



Representing the ecosystem of Internet -Bharat Model

CCAIO Newsletter

January 2019

January Highlights

In the month of January, Artificial Intelligence, data protection, cyber security, content regulation, intermediary liability and digital commerce was much discussed. In the Indian context, the discussions revolved around the Intermediary Guidelines Amendment, the consultation paper on OTT communication services, the eCommerce bill and ways to curb fake news.

At the World Economic Forum (WEF), a [high-level 'AI Council'](#) to work on addressing issues such as ethics and AI, data protection, and the future of work was announced. At the same event Singapore [released a model governance framework for AI](#). Facebook and the Technical University of Munich announced [co-operation in developing 'The Institute For Ethics in AI'](#) to focus on ethics in the context of AI, while Microsoft [signed](#) a strategic co-operation memorandum with the district government of Pudong New Area (Shanghai) to launch an AI and IoT Lab in Shanghai. It was also reported that Malaysian [judges will soon be using AI](#) to help them issue more consistent decisions.

This month witnessed instances where regulators imposed penalties on organizations for data breaches or non-compliance to data protection. [Google was fined](#) €50 million by the French data regulator over issues related to lack of transparency and consent; SingHealth and Singapore's public healthcare sector agency (IHIS) were [fined](#) with penalties amounting to one million dollars, after a data breach incident in July 201 where data of over 1.5 patients were compromised. Kenya enacted [amendments](#) in their national identification law that will enable the state to collect more precise data when issuing identification documents. There were reports that Germany's anti-trust body is considering to order Facebook to [stop gathering unspecified user data](#)

In terms of data breach, a [WhatsApp bug](#) was reported to have deleted users' messages and leaked previous information of owner's; [Airbus](#) reported a data breach; a research conducted by AntiToxin Technologies and TechCrunch [highlighted](#) that Microsoft's Bing search engine shows child pornography images as well as provides suggestions for other disturbing search phrases when the SafeSearch filter option is switched off. In India there were reports of account data of millions of [SBI bank users being leaked](#) however it was later denied by the bank and UIDAI authorities.

In terms of content regulation and fight against fake news, the Japanese Ministry of Information and Ministry of Internal affairs [announced](#) setting up guidelines to tackle the spread of misinformation online especially during electoral campaigns and natural disasters. authorities [Communication ban](#) was reported in Zimbabwe along with internet shut down. In India, the community was invited to submit their comments on the Intermediary Guidelines Amendment in the IT Act, [ShareChat banned](#) 50,000 profiles to keep pornographic, violent and fake content off of its platform; OTT providers such as Netflix, Hotstar, Voot, Zee5, Arre, SonyLIV, ALT Balaji and Eros Now under the aegis of the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI) has released a document called "[Code of best practices for online curated content providers.](#)"

This month witnessed discussions pertaining to online car aggregators, with the French Appeal Court [ruling that driver of Uber](#) were effectively an employee of the company, Uber India issuing [community guidelines](#) for drivers and commuters; Indonesian regulators preparing to [fix the rates](#) for drivers for 'ride-hailing services'

In terms of digital commerce, Indonesian government proposed to bring in a [new law](#) whereby e-commerce sellers will have to share data with authorities and pay VAT and income taxes; Singapore Land Transport Authority (LTA) together with Enterprise Singapore, Standards Development Organisation and Singapore Standards Council developed [a set of preliminary national standards for driverless vehicles](#). In India, a [new eCommerce policy](#) related to FDI was implemented on 1 February, wherein a market place entity having 100% ownership or controlling interest cannot generate more than 25% of its sales through the market place by itself or group companies. While this policy has been welcomed by offline retailers as a move that will boost their business and [antitrust advocates stating](#) it will stop technology companies from forming monopolies, there are others who argue that it is [against consumer interest](#) as it will hike the prices of commodities and will harm foreign investments in the country.

CCAOI & ISOC Delhi organizes an online discussion on Intermediary Guideline Paper

CCAOI and ISOC Delhi jointly organised an interactive webinar on the “[The Information Technology \[Intermediary Guidelines \(Amendment\) Rules\] 2018](#)” to encourage members and Indian stakeholders to understand and submit their comments on the proposed draft rules that seek to modify existing regulation on due diligence which the intermediaries need to adhere, while discharging their duties as per Section 79(2)(c) of the Information Technology Act, 2000. The session was moderated by [Subhashish Panigrahi](#), Chapter Development Manager APAC, Internet Society and [Amrita Choudhury](#), Treasurer Delhi Chapter and Director CCAOI. The speakers in the session were [Shashank Misra](#), Senior Associate, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co. [Nehaa Chaudhari](#), Public Policy Lead, Ikigai Law, [Paul Brooks](#) Chair Internet Australia, [Arjun Sinha](#), Tech Lawyer and [Gurshabad Grover](#), Policy Officer, CIS India. The webinar was attended by nearly fifty people. The summary of the webinar can be viewed from this [link](#).

The CCAOI submission can be viewed from this [link](#).

ICANN Updates

In the month of January, ICANN published the [second Security and Stability Advisory Committee \(SSAC2\) Review: Final Report](#) that includes an assessment of the SSAC, comprising of 22 findings and 30 recommendations for improving its operations; the [ICANN Organization Memo on the Implementation of the Procedure for Release of Two-Character Labels and Standard Measures to Avoid Confusion with Corresponding Country Codes](#) and the [Historical Overview of Events Regarding Two-Character Labels at the Second Level in the New gTLD Namespace](#); a [recording](#), of a recent discussion on consumer safeguards in the Domain Name System (DNS) along with a [presentation](#). Besides, the ICANN Board also announced the [creation of a Working Group on Anti-Harassment](#).

ICANN announced that the [2019 Middle East DNS Forum \(MEDNSF\)](#) will be held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 20-21 February and hosted by the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) of the UAE. The sixth MEDNSF will be held in conjunction with another regional event – the 75th Meeting of the Asia Pacific Top-Level Domain Association (APTLD75).

Comments are invited on the [Amendment to the IANA Naming Functions Contract, Annex A](#) by 18 February and the [updated Draft Operating Standards for Specific Reviews](#) (Operating Standards) by 11 February.

[Nominations are now invited](#) by NOMCOM for the NOMCOM 2019 ICANN and PTI leadership positions (3 ICANN Board of Directors, 3 At-Large Advisory Committee, 2 GNSO, 1 ccNSO and 1 PTI Board of Directors) till 18 March 2019.

ISOC Updates

This month, the ISOC President and CEO Andrew Sullivan shared a message with members on ISOC's mission and vision for the year 2019; launched a [9 step Privacy Code of Conduct for organizations](#); organised online session to share on the new Chapter Performance Evaluation. Criteria, and gather feedback from Chapter Leaders and Members. Members were encouraged to participate in surveys - the InterCommunity 2018 Post Show Survey and the 2019 Chapter Survey

Nominations are invited for the [three positions](#) of the [Public Interest Registry \(PIR\) Board](#) by 4 February 2019 and [Internet Hall of Fame](#).

APAC News:

This month, the APAC Regional Bureau facilitated in organizing a webinar by the Delhi Chapter and CCAOI on Intermediary liabilities (details of which has been shared above). An exclusive APAC online session was organized to share the new Chapter Evaluation Criteria among the chapter leaders of the region.

From the policy perspective, Internet Society, Delhi Chapter and Chennai made submissions to TRAI on the consultation paper on OTT Communication services and MeitY on Intermediary Guidleline Amendment Policy 2018.

ISOC India-Delhi Chapter elects new Leadership team

The ISOC Delhi Chapter conducted their elections on 1 Feb and elected the new leadership team comprising of Amrita Choudhury as President; Manmeet Pal Singh as Vice President, Sibtain Zaheer as Secretary and Natasha Rautela as Treasurer. 37 members attended the meeting. All present, thanked the outgoing leadership team of Dr. Govind, Pankaj Chaturvedi and Shyam Nair for their contributions to the Chapter.



Picture: ISOC Delhi members present during the election meeting

APNIC Highlights

In the month of January, APNIC participated in events such as SANOG33 in Thimpu, Bhutan and JANOG43 in Yamanashi, Japan. The Address Supporting Organization Address Council (ASO AC) [re-elected](#) Aftab

Siddiqui, the APNIC community representative, as the Chair of the ASO AC/NRO NC for 2019. Simon Sohel Baroi was appointed as a member of the Number Resource Organization Number Council (NRO NC) representing the APNIC region for a term of one year, while Zulfadly Syam was appointed to the IANA Numbering Services Review Committee for a two-year term.

Further the community is invited to comment on the [2018 IANA Performance Matrix Summary Report](#) by 22 February and nominate suitable candidates for the [four APNIC Executive Council positions](#) by 12 February; the three [SIG Chairs](#)- Cooperation, NIR and Policy by 25 February.

For the APRICOT 2019 conference to be held at Daejeon South Korea from 18-28 February. Apart from election of EC members and the three SIG Chairs, from the policy perspective, [five policies](#) are expected to be discussed during this meeting.

TRAI Updates

In the month of January, Trai released the [Telecom Subscription Data as on 30 November, 2018](#) reporting 1.031 billion active mobile connections and [the Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicator Report for the Quarter ending September, 2018](#). As per the quarterly report, India has 559.9 million internet connections, of which majority is on mobile. State wise, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu has the highest number of broadband users.

Highlights of the Submissions on the OTT consultation paper

There were [eighty nine submissions](#) on the consultation paper on [Regulatory Framework for Over-The-Top \(OTT\) Communication Services](#). These include thirteen individual submissions, one by consumer advocacy group, seven by service providers, twenty one by companies/organisations/ firms and forty two from associations which include civil society organisations.

Most submissions of associations, individuals, civil societies and OTT players, including broadcasters, argued that services provided by OTTs are not similar to those of Telecom Service Providers (TSPs) (qualitatively, functionally or technologically) and not substitutable. Therefore, OTTs should not be regulated by the policies and regulatory regime of TSPs, since the nature of services offered is different and OTTs are already regulated by the IT Act.

PayTM, an OTT player, however, argued that messaging services (personal, business, video and voice calling) should be regarded as the same or similar to the services provided by TSPs and regulated likewise.

The TSPs and the associations representing them argued that OTT and TSP services are similar and substitutable; they should be regulated similarly, for example, lawful interception requirements should be applied to both; TSPs are losing revenue due to OTT services.. There was also an argument proposing relaxed regulatory and licensing regime by allowing similar services to TSPs as that of OTT on the same conditions. There was also a call for data localization from homegrown companies like Jio, PayTM.

The CCAOI submission can be viewed using [this link](#).

There were [twelve submissions](#) during the counter comment phase, where majority reiterated the services of OTTs and TSPs are not similar and the regulations governing TSPs cannot be used for OTTs. The CCAOI submission can be viewed using this [link](#)

Other Updates

Reports & Articles:

- The BPF Gender 2018 final output document is now available and can be viewed from this [link](#)
- The World Economic Forum (WEF) has published the [Advanced Drone Operator's Toolkit](#), that provides governments as set of recommendations that can help them in planning while integrating drones into their national airspace.
- A report titled '[Technology related violence against women: Investigating Tech Related Violence Against Women in Peri-Urban Areas of Uganda](#)' has been published by the Women of Uganda Network (WOUGNET)
- The [Future of Privacy Forum](#) along with [the American Association of People with Disabilities \(AAPD\) Technology Forum](#) has published a [white paper](#) exploring the benefits, challenges, and privacy tensions concerning IoT and people with disabilities.
- [Public Knowledge](#) has published [a white paper](#) suggesting ways to protect customer IoT device security.
- Diplo [AI Lab](#) has released an output document [Mapping AI's challenges and opportunities for the conduct of diplomacy](#)

Events:

- The ORF [Raisina Dialogue 2019](#) was held from 8-10 January in Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi, India.
- [SANOG 33](#) was organised in Thimpu, Bhutan between 9-16 January. The [first internet exchange](#) of Bhutan Internet exchange (BtIX) was launched during that time.
- The Centre for Communication Governance at National Law University Delhi, organised a discussion on Intermediary liability and encryption on 10 January, in New Delhi, India.
- Medianama organised a round-table to discuss the TRAI's consultation paper for regulating OTT services on 11 January in New Delhi, India.
- [The 1st Meeting of the Correspondence Group for the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting 2019 \(CGMM-1\)](#) was held between 15-17 January in Bangkok, Thailand.
- The [13th India Digital Summit](#) (IDS 2019) was organised by IAMAI on 17-18 January in New Delhi, India. Some of the topics discussed include content regulation, tackling misinformation, fintech, emerging technology, startups and investors, future of work, marketing and technology.
- SLFC organised a session on "[Countering Misinformation: Policies and Solutions](#)" on January 18 in New Delhi
- [JANOG 43](#) took place between 23-25 January in Yamanashi, Japan.
- The [IGF 2019 First Open Consultations and Multistakeholder Advisory Group \(MAG\) Meeting](#) was held in Geneva from 28-20 January. The meeting took stock of IGF2018, there was presentation made by the host country Germany for the upcoming 2019 IGF meeting; deliberations on the approach to be adopted for shaping the IGF2019 programme, intersessionals and NIRs.
- [27th Convergence India 2019](#) expo, was organised from 29 -31 January in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

Other Upcoming Events and Opportunities

Events in 2019

- [NZNOG 2019](#) will take place between 31 January to 1 February in Napier New Zealand.
- ISOC Islamabad will be organizing the ‘Regional Forum on Digital Accessibility’ on 30 Jan 2019 in Islamabad.
- [APAN 47](#) will be organised from 18-22 February in Daejeon, South Korea.
- [APRICOT 2019 & APNIC 47](#) will be organised from 18-28 February in Daejeon, South Korea.
- [Mobile World Congress](#) (MWC) will take place in Barcelona on 25-28 February.
- [HKNOG 7.0](#) will be organized in Hong Kong on 1 March.
- phNOG 2019 will be organised between 4-8 March in Cebu.
- [ICANN 64](#) will be held between 9-14 March in Kobe, Japan.
- [Vietnam Internet Forum 2019](#) will be held between 20-21 March in Hanoi.
- [IETF 104](#) will be held in Prague from the 23-29 March.
- [Telecoms World Asia 2019](#) will be held from 25-27 March in Bangkok, Thailand.
- [IoT Asia 2019](#) will be held between 27-28 March in Singapore.
- THNOG 2 will be held on 6 May in Bangkok, Thailand.
- [BKNIX Peering Forum](#) will be held on 7 May in Bangkok, Thailand.
- [World Summit on the Information Society \(WSIS\) 2019](#) will be held from 8-12 April in Geneva, Switzerland
- [intERLab BGP Peering Workshop](#) will be held from 8-10 May in Bangkok, Thailand.
- [ICT Days Pacific 2019](#) will be held from 16-17 May in Port Vila.
- [btNOG 6](#) will be held from 3-7 June in Thimphu, Bhutan.
- [Asia Pacific School on Internet Governance \(APSIG\) 2019](#) will be held in Bangkok from 8-10 June.
- [RightsCon 2019](#) will be held from 11-14 June in Tunis, Tunisia.
- [ConnecTechAsia 2019](#) will be held between 18-20 June in Singapore.
- SGNOC 7 will be held on 12 July in Singapore.
- European Summer School on Internet Governance (EuroSSIG) will take place from 14 – 20 July in Meissen, Germany
- [10th Asia Pacific Regional Internet Governance Forum \(APrIGF\)](#) will be held from 16-19 July in Vladivostok, Russia.
- [IETF 105](#) will be held between 20-26 July in Montreal Canada.
- [APNIC 2019](#) will be held from 5-12 September in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Opportunities

- [Application for participation](#) is now open till 28 February, for [Asia Pacific School on Internet Governance \(APSIG\) 2019](#) to be held in Bangkok from 8-10 June.
- There is a [call for applications](#) by ARTICLE 19 for three new Internet of Rights Fellows by 24 February.
- [Workshop proposal submission](#) is invited for the AprIGF2019 till 18 March. The overarching theme this year is ensuring a Safe, Secure, and Universal Internet for All in Asia Pacific.
- Applications are invited for the [2019 edition of the European Summer School on Internet Governance](#) (EuroSSIG), that will take place from 14 – 20 July in Meissen, Germany. Last date to submit application is 31 March 2019

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CCAOI, C/o AWFIS, L 29-34, Above Haldiram, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110001.

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