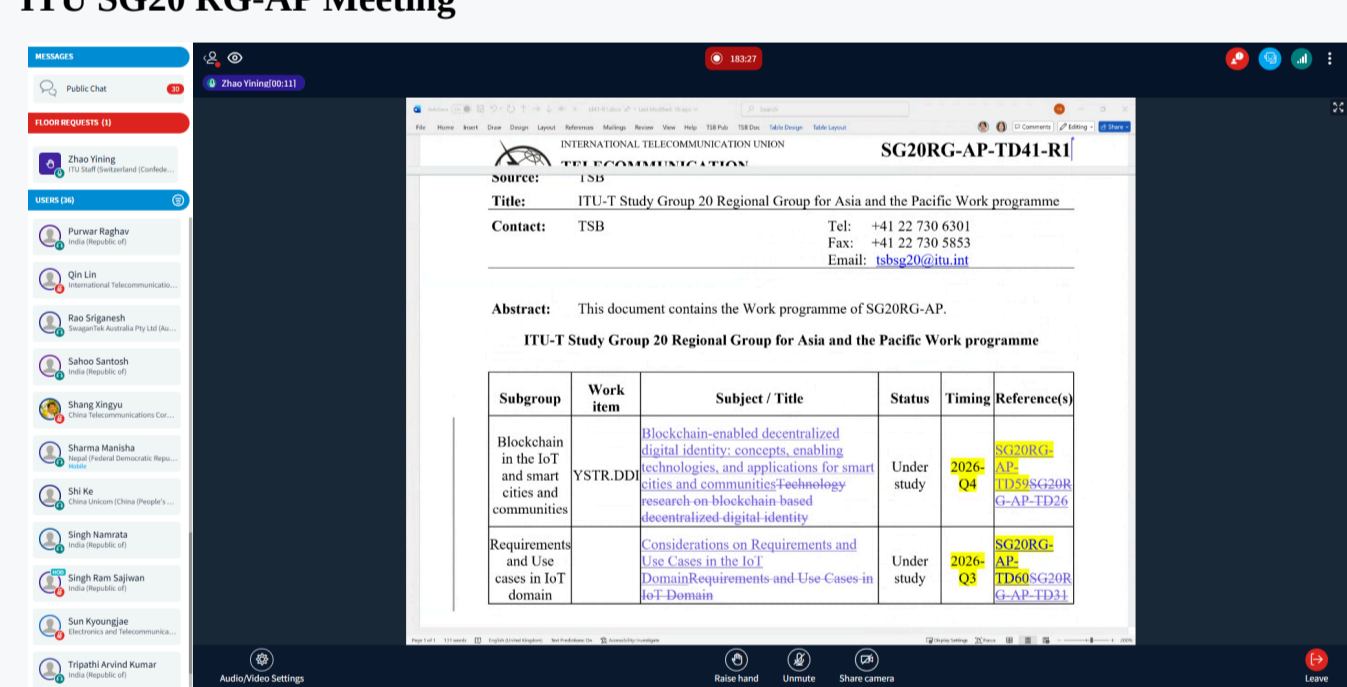
Meeting of the National Working Party 4A-2 (NWP 4A-2) was held on March 27, 2026 in a virtual mode. The meeting was chaired by Dr. S.C. Bera, Group Director, SNPA-SNSICG, Space Application Centre and coordinated by Shri Arun Kumar, DWA, WPC Wing. NWP-4A2 discussed the IAFI proposal on the WRC-27 Agenda Item -1.5 for submission to WP-4A regarding on development of regulatory measures, and implementability thereof, to limit the unauthorized operations of non-GSO earth stations in the fixed-satellite service (FSS) and mobile- satellite service (MSS). The discussions will continue in the next meeting of NWP4A2.

Sustainability in Telecom: NCA-T Webinar



IAFI members joined an NCA-T webinar on circular economy in telecom, covering sustainable design, e-waste management, and lifecycle extension. Experts from SERI, IIT Mandi, and Karo Sambhav shared practical insights on building a greener telecom ecosystem.

ITU SG20 RG-AP Meeting



The SG20 Regional Group for Asia-Pacific (March 24-25) saw strong participation, with 16 countries represented, including 14 from India. Key discussions focused on standards development and strengthening regional collaboration.

Important Meeting that IAFI will attend

Meeting	Dates	Submission Dates
APT: The 3rd Meeting of the APT Preparatory Group for the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2026	30th March - 2nd April 2026	20th March 2026
ITU: Telecommunication Development Advisory Group	07th -10th April 2026	24th March 2026
APT: The 36th Meeting of the APT Wireless Group (AWG-36)	06th - 10th April 2026	28th March 2026
APT: The 38th APT Standardization Program Forum (ASTAP-38)	20th - 24th April 2026	10th 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 GMDSS; 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	17th July 2026

Telecom Stories:



India has begun the process to make the leap from 5G to 6G, communication minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said. "The process is being rolled out today with regard to global standards of technology interoperability. That is being done at the International Telecommunications Union and 3GPP (3rd Generation Partnership Project), both standard-setting bodies for the world. We see the standards and the rollout happening only by 2030. So, we are still in ideation mode. But the difference is that India was nowhere on the table with regard to global standard setting for telecom on 3G or 4G. We made our first foray in 5G when we submitted a proposal for ubiquitous connectivity across the world," he said.



The policies of Government of India are aimed at ensuring open, safe, trusted and accountable cyberspace for users in the country. The Government is cognizant of the risks and harms arising from the misuse of digital technologies including the social media. The Information Technology Act, 2000 ("IT Act") and the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021 ("IT Rules"), together, have established a framework to deal with unlawful content in the digital space.



Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has initiated a project "Startup Challenge to develop Citizen-Centric Innovative Solutions using Blockchain and Web3". It provides opportunities to Blockchain & Web3 Start-ups to build innovative government use cases using permissioned Blockchain. This challenge provides incentives to start-ups which are structured in four evaluation stages.

In Stage-1, the selected teams, move from Ideation to Proof of Concept (PoC), with up to 40 entries receiving ₹1.5 lakh each. In Stage-2, shortlisted teams advance from PoC to Minimum Viable Product (MVP), where up to 30 entries are supported with ₹4 lakh each.

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