



Representing the ecosystem of Internet -Bharat Model

CCA O I Newsletter

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Half the world would be connected by 2017

The UN Broadband Commission released the 2014 country-by-country data on state of broadband access worldwide.

The report reveals that over 50% of the global population will have Internet access within three years' time and that more than 40% of the world's people are already online, with the number of Internet users rising from 2.3 billion in 2013 to 2.9 billion by the end of this year.

Over 2.3 billion people will access mobile broadband by end 2014, climbing steeply to a predicted 7.6 billion within the next five years. There are now over three times as many mobile broadband connections as there are conventional fixed broadband subscriptions. The popularity of broadband-enabled social media applications continues to soar, with 1.9 billion people now active on social networks.

Produced annually by the Broadband Commission, The State of Broadband is a unique global snapshot of broadband network access and affordability, with country-by country data measuring broadband access against key advocacy targets set by the 54 members of the Broadband Commission.

The Republic of Korea has the world's highest household broadband penetration at over 98% . Monaco is the world leader in fixed broadband penetration, at over 44% of the population. The US was ranked 19th globally in terms of number of people online, ahead of other OECD countries like Germany (20th) and Australia (21st), but behind the United Kingdom (12th), Japan (15th) and Canada (16th).

The report states, in total, there are now 77 countries where over 50% of the population is online, up from 70 in 2013. The top ten countries for Internet use are all located in Europe, with Iceland ranked first in the world with 96.5% of people online.

India has been ranked at 125 for fixed broadband, 113 for mobile Internet, 75 for household Internet penetration and 142 for Internet user penetration in 2013.

Despite this growth even today 90% of people in the world's 48 Least Developed Countries remain totally unconnected. The lowest levels of Internet access are mostly found in sub-Saharan Africa, with Internet available to less than 2% of the population in Ethiopia (1.9%), Niger (1.7%), Sierra Leone (1.7%), Guinea (1.6%), Somalia (1.5%), Burundi (1.3%), Eritrea (0.9%) and South Sudan (no data available). The list of the ten least-connected nations also includes Myanmar (1.2%) and Timor Leste (1.1%).

For further details visit: http://www.itu.int/net/pressoffice/press_releases/2014/46.aspx#.VB-81pSSySo; & <http://www.telecomlead.com/news/itu-ranks-india-125-for-fixed-broadband-113-for-mobile-internet-53100>

Dr. Ajay Kumar wins the NRO NC election

Dr. Ajay Kumar, Joint Secretary, Department of Electronics & IT, Government of India, has won the recently held NRO NC-Asia Pacific Network Information Center (APNIC) elections at Brisbane Australia becoming the first government official to be elected for this position.

APNIC represents 56 economies in the Asia Pacific and is an open, membership-based, not-for-profit organization providing Internet addressing services to the Asia Pacific. Voting in an NRO NC election is open to all members as well as all attendees at the APNIC meeting at which the election is held. There were 6 contestants representing 5 countries. India's gradual but steadily growing stature in APNIC is evident from the fact that of the total 350 casted votes, Dr. Kumar got 215 while the candidate from Bangladesh, had 119 votes in his favour.

The APNIC elected members of the NRO Number Council also participate on the ICANN Address Supporting Organization Address Council (ASO AC). The Address Council consists of 15 members elected by the Internet community from the five Regional Internet Registries (RIRs).

Dr. Kumar plans to use the position of NRO NC, to effectively represent and articulate the Asia-Pacific and developing country perspective for better policy development processes. As the Address Council Member (ASO AC) in ICANN, to play an active and responsible role in the crucial ongoing debates on issues such as the IANA transition and ICANN accountability reforms.

9th IGF concluded in Istanbul Turkey

The Ninth Annual IGF Meeting was held in Istanbul, Turkey from the 2-5 September 2014. The theme of this event was "Connecting Continents for Enhanced Multistakeholder Internet Governance". It was attended by 2,405 onsite participants and 1163 remote participants.

During the 4 days, participants discussed and proposed possible ways forward on a number of topics.

A multistakeholder group of participants drafted a statement to send to the United Nations (UN) to request a renewal of the IGF mandate and a longer cycle for each mandate given to the IGF. Discussion on the draft is still open online at <http://igfcontinuation.org>.

There was a discussion on National and Regional IGFs, where it was suggested by a few that there should be increased cross-fertilization between the growing network of national and regional IGFs and the global IGF.

IGF 2014 Best Practice Forums drew together the knowledge, wisdom, and expertise of stakeholders to provide useful insights to the whole Internet community on the following topics.

- Developing Meaningful Multistakeholder Mechanisms
- Regulation and Mitigation of Unwanted Communications (Spam)
- Establishing and Supporting CERTs for Internet Security
- Creating an Enabling Environment for the Development of Local Content
- Online Child Safety and Protection

Recommendations were made on how the debate on network neutrality can be taken forward. The concept of zero-rating was heavily debated. While opinion lay mostly divided on the optimal network neutrality framework for enhancing the economic implications of the Internet, there were indeed shared values on the importance of enhancing users' experience.

Almost fifty workshops at IGF 2014 focused—directly or indirectly—on human rights issues and the organisers met for a roundtable and endorsed a message document to be brought to the Human Rights Council panel on Privacy in the Digital Age. Roundtable participants also recognised a maturity of discussions on human rights at the IGF and recommended that

a new best practice forum on the protection of privacy in the digital age begin work in the lead-up to IGF 2015 in Brazil, making use of regional and national IGFs to ensure the inclusion of developing country participants.

To facilitate the connection of the next five billion global citizens, a strong call was made for an increased emphasis and inclusion of ICTs and Internet access in the post-2015 development agenda of the UN as a catalyst for economic growth.

Many participants emphasized that there is a need for increased interaction between government entities and all other interested stakeholders in ongoing and future deliberations on enhancing trust in cyberspace.

Youth representatives emphasized the need to strengthen existing mechanisms that empower youth in attending and engaging in the Internet governance ecosystem.

For further details visit: <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/documents/igf-meeting/igf-2014-istanbul/246-chairs-summary-igf-2014/file>

Domain name “Dot Bharat” launched in Devnagri script

The union minister for communications and information technology Ravi Shankar Prasad, launched the "dot bharat" domain in Devnagri script.

Now a person would be able to type in web addresses in Devnagri script — with "dot bharat" standing in for the currently common "dot in" domain. Apart from Hindi and English, the domain would be available in Bodo, Dogri, Konkani, Maithili, Marathi, Nepali and Sindhi. languages.

Creation of the domain .Bharat is aimed to connect people, empowering them and promoting e-governance as the services would be available in their preferred regional languages, lowering the dependency on English language. Also the use of "dot bharat" domain is also expected to bring evolutionary changes in economic activities at least of rural India resulting in creation of business opportunities and jobs for almost all sections of the society.

The domain was developed by the joint efforts of National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) and Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC).

ICG Announces Guidelines for Decision making

The IANA Stewardship Transition Coordination Group (ICG) has announced that it has finalized and published the group's Guidelines for Decision Making. The objective of the document is to assist the ICG in optimizing productivity and effectiveness in the process of making decisions.

The Guidelines can be found: <https://www.icann.org/en/system/files/files/icg-guidelines-decision-making-17sep14-en.pdf>

Upcoming Events and Opportunities

ISOC Community Grants Program

The Internet Society is now accepting applications for its Community Grants Programme. The application cycle will be open until midnight (PDT) on 30 September / 0700 UTC on 1 October. Decisions will be announced in November 2014. All applications need to be submitted online. In case of queries, contact projects@isoc.org.

For further information visit : <http://www.internetsociety.org/what-we-do/grants-awards/community-grants/application-process>

MAG Renewal

The United Nations Secretary-General, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) has sought nomination from all stakeholder groups, according to the established principles and practices of MAG on the rotation and selection of

its members. Governments, the private sector, civil society, and technical and academic communities are requested to submit names of candidates from developed and developing countries as well as from economies in transition.

Successful nominees will become part of MAG for a period of one year and will contribute to the multistakeholder consultation process, bringing the perspectives of their respective groups on Internet governance. Stakeholder groups can resubmit the names of current MAG members who have served over three years, for consideration. Stakeholders are expected to publicize the selection and nomination process. The nominations can be submitted by 20 October 2014 using the online submission template found at <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/mag-nomination>

For more information visit: <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/175-igf-2015/2039-mag-renewal-announcement>

Call for Input from IGF Secretariat

All stakeholders are invited to submit by 27 October 2014 written contributions taking stock of the Istanbul IGF meeting and looking forward to the IGF 2015 meeting, including suggestions on the format, schedule and themes. The written contributions will be synthesized into a paper that will form an input into the Open Consultations and MAG meetings of 1-3 December. Contributions can be sent to takingstock2014@intgovforum.org.

For more information visit: <http://www.intgovforum.org/cms/>

ICANN 51

ICANN 51 will commence from the 12th -16th Oct, 14 at Los Angeles.

ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2014

The 2014 ITU Plenipotentiary Conference will be held in Busan, Republic of Korea, from 20 Oct. to 7 Nov. 2014.

The Plenipotentiary Conference is the key event at which ITU Member States decide on the future role of the organization, thereby determining the organization's ability to influence and affect the development of information and communication technologies (ICTs) worldwide.

Held every 4 years, the Plenipotentiary Conference is the top policy-making body of the ITU which sets the Union's general policies; adopts four-year strategic and financial plans; and elects the senior management team of the organization, the members of Council, and the members of the Radio Regulations Board.

For more information visit: <http://www.itu.int/en/plenipotentiary/2014/Pages/about.aspx>

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