

'Make in India – Telecom' Conclave

Shri Rakesh Garg, Secretary, Department of Telecom today emphasized on the need for frequent exchange of views among manufacturers, service providers, operators, industry and the R&D institutes to find out the shortcomings and ways to address the problems faced. Speaking at the "Make in India-Telecom" conclave here today he said, there is no dearth of talent in India but still we are hugely dependent on imports, especially in electronics and telecom. He said research is being done in India, but IPRs are with other countries. Then we are buying the very same products at higher costs from those countries. He said that there is a great need to make a mechanism to interact with the industry before developing technology or a solution rather than post development. He appreciated C-DOT's role in connecting Gram Panchayats with broadband under the NOFN.

Revisiting the history of Indian telecom sector, Smt. Rita Teotia, Special Secretary, DoT, said that India was keeping pace till the eighties, but slipped once the wireless era began. This necessitated massive imports and decline in manufacturing. And, now in the changed scenario, telecom is no longer a luxury. Telecom services have become a lifeline. Therefore security is a key factor. To address this issue, indigenous manufacturing is an important tool. She said the Conclave is very timely and opportune because in the building blocks for "Make in India" R&D is the first block. Referring to the Prime Minister's slogan "Zero Defect, Zero Effect" given during his Independence Day speech, Smt. Teotia said that we should develop and manufacture setting high standards with 'zero defect' so that they are not rejected and without adversely affecting the environment making it 'zero effect'.

Shri A. K. Bhargav, Member- Technology, DoT said that this conclave would prove beneficial in bringing to the fore all the requirements, expectations and impediments of the telecom sector. While appreciating the C-DOT R&D in the recent past, he emphasized the need of aggressive marketing of its products.

Shri Vipin Tyagi, Executive Director, C-DOT said that Make in India is of special relevance for organizations like C-DOT who are dedicatedly involved in indigenous R&D. He said that Digital India and Make in India are inseparable and cannot survive without one-another. He explained the objectives of the conclave and presented C-DOT product profile. The panel discussion focused mainly on the need to revive the telecom manufacturing in the country in line with the needs of operators and other users of telecom solutions. The future research roadmap of C-DOT was also discussed with the industry to assure that it would continue to bring indigenous telecom products as per the requirements of the nation.

As the forex outflow on the account of Electronic imports is increasing day by day, it is of paramount importance to further indigenous technologies and take them to manufacturers. This will not only save huge forex for the country, but would also develop an eco space of manufacturers, vendors, application developers in the country. Recent initiatives by the Government like Preferential Market Access have reinvigorated Indian telecom fraternity and it is expected that deliberations in 'Make in India – Telecom' conclave would pave the way for close co-operation among indigenous technology developers, manufacturers, academia, and policy makers of the country.

Generation Network (NGN) solution addresses the needs of the changing telecom scenario and enables a smooth transition from Plain Old Telephone System (POTS) to NGN based Voice-over-IP (VoIP). 'GyanSetu' is an internet based real-time ICT system designed by C-DOT, primarily to provide various e-services to the under privileged rural population of India.

Centre for development of Telematics (C-DOT), the telecom research and development wing of the Govt. Of India organized 'Make in India – Telecom' conclave at its campus in Mehrauli, New Delhi today. Shri Rakesh Garg, Secretary Department of Telecommunications, Government of India inaugurated the event. Special Secretary, DoT Smt Rita Teotia and Member- Technology Shri A K Bhargav were the guests of honour.

Telecom industry luminaries comprising of policy makers, operators, manufacturers, academia, etc. participated in the conclave to share their understanding of present telecom landscape, future telecom trends and approach for furthering telecom manufacturing in India. C-DOT presented its offerings for various consumer segments e.g. TSPs, ISPs, Building networks, Campus Networks, Public Wi-Fi Hotspots, and Rural BPO etc.