



Representing the ecosystem of Internet -Bharat Model

CCAOI Newsletter

December, 2016

Happy New Year.

Year 2016 At a Glance

3.5 Billion people, out of the 7.4 Billion people in this world are connected to the Internet, while over half the world, around 3.9 billion people are yet to be connected (Source: ITU Releases 2016 ICT Facts & Figures). Six nations, namely China, India, Indonesia, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nigeria, account for 55% of the total offline global population (Source: The State of Broadband 2016: Broadband Catalyzing Sustainable Development).

While India is the world's second largest Internet market, with 333 million users, trailing China's 721 million, the world's second-largest smartphone market, with an estimated 260 million mobile broadband subscription (Source: The State of Broadband 2016: Broadband Catalyzing Sustainable Development Report), the country has dropped to 91st position in terms of economically benefiting from investments in information and communications technologies (Source: World Economic Forum's Global Information Technology Report 2016).

On the other hand seven countries, namely Finland, Switzerland, Sweden, Israel, Singapore, the Netherlands and the United States are excelling when it comes to benefiting economically from investments in information and communications technologies (Source: World Economic Forum's Global Information Technology Report 2016),

One of the most significant achievement of this year was the transition of Stewardship of IANA Functions from U.S. Government to ICANN and the global Internet Community. Other significant accomplishments include EU adopting the EU-US Privacy Shield and recent EU court ruling against mass surveillance.

The 11th IGF, the first IGF meeting held after the renewal of the IGF's mandate, in Guadalajara, Mexico.

A number of School of Internet Governance for capacity building was initiated this year, including the Asia Pacific school of Internet Governance (APSIG's), an advanced level program, held in Bangkok.

This year witnessed increased incidents of content blocking, temporary network shut down, targeting of encryption technologies in the name of surveillance (Freedom of the Net report 2016). Overall, trust over the internet appeared to be a major concern for most internet users (Source: The Economics of Building Trust Online: Preventing Data Breaches report).

For India, it was an interesting year. The country participated in various International Internet Governance forums, such as ICANN55 held in Marrakech, where the Hon'ble Union Minister of Electronics & IT and Law & Justice, Mr. R.S.Prasad led a high level delegation. India also hosted the largest ICANN meeting, ICANN57 at Hyderabad. Further, India also signed the US and India Cyber relationship framework.

There was a thrust towards capacity building. Apart from workshops and roundtables, the first India School of Internet Governance (inSIG 2016) was held in Hyderabad.

There were debates within the country too on Internet Governance issues. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India sought public comments on subjects, such as Free Data, Net neutrality, Interconnection usage charges, Public Wi-Fi, etc. The regulator also issued a historic order prohibiting discriminatory tariffs for data services. Very recently the regulator issued recommendations for free data usage in rural areas. This year also witnessed the Telecom Commission approve interconnection between IP networks.

Last but not the least, to boost eCommerce, this year the government approved 100% FDI in online retail following the marketplace model. The end of the year witnessed the government aggressively promoting online or cashless transactions and making Aadhar mandatory for availing various services.

Update on 11th IGF

The 11th Internet Governance Forum held from the 6-9 December, 2016 at Guadalajara, Mexico, was attended by over 2000 delegates from 83 countries in person and hundreds through remote participation. The theme this year was 'Enabling Inclusive and Sustainable Growth'. There were approximately 200 sessions 40 booths at IGF Village and 12 Dynamic coalitions. The lightning and unconference sessions were introduced for the first time, this year.

Quite a few discussions, this year linked Internet Governance to the SDG goals. Internet access and connecting the unconnected was one of the main discussion point, especially by increasing meaningful, empowering access to the Internet. Importance of content and IDNs in local language, Human Rights, Cybersecurity, New technologies such as Internet of Things (IOT), Artificial intelligence was widely discussed. Further, possible causes of Internet fragmentation were analysed in several sessions. There were sessions on data localization, blocking access to online content; various dimensions of the digital divide. Recent trade agreements, e-commerce trends, impact of digital economy were also discussed.

There were debates on the various policy approaches towards net neutrality, zero rating and who who should bear responsibility for dealing with illegal or harmful online content: Impact of new generic top level domains (gTLDs) on market competition and Internet security and stability, the role of IDNs in the development of local content, were also discussed. The Post IANA transition discussions, focused on the role of the community in the process, and the future of ICANN's multistakeholder model. Sessions discussed the implementation phase of the various reforms, and the accountability. The role of SIGs, e-learning, online education, collaboration between the National, Regional and Youth IGFs (NRIs) was also discussed.

View the Chairs Summary of 11th IGF, from this [link](#), while the final Report from GIP on the 11th IGF, from this [link](#).

ICANN Updates

ICANN Implements Standardized Framework for Release of Two-Character Labels

ICANN has implemented the framework established by the Measures for Letter/Letter Two-Character ASCII Labels to Avoid Confusion with Corresponding Country Codes, by authorizing the release of all letter/letter two-character ASCII labels at the second level for registry operators subject to these Measures. This would provide a standardized framework to help Internet users avoid confusion between country codes and the corresponding letter/letter two-character domain names. Previously, registry operators were required to reserve and individually request permission from ICANN to release second-level two-letter ASCII labels. For more details refer this [link](#).

WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System December 2016 report published

ICANN has published the WHOIS Accuracy Reporting System December 2016 report. The report explores both the syntax and operability accuracy of WHOIS records in gTLDs as compared to the requirements of the 2009 and 2013 Registrar Accreditation Agreements (RAAs). It also examines the leading types of non-conformances, trends and comparisons of WHOIS accuracy across ICANN regions, RAA versions and gTLD types.

The analysis found that:

- Nearly all WHOIS records contain information that can be used to establish immediate contact: In 97 percent of records, at least one email or phone number meets all operability requirements of the 2009 RAA.
- Approximately 90 percent of email addresses, 72 percent of telephone numbers and 97 percent of postal addresses were operable (see Table 1 below for more information).
- The report also shows a breakdown of accuracy rates by ICANN

For more details, click [here](#).

ICANN 58 Fellowship List, Announced

Out of 424 Fellowship applications received, 56 individuals from 41 countries have been selected to participate in ICANN' 58 Fellowship program to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark. 35 of the selected candidates will be attending their first ICANN meeting, 7 have attended an ICANN Meeting in the past, 14 are Fellowship Alumni, out of which 9 will take on the additional role of coaching Newcomers. Saurabh Dubey and Shiva Upadhyay have been selected for the fellowship from India. For more details visit this [link](#).

Successful Candidates Selected for NextGen@ICANN58 Announced

Fifteen individuals who come from various universities in Europe, are actively engaged in studies involving policy, international relations, engineering, cyber security, law, and computer science, have been selected to participate at ICANN58 in Copenhagen, Denmark. Five additional Selectees will serve as ambassadors for these NextGen participants. Krishna Kumar Rajamannar a student of Hertie School of Governance, Berlin is the only Indian in the list. For more details visit this [link](#).

ICANN59 Fellowship Application Round Now Open

The Fellowship round for ICANN 59 to be held from 26-29 June 2017 in Johannesburg, South Africa, is now open only for Fellowship Alumni. Last date to apply is 27 January 2017. For more details, click [here](#).

Call for Public comments or Participation:

- The Proposed ICANN Community Anti-Harassment Policy is seeking public comments till 12 January 2017. For further details visit this [link](#).
- Cross-Community Working Group on Enhancing ICANN Accountability (CCWG-Accountability) request comments on the Updated Supplementary Procedures (USP) for the ICANN Independent Review Process (IRP). Last date to submit comments is 10 January, 2016. For further details visit this [link](#).

- There is a call for volunteers to join Cross-Community Working Group tasked to develop a proposal(s) for the mechanism that should be developed in order to allocate the New gTLD Auction Proceeds. To join the CCWG as an individual participant or mailing list observer, please fill in the sign up form using this [link](#) or send the Word document <https://community.icann.org/x/FpjDAw> filled in to the GNSO Secretariat. Following that you will receive further instructions on how to complete your Statement of Interest and Declaration of Intention. For more details refer this [link](#)

Survey Findings

- **Community Feedback Report and Number Report**
ICANN has published two reports on the results of the ICANN57 participant survey, and the technical, demographic and attendance statistics. Click [here](#) to view the Community Feedback report and [here](#) for the Number Report.
- **A Brief Study on Newcomer's View of ICANN**
A brief study was conducted on the perception of newcomers at ICANN by Walid-al-Saqaf and Amrita Choudhury. The report can be viewed from the following [link](#).

Internet Society Update

Beyond the Net Impact report released

Internet Society released the first Impact report, which details the outcomes of projects supported by Beyond the Net in 2015, and includes a summary section on the impact of the former Community Grants Programme. It also highlights the importance and contribution of the projects in the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Highlights of the report include:

- In India, over 280 students received training on IETF capacity building
- In Armenia, 2,000 visually impaired Armenians empowered through the Internet
- In Guatemala, 280 indigenous Mayan children and families trained in computer use and Internet access
- In Tunisia, at least 300 people learned the values and principles of freedom of access to information and networks

For more information, visit this [link](#).

Internet Society India – Delhi Chapter Update

The Delhi Chapter organized an online Chapter call where apart from discussing the initiatives of 2016, there was a discussion on the areas to focus upon, in 2017. Chapter members reiterated security to be one of the main topics to focus upon apart from the privacy and building trust online.

The Monthly newsletter of Internet Society Asia Pacific Bureau featuring CCAOI Director can be viewed from this [link](#)

ITU Updates

In 2017, at the International telecommunication Union (ITU) will begin a review of the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITRs) through an Expert Group on the ITRs (EG-ITR).

This review will begin in 2017 taking into account new trends in telecommunications/ICT, emerging issues and obstacles that may arise from the implementation of the 2012 ITRs and WCIT-12 Resolutions and Recommendations.

The EG-ITR is open to Member States and Sector Members and contributions will be accepted from both groups, including from the Directors of the three Bureaus by 25 January, 2017. The first meeting of EG-ITR will take place in Geneva on 9 -10 February, 2017.

The EG-ITR has to submit a progress report to the 2017 Session of ITU Council and a final report to the 2018 Session of ITU Council (18-27 April 2018). Following Council's examination, the final EG-ITR report will be submitted with any of the Council's comments to Plenipotentiary 2018 where ITU Members will determine whether or not an update or revision is needed to the 2012 ITRs.

For more details on ITR click [here](#) and on EG-ITR [here](#).

TRAI Updates

TRAI Recommendation

TRAI has issued recommendations for Encouraging Data usage in Rural Areas through Provisioning of Free Data. The Regulator recommends that the scheme for free data must be TSP-agnostic and without any arrangement between the TSP and the aggregator or content provider. To increase participation, the regulator recommends the need to introduce third party (aggregator) to facilitate such schemes. The aggregators will need to register with telecom department. They further point out that, the scheme for free data should not be designed to circumvent the "the prohibition of discriminatory tariffs for data services regulations. TRAI suggestion includes rural subscribers are provided around 100 mb of data free every month. The validity period of the program would be 5 years.

The implementation of this recommendation now rests with the Department of Telecom, who has the right to accept, modify or reject it. For more details visit, this [link](#).

Reports

- TRAI released "The Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicators, April - June, 2016 " report on 1 Dec, 2016. The report mentions. For more details visit this [link](#).
- TRAI has released the Telecom Subscription Data as on 30th September, 2016. For more details, click [here](#).

TRAI consultation paper

- TRAI has released a Consultation Paper on Closure of Access Service on 30 November, 2016 and comments are invited till 7 January, 2017. The consultation paper can be viewed from this [link](#).

Comments on Consultation paper

- 17 comments have been submitted, which include 3 Associations, 2 Companies/ Firms and 12 Service Providers for the consultation paper, Review of the Regulatory Framework for Interconnection, to 12 December, 2016. The comments can be viewed from this [link](#).

- 39 comments have been submitted on the TRAI consultation note on Model for Nationwide Interoperable and Scalable Public Wi-fi Networks, a where the regulator amongst other questions, sought comments from stakeholders to know whether the proposed unified authentication and payment infrastructure will help to scale the Wi-Fi model nationwide. There were 13 comments from Service Providers, 6 from individuals, 12 from Organizations/ Firms and 8 from Associations. The comments can be viewed from this [link](#).
- TRAI has released a Consultation Paper on Captive VSAT CUG Policy Issues last date of submitting comments is 25 November, 2016 and counter comments is 9 December, 2016. The paper can be viewed from this [link](#).

Open House Discussion

- The Open House Discussion on the consultation paper "Review of network related Quality of Services Standards for Cellular Mobile Telephone Service" was held on 21 December, 2016 at Chennai. The invitation can be viewed from this [link](#).

Other Highlights

- The 7th Edition of “Introduction to Internet Governance” by Dr. Jovan Korbaliya; has been published, and is available from this [link](#).
- The UN General Assembly has adopted a Resolution on various aspects of access to medicine, etc., for more details visit [here](#).
- The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU), has issued a landmark ruling against mass surveillance stating indiscriminate storing of private citizens' communications data is illegal under EU law. For more details visit, this [link](#). The ruling can be viewed from this [link](#).
- Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) rules that all Canadians must have access to reliable, world-class mobile and residential Internet. For more details refer this [link](#).
- IIMA-Idea Telecom Centre of Excellence (IITCOE) held an ICANN Readout Session on 21 December, 2016 with an objective to evaluate the status of activities, emerging trends and identify opportunities for improving participation from Indian stakeholders with policy formation at ICANN.
- The McAfee Labs have released their Threat Report 2016. The report terms this, as the year for ransom ware. The report can be viewed from this [link](#).

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

- There is a call to help author technical content for an IEEE Technology Policy White Paper on Net Neutrality. For more details visit this [link](#).
- 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 this [link](#).

- The 2⁵th Convergence India 2017 conference will be held between 8-10 February, 2017 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. For more details visit this [link](#).
- 58th ICANN meeting from 11-15 March, 2017 at Copenhagen, Denmark.
- 2nd Convergence Africa World 2017 " Connecting Africa" Conference will be held in Nairobi, Kenya between 5-7 April, 2017. For more details visit this [link](#).
- Municipalika + CAPEX 2017, 14th 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 this [website](#).
- The International Mobile Technology Expo is from 19 - 20 May 2017, Mumbai, India.
- India to host Global Cyber Security Conference in 2017

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