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TRANSMISSION MONTHLY

1. APPLE WINS BLOCK OF SAMSUNG SMARTPHONE SALES IN US

A judge on Friday granted Apple's request for an injunction blocking US sales of Samsung Galaxy Nexus smartphones made in collaboration with Google to challenge the iPhone. The ruling by US District Court Judge Lucy Koh was the second victory for California-based Apple this week in a fierce and complex patent war with the South Korean consumer electronics giant.

Earlier, the same judge barred the sale of Samsung's new Galaxy Tab 10.1 tablet computer, saying that Apple had presented "a strong case" for the injunction. The statement indicated that the judge felt Apple had a strong case showing that the patents at issue are valid and that Samsung had misused the technology.

2. RELIANCE GLOBALCOM ENTERS IRAQ CABLE JV

Reliance Globalcom has entered a joint venture with Iraqi Telecom and Post Company (ITPC) to launch a subsea cable linking Iraq to countries in the Middle East, Asia, Europe and North America.

3. ANDROID PEAKS AS PHONE MARKET SLOWS

According to the latest Worldwide Quarterly Mobile Phone Tracker report from research firm IDC, vendors will ship a total of nearly 1.8 billion mobile phones this year, compared to 1.7 billion units shipped in 2011. That's a mere 4% growth year on year, and the lowest annual growth rate for the mobile handset sector in three years.

IDC credits the expected slowdown to a projected 10% decline in feature phone shipments in 2012. On the bright side, the smartphone segment will offset the feature-phone slump with a 38.8% increase to 686 million units. Most of that will be Android, which will dominate the smartphone sector for the next four years. IDC expects Android to account for 61% of the smartphone OS market this year, driven largely by Samsung sales.

4. INDIA PLANS \$3.5B GOVERNMENT FIBER NETWORK

India has allocated 20000-crore rupees (\$3.5 billion) to deploy a national fiber network for local and federal government departments. The government has revealed that the National Optical Fibre network (NOFN) will link around 250,000 gram panchayats, or village or small town self-governments.

A new state-owned company, Bharat Broadband Network Limited (BBNL), has been set up to oversee the rollout of fiber cable from block level to gram panchayat level. BBNL will be responsible for deploying around 500,000km of fiber as part of the rollout.

While the cables are being deployed, a newly-created co-ordination committee will assess the networking requirements of various government departments, and determine how the fiber network can best be used to meet the requirements. This committee consists of representatives from the telecom, IT and various other ministries, as well as BBNL and established state-owned telecom provider BSNL.

5. AIRTEL TO DEPLOY 3G NETWORK IN MALAWI

India's Bharti Airtel is continuing its African expansion, revealing plans to spend \$25 million in Malawi on a 3G network and on deploying mobile money service Airtel Money. India's largest mobile operator revealed the investment plans after a meeting between CEO Manoj Kohli and Malawi president Joyce Banda. Bharti Airtel has also pledged to make a \$10 million investment in green energy in the nation by the end of the financial year.

6. CELLULAR OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF INDIA TO TAKE LEGAL ACTION IF TATA TELESERVICES'S GSM SPECTRUM NOT AUCTIONED

GSM industry body COAI has threatened to take legal action unless the Department of Telecom (DoT) auctions spectrum given to Tata Teleservices Ltd (TTSL) along with Supreme Court cancelled allocations of 2008.

"DoT by failing to implement the directions via-a-vis TTSL has failed to comply with the Supreme Court order dated February 2, 2012," COAI Director General Rajan S Mathews said in his letter wrote to Telecom Secretary R Chandrashekar.

7. NOKIA SIEMENS NETWORKS ACHIEVES TD-LTE DATA SPEEDS OF 1.3 GBPS IN CHINA

Nokia Siemens Networks has set a record by achieving TD-LTE data speeds of 1.3 Gbps using its commercial Flexi base station hardware. The live demonstration at a recent China Information Technology show in Beijing marks a new world record for the 4G mobile broadband technology.

In addition, Nokia Siemens Networks is the first vendor to complete Phase 1 and 2 of China Mobile's (CMCC) TD-LTE field tests and leads the industry with its TD-LTE key performance indicators (KPIs).

8. DOT SEEKS ADVICE ON SPLIT TDSAT VERDICT FOR 3G ROAMING

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on Thursday sought legal opinion on whether Bharti Airtel, Vodafone and Idea should be allowed to continue offering intra-circle 3G roaming services by way of mutual agreements.

This is a sequel to the Telecom Disputes Settlement Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) giving a split verdict on the legality of such pacts. A two-member bench of TDSAT gave opposing verdicts on the legality of operators getting into a roaming pact to offer 3G services in telecom circles where they do not have spectrum. Bharti Airtel, Vodafone and Idea had signed agreements to offer 3G services in circles where they could not get 3G spectrum in the 2010 auction.

9. MASTERCARD TEAMS UP WITH DEUTSCHE TELEKOM FOR MPAYMENTS

MasterCard and Deutsche Telekom have entered into a European partnership to enable consumers to use their mobile phones as a convenient and secure way to pay.

10. NOKIA RETAINS LEADERSHIP POSITION WITH 23% SHARE IN THE OVERALL INDIA MOBILE HANDSETS MARKET

The overall India mobile handsets market registered sales of 50.2 million units during January-March 2012. This was reported in the CyberMedia Research India Monthly Mobile Handsets Market Review for 1Q 2012.

In the overall India mobile handsets market, Nokia retained leadership position with 23% share, followed by Samsung at second position with 14.1% and Micromax at third position with 5.8%, in terms of sales (unit shipments) during January-March 2012.

Total India smartphone sales touched 2.7 million units during January-March 2012.

Samsung emerged as the leader in the smartphone segment with a 40.4% share, followed at No. 2 and No. 3 by Nokia with 25.5% and RIM with 12.3% share respectively.

In 1Q 2012, Samsung launched seven new smartphone models in India, further tightening its grip on sales in different price bands between INR 7,500 to INR 27,000. This is the range in which the company sells its portfolio of smartphones currently. It excludes products like the Samsung Galaxy Note, which, with a 5" screen is categorized under the category of media tablets / tablet PCs. Indian mobile handset vendors have also started aggressively widening their Android-based smartphones portfolio.

11. APPLE SAID TO PLAN SMALLER, CHEAPER TABLET

Sources claim Apple is planning to bring out a smaller, cheaper iPad by the end of the year, to challenge low-cost iPad rivals such as Amazon's Kindle Fire, and Google's planned Nexus 7.

12. GOOGLE, SAMSUNG TO PATCH NEXUS TO SKIRT US BAN

Google and Samsung are preparing a software patch for the Galaxy Nexus that they hope will ensure the handset no longer infringes on an Apple patent, which may help the companies overcome last week's court-ordered injunction on US sales on the device.

13. ZTE TO BEGIN SHIPPING GEAR TO BSNL THIS MONTH

Chinese telecoms gearmaker ZTE Corp will begin shipping equipment to Bharat Sanchar Nigam within this month after it bagged a massive contract from the state-run telco.

ZTE said on Tuesday that it will supply equipment for 10.15 million GSM lines for BSNL and will plan, finance, engineer, supply, install, test, commission and maintain these lines under the contract for three years. The contract, said to be India's largest GSM deal, is a win-win for both the entities.

14. MTS OFFERS EVERYTHING FOR JUST 30 PAISA

Now MTS customers can enjoy Local, STD, Roaming & ISD calls, SMS and Data for just 30 paisa with MTS' new offer '**Flat 30p for everything**'. Additionally, customers on roaming will now have the added advantage of making and receiving calls at just 30 paisa/min to anywhere in the country.

The launch of Flat 30 paisa for everything has been specially designed to simplify mobile tariffs and offer greater convenience to MTS customers.

This isn't it, MTS also offers free access to Facebook for a month through MTS Planet on entry level phones including MTS Striker C121, MTS Striker C122 and MTS Striker F121. This amazing offer by MTS can be availed by both new and existing MTS customers through a recharge voucher priced between Rs. 50 to Rs. 100.

15. BSNL LAUNCHES 3G POCKET ROUTER TO CONNECT COMPUTER TO INTERNET

The recently launched BSNL third generation (3G) Pocket Router in association with leading communications provider, Shyam Communications is a sure boon for executives on the move who need to multi-task through a single SIM Card. The 3G router, known as the 'Winknet Mf50' can be ideally connected with various communication hardware devices for enhancing communication.

In connection with the launch of the router, BSNL's Chairman and Managing Director, RK Upadhyaya announced the reverse bundling of the Winknet Mf 50 with BSNL 3G SIMS, which meant that BSNL would authorize Shyam Networks to retail both router and SIM Card in 15 circles across the country for Rs. 5800/- along with a plan voucher of Rs. 60 and a 1 GB free data usage. With a 3G network of 850 cities in India BSNL's Pocket Router is all set to revolutionize mobile communications.

16. MOBILE MONEY ORDER COMING SOON!

Sending a Money Order from your mobile phone to villages and other remote locations in India will soon be a common day activity. No more waiting for days on end for a money order to arrive at a remote location. You simply input the amount and press a few simple commands and the recipient will receive an SMS alert after which he can collect the cash from the nearest post office.

The Department of Posts (DoP) has contracted with the nation's premier mobile service provider, BSNL, on a commission basis to provide express money order services to villages and remote locations in India. The project will be piloted in August-September 2012 in the states of Bihar, Delhi, Kerala and Punjab.

The Money Order service will undoubtedly be a boon for aged parents living in villages whose children support them financially on a monthly basis. It will also be a much needed service for metro based construction companies for making payments to its permanent and non-permanent laborer employees.

17. MOBILE MALWARE BECOMING MAJOR SECURITY CONCERN

Smartphones based on the Android mobile OS are facing increasing cybercriminal attacks and more enterprises are becoming exposed to malicious IT threats due to bring-your-own-devices (BYOD), a report said.

Mobile devices can expose users' and organizations' valuable data to unauthorized people if precautions are not taken, the report from security firm Trend Micro also said.

"As Android devices gain in popularity, so does its use by cybercriminals. The Android platform has become a favorite attack target due to its app distribution model, which makes it completely open to all parties. We believe the attack will continue throughout the year," said Myla Pilao, director of marketing communications at Trend Micro's TrendLabs.

"In fact, the number of mobile malware detected by Trend Micro has doubled in a span of one month. This goes beyond our initial projections for the month. Two of the most

notorious Android malware variants, RuFraud9 and DroidDreamLight10, have caused millions of users a lot of grief from losing data and, at times, money," Pilao said.

18. DOT PUBLISHES 2G SPECTRUM AUCTION GUIDELINES

The department of telecommunications (DoT), struggling to meet the end-August Supreme Court deadline, published the guidelines for the auction of spectrum in the 1,800MHz and 800MHz bands, even as key decisions, including the reserve price of the airwaves, are still to be taken by the cabinet and the empowered group of ministers (eGoM).

"Reserve price, terms of payment, annual spectrum usage charges will be announced separately," said the note published on DoT website on Wednesday. "The roll-out obligations will be notified separately."

The DoT said it would hold simultaneous, multiple-round auctions for each region, on similar lines as the 3G spectrum auctions in 2010.

New entrants and companies that lost their mobile permits due to the Supreme Court ruling on February 2 can bid for a maximum of 6.25 MHz of airwaves in 1800 MHz band in the upcoming auctions. ET was the first to report the initial auction rules in its edition dated June 27.

The auction guideline states that new entrants can bid for 5 MHz of airwaves in the 1800 MHz band, but adds that they will be allowed to bid for one additional block of 1.25 MHz, enabling them to get a total of 6.25 MHz of airwaves.

Airwaves will be sold in blocks of 1.25 MHz each. Existing operators or incumbents in the GSM space can bid for a maximum of two blocks or 2.5 MHz of airwaves.

In the CDMA space, companies such as Sistema that lost its mobile permits can bid for a maximum of 3 blocks (3.75 MHz) in the 800 MHz band, while existing operators will be allowed to bid for only one block, the draft auction guidelines, the rules released by the department add.

The auction guidelines state that existing operators can pay the auction determined price for the airwaves they hold in the 1800 MHz band and extend the tenure of this spectrum for an additional 20 years.

After paying this fee, mobile phone companies can also use these airwaves for offering any technology - this implies, the 1800 MHz band that is currently used for providing 2G services can be used for third and fourth generation offerings in the future.

19. HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES SENDS NOTICE TO VIDEOCON, SUSPENDS SERVICES

Telecom gearmaker Huawei Technologies has sent a legal notice to the Videocon Group and suspended service support to its telecom unit for non-payment of dues of about Rs 860 crore, people with knowledge of the development told ET.

The dues claimed by Huawei relate to Videocon's purchase of 2G-network gear from the Chinese vendor in July 2009 and subsequent delivery of project services. A top executive, who did not want to be named, said, "Videocon has not paid 85% of the equipment contract, amounting to \$144 million."

20. CHIDAMBARAM TO HEAD EGOM ON 2G AUCTIONS

Home minister P Chidambaram will be the new chairman of the empowered group of ministers (eGoM) tasked with finalising the modalities of the 2G spectrum auctions including fixing the reserve price, deferred payment and the roll out obligations for the telcos. Chidambaram's appointment comes four days after agriculture minister Sharad Pawar stepped down. In fact, Pawar's name does not even figure as a member of the reconstituted ministerial panel, sources said.

The eGoM will also look at imposing one-time levy on existing operators which was referred to it by the Cabinet on Tuesday. However, in a departure from the existing norm of eGoM calling the final shot on all issues, its decisions on the two issues -- reserve price for spectrum to be auctioned and the one-time levy to be imposed on existing operators -- will be sent to the Cabinet for a final ratification.

21. AMAZON SAID TO PLAN OWN SMARTPHONE

Sources claim Amazon is planning to launch its own Android-based smartphone to complement its Kindle Fire tablet, and is working with Foxconn to produce the device.

22. FACEBOOK, YAHOO CALL TRUCE IN PATENT WAR

Facebook and Yahoo have settled their patent battle with no money changing hands. Each has agreed to drop their respective lawsuits and to co-operate in an advertising alliance.

23. US BAN ON GALAXY NEXUS FROZEN BY COURT

A US appeals court has granted Samsung a temporary stay on the preliminary injunction barring sales of its Galaxy Nexus in the US. Apple, however, can appeal the stay on the sales ban.

24. WIPRO TARGETS TELCOS WITH UNIT RESTRUCTURE

Hurt by reduced global spending from struggling telecom equipment vendors on R&D, India's third-largest IT exporter, Wipro Technologies, is rejigging its billion-dollar telecom vertical to focus more on areas like telecom analytics and mobile broadband, where the end customers are telecom operators.

Traditionally, Wipro has been focused on product engineering for telecom equipment vendors.

"Earlier 100% of our revenues came from products that are selling boxes. But a shift is now happening from product into services."

25. A RARE BLEND OF CURRENT AND EX BSNL CMDS INAUGURATED VAS ASIA 2012 EXHIBITION

VAS Asia 2012, Asia's most prestigious event on mobile value-added-services, was honored by the distinguished personalities of the telecom industry and witnessed a rare blend of

present and previous three CMDs of BSNL- Shri R.K Upadhyay, CMD of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Shri A. K. Sinha, Ex CMD, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Shri Prithipal Singh Ex CMD, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and Shri Kuldeep Goyal, Ex CMD, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited.

They discussed about the future of MVAS in India and ruminated on the hurdles that could hamper the rapid growing VAS industry. They also talked about new opportunities emerging for banks, educational institutions and health care providers in value added services sector. Also they flaunted their thoughts on the broad categories for successful monetization of MVAS like M-education, M-commerce, M-Health and M-Infotainment.

26. RS. 48,000 CRORES BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY IN MOBILE VALUE ADDED SERVICES

Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) will be launching video on demand for its mobile phone subscribers in a month's time. The announcement was made by Chairman & Managing Director Shri Rakesh K Upadhyay, BSNL while inaugurating VAS ASIA 2012, 12th International Conference & Exhibition at New Delhi, organized by Bharat Exhibitions. "The MVAS industry is expected to create a business opportunity worth around INR 48,000 crore by the year 2015. This in itself is a clear indication of the future of VAS services in India. No doubt this has created a new excitement for all those who are in this space and for those who are entering," said Shashi Dharan, Managing Director, Bharat Exhibitions."

27. ZTE AIMS TO DOUBLE SMARTPHONES SALES IN 2012

ZTE is ramping up its ambitions in the mobile phone market, with plans to significantly boost smartphone shipments this year and challenge the leading positions of Apple and Samsung in the next eight years.

The company plans to more than double its smartphone shipments to 35 million units this year from 15 million in 2011, said Lv Qianhao, head of ZTE handset strategy. Of the total, a large proportion will be mid- and high-end smartphones for key markets such as China, Asia, Europe and North America, Lv added.

According to IDC, ZTE was ranked the world's No.4 handset vendor by shipments in the first quarter. Total shipments reached 19.1 million and ZTE's market share was 4.8%, exceeding LG, which had 3.6%.

28. RCOM SETS PRICE FOR \$1 BN SINGAPORE CABLE IPO: IFR.

Reliance Communications Ltd (RCom) has set an indicative price range for the Singapore initial public offering of its undersea cable unit that could raise as much as \$1 billion and help the parent reduce its debt load, IFR Asia reported on Monday.

Reliance Communications, controlled by billionaire Anil Ambani, is looking to raise funds to ease a debt load of \$7 billion as of March. It has been unsuccessful in several past attempts to raise money by selling assets. Global Telecommunications Infrastructure Trust (GTI Trust), which is structured as a business trust, plans to sell between 642.2 million and 757.6 million units at a price range of \$1.09 to \$1.32 a unit, IFR said. This translates to a distribution yield of 9.5 per cent to 11.5 per cent for 2013.

29. MAULI RAMAN APPOINTED INTERIM MD, ONMOBILE AFTER ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF AVRIND RAO

Mr. Arvind Rao, Managing Director and CEO of mobile value-added services player OnMobile, has stepped down, following a KPMG probe that confirmed faulty corporate practices under his stewardship.

Mr Mouli Raman, Co-founder and Executive Director, will take on the role of interim MD until the search for a new MD ends.

On Monday, Goldman Sachs Investments Mauritius had sold 6.55 lakh shares in OnMobile Global for Rs 2.22 crore through open market transaction.

On July 1 Company said, Arvind Rao will focus on international growth and market strategy and building relationships with large global customer accounts around the world.

When it listed in India in 2008, On-Mobile had a valuation of about Rs 3,000 crore, which has plunged to less than Rs 400 crore now.

30. NEW IPAD TO LAUNCH IN CHINA JULY 20

Apple will finally launch the new iPad in China next Friday – months after the tablet went on sale in other parts of the globe.

31. TELECOM GEAR MAKERS FEEL THE PINCH IN INDIA

Companies that make wireless network equipment face a major challenge in India as the telecommunications industry, once a high-flier, struggles to regain its momentum. Telecom gear giants such as Anglo-French company Alcatel-Lucent, ALU -2.74%Sweden's L.M. Ericsson Telephone Co., Finnish-German joint venture Nokia Siemens Networks and China's Huawei Technologies Co. and ZTE Corp. 000063.SZ -2.33%had banked on strong demand from wireless operators in India for equipment to offer high-speed data services via third-generation mobile phone technology.

The Indian market is one of the largest in the world, with the number of telecom subscribers second only to China's.

But India's telecom operators are facing regulatory uncertainty as well as a brutal tariff war. Many companies have slowed investments in building, expanding and upgrading their networks and equipments -- the very areas where the equipment makers had seen strong sales in India in the past as the number of mobile users in the country rose to more than 900 million today from about 4 million in 2001.

Also, the pace of addition of new users has weakened considerably to about 6 million-7 million users a month now from around 15 million a month a year ago.

32. SHASHI DHARAN, PRESIDENT, INSIGHTVAS PRESENTED REPORT – PANEL DISCUSSION ON MVAS LICENSING AND SSC TO THE CHAIRMAN, TRAI

InsightVAS, an online portal dedicated solely to MVAS industry, on 14th June, organized a panel discussion on MVAS licensing and formation of Short Code Council, where it invited VAS players to put their suggestions/concerns against the recommendation released by the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

Taking the success of panel discussion further, Mr. Shashi Dharan, President InsightVAS, today submitted the report on panel discussion to Shri Rahul Khullar, Chairman, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India.

The report consists of the opinions of the VAS operators and telecom operators regarding the licensing and short code.

33. TRAI ISSUES DRAFT REGULATIONS ON STANDARDS OF QOS FOR MOBILE DATA SERVICES REGULATIONS, 2012

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has today released draft regulations on "Standards of Quality of Service for Mobile Data Services Regulations, 2012".

The service providers are rolling out 3G services and these services are presently available in all the service areas. With the roll out of 3G and Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) services, the growth rate in cellular mobile telephone service is poised for higher growth, compared to wire line internet users.

Presently, there is no quality of service standards for the mobile data services. It is necessary to benchmark and monitor the quality of service offered by the service providers of mobile data services with various options open to the implementing agencies so that the interests of consumers are protected.

34. AIRCEL SAYS WON'T BID FOR SPECTRUM IN 2G AUCTION

Telco says it has got enough spectrum; expects demand for wireless data to surge in the country. Aircel Ltd, the Indian mobile phone operator controlled by Malaysia's Maxis Communications Bhd, will not bid for 2G spectrum in an auction that is scheduled to be concluded by 31 August, following a Supreme Court directive.

"We have got enough spectrum," said Sandip Das, a director on the Aircel board and chief executive of Maxis Communications, which owns 74% of Aircel. Das is currently overseeing the operations of the Indian unit till a CEO is named.

Many Indian operators with 3G spectrum are using it to decongest their networks and use the spectrum to augment their 2G network, Das said. "In our case, the 2G spectrum is not fully utilized and, therefore, we don't have that spillover in most areas," he said.

Aircel, however, has filed a petition in a telecom tribunal for allotment of an additional 1.8MHz to increase its spectrum in most parts of the country to 6.2MHz, as it's contractually eligible to get, from the start-up 4.4MHz that the company was given in 2008. Aircel doesn't expect the one-time fee for the additional spectrum to be high, Das said.

Aircel, which has spent \$4.5-5 billion on network infrastructure in the past four years, has about 65 million subscribers, accounting for 9.48% of Indian mobile phone users, and a 4.6% revenue market share. The company is currently building its 3G network in 13 licensing areas where it won spectrum, and broadband wireless access (BWA) network in eight circles and expects to spend around Rs. 7,500 crore on it during the current fiscal. Parent Maxis has already spent Rs. 45,000 crore in India. Aircel doesn't plan to sell shares to the public in the near future, Das said.

35. MOBILE VIDEO GETTING HOT IN INDIA

Mobile internet TV is one of the biggest growth areas in India. A recent survey conducted by Google in partnership with IPSOS and the MMA (Mobile Marketing Association) found that a third of Indian smartphone users watch TV on their smartphone.

TV household penetration in India has hit 65% and is as much as 88% in urban regions. This shows tremendous opportunities for live over-the-top (OTT) content and mobile internet TV for those households that currently have no existing terrestrial infrastructure, cable or satellite services. The operators know this and realize the potential of the market, so why haven't more of them rolled out mobile video services?

Their reluctance stems from an understandable concern about major investments into hardware and infrastructure, and fears about the length of time it will take to recoup the money they think is needed to launch an OTT service. On top of this, many operators are busy rolling out 3G and LTE infrastructure and are worried about finding the resources to also deploy a video streaming service. They also question their ability to recoup the incremental costs of offering OTT at good enough quality to paid service in a prepaid market.

36. VODAFONE INDIA LAUNCHES 'ASK A DOCTOR – HEALTH@5'

On Wednesday, Vodafone India launched its mobile health website 'Ask a Doctor – Health@5' in the country. This service will enable users to ask health related queries for Rs 5 per day. Within 24 hours, the users will receive a response for their queries by a panel of medical experts. Besides this, they can also browse through information on disease management, myths, trivia, general remedies, latest updates, diet and fitness information.

Health@5 includes five different segments – everyday health, Did you Know, medical diaries, home remedies and Diet & Fitness Management.

37. BHARTI AIRTEL LAUNCHES CLEP (CLOUD ENABLEMENT PLATFORM)

On Tuesday, Bharti Airtel launched its Cloud computing services using HP's technology. Through its Cloud Enablement Platform (CLEP), Bharti Airtel will provide hosted SaaS (Software as a Service) and IaaS (Infrastructure as a Service) to small and large enterprises on a pay-per-use model. In cloud computing, end users are not required to buy software or devices as they are provided by service providers on a rental basis.

Initially, Airtel will offer business solutions like ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning), accounting packages and storage and compute on the CLEP platform. It further plans to introduce diverse SaaS applications on the same platform especially for small and medium business customers.

Currently, Airtel has 30,000 SMB customers for internet and mobile services and now it will be able to expand that portfolio of services to include accounting software, storage, business software (like pay roll) or even additional computing resources.

38. EGOM NOD FOR TELCOS TO MORTGAGE AIRWAVES

The panel of ministers headed by home minister P Chidambaram decided to allow mobile phone companies to mortgage airwaves, a move that will allow telcos to use spectrum as collateral and raise funds from banks for the upcoming auctions.

39. CHINA MOBILE DEVELOPS NFC PHONES

China Mobile Ltd, the world's biggest mobile operator by subscriber base, said on July 11 that it successfully developed the first TD-SCDMA 3G mobile phone supporting the Near Field Communication technology.

NFC is a short-range communication technology that can be incorporated into mobile phones to perform functions such as paying for goods or swapping information.

NFC mobile phones can help China Mobile to promote its mobile payment services, as the telecom carrier tries to find new sources to boost its sluggish revenue growth.

China Mobile bought a 20 percent stake of Shanghai Pudong Development Bank in 2010 to strengthen its mobile payment services. The two companies held a demonstration of their mobile payments solutions at the GSMA Mobile Asia Expo in Shanghai in June. The solutions included a service similar to Google Inc's Google Purse, which enables people to connect their bank accounts to smartphones and make payments by phone.

40. YAHOO NAMES MARISSA MAYER CEO

Yahoo has hired long-serving Google executive Marissa Mayer as its new CEO, bucking expectations that it will hand interim CEO Ross Levinsohn the job.

41. HACKERS POST STOLEN YAHOO PASSWORDS ONLINE

Hackers have breached Yahoo's systems and stolen as many as 400,000 usernames and passwords. Security firm TrustSec said hacking group D33D has claimed responsibility, and posted many of the details online.

42. MAKEMYTRIP LAUNCHES MOBILE APPS OF SMARTPHONES

MakeMyTrip has rolled out mobile apps for smartphones and iPhones to make travel planning fast, hassle-free and secure.

With the help of the app, the users can search and book flights on mobile. Passenger details can be stored on the device to avoid typing details every time for further bookings. The app also provides travel solutions; users can view booking details, make cancellations, request e-tickets and even track refunds. In addition, the app provides alerts on updated flight schedules, flight status and timings, as well as details on exclusive travel deals and instant personalised deal notifications.

43. THE NEXT DECADE TO SEE TELECOM AS A SMART ENABLER OF ENTERPRISE MOBILITY NEEDS: FROST & SULLIVAN

With the growing need to be constantly connected and having easy accessibility to multiple apps that provide real-time information, there has been a paradigm shift to a mobile world that has compelled enterprises to leverage the benefits of mobility. By 2020, an estimated 80 billion connected devices will exist, and telecommunications would move from a consumer-centric role to a smart-enabler role.

The Mobile e-mail market dominates the current landscape of enterprise mobility in India. However, future growth engines are core business applications and M2M markets, which are experiencing

significant traction. The Mobile e-mail market is expected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 15 percent by 2017. Core business applications are estimated to grow at a CAGR of 37 percent, and M2M services at 41 percent by 2017, which illustrates the momentum behind more workflow mobilization and growing awareness in enterprises.

44. SANDEEP GANGULY, BUSINESS HEAD OF LATIN AMERICA OPS, RESIGNS FROM ONMOBILE

OnMobile's Mr. Sandeep Ganguly, Head of Private Operators (India) and Mr. Pratapa Bernard, Head of Marketing and Products, have resigned from their respective positions.

Their resignations have come just after Rao resigned as the CEO and MD of OnMobile. Mr Mouli Raman, Co-founder and Executive Director, has been appointed as interim MD until the search for a new MD ends.

Arvind Rao had stepped down, following a KPMG probe that confirmed faulty corporate practices under his stewardship.

45. THE 200-SMS LIMIT REMOVED

The Delhi High Court has removed the restriction of 200 SMSs per day for mobile users which had been imposed by TRAI.

46. CHINA MOBILE TO BEGIN TD-LTE TERMINALS TENDER THIS MONTH

China Mobile, the world's largest mobile carrier by subscriber, is reportedly to begin its first tender for over 100, 000 units of TD-LTE devices as soon as this month, in a move to accelerate the commercial deployment of 4G service.

China Mobile's terminal unit, China Mobile Terminal Company, will start the tender process by end of July. The tender, which is the country's first tender for 4G terminals, include 3,000 units of TD-LTE data cards, 6,000 mobile WiFi (MIFI) modem, and 1000 CPE, according to mainland online portal www.ccid.com.

The report doesn't indicate whether the tender include handsets or not , but China Mobile vice general manager Li Zhengmao said earlier this week that the operator would launch more than 10 TD-LTE smartphones by mid-2013 and rise to over 100 by 2014.

China Mobile is currently testing TD-LTE in 13 cities, including Hangzhou and Shenzhen, where China Mobile is using new spectrum to operate the trail networks.

47. ALCATEL - LUCENT ISSUES 2012 PROFIT WARNING

Alcatel-Lucent has warned it expects to miss its 2012 profit target and record a second-quarter loss, blaming cutbacks in operator capex particularly in Europe.

48. MOBILE ACCESS REACHES ¾ OF POPULATION

More than three quarters of the world's population now has access to a mobile phone, according to new World Bank statistics.

49. CHINA MOBILE PICKS ERICSSON, ZTE FOR HK TD-LTE

China Mobile is expected to announce a deal with Ericsson and ZTE for the deployment of a TD-LTE network in Hong Kong this week, in its latest efforts to push the TD-LTE technology into the 4G market.

Ericsson and ZTE told *telecomasia.net* that China Mobile's Hong Kong branch has selected the companies as partners to deploy the TD-LTE network that operates in the 2.3GHz frequency band.

ZTE said the company has received a larger proportion of the TD-LTE network contract and will supply equipment for the network in primary commercial areas of the city. Ericsson, which built China Mobile HK's LTE network that operates in the 2.6GHz frequency band, will supply equipment for the remaining areas.

50. ERICSSON Q2 PROFIT FALLS 63%

Ericsson has posted a 63% slump in second-quarter profit to 1.2 billion kronor (\$172.7 million), as a result of depressed spending on carrier equipment and mounting losses at joint venture ST-Ericsson

51. APPLE TOLD TO RUN "SAMSUNG DIDN'T COPY" ADS IN UK

A UK court has ordered Apple to run notices on its UK website and in several publications detailing the verdict that Samsung's Galaxy Tab does not copy the iPad's design.

52. INDIAN HANDSET BRANDS EYE OVERSEAS EXPANSION.

Indian handset makers including Karbonn, Maxx and Micromax plan to extend their international presence to regions including west Asia and Latin America, a financial analyst said

53. ANDROID 4.1 MORE SECURE THAN PREDECESSORS

The Jelly Bean update to Android makes the OS more secure by correctly implementing address space layout randomisation (ASLR) and non-executable memory protection, a security researcher has found

54. INTERNATIONAL BANDWIDTH DEMAND STILL GROWING

Global demand for international bandwidth grew 45% in 2011, driven by increasing broadband adoption in developing regions, TeleGeography estimates.

The research firm calculates that demand has grown at a compound rate of 57% per year since 2007. But on an annual basis, growth is down from 2008, when network capacity increased nearly 70%.

International bandwidth requirements in Asia grew at a 55% CAGR between 2007 and 2011, ahead of the 47% CAGR of North America and Oceania.

But the strongest gains in demand came from the Middle East, where international bandwidth usage nearly doubled on a CAGR basis, and from Africa, where it grew 85% annually.

55. RUSSIA RAISES SISTEMA'S CONFLICT

Russia has raised concern over the uncertainty surrounding Sistema's investments in India in the bilateral talks between the two countries for which India has replied that a judicial process is on for the resolution of the issue.

56. RIL'S MOTIVE TO PARTICIPATE IN 2G AUCTION

Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) is all set to participate in the upcoming 2G auctions, reports Economic Times.

This is likely to shake up the market, to say the least. The company has a pan-India Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) spectrum which it has decided to use to offer Long Term Evolution Time Division Duplex (LTE TDD) services. Himachal Futuristic Communications Ltd. (HFCL) is reportedly deploying optic-fiber network for RIL for the forthcoming launch of 4G services.

The main reason of RIL's participation in the 2G auctions could be that they have figured out voice offerings will continue to be the key for some more time. Though data services will become popular, the LTE ecosystem is not yet developed and the slow uptake of 3G services suggests that the mass uptake of data services is still some time away. Which means RIL would need to offer voice services for mass the appeal.

Even if RIL participates in the forthcoming auction, it will be some time before the company is able to set up the network to offer voice services. The company might be thinking of acquiring additional 1800-MHz spectrum which can be used for offering both 4G and 2G spectrum now.

57. VODAFONE CHALLENGES DOT

The UK-based operator Vodafone has reached the telecom tribunal TDSAT challenging the guidelines of the upcoming 2G auction whereby the incumbent operators will have to pay an auction-determined-price to switch to the liberalized spectrum regime.

58. MICROSOFT POSTS FIRST QUARTERLY LOSS

Microsoft Corp reported its first quarterly loss in 26 years as the software giant took a previously announced hit for writing down the value of its ailing online unit.

59. GOOGLE POST \$2.8B QUARTERLY PROFIT ON RISING ONLINE ADS

Google on Thursday reported a surge in quarterly profit to \$2.79 billion thanks to rising online advertising revenue, beating Wall Street expectations.

60. CHINA'S MOBILE INTERNET USERS HIT 388M IN 1H2012

The number of people accessing the internet via mobile devices has increased to a record high of 388 million at the end of June, representing 28.8% of the country's population. The increase comes amid a slowdown since 2010 in the growth rate of the total number of Chinese Web users, which was at 538 million in the first half.

61. EGOM SLASHES TRAI'S BASE PRICE FOR SPECTRUM BY 20%

The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) on telecom headed by Home Minister P Chidambaram on Friday decided to recommend a reduction in the reserve price for the 2G spectrum auction suggested by sector regulator Trai.

It is understood to have recommended a price of Rs 14,000-16,000 crore for five MHz of pan-India spectrum.

That amounts to a reduction of more than 20 per cent from the base price of Rs 18,110 crore suggested by the Trai.

It means the base price for one MHz will be Rs 2,800-3,200 crore, instead of the Trai-recommended Rs 3,622 crore.

A final decision on the price will be taken by the Cabinet, expected to meet next week.

The move provides partial relief to GSM operators, who have been critical of the Trai recommendations, saying they would lead to a substantial hike in tariffs at an average of 44-60 paise a minute.

Telecom Minister Kapil Sibal said after the meeting, "The EGoM discussed three specific issues... It will make a specific recommendation on each of these issues to the Cabinet." He refused to give any details.

The EGoM has also favoured the Trai recommendation of permitting deferred payment by operators for the spectrum.

On spectrum usage charges, the EGoM has not accepted the regulator's three per cent recommendation and is understood to have favoured the current charges of three-six per cent.

A top executive of a leading GSM company said, "This reduction is not good enough. We were expecting that the principles used in the 3G auction would be used here. In that, the base price was only one-fifth of the auction-discovered price."

Rajan Mathews, director general of the Cellular Operators Association of India, said, "The reduction in the reserve price is a welcome move.

However, we feel it is still high. If the government tries to increase the spectrum usage charge to get more revenues, it will put pressure on tariffs."

62. RCOM SHELVES SUBSEA CABLE IPO PLAN

India's Reliance Communications has indefinitely postponed plans for a \$1 billion IPO of its subsea cable unit in Singapore, blaming unfavorable market conditions.

63. SAMSUNG/APPLE LEGAL FIGHT IN AU BEGINS

The legal battle between Apple and Samsung has commenced in Australia, in a trial expected to run until October. Samsung Electronics Co. and Apple Inc. (AAPL)'s patent dispute over wireless transmission technology is "ridiculous" and might be best settled in mediation, the judge overseeing the case in Australia said.

Samsung sued Apple claiming the maker of iPhones is infringing three patents covering data transmission over the 3G wireless spectrum. The suit was in response to Apple's claim that Samsung stole its design ideas for computer tablets and phones. A trial scheduled to run for three months began today before Federal Court Justice Annabelle Bennett.

64. GOOGLE-EC SETTLEMENT MAY INCLUDE ANDROID CHANGES

The EC is reportedly pressing Google to make changes to Android as part of its settlement deal to dismiss an antitrust probe into the company's search business. The European Commission has been investigating Google since 2010 following complaints from rivals.

Google has proposed making changes to the way it handles search to head off a lengthy court case and large fines.

But Brussels' acceptance of the proposal hinges on the changes being extended to Android.

65. AXIATA THREATENS INDIA WITH ARBITRATION

Malaysia's Axiata has threatened to invoke a bilateral treaty to pursue international arbitration against the Indian government over the impact of the 2G license cancellations on Idea Cellular, in which Axiata owns a 20% stake.

66. IDEA MISSES FORECASTS WITH 32% PROFIT GAIN

Indian operator Idea Cellular has reported a 32% gain in first quarter profit to 2.34 billion rupees (\$41.8 million) – but this failed to meet analysts' expectations for the quarter.

67. NOKIA SAID TO SEEK EU EXCLUSIVES FOR WP8 LUMIA

Sources claim Nokia is negotiating with European carriers for handset exclusive deals for its Windows Phone 8 Lumia phones. But observers are skeptical whether "doing an Apple" is the right move for the fledgling Lumia range.

68. AMAZON THOUGHT TO PLAN UP TO SIX TABLETS

Analysts, developers and retailers expect Amazon to launch as many as six new tablets, in a variety of sizes including 10 inches, as it seeks to expand its mobile presence to stimulate more sales of digital goods.

69. UNINOR TO SCALE DOWN INDIA OPERATIONS

Uninor , the Indian telecom arm of Telenor ASA has decided a gradual scale down of its operations in four circles- namely Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Orissa.

The company is currently active in 13 telecom circles (service areas) and says the step has been taken to combat the uncertain regulatory environment in the country, which has impacted its operational funding. "With lack of clarity around the auctions continuing, the company is now forced to take stronger steps to ensure optimal fund utilization," states the company statement. While the move will certainly impact the end users of affected circles, who will have to resort to number portability, the company says that it will give a 30 days notice to its customer before scaling down.

Uninor has 6.8 million customers in these 4 circles of which 46 percent are active on its VLR (Visitor Location Register) numbers, according to Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) . The company has a total of 400 direct employees in these four circles, some of them will be given an opportunity to get absorbed in other circles, depending upon the requirement.

70. TDSAT STAYS TRAI'S ORDER ON MNP

The telecom tribunal TDSAT has put a stay on TRAI's suggestion of removing the 90-day period for Mobile Number Portability (MNP) for the subscribers of the operators whose licenses were quashed, citing discriminatory behavior. The decision comes as a relief to Sistema Shyam TeleServices Ltd. and Uninor.

71. SAMSUNG COUNTRY HEAD QUILTS

Ranjit Yadav, Country Head - Mobile and IT, Samsung Corp. has resigned, according to reliable industry sources.

Yadav had joined the company in 2008 from Hewlett-Packard Co. where he was the Director for Regional Channel/Distribution Sales and Partner Management for Asia Pacific.

This development is expected to shake up the domestic handset industry since Samsung was on its course to becoming a leading handset player in India, replacing Nokia Corp. When contacted, Yadav neither confirmed nor denied the development.

According to industry rumors, Yadav might join Apple Inc., Samsung's closest competitor globally. Yadav's resignation comes a week after Nokia's decision to rope in P Balaji as Vice President and Managing Director for the India region from Sony Ericsson Mobile Communications.

72. VODAFONE'S VOICE EARNINGS DIP IN Q1 2012

Vodafone India has reported a 0.4 percent drop in its voice revenue at INR 70 billion (US\$1.2 billion) in the first quarter of 2012 [ended June 30] compared to Q1 2011. The gross revenue for the quarter too dipped by 0.9 percent reaching INR 89 billion compared to INR 89.9 billion in the Q1 of 2011.

The UK-based telecom major witnessed a decline in almost all the verticals in the country with its data revenue falling by INR 0.3 billion (\$5.4 million) reaching INR 7.2 billion (\$0.13 billion) compared to INR 7.5 billion (\$135 million) in the same quarter last year.

The earnings from messages declined by INR 0.5 billion (\$9 million) reaching INR 3.2 billion (\$57.9 million) in the first quarter of this year compared to INR 3.8 billion (\$68.7 million) in the corresponding period the previous year.

The telco, however, added 3.8 million new mobile subscribers in the quarter. It has 153 million total mobile customers, out of which 89.7 percent are pre-paid customers. Vodafone's data subscriber base touched 31 million as on June 30, 2012, of which 1.7 million are registered for 3G services.

The company also had a slow growth rate at Indus Towers Ltd. , a joint-venture between Bharti Airtel Ltd., Vodafone and Idea Cellular Ltd. due to a poor demand in tenancies from new entrants and a change in the pricing structure of a few existing customers. The uncertain regulatory conditions, which caused it to change its tariffs, also weakened its growth.

73. MTN AND ZAIN TO LAUNCH MOBILE MONEY IN SOUTH SUDAN

MTN and Zain are planning to launch mobile money services in South Sudan this year, following the success of Safaricom's M-Pesa service, reports Reuters. Both operators may also look at cooperating with partner banks in the world's youngest nation.

Hakeem Dario N'Moi, Zain South Sudan's chief executive told Reuters: "There's pent-up demand for it, particularly in the NGO sector, government and business. They want to be able to pay their staff and transact in a more efficient way. It would certainly bring some advantages over taking money by road."

74. APPLE DISAPPOINTS WITH Q2 EARNINGS

In a rare miss, Apple has posted second quarter results that failed to match Wall Street expectations, despite the 20.7% increase in profit to \$8.8 billion. Apple stock fell over 5% in the wake of the announcement.

75. SAMSUNG TAB BANNED IN EU AHEAD OF \$2.5B APPLE CASE

Samsung's Galaxy Tab 7.7 tablet has been banned across Europe ahead of Apple's patent infringement lawsuit against the company. It has been revealed that Apple is seeking \$2.5 billion in damages through the case.

76. HUAWEI 1H OPERATING PROFIT FALLS 22%

Huawei has reported a 22% decline in operating profit for the first half to 8.79 billion yuan (\$1.37 billion), blaming fierce competition in the telecom equipment industry and slower spending by some of its customers.

77. CHINA TELECOM EXPANDS TO SOUTH KOREA

China Telecom has opened up an enterprise-facing branch in South Korea, as part of the operator's recent international expansion drive.

78. INDIAN MINISTERS DEFER DECISION ON SPECTRUM FEE

An Indian ministerial panel has deferred the decision as to whether to charge operators a one-time fee at auction-determined prices for spectrum they already hold. A high-powered ministerial panel tasked with finalising rules for upcoming mobile spectrum sale Tuesday failed to decide if existing mobile phone companies should pay the auction-determined price for the airwaves they currently

hold. The Empowered Group of Ministers (EGoM) on telecom, headed by Home Minister P Chidambaram, decided to take up this issue after the outcome of the presidential reference in the Supreme Court.

"All the issues were placed before the EGoM and the EGoM decided that we will wait for the outcome of Presidential Reference and then decide on these issues," Telecom Minister Kapil Sibal told reporters after the panel's meeting.

The telecom department (DoT) had presented three different options to this panel of ministers — to impose a one-time fee prospectively on all airwaves held by existing telcos; to levy this fee on airwaves held beyond the start-up spectrum of 4.4 MHz; or to levy this fee on airwaves held beyond the contracted spectrum of 6.2 MHz.

The DoT had been pushing for a quick decision on this one-time fee on spectrum held by incumbent telcos - it is of the view that existing players must know if they'll have to match the auction determined price prior to the placing bids in the upcoming sale.

79. APAC TO OVERTAKE NA BY 4G SUBS THIS YEAR

Asia Pacific is poised to overtake North America by the number of 4G/LTE subscribers, claiming over 53% of all 4G/LTE subscribers by year-end, research shows.

A new study by Parks Associates attributes the region's expected rise to dominance to large gains in South Korea and Japan.

According to the report, global 4G/LTE subscriptions will increase from 9 million in 2011 to over 560 million in 2016, accounting for 8.8% of the global mobile customer base.

As of June 2012, 83 mobile carriers have launched LTE networks in 43 countries, while 40 more carriers intend to deploy LTE by year-end.

"Fifteen carriers in the region now have live LTE services, with affordable pricing models that prompt robust subscriber growth in this region," said Harry Wang, Parks Associates' director of digital health and mobile product research.

"Mobile operators worldwide have committed to 4G/LTE as the network technology of the future, but financial conditions, handset costs, and spectrum license availability will all influence the pace and scope of regional deployments."

80. DC DEMAND TO FUEL OPTICAL GROWTH

Ovum is projecting an upbeat long-term forecast for sales of optical networking (ON) equipment, driven by brand new data center demands.

The global analysts expect the ON market to reach \$20 billion by 2017 with a 5% compound annual growth rate (CAGR).

The latest Ovum forecasts show that growth in Asia-Pacific is expected to continue, but cool a bit after five years of torrid growth.

"In China, the optical network market has trebled in size over the past five years and continues to grow. Much of the core backbone was built in support of early generations of mobile technology, but there is still a wave of high-speed fixed broadband and next-generation mobile to come," predicts Ian Redpath, principal analyst in Ovum's Network Infrastructure practice.

The highest growth region will be Latin America, driven by network modernization efforts to enhance regional connectivity in support of mobile and broadband access network buildouts. North America is expected to exhibit solid growth as tier-1 network operators embrace new 100G technology to meet growing data center needs. The EMEA market is meanwhile expected to expand, despite the current macro-economic malaise, due to deployment activity in Russia, the UK, Eastern Europe and Africa.

“The new bandwidth driver is data centers. Large-scale data centers continue to be built out – both the multi-tenant, carrier-neutral variety and private data centers,” says Redpath.

Redpath says the data centers are being placed in brand new locations, creating brand new optical networking demands. For example, the new Facebook data center at Lulea, Sweden, near the Arctic Circle, will require terabits of bandwidth. These new demands are not unique to Lapland – they are emblematic of a trend unfolding in multiple European and North American locations.

81. THE FACEBOOK USER BASE IN INDIA REACHES THE 50 MILLION MARK

Popular social network Facebook has now 50 million users in India, which is far more than the 8 million users in 2010. According to Kirthiga Reddy, Director, Online Operations, Facebook India, a large number of users in India started accessing Facebook on mobile first unlike their US counterparts who started using Facebook on a desktop

82. RESEARCH IN MOTION PARTNERS WITH VODAFONE TO LAUNCH “STUDY BUDDY”

Research In Motion (RIM) has partnered with Vodafone to launch a new application “Study Buddy” for its users, which will enable them to prepare for competitive examinations. For content, the two companies have entered into an agreement with management entrance test provider IMS.

Currently the Study Buddy Application has 5000 test papers which can be downloaded free of cost from BlackBerry Appworld by Vodafone customers using Blackberry smartphones. This innovative application was developed by Pune-based Omni Bridge technologies.

83. CHINA'S 3G USERBASE GROWS TO 175M

China's 3G customer base swelled to 175 million in June, according to newly-released statistics from the ICT ministry. The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology (MIIT) revealed that 9.1 million new 3G subscriptions were added during the month. New 3G users accounted for the vast majority of the 11.3 million new total mobile subscriptions added during the month.

84. CHINA, INDIA HAVE 35% OF ACTIVE MOBILE USERS

India and China account for around 35% of the world's 4.1 billion active mobile users, Ericsson has estimated in a study

85. TELENOR, UNITECH ROW HEATS UP AGAIN

Norway's Telenor and estranged Indian JV partner Unitech are involved in a fresh battle. Unitech is opposing a proposal by Uninor to conduct a rights issue, which the Indian company states would violate the cap on foreign direct investment allowed in local telecom companies

86. SAMSUNG POSTS \$5.9B Q2 PROFIT ON HANDSET SALES

Samsung has reported a record 6.72 trillion won (\$5.86 billion) profit for the second quarter, thanks to strong handset sales. The company's mobile business now accounts for around 60% of total earnings.

87. APPLE WINS STAY ON UK “SAMSUNG DIDN'T COPY” ORDER

Apple has won a stay on the UK court order to publicly recant its insistence that Samsung copied the design of the iPad with the Galaxy Tab until at least October, when the company will appeal the ruling.

88. SAMSUNG GETS THE COVETED RIL'S LTE DEAL

Samsung Corp. has procured the much-awaited Long Term Evolution Time Division Duplex (LTE TDD) deal from Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) for the Mumbai circle, according to reliable industry sources. "The order includes equipment for RAN (Radio Access Network), Core and access layer," a reliable industry source said on condition of anonymity. The news was further confirmed by other industry sources.

This is a major breakthrough for Samsung, which is a new player in the network equipment space and is trying to build its presence in the LTE space in India. The company was focusing only on the RIL business.

The deal between Samsung and RIL will come as a major disappointment for the European and Chinese vendors like Ericsson AB, Alcatel-Lucent, Nokia Siemens Networks , Huawei Technologies Co. Ltd. and ZTE Corp. (See The Big Fight For LTE Deals and RIL's LTE Rumor Mill. These vendors had been eying this deal for a long time now.

RIL is the only player with a pan-India Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) spectrum. According to industry sources, RIL plans to launch LTE services in the circles of Mumbai and Delhi initially. As of now, only Bharti Airtel Ltd. has launched the 4G services in Kolkata and Bangalore earlier this year.

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