

## **Abhay Karandikar**

Prof Abhay Karandikar is currently Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Science of Technology (DST), Ministry of Science & Technology. Before joining DST in October 2023, he served as the Director, IIT Kanpur during April 2018 to September 2023. Prof Karandikar is best known for his exceptional contributions in the field of telecom technology development and global 5G/6G standards with 100+ publications and 40 granted and filed patents to his credit. Before joining IIT Kanpur as the Director, he also held prominent positions such as Head of the Electrical Engineering Department and Dean of Faculty Affairs at IIT Bombay.

The most notable impact of his research has been in the area of affordable broadband access which led to the formation of “Frugal 5G” working group in IEEE standards. His research has profound impact on starting the activities of two global IEEE standards. IEEE 1930.1 is the first IEEE standard coming out of Indian efforts led by Karandikar. His group has also made some pioneering contributions towards 6G architecture in ITU.

He spearheaded a national effort in setting up Telecom Standards Development Society of India (TSDSI), India's standards body for telecom. Prof Karandikar was the founding member and former Chairman of TSDSI. He was also Member (Part-Time) of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) during January 2018- January 2021.

Prof Karandikar's vast experience in policy-making and standardization in telecommunications has been recognized at international levels. He served on the Board of Governors of the IEEE Standards Association (SA) from January 2022 to December 2023. Prof Karandikar was awarded with IEEE SA's Standards Medallion in December 2016 in New Jersey.