



Representing the ecosystem of Internet -Bharat Model

CCAOI Newsletter

August, 2016

## Government to promote Local Content and Domain Names

Understanding that the only way to increase internet adoption in the country, especially amongst the vast majority of the non English speaking or understanding population (nearly 60%), is to promote internet in their preferred language, the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MEIT) is undertaking various initiatives in this direction. Some initiatives underway to promote access and content in local language, include,

- **Availability of Domain Names in local language.** The domain names are now available in 15 regional languages of India (.bharat) viz. Hindi, Boro, Dogri, Sindhi, Maithili, Marathi, Konkani, Nepali in Devanagiri script and Gujarati, Manipuri, Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, Punjabi and Urdu. Mr. Rajiv Bansal, Joint Secretary MEIT and CEO NIXI shared that “Government with NIXI is now running an offer whereby registrants, on first cum first basis can get domain names booked from IDN accredited registrars of the registry.” For more details visit [https://registry.in/Accredited\\_Registrars#idn\\_registrars](https://registry.in/Accredited_Registrars#idn_registrars).

The remaining languages for which NIXI had applied to ICANN have also passed the string evaluation criteria For more details visit, <https://www.icann.org/resources/pages/string-evaluation-completion-2014-02-19-en> . NIXI is now in the process of submitting application for delegation request for these languages to ICANN and getting ready the necessary APIs for integration at the registry infrastructure to make these IDNs operational.

- **Local language email support.** The government is in discussions with email service providers such as Google, Microsoft, Rediff, asking them to allow users to sign up in local languages. Such an initiative MEIT believes would be a step to ensure sufficient local language content for the internet users residing in semi-urban and rural areas.
- **Local language Font in Mobile Handsets.** The department has also been in discussion with mobile handset manufacturers to have local language fonts. Various mobile handset producers in the country have already started manufacturing such handsets. The Micromax canvas Unite 4 range, for example, supports 11 Indian language.

## ICANN Highlights

### NTIA intends to allow IANA functions contract to expire

On 17 August, 2016, National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA) shared that it intends to allow the IANA functions contract to expire as of October 1, barring any significant impediments. This is a significant milestone in the IANA transition process. For more details refer the following link, <https://www.ntia.doc.gov/blog/2016/update-iana-transition>

### ICANN Submits Implementation Planning Status Report to NTIA

ICANN has submitted the implementation Planning status report to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), in response to a request NTIA made on 9 June 2016. For more details on the report refer to the following link: <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/iana-stewardship-implementation-planning-status-12aug16-en.pdf>

### **Comments sought on the IANA Naming Function Agreement**

Comments have been sought from the community on the proposed IANA Naming Function Agreement. In line with the proposal submitted by the IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group (ICG) to NTIA, ICANN must incorporate PTI, and put in place an agreement between ICANN and PTI granting PTI the right to perform the IANA naming function. Last date to submit comments is 8 September, 2016. The draft agreement can be viewed from the following link: <https://www.icann.org/public-comments/iana-naming-function-agreement-2016-08-10-en>

### **15 NextGen Candidates selected for ICANN57**

15 individuals, including 5 from India, from various Universities in the Asian Pacific Region have been selected to participate in ICANN 57, to be held at Hyderabad. The selected Next Gen candidates, belonging to the age group of 18-30 years, are engaged in studies that encompass policy, business, technical, security, law, and communications. Additionally, 5 candidates who have previously attended ICANN Meeting as NextGenners, have been selected and they will now serve as Ambassadors for these newcomers to ICANN. For more details visit < <https://www.icann.org/development-and-public-responsibility/nextgen>

### **7 ICANN leadership position Announced**

The ICANN 2016 Nominating Committee has announced their selections for seven leadership positions within ICANN. These include, ICANN Board of Directors - Maarten Botterman from Europe, Cherine Chalaby and Khaled Koubaa from Africa; At-Large Advisory Committee (ALAC) -Andrey Kolesnikov from Europe and Javier Rua-Jovet from North America; Council of the Generic Names Supporting Organization (GNSO)- Erika Mann from Europe and Council of the Country Code Names Supporting Organization (ccNSO) - Jian Zhang from Asia Pacific region. The terms of the selected leaders would commence at the end of ICANN's Annual General Meeting, @ ICANN57.

The 2016 Nominating Committee had received 105 applications, 20 were women and 85 men. In terms of regional breakdown there were 13 applicants from Africa; 30 from Asia/Australia/Pacific Islands; 26 from Europe; 11 from Latin America/Caribbean Islands and 25 from North America. For more details, visit: <https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-2016-08-29-en>

## **National Seminar on ICT emerging Technologies & USOF for Digital India**

The National Institute of Communication Finance (NICF), organized a National Seminar on “ ICT emerging Technologies & Universal Obligation Fund (USOF) for Digital India" between 10 -11 August, 2016 in New Delhi.

The event was inaugurated by Hon'ble Minister of Communications, Mr. Manoj Sinha and attended by Secretary DOT Mr. J.S.Deepak and TRAI Chairman, Mr. R.S. Sharma, along with senior stakeholders from Government (DoT, DoP, MEIT, TRAI, BBNL, MTNL) Telecom Service providers, ISP, Digital platform providers, Industry and Academia. CCAOI too participated in this seminar.

The topics discussed include the changing Role of USOF; Regulatory issues, challenges of Consolidation in digital India initiatives; Bharat Net and Road ahead; Plans & strategy for Broadband Proliferations for digital India; Communication Technologies & USOF for digital India; Project Financing and Accounting Challenges in

Bharat Net; ICT emerging technologies for the last leg/ mile connectivity solutions; Unlicensed spectrum for Wifi and financing and MVNO for digital development in India.



Picture source: <http://pibphoto.nic.in/photo//2016/Aug/12016081086859.jpg>

### Internet Society Report "Promoting Content in Africa"

This report by the Internet Society examines the barriers to the availability and delivery of content, and how to eliminate or lessen them, in the Sub-Saharan Africa region.

This report notes that even in the sub Sahara region, while investments are being made to build infrastructure, especially mobile networks, adoption, Internet adoption is stagnating. The reasons being attributed for this anomaly is the availability of relevant content, and issues with the distribution of that content.

The barriers to Content availability, identified include unavailability of local content, content in familiar language, legal restriction to content, issues or lack of payment mechanisms to purchase content, lack of local infrastructure to distribute local content and lower the cost and time to access the content. The barrier to Content distribution include content being hosted overseas.

Further three key levels of infrastructure, which can ease content distribution suggested, include, data centres to provide a location where servers be securely operated, they serve for both local and international content hosting and setting up an Internet Exchange Point , to arrange local traffic flows without any disconnections.

The report summarizes that focus on removing barriers to content availability and distribution will have significant impacts on the Internet ecosystem and will help to make existing international content more accessible, while also providing more opportunities for local entrepreneurs to identify and meet gaps in their markets, helping also to create income and jobs. Ultimately, it will help to increase demand for the Internet, bringing new users online and increasing the usage of those already online as they find new content and services to capture their interest, for social, business, and government uses.

For [more](#) [details](#) [visit](#)  
<http://www.internetsociety.org/sites/default/files/Promoting%20Content%20in%20Africa.pdf>

### TRAI Updates

**TRAI consultation papers**

Trai has released three consultation papers in August. These include,

- **Consultation Paper on the review of regulatory framework for the use of USSD for mobile financial services.**

This paper seeks comments from stakeholders on issues related to the review of the regulatory framework for the use of Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) for mobile financial services. These include questions on, stages per USSD sessions, methods appropriate for prescribing tariff, methodology to estimate the cost per USSD session; comments on existing pricing model and alternatives; need to allowing USSD push sessions when customer-initiated USSD session is dropped; should other mobile payment services be allowed on the existing USSD Aggregation platform(s); and if any regulatory changes required. Comments can be submitted by 14 September 2016. For details visit, [http://www.trai.gov.in/WriteReadData/ConsultationPaper/Document/CP\\_on\\_USSD\\_based\\_Mobile\\_Banking.pdf](http://www.trai.gov.in/WriteReadData/ConsultationPaper/Document/CP_on_USSD_based_Mobile_Banking.pdf)

- **Consultation Paper on Review of Interconnection Usage Charges**

This paper seeks views from stakeholders on issues related to interconnection usage charges along with possible approaches, technologies to calculate domestic termination charges. Comments have been sought on various methods of cost based termination charges; their impacts on different networks and approach to be used for prescribing International Termination Charge in the country and their possible alternatives. The last date to submit comments is 5 September, 2016. For further details visit: [http://www.trai.gov.in/WriteReadData/ConsultationPaper/Document/Consultation\\_Paper\\_05\\_August\\_2016.pdf](http://www.trai.gov.in/WriteReadData/ConsultationPaper/Document/Consultation_Paper_05_August_2016.pdf)

- **Consultation Paper on Review of network related Quality of Service standards for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service**

This paper seeks comments of stakeholders on quality of services standards and possible benchmarks for cellular mobile service providers. Opinion has been sought along with possible parameters and benchmarks on how and at what level should QoS be mandated, call drop calculation process, ensuring network is technology agnostic, calculation of call drop data using CDR meta data, customer satisfaction index for QoE of the consumer, graded financial disincentives based on performance, etc. The last date to submit comments is 16 September, 2016. For more details visit: [http://www.trai.gov.in/WriteReadData/ConsultationPaper/Document/CP\\_on\\_Review\\_of\\_Network\\_related\\_QoS.pdf](http://www.trai.gov.in/WriteReadData/ConsultationPaper/Document/CP_on_Review_of_Network_related_QoS.pdf)

### **Submission Update**

The **Consultation Paper on Proliferation of Broadband through Public Wi-Fi Networks**, has received 57 submissions - 18 Service Providers, 9 Associations, 5 Civil Society, 15 Companies and 11 Individuals. All the comments can be viewed from the following link: [http://www.trai.gov.in/Content/Consultation\\_ViewCommentDescription/20782\\_0\\_ViewCommentDescription.aspx](http://www.trai.gov.in/Content/Consultation_ViewCommentDescription/20782_0_ViewCommentDescription.aspx). The CCAOI submission can be viewed from the following link: <http://www.trai.gov.in/WriteReadData/ConsultationPaper/Document/201608260657366541182CCAOI.pdf>

### **Extension to Comment**

The dates for submitting comments on the **Consultation Paper on Complaints/ Grievance Redressal in the Telecom Sector**, has been extended to 8 September, 2016. For more details visit : [http://www.trai.gov.in/WriteReadData/ConsultationPaper/Document/Consultation\\_paper\\_28\\_july\\_2016.pdf](http://www.trai.gov.in/WriteReadData/ConsultationPaper/Document/Consultation_paper_28_july_2016.pdf)

**Other Highlights of the Month**

- The Goods and Service Tax (GST) bill which aims to replace all the indirect taxes levied on goods and services by the Centre and States, was passed by the Rajya Sabha. The expectation of the government is to implement it by April 2017. However the Bill needs to be ratified by state legislatures (more than 50% states) for being placed before the President for his approval. 15 states till now have ratified the bill. For more details visit [http://finmin.nic.in/reports/modelgstlaw\\_draft.pdf](http://finmin.nic.in/reports/modelgstlaw_draft.pdf) and <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/15-states-ratified-GST-a-step-away-from-presidential-nod/articleshow/53958375.cms>
- Whatsapp has announced a change in their privacy policy and terms and conditions, whereby they will start sharing some user data with Facebook their parent company, including for ad-targeting purposes on the latter service. There is however a provision for users to opt out. For further details, refer the following link: <https://blog.whatsapp.com/>

### Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- The Internet Society is now inviting applications for the 2016 Youth@IGF programme to empower the next generation of leaders and increase the participation of young voices (age 18-25) in Internet Governance. Applications will close on 11 September 2016. To apply, visit: <https://www.internetsociety.org/youth-igf-programme>
- The First India School on Internet Governance (inSIG), will be held from 31 Oct - 2 Nov 2016 at Hyderabad. Registration closes 15 September, 2016. For more details visit <http://insig.in>.
- APNIC 42 relocated to Colombo, Sri Lanka and will be held between 28 September to 5 October. The details of the conference would be available from the following link: <https://conference.apnic.net/42/faqs>
- Nominations are now open for ISIF Asia Awards 2016 for projects that showcase the use of the Internet as a social development tool to promote access, openness, inclusion and human rights in the Asia Pacific. Two projects will be supported with AUD 3,000 to support their work in - Technical innovation (access provision, electricity supply, devices, IoT, IPv6, security and privacy) or Community impact (Women and Girls in ICT, democracy enhancement, open data, applications for economic empowerment and poverty alleviation). Nominations close on 15 September 2016. For more information, visit: <http://isif.asia/award>
- The Internet Society's members-only event of the year – InterCommunity 2016 will be held on 21 September, 2016. To register use the following link: <https://www.internetsociety.org/form/ic>
- CII Connect 2016 - International Conference and Exhibition on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) 27-28 September 2016 at Hotel ITC Grand Chola, Chennai, For more details visit <http://www.ciiconnect.in/index.php>
- FICCI is organizing the 2nd Smart City Summit 2016, “Winning the Challenges” on 30th September 2016 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi that would primarily focus on the address the challenges concerning the on-going smart city projects and also deliberate on the various ways of winning the challenges. To more details email to [urban@ficci.com](mailto:urban@ficci.com)
- India Telecoms 2016 - International Conference on ICT & Digital Economy, will be held in New Delhi between 1-2 November, 2016

- International Mobile Technology Expo” on 2 - 4December, 2016 in Goa, India
- ICANN 57 to be held in Hyderabad between 3-9 November, 2016 To register visit <https://registration.icann.org/register.php?id=Hyderabad57>
- The Exhibitions India Group will organize the first Internet of Things India 2017 expo (IoT India expo) from 8 – 10 February 2017. For more details visit <http://www.iotindiaexpo.com/>
- CeBIT INDIA 2016 will be held between 8 – 10 December, 2016. For more details visit <http://cebit-india.com/exhibit-registration.html>
- Municipalika + CAPEX 2017, 14<sup>th</sup> International Conference and Exhibition on Smart City Solutions is being organized in Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra from 18 - 20 of May 2017 . For more details visit [www.municipalika.com](http://www.municipalika.com)

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