

Cover Story of the Month



Chandrayaan 2 Launch

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From the Desk of Editor-in-Chief



Greetings from all of us @ The Editorial Team, to our readers.

As you know, our PreSense eMagazines have been reaching you through the email and the social media. We, as a society, are in touch with the world, thanks to the media that bring news to us. The age-old adage that declared the pen mightier than the sword holds good in the present era where the keyboard and the media's voice have the power to convince the public of what is truth and influence the opinion. Such power, even though not yet absolute, is also a threat. This month's editorial discusses the need for a National Media Policy

to regulate the media to ensure ethical and professional management and dissemination of information.

Our Indian scientists at ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation) have done it again. They have sent another spaceship, this time on a mission to the unexplored lunar South Pole. Our Cover Story describes the spaceship, Chandrayaan 2, its mission, its strategy and its uniqueness.

On the Technology front, 5G is the next happening event, waiting to take over in the very near future. We bring you an article about what it is about and the impact it could have in our lives. Read and get to know a little more about the technology at the next level.

The new Jury Committee of the Sansad Ratna Awards (an initiative of PreSense) was recently constituted and the first task, namely the finalisation of the criteria for selection of the Awardees of the 17th Lok Sabha was completed at New Delhi in early July 2019. We carry a report on it.

We are also happy to announce that our PreSense issue for August 2019 will be the 150th edition. We have planned an event to commemorate the landmark achievement. We take this opportunity to release the eDigest, PreSense 150, containing select articles from its 150 issues. All are invited to attend the event to be held in Chennai in August 2019. We have carried the details in this edition for your reference.

We have another young Indian woman athlete who has made India proud by bringing home five gold medals recently. We have acknowledged her feat in our eMagazine.

We also have a young, dynamic Indian woman professional, Ms Priya Dharshni, joining our Editorial Team. We welcome her onboard.

I hope you will enjoy this edition. Please share your feedback with us at editor@corpezine.com. Your feedback is important to us.

Susan

**Please download in PDF format from the link below,
the third edition of the Digest titled PreSense130,
containing select articles from 130 issues of the ezine PreSense.**

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Editorial

Need for a National Media Policy

The Indian Constitution provides for the "right to freedom of speech and expression" under Article 19(1)a, subject to reasonable restrictions mentioned in sub clause (2). The Indian Constitution provides this freedom of speech and expression to every citizen equally, which includes all the media.

After the emergence of technology, many people in India have the mistaken notion that the 'freedom' given by the Constitution is absolute. This is incorrect. In the past, we have seen some writers, artists and journalists claiming this freedom as "absolute". Reasonable restrictions are provided for, in the Constitution.

Emergence of the New Media

In the earlier days, we had only the Government-controlled broadcasting media (All India Radio, Doordarshan) and select print media newspapers and magazines. With the development of technology, many more television channels have emerged. 200 television channels with a viewership of 20 million in early 2000 have now grown to 900-plus authorised channels with a viewership of 900 million. This does not include the unaccounted cable channels across the country.

In the past decade, the emergence of internet technology has changed the entire communication model. Today, every person in the world with a mobile device has become a 'journalist' and is capable of disseminating information to millions of people. This phenomenon has posed challenges to the governments across the world. Fake news and false information spread quickly, throwing more challenges. Many times, even the mainline media like television and print media carry information generated by the internet media.

Many democratic countries do not yet have an effective regulation mechanism for the media, even though every country has a 'self-regulatory' mechanism in place. Countries like Nepal, Norway, the European Union and Sri Lanka are now moving towards industry-led regulation with statutory powers.

Regulatory Mechanism in India

In India, content and carriage of any media is governed by the Indian Telegraph Act 1885. In the course of 130 years, the Indian Government has made several laws to regulate the print media, cinema, television and internet. All these regulations deal with the technology (platform or carriage) and not the contents. India does not have a statutory regulatory mechanism for delivery of contents, excepting for the print media. There are self-regulatory mechanisms set up by the industry bodies themselves.

The Press Council of India, a statutory body set up by the Government of India, regulates the contents of the print media. It functions only as an advisory body and does not have teeth. Broadcast industry bodies like Indian Broadcasters Foundation, News Broadcasters Association and News Broadcasters Federation have set up their own self-regulating bodies for their members and brought out codes for contents. The Internet and Mobile Association of India is a self-regulating body for "online curated contents".



Media like YouTube and other social media tools are outside the purview of any regulatory mechanism. Nobody has control over the inappropriate contents delivered through such media.

The Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI), is a self-regulating body in advertising, ensuring the protection of the interest of consumers.

All these self-regulating bodies do not have the statutory powers to punish any erring media. Media experts say that world over such self-regulatory bodies have failed for various reasons. They say that unless these bodies have legally-backed statutory powers, they may not be able to function effectively.

The Inter Ministerial Committee (IMC) set up by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting can examine any complaint against any channel, with the authority to stop the broadcast.

The Government of India has set up the Electronic Media Monitoring Centre (EMMC) in 2008. They monitor the contents of all the TV channels and the radio. No data is available about any action taken by them for any violation.

Present Position of Convergence of Media

Sector/ Year	2017	2018	2019 (Estimate)	2021 (Estimate)	CAGR 2019-2021
Television	660	740	815	955	8.8%
Print	303	306	317	338	3.4%
Filmed Entertainment	156	175	194	236	10.6%
Digital Media	119	169	223	354	28.0%
Animation and VFX	67	79	93	128	17.4%
Live Events	65	75	86	112	14.0%
Online Gaming	30	49	68	120	35.4%
Out of Home Media	34	37	41	49	9.2%
Radio	29	31	34	39	8.0%
Music	13	14	16	19	10.8%
	1476	1675	1887	2350	12%

*Note: All figures are gross of taxes (INR in billion) for the respective calendar years
Data courtesy : FICCI*

The media and the entertainment industries are the most vibrant industries in India, generating huge revenue and employment opportunities. They are the cultural ambassadors for the country's values and stories for many foreign countries as well. As per the FICCI-EY 2019 report, the Indian media and entertainment sector is pegged to grow to INR2.35 trillion by 2021 (US\$33.6 billion), after witnessing a growth of 13% in 2018 to reach INR1.67 trillion (US\$23.9 billion). As per this study, online gaming and digital media will be growing fast in the coming years in India. How India is going to regulate the content then is to be debated.

Need for an Integrated Authority and Policy

All the professionals in India (except media persons), like advocates, doctors, chartered accountants, cost accountants and company secretaries have their own legally backed



regulatory mechanism operated by their own respective industries. Because of this, these professions are highly respected and they have progressed considerably. We have policies for the telecom, education, banking, and various other segments. It is high time that we think of a Media Policy too that can take the media industry to the next level.

Many senior journalists feel that due to the lack of a proper media policy and regulation, the media industry is suffering in spite of its great potentiality. Many journalists have lost their jobs in the recent days. The media industry should be able to function like any other professional industry with a proper policy and regulation in place.

During the past decade, due to socio political changes, the media industry has migrated from 'Institutions' to 'Individuals'. Besides, many of the rules framed during the British days are not in line with current trends. When we talk about media policy or regulation, it does not mean "censorship" as was implied and implemented during the Emergency. If India needs to protect the 'freedom of speech and expression' provided in the Indian Constitution, the Government has to convert the industry-operated self-regulatory mechanism into legally backed statutory bodies. The mechanism can be operated by the industry itself with more statutory powers to punish the violators. This would help not only to enhance the quality of the contents but also help in the growth of the Industry. India is already the third largest media market in the world, next to USA and China, with high potentiality to grow.

The Government has to convert the industry-operated self-regulatory mechanism into legally backed statutory bodies. The mechanism can be operated by the industry itself with more statutory powers to punish the violators

The Government of India can set up a Committee under the chairmanship of a retired Supreme Court judge with experts from different media and fields, to codify the 'draft policy' relating to convergence of platforms, ownership and delivery of contents. The Committee can study the policies framed by other democratic countries. The draft policy can be further debated by the public and industry before adoption.

by K. Srinivasan, Publisher and Managing Editor

G Priya Dharshni Joins Editorial Team

Ms. G Priya Dharshni, an advocate assisting in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, joins the Editorial Team of PreSense. A top-performing graduate in Political Science, she pursued her post graduation in Psychology. She is also a law graduate. As a college student, she had actively participated in NCC (National Cadet Corps) and won several awards at the national and international levels. She was a student leader too. She had earlier worked with The Times of India news publication before migrating to law as her career. It is noteworthy to mention that she was the Youth Ambassador of India to UK on behalf of the Government of India in 2005.



Ms Priya Dharshni currently holds the position as Additional Secretary of the Sansad Ratna Awards Committee and Secretary of Next Gen Political Leaders (NGPL), both initiatives of PreSense. The Editorial Team of PreSense welcomes her onboard.



Cover Story

India as Major Space Power After Chandrayaan 2 Launch



(Image Courtesy: PTI)

After much suspense since an aborted launch on 15th July 2019, India's second mission to the moon named Chandrayaan2 was launched successfully on 22nd July at 09:13 UTC (14:43 IST). The glitch detected before the aborted launch was fixed within a week, and Chandrayaan 2 has so far completed its second earth bound orbit-raising manoeuvre, after its successful launch. In a tweet, the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) confirmed that the manoeuvre was "performed successfully on 26th July 2019 at 01:08IST as planned, using the on-board propulsion system for a firing duration of 883 seconds."

The Chandrayaan2 launch was initially scheduled for 14th July 2019 at 21:21 UTC (15th July 2019 at 02:51 IST). However, the launch was aborted 56 minutes and 24 seconds before lift-off due to a technical glitch and rescheduled to 22nd July 2019. A leak in the 'nipple joint' of a helium gas bottle was suspected to be the glitch.

Chandrayaan2 was launched on-board the GSLV MK III M1 launch vehicle with better-than-expected apogee as a result of the cryogenic upper stage being burned to depletion, eliminating the need for one of the apogee-raising burns during the geocentric phase of the mission.



Immediately after launch, multiple observations were made of a slow-moving bright object over Australia. The phenomenon could be related to the upper stage venting its propellants after concluding its main burn. "The third orbit-raising manoeuvre is scheduled for 29th July 2019 between 14:30 and 15:30 IST", ISRO spokesman said. Chandrayaan 2 is scheduled to reach the moon by 20th August. On 22nd July, Chandrayaan 2 was injected into an elliptical orbit of 170 X 45,475 km by India's heavy lift rocket Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle-Mark III (GSLV Mk III) in a text book style.

The spacecraft Chandrayaan2 consists of three segments - the Orbiter (weighing 2,379 kg, eight payloads), the lander 'Vikram' (1,471 kg, four payloads) and rover 'Pragyan' (27 kg, two payloads). The Indian space agency said the major activities include earth bound manoeuvres, trans-lunar insertion, lunar bound manoeuvres, separation of the lander Vikram from Chandrayaan-2, and Vikram touchdown on the moon's South Pole.

ISRO says the trans-lunar insertion of Chandrayaan-2 is scheduled for 14th August 2019. This will send the spacecraft to the moon to reach the moon by 20th August 2019. The lander and the rover are expected to touch down near the lunar South Pole in early September, becoming the first ever spacecraft to land in that region. The lunar South Pole had remained unexplored till date. Vikram (lander) will land on the moon on 7th September.

As per the 15th July flight schedule, Chandrayaan2's earthbound phase was 17 days. It is 23 days as per the new schedule. On the other hand, the lunar bound phase, which was for 28 days according to the earlier flight schedule, is reduced to 13 days. Originally, Vikram was to land on the moon 54 days after the rocket's lift off and now the landing will take place in 48 days.

What is so special about Chandrayaan 2? It re-confirms India's position as a great space power. Chandrayaan1 (2008) confirmed India's position as a power with lunar orbiting mission capabilities. After 11 years – and within a year after it created a world record last year by launching 100-plus payloads on its liquid fuel propelled super rockets – India's space agency has catapulted itself into the super league with an ambitious plan to land a rover to explore the icy continent of the lunar South Pole, a mission never attempted before by any power.

Chandrayaan 2 is a record of sorts. It is "manned" by two women who have served the space agency for over two decades as top-class scientists. Ms Muthayya Vanitha, Project Director of Chandrayaan2, designed the project, and Ms Ritu Karidhal, Mission Director will be managing the landing of the orbiter and the rover on the moon. The Deputy Director of Chandrayaan2 is Dr Chandrakanta Kumar. The entire project is overseen by the Secretary, Department of Space and ISRO Director, Dr K Sivan.

A successful landing would make India the fourth country to achieve a soft landing on the moon after the space agencies of USA, Russia and China. If successful, Chandrayaan2 will be the southernmost lunar landing, aiming to land at 67°S or 70°S latitude.

History of Chandrayaan 2

On 12th November 2007, representatives of the Russian Federal Space Agency (Roscosmos) and ISRO signed an agreement to work together on the Chandrayaan2 project. ISRO was entrusted with the prime responsibility for the orbiter and the rover, while Roscosmos would provide the lander. The Union Cabinet, chaired by the then Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh, approved the mission on 18th September 2008. The design of the spacecraft was completed in August 2009, with scientists of both countries conducting a joint review.



Objectives of the Mission

The main objective of Chandrayaan2 is to demonstrate its ability to soft-land on the lunar surface and operate a robotic rover on the surface. Scientific goals include studies of the lunar topography, mineralogy, elemental abundance, the lunar exosphere, and signatures of hydroxyl and water ice. The orbiter will map the lunar surface and help to prepare 3D maps of it. The on-board radar will also map the surface while studying the water ice in the South Polar Region.

The Launch Capability



Chandrayaan 2 Orbiter at Integration Facility

The mission was launched on a Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark III (GSLV Mk III) with an approximate lift-off mass of 3,850 kg (8,490 lb) from Satish Dhawan Space Centre on Sriharikota Island, off the state of Andhra Pradesh, India. As of June 2019, the mission had an allocated cost of ₹978 crore (approximately US\$141 million) which includes ₹603 crore for space segment and ₹375 crore as launch costs on GSLV Mk III. Chandrayaan2 stack was initially put in an Earth parking orbit of 170 km perigee and 40,400 km apogee by the launch vehicle. It is currently performing orbit-raising

operations followed by trans-lunar injection using its own power.

The Orbiter will orbit the moon at an altitude of 100 km (62 miles). The Orbiter carries five scientific instruments. Three of them are new while two others are the improved versions of those flown on Chandrayaan 1. The approximate launch mass was 2,379 kg (5,245 lb). The Orbiter High Resolution Camera (OHRC) will conduct high-resolution observations of the landing site prior to the separation of the Lander from the Orbiter. The Orbiter's structure was manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited and delivered to ISRO Satellite Centre on 22nd June 2015.



Rover 'Pragyan' mounted on the ramp of 'Vikram' Lander



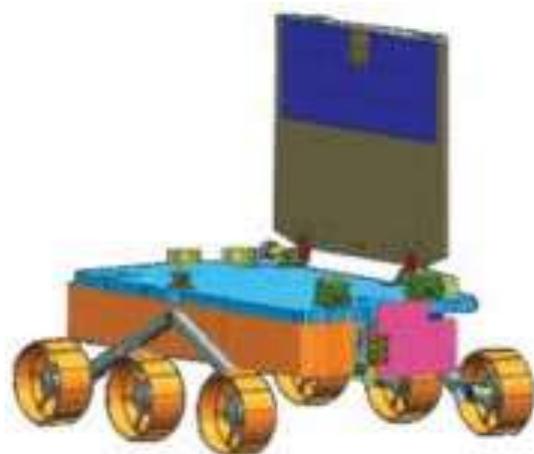
The mission's lander is *Vikram* (meaning Valour in the ancient Indian language Sanskrit). It is also named after Vikram Sarabhai (1919–1971), who is regarded as the father of the Indian space programme.

The *Vikram* lander will detach from the Orbiter and descend to a low lunar orbit of 30 km × 100 km (19 miles × 62 miles) using its 800 N (180 lb_f) liquid main engines. It will then perform a comprehensive check of all its on-board systems before attempting a soft landing, deploy the rover, and perform scientific activities for approximately 14 days. The approximate combined mass of the Lander and the Rover is 1,471 kg (3,243 lb).

The preliminary configuration study of the lander was completed in 2013 by the Space Applications Centre (SAC) in Ahmedabad. Some associated technologies include a high resolution camera, Lander Hazard Detection Avoidance Camera (LHDAC), Lander Position Detection Camera (LPDC), an 800 N throttle able liquid main engine, attitude thrusters, Ka band Radio Altimeter (KaRA), Laser Inertial Reference & Accelerometer Package (LIRAP), and the software needed to run these components. Engineering models of the lander began undergoing ground and aerial tests in late October 2016, in Challakere in the Chitradurga district of Karnataka. ISRO created roughly 10 craters on the surface to help assess the ability of the lander's sensors to select a landing site.

The mission's rover is called *Pragyan* (meaning Wisdom in Sanskrit). The rover's mass is about 27 kg (60 lb) and will operate on solar power. The rover will move on 6 wheels traversing 500 meters on the lunar surface at the rate of 1 cm per second, performing on-site chemical analysis and sending the data to the lander, which will relay it to the Earth station.

The expected operating time of *Pragyan* rover is one lunar day or around 14 Earth days as its electronics are not expected to endure the frigid lunar night. However, its power system has a solar-powered sleep/wake-up cycle implemented, which could result in longer service time than planned.



Pragyan Rover of the Chandrayaan 2 Mission

Payload

ISRO selected eight scientific instruments for the orbiter, four for the lander, and two for the rover. While it was initially reported that NASA (USA) and ESA (Europe) would participate in the mission by providing some scientific instruments for the orbiter, ISRO had clarified that due to weight restrictions it will not be carrying foreign payloads on this mission. However, in an update just a month before launch, a small laser retro reflector from NASA was added to the lander's payload to measure the distance between the satellites above, and the micro reflector on the lunar surface.

ISRO, India and the world are now watching and waiting for Chandrayaan 2 to bring more good news from outer space and the moon.

by T.N.Ashok, Consulting Editor



Announcement

PreSense to Release 150th Edition

The Editorial Team is pleased to announce that the landmark 150th edition of PreSense will be ceremonially launched on Saturday, 24th August 2019 at the Thakkar Bapa Vidyalaya, Chennai in the presence of some eminent personalities of the city. During that event, an eDigest titled PreSense 150, containing select articles from the previous 150 editions of the eMagazine, will also be released, along with a booklet containing information about the five initiatives launched so far under the flagship of PreSense.

Programme:

- **Launch of 150th Edition of PreSense and eDigest PreSense150 @ 4 p.m.**

Chief Guest:

Shri Mafoi K Pandiarajan, Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Language and Tamil Culture, Government of Tamil Nadu.

Guests of Honour:

Shri M R Sivaraman IAS (Retired), Former Revenue Secretary to Government of India;
Dr Maria Zeena Johnson, Chancellor, Satyabama Institute of Science and Technology

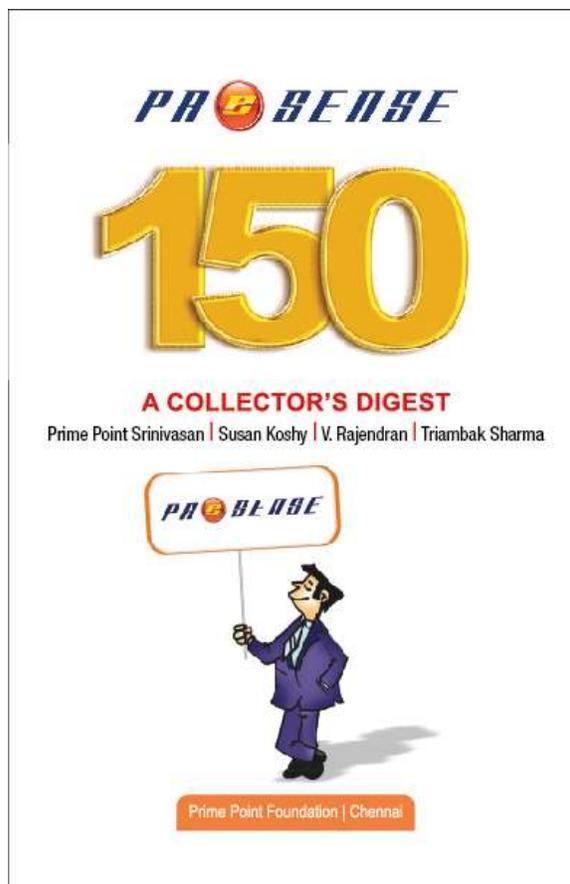
- **Interactive Session on "Brain Health" with Dr A V Srinivasan, internationally renowned neurologist @ 5.15 p.m.**
- **Panel Discussion on "Current Trends in Media" (Tamil session) @ 6.00 p.m**

Expert Panellists:

Shri T K Rangarajan, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha
Shri R Bhagwan Singh, Executive Editor, Deccan Chronicle
Shri Rangaraj Pandey, Renowned TV anchor
Smt Banu Gomes, Popular Political Analyst

- **Dinner @ 7.30 p.m.**

Those interested in attending, may kindly send an email to editor@corpezine.com





PRince

By- Triambak Sharma



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Govt in Karnataka falls
after 14 months

Commodity
Market

On phone
somebody asked
me if there is any
MLA commodity
Index / Exchange..



Technology

Welcome 5G!

It is quite fashionable to use the term, or to be precise, the suffix "G" these days, to denote "Generation". It has become common too, to call anything which is latest, as "Next Gen", whether it is technology-based or something totally different. It is therefore no wonder that the suffix G gets attached to network architecture and technology like 2G, 3G, 4G and now the widely spoken about 5G.



Transition of 1G to 5G

In network technology, the earliest communication technology, later called 1G, referred to a network speed of 2.4 Kbps which is the speed of transmission of 2.4 kilobits per second *i.e.* 2400 bits of data per second, ('k' referring to approximately 1000 or precisely 1024). Later on, 2G offered 64 Kbps. 3G was used to denote 144 Kbps and the recently introduced 4G is 100 Mbps (Mega ie 1000 kilobits per second) speed upto 1 Gbps (gigabps) *i.e.* 1000 Mega.

The computer moves data in bits denoted by small "b". Capital "B" refers to 'byte' which is a character represented by a combination of eight bits of either zeros or ones and is used in storage and memory. In other words, computers store data in bytes and moves it in bits.

Technology pundits have not yet come to a finite conclusion on how to define 5G. Like any field with rapid advancements, network technology too is progressing not just fast but extremely fast. People say that 5G is no doubt the latest in network transmission technology and a giant leap (until of course, the next generation comes up with enhanced features to be called again the *latest!*). 5G is expected to provide upto 20 Gbps speed with millimetre waves of 15 gigahertz (in internationally accepted system of units it is 15 billion cycles per second) and even higher frequency.

What is 5G?

Although the term 5G is often referred to in broader terms with technologies than just network speed, we often associate it with network bandwidth. However, it is not just speed. It includes other issues like software, waves and latency that are also to be studied and understood in the context of 5G. Latency, a term often discussed with network speed, denotes the delay before a transfer of data begins, following an instruction for its transfer from the computer system. To reap the advantage of 5G in mobile communication, it does not suffice if the mobile network operators alone provide it. The devices too should be compatible with the 5G technology.

Deployment

From a technology perspective, it is not just the mobile devices but the Internet of Things (IoT) much wider than mobile communication, which has much to cheer as an industry.



People even say that much more than the network and other industries associated with it, it is the IoT hardware industry which pushes for the 5G technology. With the increasing popularity and deployment of IoT devices (not just computers and mobile) being accessible with an IP address like printers, microwave oven, toys, cars and all such devices, it is this IoT market that will benefit mostly by 5G. In the next couple of years, if the global players arrive at a consensus for technological standardisation, which is most likely to happen, smart cities management, agriculture planning, weather forecasting, academia and virtual reality (which is even expected to replace the existing GPS) will all be 5G-enabled. 5G in non-mobile communication (like IoT devices) may function at a reduced speed and not at the speed for cellular devices. Speed will certainly be a matter of concern in critical IoT devices like remote surgery at corporate hospitals and real time traffic management on which research and trials have already started.

In India, Ericsson has already reportedly set up a hub in New Delhi for its 5G innovation and most of the major telecom players are also planning their deployment strategies. 5G spectrum and its sales or auction among the network players in the country will soon take place, as per the government's policy in a manner such that the technological issues are addressed, security concerns are taken care of, legal redressal is provided and political ramifications are adequately studied. TRAI has to regulate, manage and monitor the transition from 4G to 5G as a matter of policy. Device makers and cellular operators are getting ready, since it is expected that 5G will operate on higher frequencies, even upto 28GHz.

The Indian industry is quite optimistic about the massive deployment of 5G since the existing WiFi has a distance constraint of around 50 metres compared to which 5G would be easy to handle, with smaller antennas or such easily manoeuvrable devices, reaching out to not just the mobile phones but many other equipment like cars, motor cycles, surgical equipment, printers and all sorts of machinery and hardware items.



(Image Source: www.electricalfundablog.com)

Since the mobile-cellular industry has been a funds generator, accelerating economic growth, its influence (much more than that of IoT) is expected to be huge in our country. TRAI has to decide on the spectrum allocation for 5G enabling its massive deployment, at an affordable rate and yet regulating the mobile industry with Information Technology Ministry simultaneously putting in place the regulatory, legal and mandatory guidelines to bring all IoT devices, the entire technology including the hardware, software and the network component and not just the mobile industry, under its umbrella.

Perhaps it is this massive deployment of 5G that causes concern among a section of activists about invasion into privacy of data through the devices, doctors getting worried about the human health aspects of 5G rays, scientists getting anxious about its impact on environment and of course the common man worried about the psychological impact including an aggravated addiction on human minds. But then, that is technology – once it arrives, there is no stopping it. Let us wait and watch.

by V.Rajendran, Editor



National

Parameters for Sansad Ratna Awards Announced



Jury Committee Members: (L to R) Shri Shirang Appa Barne, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Shri N K Premachandran

A new Sansad Ratna Jury Committee has been constituted for the 17th Lok Sabha.

1. Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Hon'ble MOS Parliamentary Affairs – Chairman
2. Shri N K Premachandran MP (RSP – Kerala) – Member
3. Shri Shirang Appa Barne MP (Shiv Sena – Maharashtra) – Member

The Jury Committee Members themselves were Sansad Ratna Awardees and outstanding Parliamentarians of the 15th and 16th Lok Sabha.

The newly constituted Jury Committee met at New Delhi under the Chairmanship of the Parliamentary Affairs Minister, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, and finalised the parameters for selection of the outstanding performers of the 17th Lok Sabha.

The Sansad Ratna Awards were instituted by Prime Point Foundation and eMagazine PreSense in March 2009 following the suggestion of former President (late) Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, to honour outstanding performers of the Parliament on behalf of the civil society. The Awards are presented in May/June every year after the Budget Session. There are 7 Awards for the Lok Sabha for performance under different categories like Debates, Questions and Private Members Bills, and the selection is done based on the cumulative performance of the individual members. Besides, there are Awards for Rajya Sabha retirees and Standing Committee.



The Jury Committee has now decided to institute another category of awards from this year for those MPs who make the best interventions during debates on important issues and bills that make a significant impact on them.

In the past 10 years, 60 MPs have been honoured with Sansad Ratna Awards based on their performance data provided by PRS India and the Lok Sabha Secretariat. The tenth anniversary honouring the outstanding performers of the 16th Lok Sabha was held at Durbar Hall, Raj Bhavan, Chennai in January 20, 2019.

Details of the parameters are available in this link:

<https://tinyurl.com/sansadratna-parameters>

Hima Das Brings Home Five Gold Medals



(Image: Courtesy www.hindustantimes.com)

Hima Das, a promising Indian athlete from the Dhing Village, Assam State, has been winning gold medals from five invitation athletic events across Europe held in the course of July 2019. She won four golds in 200 metres dash and the latest gold was from her pet event of 400 metres.

What is commendable about the sportswoman is the determination with which she has been competing in spite of some very challenging personal circumstance. Her achievement has drawn the attention and applause from the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Modi, and the legendary cricketing icon, Shri Sachin Tendulkar.

PreSense wishes Hima Das, known as The Dhing Express, more series of landmark successes.



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Published by
Prime Point Foundation

Feedback and sponsorship
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