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WIRELESS BROADBAND: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Room: Indian Affair, Chancery Pavilion
135, Residency Road, Bangalore, 560025, India

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Event Chairs:



Dr. V. Sridhar, IIIT-B



Dr. D. Manjunath, IIT-B

THEME: WIRELESS BROADBAND: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

India is in the cusp of another revolution – **Telecom 2.0**. Having reached a mobile subscriber base of more than 950 million, the next step for India is to leverage the power of wireless broadband. 3G networks in the country are evolving towards a state of maturity and 4G networks are almost here. Regulation has moved forward with notable achievements in the areas of spectrum liberalization, unified licensing, spectrum trading and sharing, liberalized mergers & acquisition norms. However, making Telecom 2.0 a reality requires active participation and commitment from various stakeholders in the value chain: network equipment makers, handset vendors, content providers, mobile operators, Internet Service Providers, regulators and policy makers, system integrators, and software developers.

Mobile India 2015 will explore opportunities and challenges that wireless broadband offers in the following four sessions with all stakeholders in the ecosystem:

Morning Keynote Address: Why Your Smartphone May Know More About You Than You Might Guess

Dr. Venkat Padmanabhan, Principal Researcher and Research Manager, Microsoft Research India

Afternoon Keynote Address

Sascha Meinrath, Director, X-Lab and Founder, Open Technology Institute, USA

Session 1: State of the Net: Challenges and opportunities for Telcos



Though Indian telcos are uniquely positioned to address the second largest mobile market in the world, they are constrained by (i) limited spectrum, (ii) intense competition and consequent price wars, and (iii) unpredictable demand for network capacity and services.

How are they coping?

Panelists

S.J.S. Selvinson, VP and CTO, Bharti Airtel, Karnataka

Yathish Nagavalli, CTO, Huawei Technologies India

Jayant Moghe, Practice Head – Mobile Broadband, Ericsson India Limited

Rajesh Chharia, President, Internet Service Providers Association of India (ISPAI)

Dipak Vagadiya, National Manager, SDN and Data Center Networking at Hewlett-Packard India

Swami Krishnan (Moderator), VP and Chief Marketing Officer, Sasken Communication Technologies

Article on the above session can be accessed at:

<http://yourstory.com/2014/12/telcos-state-net/>

Session 2: Domesticity: Handsets, applications, equipment, and software

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For the first time, domestic handset vendors have replaced multinationals in top slots. With projects such as *Google One* on its way, it is only to be expected that 2015 will be the “**year of Smartphones**”, thus paving way for rich services to be “massively” available. The “app economy” has caught on with numerous start-ups blossoming in various parts of the country each hoping to leverage the ubiquitous connectivity and the exponential adoption of Smartphones and Tablets.

What is the future in this sphere?

Panelists

Jayanth Mysore, Product Manager, Google
Shirish Purohit, Head - Sales and Marketing Support, Tejas Networks
George Mathews, Founder Director, Icarus Design Services and Icarus Nova
Arvind Pani, CEO, Reverie Technologies
Dr. T.K. Srikanth (Moderator), Professor, IIT-Bangalore

Session 3: U-Governance: Ubiquitous Government services through mobiles

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The Central and various State Governments have committed to leveraging wireless broadband for providing e-Governance services. Suitable architecture and service delivery models are being established.

Will the Telecom 2.0 make “Digital India”? Or will it Digital India drive the wireless broadband revolution?

Panelists

Dr. D.S. Ravindran, Secretary – Finance and ex-Secretary - IT, Govt. of Karnataka
Dr. Pramod Varma, Chief Architect, Aadhaar
Sridhar Pabbisetty, CEO, Namma Bengaluru Foundation
Abhijit Gupta, Founder & CEO, Xtremum Solutions

Dr. Amit Prakash (Moderator), Professor, IIT-Bangalore

Article on the above session can be accessed at:

<http://yourstory.com/2014/12/u-governance-ubiquitous-government-services-mobiles-india/>

Session 4: Regulation and Policy: Power of OTTs vs. telcos



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While India is yet to wake up on “Net Neutrality” issues, the global as well as local Over The Top (OTT) players are disrupting the traditional telco models and services. Power of OTTs are being felt in the once Telco dominated marketplace.

What kind of Telco-OTT interface will emerge?

Panelists

Rajkumar Upadhyay, ex-Adviser, TRAI and Director, DoT
Sundeep Kathuria, Executive Vice President, Policy and Regulation, Vodafone India
Amod Dadhich, Head-Business Development, Mahindra Comviva
Dr. G. Venkatesh, Chief Strategy Officer, Sasken Communication Technologies

Dr. D. Manjunath (Moderator), Professor, IIT-Bombay

Article on the above session can be accessed at:

<http://yourstory.com/2014/12/net-neutrality/>