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DoT to hold Consultations for a Transparent Regime of Licensing, Spectrum Allocation Etc.
Electronic Service Bill to be Drafted
Sibal Announces Agenda of Ministry of Communications and IT for Next 100 Days

Shri Kapil Sibal, the Union Minister of communications and Information Technology today announced action plan of the Ministry of Communications and IT for next 100 days. The Minister said that the action plan has been worked so as to ensure that the common people gets services at the reasonable cost, the Industry remains robust and the Government gets its share of revenue.

Action Plan of the Departments of Telecommunications, Information Technology and Posts was announced in a Press conference here today. Department wise Plan of Action is as under:

DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

1.   The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) will hold consultations with key stakeholders to evolve a **clear and transparent regime** covering Licensing, Spectrum allocation, tariffs/pricing, linkage with roll out performance, flexibility within licenses, spectrum sharing, spectrum trading, MVNOs, unlicensed bands, M&A, etc. in a *technology agnostitc* environment after due consideration of TRAI recommendations. In this regard, interest of the '*Aam Aadmi*' would be the prime consideration.

2.   To ensure availability of Spectrum for telecom industry, dialogue will be initiated with Department of Space/Information & Broadcasting/Defence, PSUs on **'Vacation of Spectrum'** and for identification of Defence Band and Defence Interest Zone. National Frequency Allocation Plan 2011 (NFAP) shall be released. Spectrum allocations, availability and status of pending applications for spectrum shall be published on the department's web site.

3.   Immediate steps will be taken to resolve outstanding '**Security issues'**. Steps will be taken to enable operators to **launch 3G services** in their entire plenitude without delay. Security issues regarding telecom equipment procurement, messenger services and subscriber verification will be resolved. Steps will be taken to establish the Central Monitoring System which will facilitate and prevent misuse of lawful interception facility.

4.   11 years have passed since NTP '99 and many changes have taken place thereafter. Action will be initiated to formulate a comprehensive '**National Telecom Policy 2011'** including the recognition of Telecom as infrastructure and as an essential service, encouraging Green Telecom, steps to accelerate migration from IPv4 to IPv6 at the earliest, release of IPv6 standards by Telecom Engineering Centre for implementation in the country, etc.

5.   All possible efforts will be made to fill up **Board Level vacancies in PSUs** and for greater participation of BSNL/ MTNL and C-DOT in national and socially important programmes, while addressing structural issues, improving internal efficiency and financial performance of BSNL/ MTNL.

6.   Country-wide launch of '**Mobile Number Portability'**.

7.   Vigorous measures will be taken to address public concerns about health hazards due to the **EMF radiation** from Mobile towers including laying down relevant standards, supplementing equipment with TERM Cells and ensuring adequate field-testing.

8.   Formulation of a package of measures to promote '**manufacturing of telecom equipment**'

in the country.

9.   Launch of a '**Wireless Broadband Scheme'** by USOF to provide wireless broadband coverage to about *5 lakh villages*, leveraging the existing   passive infrastructure created for mobile telephony in rural and remote areas.

10.   Concrete steps towards finalization of '**National Broadband Plan'** including strategy for implementation and initiation of steps for roll out of *Optical Fibre*.

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

E-Governance

1. Nationwide Rollout of E District Mission Mode Project

2. Drafting of Electronic Service Delivery Bill

3. Pilot Scheme for Empowering women in Rural India through digital literacy

4. Policy on Mobile Governance - Draft Consultation Document

Electronic Hardware Manufacturing : Finalizing Roadmap regarding :

1. Setting up a National Electronic Mission.

2. Modification of Special Incentive Package Scheme (MSIPS) to enhance investments in the Electronic Eco System.

3. Working out modalities to attract investment to set up Semiconductor Wafer Fabrication (FAB) Units.

4. Setting up an Electronic Development Fund to promote innovation, R&D, Indian IPR and development of Indian micro processor.

Human Resource Developmet

1.   Frame a suitable scheme for enhancing the capacity of its institutions – C-DAC and DoEACC (Department of Electronics and Accreditation of Computer Courses), which are already engaged in education and training.There would be a special focus on the North-East in respect of DoEACC infrastructure.

2. Frame a scheme for setting up IT academies across the various States/UTs on PPP mode (in collaboration with State Governments/UTs and industry bodies like NASSCOM etc.

Cyber Security

1. Frame and notify the rules in respect of key sections viz. 43A (Data Protection), 70A (Protection of Critical Information Infrastructure), 70B (Agency to handle Cyber Security), 79 (Liabilities of Service Providers) relating to Cyber Security in the Information Technology Act.

2. Preparation of three manuals for skill enhancement in the area of Cyber Forensic.

Standardisation, Testing and Calibration

1. STQC (Standardisation, Testing, Quality & Certification) to setup infrastructure at Kolkata, Bangalore and Hyderabad for testing of large area Photo Voltaic Modules and Panels.

2. Setting up a National facility for quality assessment of Biometric Devices for UID (Unique Identification) applications.

INDIA POSTS

Department Posts proposes to finalize the selection of vendors for the following IT solutions.

1. **Customer Interaction Management Solution**: Will enable 24x7 transactions for customers through web-portal, call centers and ATMs.

2. **Mail Operations Solution**:
   a. This will provide full article visibility across the supply chain – from booking to delivery
   b. It will help Improve revenue generation through new services/ products e.g., Logistics Post
   c. The solution will increase number of delivery channels for services/products, e.g. web portal and call centre.

3. **Banking Solution**: It will lead to Centralized processing of transactions/data, ATM's, Mobile Banking and Real time Banking. This will also enable ecommerce and web channels for customers.

4. **Postal Life Insurance Solution**:
   a. It enables the complete insurance solution by eliminating delays and errors
   b. This will enable the interaction through multiple channels, e.g. Point of Sale Terminals, Web Portal and Call Centers
   c. The solution would also enable safer and faster transactions including premium collection and disbursements.

5. **Enterprise-wide Human Resource Management Solution and Finance & Accounts Solution**.
   a. The solution would enable one single source of data across Department of Posts by online data capture and real time reconciliation.
   b. The solution would enable centralized payroll processing.
   c. The solution would help the Department of Post move from cash based to accrual based accounting system.
   d. The Department Recruitment process would be streamlined.

6. **Change Management**:
Change Management for the India Post 2012 program will focus on effective management of change in technology and business process as a result of introduction of the IT solutions.

Computerization of Post Offices:

More than 14,600 post offices have been computerized till date.

Rest 9,600 post offices will be computerized by March 31st 2011

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