

WRITE TO INFORMATION

Technology, Media, Telecommunication,
June 2022

New Delhi

C-2/39
Safdarjung Development Area
New Delhi – 110016 | India

Mumbai

604, 6th floor, Regent Chambers,
208, Nariman Point,
Mumbai-400021 | India

Bengaluru

316, 3rd Floor Raheja Chambers,
No. 12, Museum Road,
Bengaluru - 560001 | India

ABOUT US

TMT Law Practice is a boutique law firm providing a full suite of services in the TMT sectors. Over time, the firm's practice has expanded from a niche boutique IP practice, to include practice areas such as commercial disputes resolution & arbitration, regulatory litigation & advisory, corporate/commercial advisory and transactional support, and policy and legislative drafting across industry verticals. The Firm represents a broad range of clients including Fortune 500 companies, as well as MSMEs and Start-ups.

The firm engages in the practice of the conventional domains of law, and, is also heavily invested in the niche areas of emerging technology, including space technology and policy; healthcare and ICT; data privacy and protection; and, sports laws.

The Firm stresses on developing well-rounded, solution-oriented professionals, who specialize in client - focused service delivery.



A. TECHNOLOGY:

1. Workplace platform Slack enters India to help firms establish 'digital HQs'

Workplace communication platform Slack has announced to officially enter the Indian market, to help companies navigate the transition to a hybrid workplace by establishing digital headquarters.

[Read more](#)

2. upGrad acquires enterprise training firm Work Better

upGrad has acquired a Mumbai-based Work Better for an undisclosed amount to strengthen its enterprise learning and development offerings. Post-acquisition, Work Better will merge into upGrad, and be renamed as upGrad Work Better, to offer tailor-made courses for employees and organisations.

[Read more](#)

3. ITC, Unilever, Dabur in talks with ONDC; Shopify may join too

Major FMCG players like ITC, Unilever, Dabur and Nivea are in talks with ONDC (Open Network for Digital Commerce), which is building technology to enable interoperability among e-commerce platforms, to join the network, according to sources familiar with developments. The Indian open network for e-commerce is also exploring ways to build a system that will help the FMCG companies offer separate deals and price points to distributors, retailers and individual consumers.

[Read more](#)

4. Microsoft to offer standardized online identity verification system

Microsoft will offer its customers a standardized online identity verification system beginning in August. Through Microsoft's Entra management systems, which include Verified ID, it offers users the ability to identify oneself to entities that require user verification. The launch is in response to various people using fake accounts to access sensitive online networks, including Microsoft's own Azure cloud platform. Instead of having personal information spread across a host of apps and services, this Verified ID system acts as a kind of digital wallet or personal info portfolio that can be handed over to employers, bankers, or whoever needs a verified identification.

[Read more](#)

5. Thousands of amendments submitted for EU's AI Act

Euractiv reports the EU's proposed Artificial Intelligence Act has amassed thousands of potential amendments from each political group within European Parliament. One of the most debated topics within the draft is the definition of AI, with Parliament co-rapporteurs waffling between a broad definition and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's version. Other proposals include changing the scope to include AI in the metaverse, a potential full ban on facial recognition and updated governance provisions.

[Read more](#)

6. Electronics Right to Repair Law Passed

Under a law passed, electronics makers selling products in New York state will be forced to provide repair information, parts, tools, software and components to consumers and independent repair providers. The right to repair law, called the Digital Fair Repair Act, will mean customers no longer have to take their

damaged or broken electronic products back to the original makers to get an authorized repair, and can instead fix things like phones or laptops themselves, or take them to lower-cost independent repair shops.

[Read more](#)

7. Facebook owner Meta makes antitrust commitments over online advertising

France's anti-trust watchdog body - Autorité de la concurrence has, in a statement, stated that it has approved commitments made by Facebook owner Meta Platforms (META.O) regarding the French online advertising sector. As per the statement, Meta has committed to giving access over a five-year period to advertising inventories and campaign data to so-called advertising technology companies on transparent, objective and predictable conditions.

[Read more](#)

8. Tech Association lobbies Government to only allow Made in India crypto exchanges

IndiaTech, a tech industry association whose members include Zebpay, CoinDCX, Coinswitch Kuber, and WazirX, through a letter, wants the Indian government to only let registered or founded-in-India cryptocurrency exchanges operate such businesses. IndiaTech also requested the Finance Ministry to clarify taxation around crypto assets in the upcoming Budget Session.

[Read more](#)

9. RBI appoints department to regulate crypto exchange, and formulate CBDCs

As per reports, the Reserve Bank of India has opened a dedicated department for fintech that will help create regulations for cryptocurrency and its upcoming central bank digital currency (CBDC). The report also said that RBI is working on two kinds of CBDCs - wholesale and retail - and that the new department will be tasked with overseeing their development.

[Read more](#)

10. RBI Bars Prepaid Wallets And Cards From Offering Credit Lines To Customers

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) disallowed non-bank wallets and pre-paid cards from loading their credit lines into these platforms. RBI in a one-page circular addressed to non-bank pre-paid payment instruments (PPIs) directed them to stop such practice immediately. This circular is being seen as an effort to clampdown on card fintech and firms operating as neo-banks who have tied up with banks to offer credit lines.

[Read more](#)

11. New VPN rules: CERT-In gives 3-months breather to VPN providers

CERT-In has given a breather to the providers of virtual private network (VPN) service in the country. The cyber agency has granted them another three months to comply with its new rules.

[Read more](#)

12. Germany opens anti-cartel probe into Google Maps

The Federal Cartel Office has opened a probe into Google Maps to examine possible anti-competitive restrictions imposed by Google Maps Platform to the detriment of alternative map services providers.

[Read more](#)

13. Germany's competition regulator probes Apple's tracking feature

According to reports, Germany's competition body: Federal Cartel Office has launched proceedings to investigate Apple's rules on tracking third-party apps, casting doubts whether it gives the US tech giant - Apple preferential treatment or hinder other companies. It is alleged that Apple could be breaching competition rules by self-preferencing or creating unfair barriers for other companies.

[Read more](#)

14. Karnataka HC To Hear Objection To Maintainability of Petition Filed By Google India On July 8:

The Karnataka High Court said that it would hear the application filed by Alliance of Digital India Foundation questioning the maintainability of the petition filed by Google India Private Limited seeking to restrain the Competition Commission of India (CCI) from divulging confidential information of the company to the complainant Alliance Of Digital India Foundation

[Read more](#)

B. MEDIA

15. PVR, Inox get SEBI nod for merger to create India's largest multiplex chain

Multiplex operators PVR and Inox said they have approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for their merger, clearing an important step in the regulatory process.

[Read more](#)

16. IPL TV and digital rights sold for Rs 44,075 crore; Reliance-backed Viacom 18 among winners

Viacom 18 has reportedly bagged the digital rights for broadcasting the IPL from 2023 onwards for a sum of Rs 20,500 crore. Four out of the seven players in the fray- Viacom18, Disney-Star, Sony and Zee were involved in the bidding war to clinch the rights for broadcasting the sport event.

[Read more](#)

17. MIB changes company name of Sony Pictures Networks India TV licenses to Culver Max Entertainment

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) has updated its permitted satellite TV channels repository with the change of company name of Sony Pictures Networks India Private Limited to Culver Max Entertainment Private Limited. The company name of Sony Pictures Network India Private Limited had changed to Culver Max Entertainment Private Limited effective 20th April 2022.

[Read more](#)

18. Twitter India given 'last chance' to follow IT rules

The central government has granted Twitter India "one last opportunity" to comply with the country's Information Technology Rules by July 4 or risk losing its immunity as an intermediary, people directly aware of the development told ET.

[Read more](#)

19. Changes to grievance mechanism, more obligations on intermediaries, etc

The draft amendment to the IT Rules, 2021: The Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has published a press note introducing draft amendments to the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. One of the most

significant changes sought to be introduced is the creation of a new grievance appellate committee, before which internet users can appeal against the grievance redressal process of intermediaries.

[Read more](#)

20. I&B Ministry advises media to refrain from publishing advertisements promoting online betting

The Information and Broadcasting Ministry has advised the print, electronic and the digital media to refrain from publishing advertisements of online betting platforms. The online and social media, including the online advertisement intermediaries and publishers, have been told not to display such advertisements in India or target them at the Indian audience. The advisory has been issued in view of a number of advertisements of online betting websites/platforms appearing in the print, electronic, social and online media.

[Read more](#)

21. National Commission for Protection of Child Rights issues draft guidelines for child actors

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, has issued draft guidelines for the employment of children in the entertainment industry which require producers to obtain permission from the District Magistrate, ensure a safe environment as well as provide private tutors for child artistes required to skip school for shoots.

[Read more](#)

22. Government issues new guidelines to prevent misleading ads; bans surrogate advertisements

The Consumer Affairs Ministry has come out with new guidelines to prevent misleading advertisements, including those targeting children and making free claims to woo consumers. The guidelines also specify due diligence to be carried out while endorsing in advertisements. These guidelines have come into force from June 10, 2022. The guidelines also prohibit surrogate advertisements and have brought transparency in disclaimers in advertisements.

[Read more](#)

23. IPR Suits Below Rs. 3 Lakhs Threshold To Be Listed First Before District Judge (Commercial) To Determine Whether Valuation Is Deliberately Undervalued

The Delhi High Court has held that where a plaintiff values an IPR suit in the city district courts below the threshold of Rs.3 lakhs, such suits would be listed before the District Judge (Commercial) first in order to determine as to whether the valuation is arbitrarily whimsical or deliberately undervalued.

[Read more](#)

24. Winzo drags Mobile Premier League to Delhi HC over alleged copyright infringement

Online gaming and entertainment platform Winzo has sued Mobile Premier League (MPL) over alleged copyright infringement of its online gaming format 'World War'. When the matter came up for hearing by the Delhi High Court, MPL's counsel agreed to stop using the format and was willing to give an undertaking that 'World War' would not be used in its game and offerings, Winzo said.

[Read more](#)

25. Paramount sued over 'Top Gun' copyright as 'Maverick' soars at the box office

The family of the author whose article inspired the original 1986 "Top Gun" is suing Paramount Pictures for copyright infringement, stating that the studio failed to reacquire the rights to Ehud Yonay's 1983 article, "Top Guns."

[Read more](#)

26. Duty of social media intermediaries to block channel if video violates their guidelines

Madras High Court cancels YouTuber's bail: The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court held that social media intermediaries like YouTube are duty-bound to block channels whose videos are found to be in violation of their policies, guidelines, and terms of contract. The Court further stated that the intermediaries should take action to remove such offensive videos in view of the provisions of the Information Technology Act.

[Read more](#)

27. JugJugg Jeeyo Copyright Infringement: Ranchi Court Refuses To Stay Release of Movie

The Hon'ble Judge Manoj Chandra Jha dismissed the plea moved by the petitioner and held that the balance of convenience lay in the defendants' favour. The judge said that, "It is not possible for any person to reach a conclusion about the similarity merely on the basis of one page story with the few minutes trailer of the film."

[Read more](#)

28. Delhi High Court Restrains Youtube Channel "Bear & Bulls Capitals" From Posting Defamatory Material Against "Booming Bulls Academy"

The Delhi High Court has restrained a YouTube channel "Bear & Bulls Capitals" from posting any defamatory or derogatory material against another channel "Booming Bulls Academy", in any manner on any media platform till November 28th, 2022.

[Read more](#)

29. Exclusive agreements with theatres can reduce competition

CCI calls for DG investigation against BookMyShow: CCI has called for an investigation against online ticket platform BookMyShow, noting that its exclusive agreements with cinemas and multiplexes can potentially reduce competition in the relevant market. The CCI noted that cinema theatres and cine-goers are restricted in their choice of alternate ticketing platforms, during the working of the contracts that BookMyShow has with large number of theatres/multiplex chains.

[Read more](#)

30. Bombay High Court restrains SEBAMED from broadcasting ads disparaging Hindustan Unilever soaps

In a major relief to Hindustan Unilever Limited and Wipro Enterprises Private Limited, the Bombay High Court has passed an injunction permanently restraining USV Private Limited, owner of SEBAMED soap brand, from broadcasting or telecasting advertisements, print or electronic, ridiculing or condemning the soap brands LUX, DOVE and PEARS owned by HUL.

[Read more](#)

31. Bombay High Court passes John Doe order for removing pirated links of film 'Janhit Mein Jaari'

The Bombay High Court passed a John Doe order directing the removal of all the links and pirated versions of the film 'Janhit Mein Jaari' on the internet and social media. The Court also directed concerned police stations to ensure that "unidentified defendants" do not continue to infringe the copyright in the film.

[Read more](#)

32. Causing Financial Loss To Public": Delhi High Court Restrains Rogue Websites From Using "Amazon" Trademark

The Delhi High Court has granted ex parte ad interim injunction in favour of online marketplace Amazon by restraining various vogue websites from using its trademark 'AMAZON'. The Court restrained websites namely <https://amazonbuys.com>, its Facebook page by the name of Amazon Franchise' and <https://estoreamazon.in>.

[Read more](#)

33. Use Of Competitor's Trademark As Keyword For Promoting Business On Search Engines/ App Store Violates Rights Of Trademark Owner

While dealing with a trademark infringement suit filed by Head Digital Digital Works Pvt. Ltd. seeking permanent injunction against Tictok Skill Games Private Limited for using its registered trademarks 'A23' as keywords on Apple Store for its app called Winzo Games, the Delhi High Court has observed that the use of keywords for promoting a business using competitor's trademark would be violative of the rights of trademark owner (Head Digital Works Private Limited vs. Tictok Skill Games Pvt Ltd).

[Read more](#)

34. Delhi High Court grants interim relief to One Moto Scooters in trademark dispute

The Delhi High Court recently passed an interim order in favour of One Moto Scooters Trading LLC to prevent it's ex-licensees from violating it's intellectual property rights in India.

[Read more](#)

C. TELECOM

35. Ericsson's \$6.2 bln Vonage takeover delayed over U.S. review

Ericsson said the closing of its \$6.2 billion Vonage acquisition was delayed to the end of July, from the first half of the year, due to a pending investigation by a U.S. national security panel. The Swedish telecom equipment maker agreed to buy cloud communications firm Vonage in all-cash deal in November, as part of its efforts to broaden its 5G portfolio.

[Read more](#)

36. Government to own 36% in Vodafone Idea in new rescue plan

Vodafone Idea Limited, said the Indian government will own almost 36% in the company after its board approved conversion of adjusted gross revenue dues into equity.

[Read more](#)

37. Mukesh Ambani steps down from the board of Jio, Akash Ambani named chairman of telco

RIL chairman Mukesh Ambani has stepped down from the board of Reliance Jio Infocomm, passing on the reins of the telco to his eldest son Akash Ambani, who will take over as the chairman.

[Read more](#)

38. DoT scraps spectrum usage charge floor rate, relief to telcos

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has scrapped the 3% floor on spectrum usage charge, a move that spells a big relief to Reliance Jio Infocomm, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea (Vi) as it will sharply reduce their future outflows towards these statutory fees.

[Read more](#)

39. Guidelines for Surrender of Access Spectrum by Access Service Providers

DOT, taking into consideration the TRAI recommendations on “Auction of Spectrum in frequency bands identified for IMT/ 5G”, have now permitted surrender of spectrum acquired henceforth by the TSPs, after a minimum period of 10 years from the date of acquisition of such spectrum. Spectrum acquired prior to the date of issue of these guidelines would not be eligible for surrender.

[Read more](#)

40. Cellular Operators Write to DoT Demanding Strict Regulations on Captive Private Networks

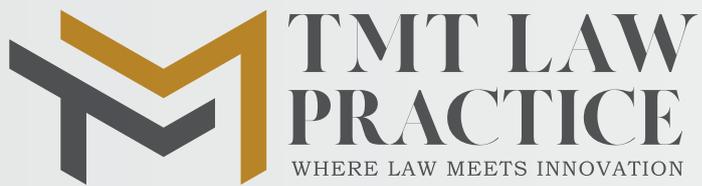
The Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) has urged that businesses be subjected to stringent criteria before being allowed to establish “captive non-public networks”, according to a letter sent to DoT secretary K Rajaraman. The COAI urged non-assignment of spectrum in the non-International Mobile Telecommunications (5G) bands allocated for telcos in the letter on June 18. It further requested that the scope of such private networks be limited to machine-to-machine (M2M) communications and plant automation within a plant’s premises.

[Read more](#)

41. Sebi penalises Bharti Infratel for flouting regulatory norms

Capital markets regulator Sebi has imposed a penalty of Rs 1 lakh on Bharti Infratel, now known as Indus Towers, for flouting rules pertaining to employee stock option schemes. In its order, Sebi found that Bharti Infratel violated the provisions of the SBEB (Share Based Employee Benefits) by not appropriating the excess 5,32,862 shares of the company within the stipulated timeline of March 31, 2017.

[Read more](#)



Established in 2008, headquartered in New Delhi, with branch office in Bengaluru, Mumbai and Bhubneshwar, TMT Law Practice is India's premiere Law Firm in segment of Technology, Media and Telecom, behind India's iconic clients and judgements, often cited for "Where Law Meets Innovation"...

Get In Touch:

+91 (11) 2651 2813 | +91 (11) 4168 2996

info@tmtlaw.co.in | M-F: 9am-6pm

www.tmtlaw.co.in