

ABHAY SHANKER VERMA Principal Advisor (Broadcasting & Cable Services) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Mr. Abhay Shanker Verma is working as Principal Advisor and Head of Broadcasting & Cable Services Division in Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

He is an officer of 1989 Batch of Indian Telecom Service (ITS) and has more than 33 years of experience in Telecom/ ICT Sector.

Presently, in TRAI, he is associated with the policy and regulatory work related to Broadcasting & Cable Services including Cable TV, Satellite TV (DTH), IPTV, Radio broadcasting, Digital Addressable System, 5G Broadcast, Television Audience Measurements, Interconnection and QoS issues.

After joining TRAI, he has been instrumental in review of the Regulatory framework for Broadcasting and Cable Services, Recommendations on Regulatory framework for Ground-based Broadcasters, Recommendations on Framework for Service Authorizations for provision of Broadcasting Services under the Telecommunications Act, 2023, Recommendations on Listing of television channels in Electronic Programme Guide and Upgradation of DD Free Dish platform to an Addressable System. Currently, he is working on Recommendations on Reserve Price for FM Radio in Hilly areas and Recommendations on Digital Radio Broadcast Policy for private Radio Broadcasters.

He has worked in various positions in telecom domain including installation, operation & maintenance of telecom networks, telecom licensing and policy formulation, telecom regulation and standardization.

During the Study Period 2022-24, Mr. Verma held the position of Vice-Chair and Promotion Officer of ITU-T SG13 as well as Associate Rapporteur of Q5/13 in ITU-T SG13. Currently, he is holding the position of Associate Rapporteur of Q5/13 in ITU-T SG13. He has been instrumental in formulating six (06) ITU-T Recommendations, namely, Y.3056, Y.3527, Y.3181, Y.2325, Y.3059 and Y.3187.

As General Manager (P&IS) in National Highways Authority of India (2009-14), he was instrumental in many Highway Automation Projects including "1033" "Save-lives" Pilot project, e-tolling (FASTAG), Centralized Toll Monitoring system, Automatic traffic counting & classification (ATCC) system etc.

He was also deputed as "**EXPERT**" for evaluating the ICT projects in Bhutan funded by India in the year 2004.

He is an Electrical Engineering Graduate and holds M. Tech. Electronics Engineering (Microwave Engineering) from IIT, BHU, Varanasi; MBA (Finance) from FMS, Delhi University; and LLB Degree from CCS University.