



Representing the ecosystem of Internet -Bharat Model

CCAIOI Newsletter

Aug, 2014

TRAI seminar on Regulatory Framework for OTT Services

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India had organised a seminar on "Regulatory Framework for OTT services". The objective of the event, as stated by TRAI was to understand the eco-system for OTT services with respect to current regulatory environment after telecom service provider (TSPs) approached it on several occasions. "They (TSPs) wanted a sort of discussion on treatment of OTT services like WhatsApp, Skype and others which are actually cutting in to their revenue. The purpose (of seminar) is not to protect revenues of TSPs but to understand if there is any case of regulating such services," TRAI Secretary Sudhir Gupta said.

On behalf of operators Mr. TV Ramachandran said "We want some kind of regulatory help to get a level playing field. There are so many regulations binding on us but the same don't exist for OTT players. We can do a lot more if level playing field is given to us,"

As per data shared by PwC Managing Consultant Neeraj Kataria, it is estimated that Skype, which offers free Skype to Skype phone calls using Internet, is costing telecom industry around US 36 billion/year globally.

The Association of Unified Telecom Service Providers of India (AUSPI) President CS Rao said that though OTT players provide services that mobile service providers offer but there is no rule to ensure that they provide quality service to customers. Also, they have no commitment on customer service, he alleged

Internet & Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) President Subho Ray suggested that Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) should not intervene in the eco-system and it should be left to market forces to shape this ecosystem

For further details visit: http://articles.economictimes.indiatimes.com/2014-08-05/news/52471142_1_ott-telecom-operators-unified-telecom-service-providers

More than 1 Lakh contribution at 'MyGov'

The social media platform ' MyGov' which had been launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 26, 2014 has received good response with over one lakh people joining the site so far. "We have had over 1,00,000 contributions (at MyGov). Several thousands of hours have been contributed by common people to participate in it. The platform today provides the opportunity for people to connect directly with the Prime Minister", mentions Mr. Ajay Kumar. Joint Secretary, Department of Electronics and Information Technology.

For further details visit: <http://www.voicendata.com/voice-data/news/218749/lakh-civilians-befriend-mygov>

Facebook joins Telecom Operator COAI

At a time when the telecom operators in India are lobbying with the Telecom Regulator TRAI to regulate Over-The-Top services (Internet based services), social media giant Facebook has joined Telecom industry association CCAOI as an associate member, at a time when.

While the industry association is of the opinion that there is a need for revenue sharing arrangement between OTT players and the telecom service provider the internet companies believe Internet should be free and not charged.

For further details visit: http://www.medianama.com/2014/08/223-facebook-india-telecom-coai-lobby/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+medianama+%28Medianama%3A+Digital+Media+In+India%29

New copyright law in UK allows new copying exceptions

On 29 July, the House of Lords approved a new law on copyright, the result of the so-called Google review, which will come into force from 1 October. The law introduces copying exceptions allowing consumers to make digital copies of their music and other content freely. The exceptions remove the right of owners to demand compensation or prevent unauthorised use in private copying, parody and quotation.

The Parliament oversight committee, the Joint Statutory Instruments Committee, criticised the new exceptions, saying that the new law overrules private contracts and the government might be powerless to make such sweeping changes via a Statutory Instrument.

Responding to the critics the minister responsible for copyright, Baroness Neville-Rolfe, said that the reform aims to ensure greater freedom for people to use creative content without threaten copyright's important role in supporting creators and creative industries.

For further details visit: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/changes-to-copyright-exceptions>

ICANN To Court: ccTLDs Aren't Property

ICANN (The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers) has told a U.S. federal court in the District of Columbia, that a ccTLD (country code Top-Level Domain) cannot be considered property and as a result it says, it can't be attached by plaintiffs in a lawsuit, when they're trying to obtain assets of countries they say have supported terrorism.

ICANN General Counsel and Secretary John Jeffrey explained, "We filed a Motion to Quash in the US federal court today, to ensure that the court has the essential information about how the Internet's domain name system (DNS) works. While we sympathize with what plaintiffs may have endured, ICANN's role in the domain name system has nothing to do with any property of the countries involved.

"We explained in our Motion to Quash, that country code Top-Level Domains (ccTLD) are part of a single, global interoperable Internet which ICANN serves to help maintain, he continued. "ccTLD's are not property, and are not 'owned' or 'possessed' by anyone including ICANN, and therefore cannot be seized in a lawsuit."

The comments come after terrorism victims successfully won lawsuits against Iran, Syria and North Korea. Plaintiffs served ICANN with "writs of attachment" and subpoenas seeking info to help them seize those countries' ccTLDs in an effort to recover assets from them.

ccTLDs (and related IP addresses) specifically targeted by the plaintiffs include .IR (Iran), .SY (Syria) and .KP (North Korea). Also being targeted, according to ICANN, are internationalized top-level domains in non-ASCII characters for Iran and Syria.

For further details visit: <http://www.webpronews.com/icann-to-court-ctlds-arent-property-2014-07>

Board Extends Term of ICANN President

The ICANN Board has extended by two years the contract of President and Chief Executive Officer Fadi Chehadé. It will now run until 30 June 2017.

"As we noted in the Board resolution, taking this action will help ensure the stability in leadership that is important for ICANN," said Board Chair Dr. Stephen Crocker. "It also shows the support and confidence that the Board has in Fadi." Chehadé's base salary will increase by 12.5 percent.

The Board resolution said, "The decision to increase Mr. Chehadé's compensation was done with recognition and acknowledgment of the work done by the Compensation Committee with Towers Watson to ensure that the increase recommended is reasonable and in line with comparable positions."

"I'm both humbled and honored by the Board's trust in me to lead this important organization at such a critical time," said Chehadé. "I'm glad to be able to expend my energy and passion towards ICANN's noble mission and great public responsibility. With focus, diligence and hard work, we will continue to evolve ICANN into a mature, global organization."

For further details visit: <https://www.icann.org/news/announcement-4-2014-08-01-en>

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) launching .Bharat ccTLD

NIXI will be launching the .Bharat domain name (.भारत written in Devanagari script) on 21st of August, 2014 at 4 PM in Silver Oak hall in India habitat centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi. Hon' ble Minister for Communications and Information Technology, and Minister for Law and Justice, Mr. Ravi Shankar Prasad has consented to be the Chief Guest on the occasion .

Fellowship Application Round Opens for ICANN 52 in Marrakech

The ICANN Fellowship program seeks participants from developing countries of the world in order to help create a broader base of knowledgeable constituents to engage in the multi-stakeholder process and become the new voice of experience in their regions and beyond. Our current application round for participation in Marrakech next February launches today and remains open until 19 September 2014 with successful candidates announced on the ICANN website 7 November 2014.

For more information visit: <https://www.icann.org/en/about/participate/fellowships>

Nomination Period (Aug 6 - Sep 6) Opens for Election of Vice Chair of MSG at APriGF

A vacancy of 2-year term of vice chair position (2014-2016) is open for election.

According to the Operating Principles (7. Management) adopted in the Sep 2013 during the Seoul meeting, "Two vice-chairpersons shall be elected, each serving for a period of 2 APriGF Cycles (but with staggered terms)."

The Election Timelines are:

Aug 6 - Sep 6: Nomination Period Opens

Sep 15 - Sep 30: Consensus Building / Voting Period over mailing list

1st week of Oct: To be ratified in the monthly MSG meeting

Nominations of candidates can be made by submitting the names, organization and stakeholder group of the nominee to msg@aprigf.asia before the nomination period close

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