CCAOI signs an MoU with ISPAI

CCAOI and Internet Service Providers Association of India (ISPAI) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding recently. Both **CCAOI** and **ISPAI** confirm to co-operate together for the purpose of promoting both the associations and development of trade and mutual business relations in the field of Information Technology and Communication.

CCAOI enters into alliance with Lookeys

To promote vernacular language CCAOI has entered into alliance with "LooKeys" an organisation that provides a computer user with capabilities to easily input data in multiple online and offline applications in 10 different Indian languages namely, Hind, Bengali, Tamil, Telegu, Marathi, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Punjabi, Urdu, Assamese and Oriya using a predictive virtual keyboard.

Telecom & Internet Industry meets the Minister

The Telecom and Internet industry met the Hon'ble Minister for Communications & Information Technology Shri A. Raja**.** The delegates successfully conveyed the aspirations of the internet users in India. The honourable minister was also made aware of the significant roles that the cybercafés can play in the mass penetration of internet. During the meeting the minister expressed his concern for Broadband and Internet status in India.

ICANN Opens IDN ccLTD Fast Track Process

Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) has opened the IDN ccTLD Fast Track Process that allows the countries to use non-Latin based languages. It has also requested top-level domains that reflect their country's name in the scripts of regional languages.

The ccTLD Fast Track Process will enable countries to offer users domain names in non-Latin characters. Domain names in Latin character will no more be required. That is to say, it's a boon for the country like India where majority of the people communicate through regional language and they are more comfortable in surfing internet through regional languages. ICANN has already approved 7 regional languages of India – Hindi, Urdu, Bengali, Tamil, Telegu, Punjabi and Gujarati.

CCAOI initiates process to apply for separate Constituency for Cybercafés in GNSO

CCAOI has felt the need for representation of cybercafés as a separate constituency in GNSO of ICANN and has initiated the process. Cybercafés play a significant role in the developing countries like India and that is why the representation of the cybercafés is essential to develop the ecosystem. In these countries, cybercafés act like the Internet Service Providers for the masses. India has 101 million internet users and around 37% of them access internet from the 180,000 cybercafés. As millions of Internet users can be reached through this channel, the Internet ecosystem should not be overlooking this specific user group.