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U.S. Chamber of Commerce



Dear Mr. Deepak Pathak:

We, the undersigned associations, want to reaffirm our support for India's adoption of international 5G standards and your recent adoption of the Telecommunications Standards Development Society, India (TSDSI) transposed standard for 3GPP Release-15 into national standards. We also appreciate your transparent and open consultation processes, and specifically, appreciate your follow-up responses and proactive engagement with industry and trade associations.

We believe strong public-private partnerships between industry and government can promote Indian economic prosperity and technology leadership. As you know, 3GPP is the leading global organization designed to support the technological evolution of 5G standards.

The undersigned organizations strongly support the <u>compromise agreement reached at 3GPP</u> in December that links India to the global public-private 5G technology partnership. Further, we encourage Indian stakeholders to proactively participate at the Technical Specification Groups (TSG) Radio Access Network (RAN) Plenary in March. The TSG RAN discussions will focus on 3GPP Release 17, underscoring the benefits of approving 3GPP Release 16 as covered by the current TEC consultation.

By adopting the 3GPP Rel. 16 standard (16.2.0) as an Indian national standard, TEC can strengthen India's status as an electronics manufacturing hub. By using globally harmonized standards such as those from 3GPP, companies can set up manufacturing operations in India with the confidence that they can easily serve both the Indian market and export to global markets.

Adopting 3GPP standards into Indian national standards will advance the pace of 5G network rollout, helping Indians connect to high-speed internet and address the digital divide. By using 3GPP standards, India's telecommunications operators will be able to leverage the economies of scale provided by globally harmonized standards to efficiently iterate on existing networks.

Using globally harmonized standards for 5G will also allow the Government of India to work closely with global partners and allies on issues related to emerging technology. Whether in the context of the Quad Emerging Technology Working Group between India, the U.S., Japan, and Australia, or in other bilateral and multilateral partnerships, global standards are foundational to cooperation on next-generation technologies. Indian participation is vital to the development of an innovative and secure global technology ecosystem, and we welcome Indian stakeholders to further deepen engagement with 3GPP in support of technologies that meet the country's needs.

In summary, we strongly support India's adoption of 3GPP Release 16 and future iterations as national standards and seek additional opportunities to work with you and TEC in support of India's 5G roll-out and other TEC programs for testing and standards-setting.

Signed:

Information Technology Industry Council (ITIC) Tech UK Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA)







UK-India Business Council (UKIBC) U.S. Chamber of Commerce U.S.-India Business Council (USIBC)

CC: Mr. Kulwinder Kumar, DDG (Standards, Research, Innovation), DoT