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ICT BULLETIN

September, 2014 - Volume: 2, Issue: 9

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PERCENTAGE OF INDIVIDUALS USING INTERNET-2012

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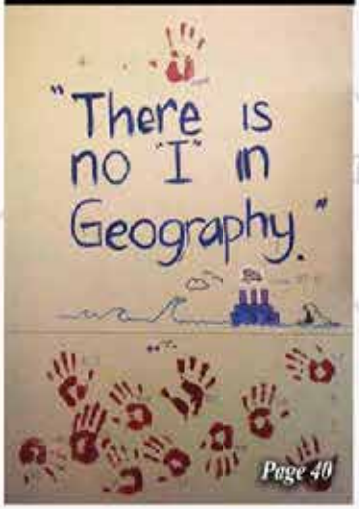

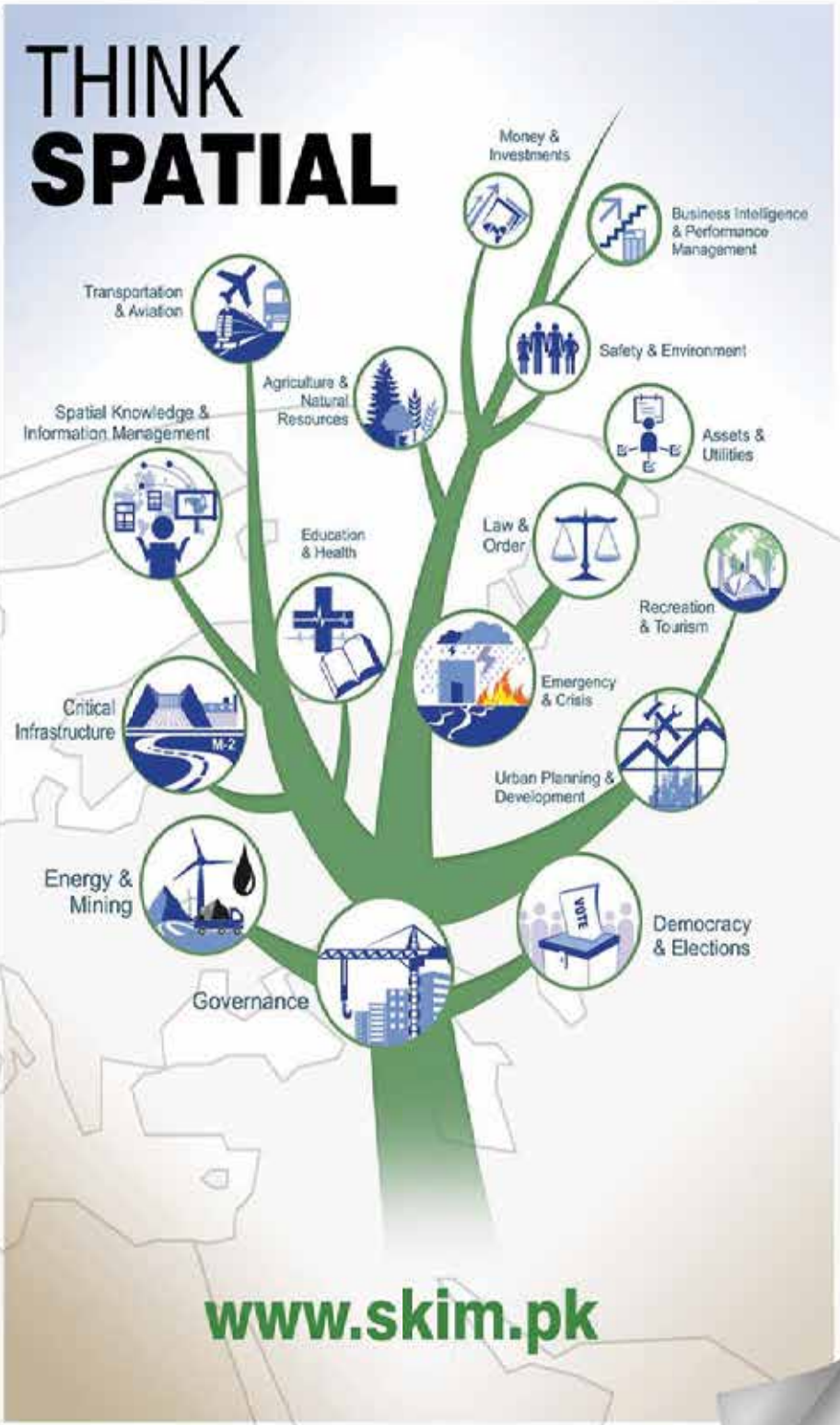

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NEWS HEADLINES	DETAILS
Rashid Khan played dominant role in cellular industry: Anusha *Daily Times Aug 31, 2014*	**ISLAMABAD:** Minister of State for IT and Telecom Anusha Rehman Khan Saturday said that outgoing President and Chief Executive Officer of Mobilink Rashid Khan played a dominant role in the transformation of cellular industry in the country. In compliments on the eve of his retirement after rendering 20 illustrious years in cellular industry, the minister said that in challenging environment, the contribution of Rashid Khan to the telecom sector will be remembered for times to come and wished him success in his future endeavours. Chairman Pakistan Telecom Authority (PTA) Dr. Syed Ismail Shah, on this occasion said that Rashid Khan will be remembered for his contributions to the cellular industry and was always supportive to the government's requirements in the wake of given challenges. He hoped that PTA will continue to benefit his valuable advice for the promotion of cellular industry. Jo Lunder, group CEO of VimpelCom, Mobilink's parent company also shared his views and said "He would like to thank Rashid Khan who has made a significant contribution to Mobilink and Banglalink over the past decade, in particular establishing Mobilink as the leading operator in Pakistan". Rashid Khan also worked for 6 years in Paktel before joining Mobilink in 2000. Later he was elevated to the position of CEO, Banglalink.
Jamming cellphones *Daily Dawn, Aug 30, 2014*	Jamming cellular service on Eid, Ashura and other important occasions is common in Pakistan. However, it seems to have been closed down for good in all localities lying in the vicinity of the Central Jail Karachi. Jammers were installed at the Central Jail Karachi about six months back, making cellular services impossible for all nearby areas, including PIB Colony, Ghousia Colony, and Jamshed Road. The decision was taken by the mutual consent of jail authorities and the provisional government upon receiving threats from some unknown persons regarding helping several high-profile prisoners escape. Due to the non-availability of cellular service, residents of the above-mentioned localities are having a tough time in contacting their relatives. Besides, it has badly affected shopkeepers and businessmen, making them go through losses. Several protests have been held by the people in front of the jail for the removal of jammers but in vain. I appeal to the jail authorities and the provisional government for the immediate restoration of cellular service. Besides, the Supreme Court is requested to take suo motu notice of this.
IT ministry plans to develop action plan on e-governance *Business Recorder, Aug 30, 2014*	The Minister of State for Information Technology, Anusha Rahman, held a consultative session with the consultants of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and National IT Industry Promotion Agency (NIPA), Korea who are providing technical assistance to Ministry of IT to devise an e-Government Master Action Plan along with e-services Deployment Strategy for the citizen of Pakistan through a fully funded of ITU. The said session was also attended by the Member (Telecom), ED (NITB), Director (ICU) and other officials of the Ministry of Information Technology. The Minister stated that IT Ministry is in the process of rolling the e-office suite including e-filing system in the federal government and needs to develop an action plan for taking e-governance to international standard. Anusha Rahman said IT Ministry has recently established a new organisation - NITB with the merger of Pakistan Computer Bureau (PCB) and Electronic Government Directorate (EGD) to promote and integrate Information Technology in all the national programmes by focusing on the technology promotions, successful implementation of e-Governance programmes and raising expertise level of the IT human resource to enable Pakistan enter into next era of accelerated digitalisation. The Minister of State for IT emphasised the need for the formulation of e-government master plan, its allied strategies and KPIs to cover all aspects of successful implementation of e-government programmes and to promote collaboration, digitisation and innovation in both traditional socio-economic sectors and new emerging technologies. The proposed plan should cover all possible areas such as e-learning, e-education, e-health, e-agriculture, e-commerce, research and innovation etc. The Minister further stated that she would welcome collaboration and technical assistance from the ITU and NIPA to assist Pakistan for successful implementation of e-government program in shortest possible period of time based on enriched experiences. The representative from ITU and NIPA, Korea Consultants appreciated the efforts of the Ministry of IT and stated that adoption of e-government programmes is immensely important for the development of any country as has been proven through positive correlation between adoption of e-government and macro economic indicators. They also assured that the ITU and NIPA would actively look into providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Information Technology in formulating e-government master plan and its allied strategies, and developing long term relationship in this ever evolving area of immense importance for growth and development.
Mobilink launches alert based service *The Nation, Aug 29, 2014*	**ISLAMABAD (PR):** Mobilink has launched a new alert based service by the name of Mobilink Market which aims at enabling customers to remain updated about latest financial news, currency exchange rates, gold rates, market indices, company rates and zakat and currency calculators. Subscribers to this service will receive a summary of updated currency exchange rate, Gold rate and market Indices. Syed Atif Raza Director Pricing, Mobilink commenting on the launch said, "Mobilink has always been the first to launch innovative services and applications for customers. Mobilink Market is a one-stop service that will provide comprehensive financial information and news to customers. We look to forward our relationship with our customers with other value added services" The key SMS and IVR

features available on Mobilink Market are Currency Converter, Forex Rates (Currency Exchange rate), Company and Industry related news, Market Indices, Current Interest rate and Zakat calculator. Users can subscribe to a particular alert by using the SUB<spaceKeyword of their desired category mentioned below. To use the service, Mobilink users will have to send 'SUB' to 7004 or Dial 7004. The SMS charges are Rs 0.20+Tax/SMS. Subscription charges for prepaid customers are Rs.2.50+tax/ Week.

Zameen.com rolls out mobile app

Business Recorder, Aug 28, 2014

Adding to its recent string of successful initiatives, Pakistan's leading real estate portal Zameen.com has launched its mobile app for iPhone users to explore its extensive property database on the go. "Zameen.com is proud to present the Zameen App, which is available for download from the App Store. We are always looking for new and innovative ways to add value to our users' experience, and this app is a great new avenue for us to do that," said Imran Ali Khan, Co-Founder of Zameen.com.

The app allows users to interact with the Zameen.com database, save their searches, receive push notifications, and explore other key features. Zameen.com will continue to add more services to the app with newer versions. "We're looking to the future with the release of this app, which has come out at the same time as mobile network operators around the country have launched their 3G and 4G services. This increased visibility creates another unique branding platform for the stakeholders to make a name for themselves in the booming real estate sector of Pakistan," said Imran Ali Khan.

Google aims to store all human knowledge

The Frontier Post, Aug 28, 2014

APP_ISLAMABAD: Google is building the largest store of information in human history a knowledge base that autonomously gathers and merges data from across the web to provide unprecedented access to all facts about the world. The search giant is building Knowledge Vault, a type of knowledge base a system that stores information so that machines as well as people can read it.

Google's existing knowledge base, called Knowledge Graph, relies on crowdsourcing to expand its information, Deccan Chronicle reported. However, humans could only take it so far so Google decided to automate the process. It started building the Vault by using an algorithm to automatically pull in information from all over the web, using machine learning to turn the raw data into usable pieces of knowledge. Knowledge Vault has pulled in 1.6 billion facts to date. Of these, 271 million are rated as "confident facts", to which Google's model ascribes a more than 90 per cent chance of being true, New Scientist reported.

Tom Austin, a technology analyst at Gartner in Boston, said that the world's biggest technology companies are racing to build similar vaults. "Google, Microsoft, Facebook, Amazon and IBM are all building them, and they're tackling these enormous problems that we would never even have thought of trying 10 years ago," he said. Google researcher Kevin Murphy and his colleagues will present a paper on Knowledge Vault at the Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining in New York.

SHC asks ministry, Pemra, cable operators to submit reply

The Nation, Aug 26, 2014

KARACHI: The Sindh High Court (SHC) on Monday directed the Ministry of Information, Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (Pemra) and the cable operators to file comments on applications of Jang, Geo and The News employees against non-restoration of Geo News, Geo Tez, Geo Kahani and Geo Entertainment transmission by the cable operators.

Jang Employees Union's President Shakeel Yameen Kanga, The News Employees Union's Secretary Naqeebur Rehman and Geo TV reporter Abdul Jawad filed applications for becoming interveners in the petitions of Independent Media Corporation and Independent News Corporation against non-restoration of Geo News, Geo Tez, Geo Entertainment and Geo Kahani transmission. The applicants submitted that thousands of Jang and Geo TV employees were facing hardships due to closure of Geo News, Geo Entertainment, Geo Tez and Geo Kahani by the cable operators and prayed the court to allow them to become interveners in the petitions. The Pemra and cable operators counsel Kashif Hanif and S Amir Ali waived notices on the applications and undertook to file comments on the applications.

Petitioner counsel Behazad Haider submitted that private cable operators did not comply with the orders of the Pemra and broadcast of the Geo News, Geo Entertainment, Geo Tez and Geo Kahani remained suspended till filing of the petition. He submitted that blocking the transmission of the Geo TV channels was the violation of the Supreme Court and High Court's orders that restrained the Pemra and cable operators from blocking or interfering in the smooth transmission of the Geo News, Geo Entertainment, Geo Kahani and Geo Tez.

SHC's division bench headed by Justice Aqeel Ahmed Abbasi granting the applications of interveners for hearing and directed the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Pemra and cable operators to file comments on the applications by September 2 and observed that court would pass appropriate order after hearing the counsel of respondents.

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Pemra and cable operators including Syed Imran Haider Abidi of Home Vision Network, Kazim (Acting CEO) of Media Plus Communication, Ghufran Mujtaba of City Communication, Ikhlaq Ahmed of Karachi Cable Service, Mehmood Ahmed Aryan, City Communication Cable Network, Sukkur, Ahmed Ali of A A Cable Network, Nawabshah, Skyline Cable Network, Muhammad Hussain of Track Communication, Zahir Ali of City Cable Network, Hyderabad, Sheikh Asim Rasool of New Asia Communication and Nadir Shahani of Highway Communication were cited as respondents in the petitions.

14th ITCN Asia Expo

14th ITCN Asia 2014, the biggest ICT Expo in the history of Pakistan, along with Broadcast

begins on August 26

Business Recorder, Aug 23, 2014

Pakistan/Content Exchange Pakistan Expo and Security Asia, will be held at Karachi Expo Centre from August 26 to 28. The event is being held under the aegis of Ecommerce Gateway Pakistan (Pvt) Ltd which, according to the organisers, is recognized as the focal point for the IT & Telecom Industry. This year, ITCN Asia will be showcasing, for the first time in Pakistan, 3G & 4G technology at the exhibition. A conference on the theme "3G & 4G - Impetus to Growth" is also part of the event. ITCN Asia is the only ICT Expo of the country that is being held for the 14th time and has attracted more than 30 foreign companies and 80 foreign visitors. The ITCN Asia promises to deliver yet another powerful ICT expo which puts Pakistan on the global ICT map. It is for the first time in the history of ITCN Asia, Microsoft Corporation Pakistan, MIT Enterprise Forum of Pakistan and Ecommerce Gateway, have joined hands together to organise an event that will host 200 to 250 students/developers from different universities. They will develop different window-phone applications and the best application will be awarded.

Pakistan Telecommunication Authority's (PTA) Chairman Syed Ismail Shah will inaugurate the Expo on August 26 while Nadra's Chairman Muhammad Ahmed Tajwar, State Bank of Pakistan's deputy Governor Kazi Abdul Muktadir and Pakistan Software Export Board's Managing Director Asim Shahryar Husain would grace the occasion by their presence.

Ufone launches Pakistan's cheapest 3G phone 'Smart U5'

The Nation, Aug 23, 2014

LAHORE (PR): Ufone, a market leader in innovation, is again primed to set precedent in the market with the launch of Ufone Smart 'U5'; Pakistan's cheapest quad core, 3G-enabled handset. The smartphone offers exceptional specifications that include a 4-inch screen, quad core processor by Qualcomm, 512 MB RAM, a 5 megapixel rear camera and a front cam at an unbeatable price of Rs 5,999. Additionally, it comes with a 6-month warranty. Taimur Faiz Cheema, GM Marketing at Ufone said, "Ufone always strives to introduce new, innovative and unique offers in the market, which is substantiated with this new offering of the most affordable 4-inch 3G device with a Quad core processor." He added, "You can be sure that this is going to be very popular among the customers, as no other brand is offering these specifications at such an affordable price." It is pertinent to mention here that other brands are offering phones with similar specifications in the price range of around Rs 12,000. With a substantial difference in price, the Ufone Smart U5 is expected to provide stiff competition in the cell phone market. The launch of 3G services in Pakistan has made inroads to consistently introduce latest technology enabled handsets. This new advancement of launching the cheapest 3G enabled device by Ufone is another stair in enhancing Ufone's 3G device portfolio in the market. Ufone Smart U5 will enable and empower customers to use Next Generation Mobile Services with an unprecedented mobile experience and the best data offers. Undoubtedly, Ufone Smart U5 will prove itself to be a success in the 3G enabled device market.

Free Internet, waiver on dues on reconnecting EVO devices

Daily Times Aug 21, 2014

KARACHI: Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) is offering its EVO customers free Internet along with waiver on outstanding dues on reconnecting their inactive EVO devices. The offer is available on pre-paid and post-paid EVO, EVO Nitro, EVO cloud, Nitro Cloud and EVO Wingle devices, which have not been recharged since March 30, 2014.

Pre-paid customers availing this offer will be able to enjoy free balance equal to the recharged amount, while post-paid customers will get exemption in previous outstanding dues and free balance equal to the recharged amount.

PTCL EVO is Pakistan's fastest and most affordable wireless broadband connection serving both urban and rural areas nationwide. The service provides uninterrupted connectivity, high-speed HD video streaming and fast uploads and downloads enabling customers to achieve more.

Facebook 'satire' tag will alert readers to gag news

Daily Dawn, Aug 21, 2014

IN a move that could permanently cripple the internet's unchecked hoax industry and ruin at least a couple of decent punch lines Facebook this week announced that it is experimenting with a tag that will mark sites such as The Onion, Clickhole and Empire News as satire and, hopefully, alert the millions of gullible people who share these sites as truth each week.

The tag is still a 'small test', Facebook told The Washington Post, and isn't terribly visible on the site. You'll see it only in Facebook's related-links box, which appears once you've clicked a shared link, gone off-site and then returned to Facebook. Whenever that related-links box turns up a story from, say, The Onion, it will automatically mark that story with a "[Satire]" tag in the story's headline. It's unclear exactly how many sites are affected or how many users are seeing the tag now Facebook declined to elaborate but a test on Tuesday morning showed [Satire] tags on articles from not only The Onion and its little brother, Clickhole, but also Empire News, National Report, the News Nerd and the Daily Currant. Those sites deal less in legitimate satire than in viral hoaxes, intended to deceive: in the past week, they've propagated stories like the (fake) imminent eruption of the Yellowstone supervolcano, the (fake) brutal killing of an infant by a New York City police officer, and the rapper Lil' Wayne's (fake) HIV diagnosis. All of these sites, with the exception of the Daily Currant, have one other thing in common: they've all been online for 18 months or fewer. Bad satire, it turns out, is very good business, particularly of late. ("The money is right," Robert Winland, a writer for Empire Sports, told The Post in April.) And as fake-news sites proliferate, it's become more difficult for users to weed them out. A top post on Empire News will frequently boast more than a quarter of a million Facebook shares, far more than on any other social platform. As that information spreads and mutates, it gradually takes on the pall of truth.

In March, a group of researchers at Northeastern University dug into how conspiracy theories proliferate on Facebook, ultimately finding to quote MIT's Technology Review that mis

information becomes entrenched when "ordinary satirical commentary or obviously false content somehow jumps the credulity barrier". Moreover, as the researchers (and Empire News' share count!) suggest, that kind of credulity-jumping happens all the time. What's to be done? The media has proposed one solution: regular fact-checks of internet shenanigans. Organisations such as Canada's Media Smarts have suggested another: better media literacy education, to ensure people have the critical thinking skills to understand, and question, what they read online.

Facebook, then, has essentially just proffered its own quick fix: if you don't want people to fall for fake news, clearly mark it and on the platform where people encounter fake news most.

"We received feedback that people wanted a clearer way to distinguish satirical articles from others [i.e., real articles] in these [related news] units," a Facebook spokesperson said. This isn't a panacea either, of course. For one thing, Facebook's auto-tag feature predictably miscategorises a number of fake-news sites, potentially lending them credibility they do not in any way deserve. It also doesn't help that the satire markers are confined to the related-links box, which isn't particularly visible. It's certainly less obvious than, say, an Empire News post on your wall or in your News Feed.

To further complicate the issue, Facebook makes a peculiar advocate for media transparency. The algorithms behind its news feed, which 62.5 per cent of users are not even aware of, hide 70 to 80pc of the content your friends and pages post and do so according to calculations we can neither know nor scrutinise. That situation is becoming increasingly worrisome to news organisations, sociologists, internet activists and other people who think about the intersection of information, media and democracy; it was, in fact, just in the news last week, when Ferguson trended on the (unfiltered) Twitter, long before it appeared on many users' (algorithmically filtered) Facebook feeds. But regardless of Facebook's other problems, of which there are decidedly many, it's nice to see someone push back against the budding fake-news industry which was otherwise growing unchecked. There's also reason to hope that Facebook will expand the programme in the future: After all, a number of Facebook features, including Graph Search, started out as "small tests". Until then, we're forced to agree with the A.V. Club's (satirical) solution: just plaster everything on the site with a "[Stop Reading The Internet]" tag. That should work.

Cellular firms in AJK yet to respond to EPA notices

Daily Dawn, Aug 19, 2014

MUZAFFARABAD: Five cellular networks operating in Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) have not yet responded to an environment protection order (EPO) served on them by the local Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The EPO on the chief executives of Mobilink, Ufone, Warid, Telenor and Zong required them to furnish details of the base transceiver station (BTS) towers and generator-sets already installed in AJK as well as a complete case for environmental screening and approvals/NOC for each site. The EPO directed the cellular companies to submit an undertaking that they would not carry out any activity in AJK without EPA's approval/NOC in future.

AJK EPA's Director General Chaudhry Abdul Qayyum told Dawn that from October 2009 to May 2014 the agency had served environment protection notices on all the cellular networks for five times but those were never seriously addressed by them. Initially, he said, the companies denied that installation of BTS towers required any NOC from the EPA. However, afterwards, while NOCs were obtained for most of the towers to be installed in urban areas, the practice was inverse with regard to the installations in semi-urban and rural areas. Following the last notice, a hearing was held on May 15, 2014, whereat the representatives of all except one network appeared before an EPA panel, headed by Dr Raja Aurangzeb.However, the cellular companies were either unbending vis-à-vis their stance or had adopted a "selective and willful" approach towards the AJK laws, the DG said. "Unfortunately, these companies are knowingly violating the environmental law of the state to save their corporate interests which left us with no option but to issue the EPO to them," he said. The DG warned that in case of failure to comply with the EPO within the stipulated time period, a formal complaint would be lodged against the cellular firms in the environmental protection tribunal.

Online information system for 257 KMC-run health facilities

Daily Dawn, Aug 17, 2014

KARACHI: The Karachi Metropolitan Corporation (KMC) is in the process of developing an online information system connecting all its health facilities with a single source to help people who have to run from one hospital to another at the time of emergency and save lives without waste of valuable time, it emerged on Saturday. A meeting of the KMC's health department was held at the Abbasi Shaheed Hospital on Saturday in which it was decided that all the 257 health facilities 15 of them being major hospitals would be interlinked through dedicated software that would be available on the KMC website with all the relevant information required by patients. Officials said software engineers had been directed to develop a programme in a month and it was expected that the required information would be available to the public from late next month. "It is a multi-purpose effort from our end to keep everything transparent and save people from wasting time running from one hospital to another. It's an effort to save many precious lives," said Dr Salma Kausar Ali, the medical services director of the KMC. "This will virtually make all our facilities just a click away for the people." She said the officials of the 257 hospitals and other healthcare facilities had been asked to collect all the important data and figures from their respective establishments and start sending them to the central system, which would be established at the KMC headquarters. However, this practice would become routine once the software is ready and a web portal is duly developed to be made available to the public.

All the deaths would be posted on the portal along with the medical reasons and histories of the deceased admitted to any health facility run by the KMC or any of the six district municipal corporations (DMCs). Besides, the officials said, a database containing the details of all the patients admitted to all those facilities would too be available on the public domain so that anyone who wanted to know about the condition of a patient or one's medical history could go through it. The medical services director, however, said that to address the issue of privacy, the relatives of every patient would be given a password so that they could go through the medical history/updates of the patients online. She said the software would also help people to obtain information on the availability of beds in the facilities so that a patient could be sent directly to a facility where the beds were unoccupied. Similarly, the website would have information on intensive care units, cardiac units and ventilators etc.

Google adorns Pakistan's homepage with nationalistic doodle

Daily Dawn, Aug 14, 2014

Today Pakistan celebrates its Independence Day and Google has contributed to our celebration by gracing Pakistan's Google homepage with a nationalistic doodle for Independence Day. The doodle depicts the Pakistan Monument, a blooming flower-shaped symbol of Pakistan.

Google puts a lot of thought into its Google doodles, producing between 300 and 400 doodles each year around 50 of these tend to be moving or interactive. Google often plans what doodles it will embellish its homepage with months in advance and often illustrators take weeks to perfect the selected designs. The Pakistan Monument is one of Pakistan's most prominent monuments. Before its construction, the Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planners (PCATP) held a competition to find the design which best represented Pakistan and its people and Arif Masood's design was ultimately selected. The giant granite structure is comprised of petals resembling a blooming flower which is meant to be a symbol of Pakistan's blooming progress as a nation.

The four main petals represent the four provinces of Pakistan Sindh, Punjab, Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and the three smaller petals represent the three territories Azad Kashmir, Gilgit-Baltistan, and the Federally Administered Tribal Areas. The inner walls of the petals are adorned with murals based on designs from Islamic architecture and structures. The central platform is designed in the form of a five-pointed star and is surrounded by water. When seen from above, the structure resembles a star and crescent moon, representing the Pakistani flag, making the monument an adroit choice for a Google doodle and just perfect for Independence Day.

Samsung donates 3 Echocardiography units to JPMC

The Nation, Aug 13, 2014

KARACHI (PR): Samsung Electronics, under CSR initiative announced donation of multiple Samsung Ultrasound machines to the Jinnah Hospital Karachi. The Samsung Ultrasound machines will support the hospital and alleviate treatment of the poor and underprivileged citizens of the city with free access to ultrasound services at the hospital. An inauguration ceremony took place, at the Radiology department of Jinnah Post Graduate Medical Hospital, Karachi where Samsung announced to donate 3 units of the latest color Doppler's Samsung Ultrasound machines to the hospital.

Mobile phone services being suspended in parts of Islamabad: PTA

Daily Dawn, Aug 12, 2014

ISLAMABAD: The Interior Ministry has ordered mobile phone services to be shut down in several parts of Islamabad for an indefinite period, a spokesman of the Pakistan Telecommunications Authority (PTA) said on Tuesday. According to the PTA, mobile phone services may remain suspended in several parts of the federal capital for up to the next three days. PTA spokesperson Khurram Mehran told Dawn: "The interior ministry has issued directions to suspend mobile phone and wireless services." He said that wireless internet services will also be suspended.

Android mobile phones given to vaccinators

Daily Dawn, Aug 11, 2014

SIALKOT: The health department has provided android mobile phone sets to all vaccinators in Sialkot district's 124 union councils with a sole aim to bring the vaccination of the children under the advanced information technology network and increasing their professional efficiency.

District Coordination Officer Nadeem Sarwar disclosed this while talking to reporters here on Saturday. EDO (Health) Dr Ziaul Hasan and DHO Dr Javaid Warraich were also present.

The DCO said the health department had distributed android mobile phone sets among all male and female vaccinators. He said these sets also had the GPRS system facility and that all vaccinators would be able to take picture of every child in their respective areas while giving preventive vaccine to save the children from fatal diseases.

Mr Sarwar said the vaccinators would send the picture and data of every vaccinated child through the GPRS system in their android mobile phones to the health department and the Punjab Information Technology Board (PITB), Lahore. He said the system would be helpful in compiling the advanced digital data of the vaccination, besides tracking the movement of vaccinators.

RALLY: Students and teachers of Khwaja Safdar Medical College staged a rally against Israel for killing innocent people, including children, in Gaza.The rally started from the KSMC premises and ended in front of the Sialkot Press Club after passing through main city roads. Wearing black armbands, the participants raised slogans against the Israeli aggression.

Telecom revenues to reach Rs 800bn in next five years

ISLAMABAD: The current telecom sector revenues of around Rs. 580 billion are expected to increase Rs. 800 billion in the next five years. These revenues are also expected to touch Rs 1,200 billion mark by 2025 and this increase will be dominated by contribution through mobile

Daily Times Aug 09, 2014

broadband.

As estimated by consultants working with Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunications, the auction of 3G/4G spectrum has already contributed to national exchequer and national economy as the government has achieved Rs. 122 billion (including tax) against the budgetary target of Rs. 120 billion through this auction. Moreover, with deployment of 3G/4G, job opportunities in telecom sector will be created and as per a report 0.9 million jobs are expected to be created after with launch of 3G services in next five years. These include both direct jobs in telecommunication sector as well as indirect jobs in ICT sector pertaining to content and application development. Also, new avenues of entrepreneurship are expected to mature.

PTCL launches online education programme, Ahsan Iqbal lauds its effort

Daily Times, Aug 07, 2014

KARACHI: Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) launched an online education programme 'Illuminating Learning Movement (ILM)' aimed at providing customised and interactive e-learning solutions to underprivileged students.

Ahsan Iqbal Federal Minister for Planning, Development and Reform lauded PTCL for its efforts in contemplating social responsibility. He said this programme would contribute immensely towards promoting e-learning in Pakistan. Information and Communication Technology innovations offer great opportunities for the talented youth to transform Pakistan into an information and digital super power and create a society with equal opportunities for everyone. Iqbal was of the view Vision 2025, set to launch on August 11 would provide a road map for Pakistan to strive forward and meet the challenges of future with immense strength. He said the world has witnessed a knowledge revolution in which models and paradigm of learning has changed. He said, "Learning was based on pen learning at one time. It is now redundant. Today is the age of computer literacy." He said government was working to enable all the members of society to benefit from this change and for very purpose the government has distributed laptops. We distributed laptops on merit. Laptop is not leisure but a necessity item these days. I never realised what the eventual benefit of laptops would be until I hosted young IT entrepreneurs. 75 percent of the entrepreneurs were those who were beneficiaries of the laptop scheme earning good amount.The programme is being launched in collaboration with Click2Learn, which is a comprehensive adaptive online education platform. The initiative, in the preliminary phase, shall enable 5,000 talented and underprivileged students to access and benefit from this customised platform of Click2Learn.This initiative by PTCL is in alignment with the Prime Ministers' Youth Development Programme, enabling youth and marginalised communities to get e-learning education opportunities, resulting in employment and economic empowerment. Walid Irshaid President and CEO PTCL said, "Development of youth is the single most contributing factor towards national prosperity and growth of the country. We at PTCL strongly believe in playing our active role in contributing towards the society and this cause. Providing learning opportunities to talented youth shall enable them to enhance their development and skill base for future endeavors".Renowned writer and poet Amjad Islam Amjad and social activist Sohail Zimdani also attended the event and expressed their views on the significance of corporate values and its linkage with organisational success and economic prosperity. Syed Mazhar Hussain Chief Human Resources Officer PTCL highlighted PTCL's transformative role to achieve excellence both at organisational and community level by promoting a value driven culture within the organisation and by offering advanced digital learning platforms to uplift the educational standards for country's youth.

A cultural transformation programme 'Living PTCL Values' was also initiated at the occasion aimed at improving organisational performance.The objective of this cultural transformation initiative is to develop PTCL into a value-driven organisation, where core values are translated and reflected upon into employees' attitude and behaviors to ultimately impact the organisational performance.

Centaurus Mall chooses Makkays

Business Recorder, Aug 06, 2014

Centaurus Mall in Islamabad has recently chosen Makkays to implement a state-of-the-art Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise data network solution to enhance their core network infrastructure and backhaul network. This will deliver advanced quality-of-service functionality and high-speed switching technology for day-to-day applications and services.

Alcatel-Lucent Enterprise solutions are highly flexible as compared to other vendors in the market. The IT division at Centaurus Mall will now be able to make simple network upgrades in response to increased user demands without replacing the hardware. The products used are energy efficient, cost efficient, high performing and will require less installation space, which are key requirements for organisations in Pakistan focusing on operational expenditure. The data solution will also act as a backbone for the data centre connectivity and IP surveillance solutions. It will allow the 250 employees at Centaurus Mall to communicate with one another clearly with no network congestion. Furthermore, the switches used for IP surveillance will allow up to 300 fully integrated cameras working in adverse climatic conditions without power issues.

Telenor completes installation of BVS

The Nation, Aug 05, 2014

ISLAMABAD (PR): In line with its commitment to ensure higher accuracy of subscriber data, Telenor Pakistan has successfully completed the installation of Biometric Verification System (BVS) for activation of SIMs at all of its Sahulat Ghar outlets across Pakistan. It is pertinent to note here that Telenor Pakistan has been selling SIMs through BVS at all of its own Sales &Service Centers and Franchises in Karachi since December 01, 2013 and completed the nationwide installation of BVS for activation of SIMs at its S&SCs and Franchises on December 19, 2013. On March07, 2014 Telenor Pakistan became the first mobile operator to

initiate BVS installation at its retail outlets and completed the BVS deployment in Karachi and Baluchistan by March 31, 2014.

Telenor Pakistan's staff along with channel partners was trained on the new system to ensure seamless transition to meet customer demands. Moreover, in order to facilitate consumers, special SIM sale counters for BVS have been setup alongside placement of informative posters, standees and handing out of brochures.

Mobilink selects Oracle to upgrade system

Business Recorder, Aug 05, 2014

Mobilink has chosen to transform, upgrade and optimise their CRM system to Oracle Siebel CRM 8.1 on Oracle's Engineered Systems. Upgrading their CRM application on Oracle systems can help Mobilink run business critical workloads providing them with faster end user response times, and faster batch processing throughput, which may enable them a real-time 360 degree view of their customers across sales, marketing, and customer service operations for strategic and competitive advantage.

"Mobilink believes in providing the best customer experience through state of the art software and technology. An efficient CRM solution forms the backbone of an organisation's customer support and I am confident that Oracle can provide us a one-stop shop for our customer relationship activities." said Muhammad Arshad, Head of Customer Care Mobilink.

4,000 mauzas get basic telephony, data services

Daily Times Aug 04, 2014

ISLAMABAD: The Universal Service Fund (USF), under its Rural Telecom Programme, has so far provided basic telephony and data services in almost 4,000 mauzas which also included areas where people had to walk kilometers to make even a single phone call. Under the programme, launched to facilitate the far-flung areas, the Fund had signed contracts with 6,410 mauzas, of which 3,967 contracts have been completed and 3,940 of them audited. Sources at USF on Sunday said in telecenters domain, work on 51 contracts has been completed out of total 64 while 49 such centres have also been audited. A project to establish more telecentres is also being worked out to further expand the opportunities for people. The sources said under provision of broadband services, the Fund has so far ensured these in 288 2nd and 3rd tier cities and towns along with providing more than 520,000 broadband connections.

The broadband programme also includes establishment of 1,100 Educational Broadband Centres (EBCs) in higher secondary schools and colleges and more than 300 Community Broadband Centres (CBCs) for people who cannot afford to have their own computers. Similarly, they said in Optic Fiber Programme, more than 5,000 kms of optic fiber cable has been laid to connect un-served tehsils and towns. The sources said the USF has made a landmark achievement by disbursing subsidy of Rs. 4.2 Billion in during previous fiscal year for its projects to provide telecom services across the length and breadth of the country. This is so far the highest amount of subsidy disbursed in any financial year by USF since its establishment, the sources added. It has only been possible with untiring efforts of USF Board of Directors and as USF's projects including provision of basic telephony and data services, broadband in un-served urban areas, Optic Fiber to connect un-served tehsils and e-services are creating immense socio-economic opportunities and playing a beneficial role in improving lives of people all over the country. The sources said amid so many challenges, all these projects are creating a major impact by providing better telecommunication facilities in the un-served and under-served areas which in turn has an incredible impact on education, health and overall capacity building of these communities. Moreover, the benefits being provided through these projects are helping in bridging the digital and socio-economic divide between urban and rural areas of Pakistan. The said with all these achievements, USF is creating a success story for the public-private partnership entities nationally and internationally. Furthermore, a large number of countries are replicating USF model of Pakistan. Such milestones will keep enabling USF to reach new heights in the coming years, the sources added.

PTCL introduces 'Charji EVO' ultra fast un-interrupted connectivity

Daily Times Aug 03, 2014

KARACHI: Pakistan Telecommunications Company Limited (PTCL) has introduced the next generation 'Charji EVO' in Pakistan. The new service is an addition to the successful EVO family of products already serving millions of users in the country. The new technology provides ultra fast un-interrupted connectivity at speeds up to 36mbps, making it the fastest wireless broadband in Pakistan. The service, available in convenient dongles and Mi-Fi clouds, is initially being launched in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Karachi and Lahore and will be expanded to other parts of the country later. Both dongles and Mi-Fi clouds have the ability to fall back to the Rev A or Rev B network in case the customer uses the Charji EVO device in cities other than the current launch cities.

Furqan Qureshi, Chief Marketing Officer PTCL said, "EVO broadband service will enable access to data-rich products and enhance high speed broadband access for customers. We believe high speed broadband is a catalyst for growth and that it should be accessible to everyone". Pakistan's demand for data continues to grow and we intend to extend the fastest broadband service to our customers, added Qureshi.

The super fast dongles and cloud devices are a companion for providing a powerful internet experience, enabling faster web browsing, HD video streaming, downloads, uploads and low latency (ping) rates for online gaming. The tremendous ease and comfort of 'Charji EVO' cloud devices with its state of the art Wi-Fi capability and fast internet browsing brings an unparalleled experience, connecting up to 10 Wi-Fi enabled devices (depends on the model) simultaneously to PTCL's revolutionary wireless EVO broadband network.

Varsities restricting access

ISLAMABAD: At least four major public sector universities in the twin cities do not allow

to social media sites

Daily Dawn Aug 03, 2014

students to access social media websites on campus Internet and Wi-Fi networks.

Fatima Jinnah Women University (FJWU), the International Islamic University (IIU), the Pir Mehr Ali Shah University of Arid Agriculture and the Comsats Institute of Information Technology one of the country's leading institutes for IT are among those who have blocked access to the social networking sites Facebook and Twitter.

A Dawn survey has revealed that both sites have been blocked at FJWU since at least 2011, while IIU implemented the ban three months ago. Arid University introduced the measure in June while Comsats, the latest entrant to this club, blocked access in July.Officials from all the institutions claim that the sites were blocked after the administration received complaints from both students and teachers.

IIU Deputy Director IT Shakeel Shah told Dawn: "We blocked access to social media websites a few months ago because teachers came to us and complained that students were too preoccupied surfing the web and did not take adequate interest in lectures. "They use Twitter and Facebook during university hours, which disrupts the classroom environment," he said. A member of the Comsats faculty told Dawn the institute had restricted access to social networking sites in view of complaints by young women. "They complained of harassment by young men and fellow students and accused of posting insulting comments," the faculty member said. Comsats spokesperson Shahbaz Ahmed said the varsity had implemented the ban in early July "due to various reasons". However, he said, the ban may be lifted very soon. A representative for FJWU told Dawn the university had restricted access to social media sites on campus servers for some years now. This decision, they said, was taken in the students' own interest to provide them with a "safe and secure environment". But the official admitted that despite the ban, several students continued to access Facebook and Twitter via proxy websites or on their own mobile devices. Blocking access to social media in a bid to decrease distractions and get students to concentrate on academics is the method of choice for several public and private educational institutes in the country. However, this is a failed experiment, as was proven by the Harrisburg University of Science and Technology in Pennsylvania.

The US college, in a bid to empirically measure the impact of banning social media on students' performance, completely blocked access to social media and instant messaging platforms for one week in 2010. However, before the week was up, observers declared the experiment a failure, as some students "went to great lengths to foil the university's attempts to block them from accessing the sites on campus". Students at the universities in question, also complain that their administrations are adopting a regressive approach. "I would use Facebook to keep in touch with classmates online and we had Facebook groups of old students, where everyone shared notes, study tips and other useful resources," a girl from IIU told Dawn. Bilal, from the same university, said: "This is tantamount to denial from access to information and students are being deprived of a valuable knowledge-sharing resource". Those who have their own mobile devices can still access Facebook, Twitter and other instant messaging and social networking sites. Other, more resourceful students, especially at the IT-centric Comsats, have worked out how to bypass the bloackade. Hasees Ahmed, an undergraduate student at the institute, told Dawn that the more tech-savvy students had no problems getting around the filtering and can easily log onto social media, even on campus Internet. This regressive attitude is also embarrassing for students. "When we tell our friends from other institutions that Facebook is blocked on our campus, they ask us what kind of IT university is this," a young woman studying computer science told Dawn. An FJWU student said that proxy websites were a staple among the students. "Even if they block one proxy site, we can find ten others," she said."I don't know why they did it. I heard that a certain retired brigadier took the decision," the student said.

MoIT setting-up holistic 'ICT Parks' to promote exports

Daily Times Aug 03, 2014

ISLAMABAD: Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunications (MoIT) is in process of shifting from small Software Technology Parks (STPs) to holistic 'ICT Parks' to encourage emerging technologies.

The proposed Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Parks would be developed with state-of-the-art infrastructure, aiming to bring together world-class technology in a multi-purpose environment. The Parks will promote academia/industry collaboration to mitigate gaps between Academia and IT Industry, boost IT exports and provision of cloud based ICT infrastructure and shared services and to create a `springtime' environment and culture conducive to vibrant and dynamic innovation. The ministry in its list of new initiatives has said in addition to IT companies, enterprises from a wide spectrum of sectors will be encouraged to locate to the ICT parks.

This would help encourage establishment of R&D centers to facilitate the IT, telecom, pharmaceutical, medical devices, biotechnology & nano-technology, banking and space sector, promotion of renewable energy. It said the concept of ICT Parks has been approved by Planning Commission and MoIT is in the process of preparation of PC-II in consultation with World Bank Office in Pakistan.

The World Bank has expressed its desire to invest up-to US$ 45 million in this project.

Telecom operators looted masses during Eid days

The Nation, Aug 02, 2014

KARACHI: Consumers of telecom sector have strongly condemned the role of service providers during Eid days as they gently grab public money after discontinuation of several packages or bundle that probably announced hundreds of times in day through different medium of instruction. The usage of cell phones touched new height during Eid days compared to normal routine and service provider availed this opportunity as golden chance to

grab public money, The Nation learnt. On the condition of anonymity, a site engineer informed The Nation that all cellular service providers froze their activities just ahead of Eid and suspended most of the packages to generate handsome revenue during theses days. On the other side, the spokesman of a cellular company informed The Nation that the company stopped most useful packages which are suspended during Eid on the pretext of system upgradation and this was officially announced a week ago. Sources said that all the companies also did the same and hanged mostly useful packages at the holy occasion. Kaukab Iqbal Chairman Consumers Association of Pakistan strongly condemned the shameful act of telecom sector. He said there was no announcement seen regarding suspension of packages and compared to the promotional announcement of different offers. The massive looting witnessed in this sector. To control all this misshaping, Pakistan Telecom Authority and department of Consumer Protection are responsible. He suggested that all the packages must be started or ended with the approval of PTA, he also pointed the night packages which promote the negativity in the society.

Kaukab said most of the cell phone operators not follow the rules and regulations and becoming main cause of rising criminal activities. A user of cell phone Shaheem Ur Rehman informed The Nation, he spent extra amount during Eid days to recharge its account because the cell phone services that he usually used were stopped during Eid days. Another customer strongly criticised the attitude of telecom operators who mostly suspended their offers like Karachi offer, Friends and family, Bundle SMS and so many others after recharging of account. Chairman PTA was not available when contacted repeatedly for comments on the issue.

IT ministry employees sacked after IHC orders regularisation

Daily Dawn Aug 01, 2014

ISLAMABAD: In the first week of July, Aoun Mohammad, a network administrator at the Ministry of Information and Technology (IT), and 18 of his colleagues won a year long battle with the ministry regarding their employment. However, a week later, Aoun and his colleagues were sacked.

On July 7, Islamabad High Court (IHC) Justice Noorul Haq N Qureshi directed the federal government to expedite the release of their salaries. Aoun and the other petitioners were expecting to receive 15 monthly salaries, which had been stopped since last year, before this Eid. However, the sudden termination crushed their hopes of celebrating Eid, and they are now planning to file a contempt of court petition in the IHC. As per the court record, Aoun and the 18 other petitioners were employed on contract basis by the IT ministry as network administrators for the Federal Government Data Centre (FGDC) project in 2004.

The project aimed at providing basic IT infrastructure to all federal divisions, ministries and inter-connecting them through a secure data centre. At the time, their basic pay scale (BPS) was not determined and a lump sum package was awarded to each employee. In March 2005, the federal government issued a notification stating that the petitioners may be considered equivalent to grade 18 employees. In 2007, the IT ministry revised the PC-1 of the FGDC project, but the salaries of the petitioners were not enhanced. The following year, they were given a salary package between Rs50,000 and Rs75,000 per month. In 2013, the petitioners approached IHC for the regularisation of their services and the court accepted their petition. According to court documents, the petitioners allege that the government deliberately flouted the court order for the regularisation of their services. Moreover, to punish them for their actions, they were all demoted to grade 16. During the hearing, the IT ministry claimed on July 1 that the petitioners were never been appointed as network administrators. As per their employment contract, the competent authority had the power to assign them different tasks. The written reply of the ministry, submitted in IHC, states, “The incumbents cannot be entitled for the pay of the post of Network/System Administrators, unless appointed on the subject post. “The petitioners were appointed as Assistant Network/System Administrators on a fixed salary. As per their employment contract, they are only entitled to a travel allowance, which is admissible to grade-16 officers.”

However, during the detailed arguments, Zahid Sohail, a law officer of the IT ministry had conceded before the court, “The pay package, which has been disputed in this petition, is already in process”. Subsequently, the court directed the federal government to finish the process of finalising the pay package of the petitioners within a month. On July 15, the IT ministry asked the petitioners to leave their jobs, as their services were no longer required, one of the petitioners told Dawn. He said that the IT ministry was spending a large sum of money on “so-called IT specialists”, who have been recruited by the incumbent government. However, the authorities are not willing to retain these professionals, who have spent over a decade in the ministry, and successfully completed different IT related tasks.When contacted, IT ministry spokesman Sagheer Wattoo said that authorities were revamping the entire infrastructure of the “otherwise inactive ministry”. He said that the ministry has established a National IT Board and is working on restructuring of all allied departments. He, however, said that during this process, only unnecessary staff has been released.

FRAMEWORK NEWS IN ICT SECTOR

PurePush Reaches 200 Mobile Apps Developed by Pakistani Developers

www.phoneworld.com.pk

Aug 31, 2014

PurePush, a private incubation center supported by Academia and Industry has reached nearly 200 mobile apps developed by Pakistani developers with millions of downloads every month. The success is due to the creativity of ReadyBuilt mobile applications that are customized specifically for local market and fun apps relating to the on-going situations of the country. PurePush has been creating mobile applications for over four years; it was started in 2010. It works on the development of mobile applications based upon latest technology concepts such as Augmented Reality and AllJoyn for all platforms i.e Android, IOS, BB Java and Windows Phone. With a development team of just bunch of talented software engineers, the company developed some most popular apps with the largest amount of downloads i.e. Acc. Blood Pressure (BP) Monitor (1 million downloads in just 2month) and Readybuilt apps like LONG MARCH GAME is also popular among the users.

Anusha Meets ITU consultants for E-Governance Roadmap

www.phoneworld.com.pk

Aug 31, 2014

The Minister of State for Information Technology, Ms. Anusha Rahman, held a consultative session with the consultants of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and National IT Industry Promotion Agency (NIPA), Korea who are providing technical assistance to Ministry of IT to devise an e-Government Master Action Plan along with E-services Deployment Strategy for the Citizen of Pakistan through a fully funded of ITU. The said session was also attended by the Member (Telecom), ED (NITB), Director (ICU) and other officials of the Ministry of Information Technology. The Minister stated that IT Ministry is in the process of rolling the e-office suite including e-filing system in the Federal Govt and needs to develop an action plan for taking E-Governance to International Standard. IT Ministry has recently established a new organization NITB with the merger of Pakistan Computer Bureau (PCB) and Electronic Government Directorate (EGD) to promote and integrate Information Technology in all the National programs by focusing on the technology promotions, successful implementation of e-Governance programs and raising expertise level of the IT human resource to enable Pakistan enter into next era of accelerated digitalization. The Minister of State for IT emphasized the need for the formulation of e-government master plan, its allied strategies and KPIs to cover all aspects of successful implementation of e-government programs and to promote collaboration, digitization and innovation in both traditional socio-economic sectors and new emerging technologies.. The proposed plan should cover all possible areas such as e-learning, e-education, e-health, e-agriculture, e-commerce, Research & innovation etc,.The Minister further stated that she would welcome collaboration and technical assistance from the ITU and NIPA to assist Pakistan for successful implementation of e-government program in shortest possible period of time based on enriched experiences. Adoption of e-government programs is immensely important for the development of any country as has been proven through positive correlation between adoption of e-government and macroeconomic indicators. ITU and NIPA would actively look into providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Information Technology in formulating e-government master plan and its allied strategies, and developing long term relationship in this ever evolving area of immense importance for growth and development.

Telenor Pakistan brings innovation to disaster emergency response through SMS

www.telecoalert.com

Aug 29, 2014

ISLAMABAD (BMZ REPORT): Aimed at mitigating the impact of disasters and extending timely relief to the victims by introducing in Pakistan the first of its kind innovative location based early warning SMS system, Telenor Pakistan has recently signed an agreement with its emergency response partners, Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) for Beneficiary Communications Project. The agreement was signed by Michael Patrick Foley, Chief Executive Officer, Telenor Pakistan and Mehboob Sardar Secretary General, PRCS in the presence of Minister for IT & Telecom Anusha Rehman at PRCS National Headquarters. The project is a flagship endeavor designed to ensure preparedness and mitigation of a disaster through emergency response, emergency recovery, rehabilitation and development. Beneficiary Communication Project will allow aid agencies and mobile phone users in disaster-hit areas to interact in real time through SMS text system creating much needed timely communication flow. The project is jointly funded by International Federation of Red Crescent (IFRC) and Telenor Pakistan.

Sharing her views, Minister for IT & Technology, Anusha Rehman said, “Unfortunately, Pakistan has seen recurring natural disasters in recent times. It is hearting to see that Telenor Pakistan and PRCS have again collaborated to develop a system utilizing their core competencies to bring positive social change. This is true empowerment, as it will allow potential affectees to proactively save lives. Everyone can in fact become a helping hand.”

On this occasion, Michael Patrick Foley said, ” Unlike traditional SMS services, which require broadcast messages to be delivered to every subscriber on a carrier’s network, this system allows PRCS to specify a particular region or even a neighborhood to which text messages will be sent to mobile phones. The text messages elicit response from mobile phone users in need of aid, giving them an effective voice on how assistance should be delivered. After reviewing the impact of Beneficiary Communication in emergency situations in various parts of the world, we are hopeful that this first of its kind project in Pakistan can deliver effective aid in the form of information that facilitates the recovery of communities affected by disasters. Beneficiary communication aims to save and improve lives through the provision of timely, relevant and accurate information and support an environment of transparency and accountability through the creation of feedback mechanisms. This project will engage communities in dialogue and integrate beneficiary feedback into the decision making process of our emergency response programmes .”

Dr. Saud Elahi, Chairman PRCS said, “One of the major challenges being faced by humanitarian organizations in natural-disaster areas is the lack of early warning for affectees that can mitigate the effects and save many lives. The available telecommunications services in the country after these disasters are immediately congested and choked causing extreme difficulty in established of reliable communication with the affected community. It increases the necessity of a dedicated system that can respond better in such a situation. TERA System is a fast, secure and effective communication platform between humanitarian organizations and the community. It has been very effectively experienced during last Haiti EQ. Since it is based on SMS (short text messages) technology, it makes a low use of telecommunications services by delivering localized early warning as well as aid related messages to the affected community. We are indebted to Telenor Pakistan for always providing generous and valuable support in the form of cash and other forms. Telenor Pakistan has always been at the fore front responding to the disasters and has taken the leading role”.

Telenor Pakistan will work as technology enabler providing the platform and outreach whereas PRCS will provide the communication system via vendor and user of the system for defined objectives (via interface). This innovative system will link PRCS with the community in times of disaster, through location-based opt-in service for Telenor subscribers. The service will enable Telenor subscribers to receive timely messages pertaining to disaster alerts, relief, pre/post emergency awareness and aid disbursement. The project will focus on disaster prone areas of Pakistan. As a socially responsible organization, Telenor Pakistan has always responded to the call of natural, man-made and conflict emergencies by targeting specific and un-met needs of the affectees. As part of its emergency response program, the company has contributed an amount of PKR 404 million since its inception and vows to continue setting the standard for the industry in future.

Ufone Introduces Special Roaming Tariffs for Hajj Pilgrims

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 29, 2014

Ufone has launched a new offer for pilgrims leaving for Hajj, under which Ufone Prepaid customers will be able to use their Ufone SIM in Saudi Arabia at lowest call rates, thus completely alleviating the hassle of buying a local Saudi Arabian SIM card.

Prepaid roamers who select Saudi Arabia’s Mobily and Zain networks will be charged at a minimal rate for outgoing calls to Pakistan and within Saudi Arabiaas well as on all incoming calls. Additionally, incoming SMS from all over the world will be free of any charges. The offer is automatically activated on all Ufone prepaid numbers free of charge. Moreover customers can take along a scratch card or ask their friends and family back home to perform Uload.

Here are Tariff Details:

Outgoing Calls to Pakistan and Saudi Arabia: Rs. 0.30/second (inclusive of tax)

Incoming calls from anywhere in the world: Rs. 0.48 per second

Per second charging is only applicable for outgoing calls to Saudi Arabia & Pakistan only. For other destinations standard IR tariff will be charged.

Incoming SMS: Free

Charges for other services will be charged as per standard IR tariff

User have to be on Mobily or Zain Network in Saudi Arabia to avail these rates

January 2015, Microsoft will stop mainstream support for Windows 7

www.telecoalert.com

Aug 29, 2014

ISLAMABAD (MEDIA): On January 13, 2015, Microsoft will stop mainstream support for Windows 7–which is still an extremely popular operating system. But you’ll still be able to use it safely for another five years. This isn’t anything like the run-up to the end of XP support back in April, when everyone in the tech press (including me) warned you about dire consequences if you continued to use XP. That was the end of extended support, which is far more serious than the end of mere mainstream support. Once mainstream support ends, there will be no more service packs. Microsoft won’t redesign the environment or add new features. Without a special extended agreement, you won’t get patches for bugs that don’t result in a security threat. But if you like Windows 7, you probably don’t really need new service packs, and you certainly don’t want a redesigned user interface. As long as Microsoft patches vulnerabilities that could become security risks, Windows 7 remains a safe operating system.

Microsoft doesn’t plan to stop fixing security problems in Windows 7 until extended support ends. That’s January 14, 2020–five years and a day from the end of mainstream support. If that doesn’t put you at ease, consider this: XP’s mainstream support ended in April, 2009. It caused no problems whatsoever. Millions continued to use XP for another five years without people like me warning them of dire consequences. Windows 7 won’t be any different.

PASHA has announced its ICT awards for 2014

www.telecoalert.com

Aug 28, 2014

KARACHI (TAHIR REPORT): PASHA has announced its ICT awards for 2014. According to PASHA, these awards aim to provide recognition to software and service applications that have been developed in Pakistan, by providing companies an opportunity to gain local, regional and international exposure through on-going promotional activities. Not to mention, the winners of PASHA ICT Awards regional categories get an opportunity for participation at the international Asia Pacific ICT Awards (APICTA) where they compete with entr

ies from the whole region.

There are 17 product categories and 15 service categories this year for companies in Pakistan to nominate their products or services in. There is no limitation on number of categories a company can participate in, however, one product or service can be nominated in only one category. The submission deadline is 31st August 2014.

Telenor Pakistan Inaugurates Location Based Disaster Warning SMS System

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 28, 2014

Aimed at mitigating the impact of disasters and extending timely relief to the victims by introducing in Pakistan the first of its kind innovative location based early warning SMS system, Telenor Pakistan has recently signed an agreement with its emergency response partners, Pakistan Red Crescent Society (PRCS) for Beneficiary Communications Project.

The agreement was signed by Michael Patrick Foley, Chief Executive Officer, Telenor Pakistan and Mehboob Sardar Secretary General, PRCS in the presence of Minister for IT & Telecom Anusha Rehman at PRCS National Headquarters. The project is a flagship endeavour designed to ensure preparedness and mitigation of a disaster through emergency response, emergency recovery, rehabilitation and development. Beneficiary Communication Project will allow aid agencies and mobile phone users in disaster-hit areas to interact in real time through SMS text system creating much needed timely communication flow.

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Sharing her views, Minister for IT & Technology, Anusha Rehman said, “Unfortunately, Pakistan has seen recurring natural disasters in recent times. It is hearting to see that Telenor Pakistan and PRCS have again collaborated to develop a system utilizing their core competencies to bring positive social change. This is true empowerment, as it will allow potential affectees to proactively lives. Everyone can in fact become a helping hand.” On this occasion, Michael Patrick Foley said, ” Unlike traditional SMS services, which require broadcast messages to be delivered to every subscriber on a carrier’s network, this system allows PRCS to specify a particular region or even a neighborhood to which text messages will be sent to mobile phones. The text messages elicit response from mobile phone users in need of aid, giving them an effective voice on how assistance should be delivered. After reviewing the impact of Beneficiary Communication in emergency situations in various parts of the world, we are hopeful that this first of its kind project in Pakistan can deliver effective aid in the form of information that facilitates the recovery of communities affected by disasters. Beneficiary communication aims to save and improve lives through the provision of timely, relevant and accurate information and support an environment of transparency and accountability through the creation of feedback mechanisms. This project will engage communities in dialogue and integrate beneficiary feedback into the decision making process of our emergency response programmes.”

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Mobilink Customers Can Enjoy LINE Messenger for Free

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 28, 2014

Mobilink has announced that its customers can use Line Messenger on its network free of charge. Company said that Mobilink customers will be able to Line Messenger without any data charges.

Announcement was made after Mobilink and Line Messenger entered into a collaboration which is Line’s first of its kind partnership with a telco in Pakistan. LINE messenger claims to have over 500 Million subscribers worldwide.

Aamer Manzoor Head of Data, Mobilink commenting on the partnership said, “Mobilink has always introduced innovative and exciting offers for its customers. LINE messenger is one of the leading messaging app which our customers can use for free on Mobilink’s internet. We are confident that our partnership with LINE will provide our customers with the benefits of modern communication.” LINE is an instant messaging app for smartphones. the main seller for LINE is its huge sticker set base used by LINE Users for sharing and chatting.LINE also allows audio and video Calls and is compatible with all smart phones.

Mobilink Offers Free

Mobilink in collaboration with OLX has launched its second-wave of sponsored internet offer for its customers. This initiative will provide 6 hours of free Internet to Mobilink customers using the

Mobile Internet in collaboration with OLX

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 27, 2014

Opera Mini Browser.

Customers simply have to visit webpass.opera.com/store.

Aamer Manzoor, Head of Data Mobilink said, “Mobilink believes in continuously bringing forth new and innovative promotions for its customers. Our collaboration with OLX is a testament to our efforts in promoting mobile internet and bringing innovation in partnering with some of the leading global brands in Pakistan. We firmly believe that the advent of 3G in Pakistan will create new avenues for Mobilink to aggressively enhance mobile internet penetration and OLX has proved to be a valuable partner in this endeavour.”

In June 2014, the OLX – Mobilink partnership laid the foundation for the first ever sponsored internet initiative in Pakistan. This offer will be provide 400,000 web passes on the opera web pass store (webpass.opera.com/store).The free internet campaign has a limited time offer and the daily activations will be limited to 20,000 web passes daily.

3G and 4G: Impetus to Growth – 14th ITCN Asia

www.phoneworld.com.pk

Aug 27, 2014

Ecommerce Gateway Pakistan (Pvt.) Ltd has organized one of the biggest ICT Expo in the history of Pakistan along with Broadcast Pakistan / Content Exchange Pakistan Expo and Security Asia i.e. 14th ITCN Asia 2014 at Karachi Expo Centre. This event is recognized as a focal point for information technology and telecom industry and is an approved event from a UFI (Paris). ITCN Asia has showcased 3G and 4G technology at the exhibition. The event is supported by a conference with the theme ‘3G and 4G: Impetus to Growth.’

Mr. Parvez Iftikhar from ICT Forum Pakistan is moderator of the conference, whereas Mr. Syed Ismail Shah, Chairman Pakistan Telecommunication Authority PTA was the chief guest.

Speakers & Topics of the Conference:

- Overview and Future Vision – Mr. Nooruddin Baqai (ICT Forum Pakistan)
- Wired networks &Wifi: mainstay of the broadband revolution – Mr. Naeem Zamindar (Wateen)
- 3G/4G impetus to growth in B2B segment - Mr. Ehtisham Rao (Mobilink)
- Networked Society - Mr. Ashley Gold (CEO Ericsson Pakistan)
- Graduating Growth|Role of Government - Mr. Mudassir Hussain (MoITT)
- eServices Provider Perspective - Mr. Saleem Rafik (COO NADRA Technologies)

ITCN Asia is the only ICT expo attracting more than 30 foreign companies and 80 foreign visitors; putting Pakistan on the global ICT map. The event provided a diverse assortment of product categories to recognize the contribution of organizations from all parts of the value chain, and the full breadth of their activities. It opened endless opportunities to solution providers, buyers and industry researchers in the fields of IT & Telecommunication networks, next generation networks, IP Technology, satellite communications, infrastructure solutions, backhauling, broadcasting, consumer electronics, digital marketing, cyber security, cloud and more. Ecommerce Gateway Pakistan (Pvt.) Ltd is organizing ITCN Asia for 13 consecutive years, which is recognized as the focal point for the IT & Telecom Industry and is Approved Event from a UFI (Paris).

National ICT R&D Fund Announces ICT Scholarships for Students

www.phoneworld.com.pk

Aug 27, 2014

The Ministry of Information Technology and Telecommunications (MOIT) has awarded more than 4,200 scholarships worth Rs3.3 billion to students of underserved areas under its National Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Scholarship Programme. Of the total scholarships awarded over the last six years to students of underprivileged areas of four provinces, Gilgit Baltistan (GB), Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) and Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), 1,125 students have graduated.

The National ICT R&D Fund, an executing department, has announced the Prime Minister’s National ICT Scholarship Programme-2014, with an aim to develop human resource capacity in the fields of ICT in Pakistan. The programme provides fully funded four-year undergraduate degree scholarships in ICT related disciplines in the leading ICT universities of the country.

wi-tribe Launches Pakistan's 1st Communication App for Smartphones

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 27, 2014

Wi-tribe has announced the launch of Pakistan’s first ever, locally developed smartphone communication application, called “Hi App”. This indigenously developed app is poised to compete with the global players like WhatsApp, Viber or even Skype. “Hi App” allow its users to offer high-quality voice communication between smartphones – while using the internet – group voice calling and a feature to call landline phones (anywhere in the world) for which users will have to recharge their accounts via credit card or through wi-tribe scratch cards. For landline calls wi-tribe is going to use its existing LDI infrastructure.

Moreover, users can chat with each other and share content, such as voice messages, images or any file types for that matter. Hi App allows up to 10 participants to conference call with each other. Unlike Google Hangouts, anyone in the conference call can invite a friend to add him/her in a running conference call. Currently in its beta launch phase, wi-tribe unveiled Hi App at the ITCN ASIA 2014, among industry experts, tech enthusiasts and general public. Keeping user ease a priority, the interface of the app is easy to navigate with an intuitive design.

Wi-tribe CMO, Ali Fahd, said in a statement on this occasion “It is with great pride and enthusiasm that we bring this cutting edge technology offering smart communication solution to users of all age brackets and diverse communication needs. At its current beta launch phase we urge our local users to show their support for this indigenous and innovative app by downloading and using Hi App. Your feedback and encouragement will help make Hi App the No. 1 communication app in the industry and make all fellow countrymen proud.” We believe

wi-tribe has done a remarkable job with this app. Wile there are currently some issues in the app and it may take some time to become a more comprehensive and sophisticated solution, but we must admit that its a good start. Not to mention, wi-tribe, with this app, has become a race runner in the voice calling business which was previously not possible.

The kind of competition Hi-App will have, we aren't sure yet about its impact in the local market. But considering that you can recharge your accounts locally for voice calling, and if call-rates with Hi App are competitive then it has a good chance.To download Hi-App on your android phone follows the link:

Intel Pakistan signs MoU for Digital Literacy of Youth

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 26, 2014

Intel Pakistan has said that it is piloting a new initiative, under the Intel Easy Steps program. This was undersigned in a MoU with Memon Industrial & Technical Institute (MITI) to increase the relevance of computer devices as a tool for learning and providing quality basic digital literacy opportunities to underprivileged section of the society.

MITI, is a vocational and technical training institute for youth offering a wide variety of technical, IT, multimedia and home economic courses/disciplines. Courses are exclusively offered in 27 trades for men and 35 for women. MITI offers support to low-income and unemployed section of the society to provide capacity building opportunity to out-of-school children and youth to explore and increase self-employability. MITI has 3500 male and 6800 female students currently enrolled / registered in their institution. Under this MoU, Intel Pakistan and MITI will integrate Intel Easy Steps Course content which is a simple instructional course and material that helps learners become competent in the digital world, especially created for adults and youth in underserved areas who find themselves at a disadvantage due to lack of access to proper training on the basic use of computers. The Intel® Learn Easy Steps program addresses the needs of adults and youth around the world who seek to learn basic digital literacy skills. Its simple instructional approach teaches basic computer literacy, which is a key 21st century skill, enabling enhanced social and economic self-sufficiency. Intel provides the content free of charge to governments and NGOs, who manage local implementation.

Speaking on this occasion, Naveed Siraj, Country Manager, Intel Pakistan said, "Entrepreneurship has been demonstrated to be a global driver of innovation, technology commercialization, business model adaptation, human potential development and value creation. We are very excited to launch this project in partnership with MITI to encourage and inspire next generation of innovator sand to yield significant positive results not just by enhancing training and educating but also encouraginglearners to convert their ideas into reality." Over the years, Intel Pakistan has partnered with and facilitated many public and private sector organizations for technology implementation. Intel has been instrumental in creating innovative new solutions and to build a future of opportunity for the youth of Pakistan.

Pakistan has highest growth rate of internet users in region

www.telecoalert.com

Aug 26, 2014

ISLAMABAD (GUEST WRITER): Pakistan's growth rate of internet users is second highest in SAARC countries in accordance with its population, as it standing at 16.8 percent as compared with 28.3 percent of Maldives.

According to the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) publications quoted World Bank statistics by July 2012, Pakistan internet users showed double digit growth from past five years. The growth rate stood at 10 percent in 2007, which is now more than 16 percent. The internet users growth rate in India is standing at 7.5 percent; 12.1 percent in Sri Lanka, 13.6 percent in Bhutan with respect to their populations, World Bank statistics said. In Pakistan, the internet users' growth rate is on the rise through the services of broadband internet and mobile phone services.

According to Internet Service Providers Association of Pakistan (ISPAK), the estimated internet users have reached 25 million in the country thanks to broadband and mobile phone operators. The internet users having demand of high speed services are also increasing particularly through broadband operators exploiting various technologies such as Wimax, EvDO, FTTH. As per industry estimate, there are more than five million broadband users in the country through connections of 2 million. The internet users mainly do connect with one IP or connections and consume internet services through sharing at home, office and educational institutions. There are 50 internet services providers in which 10 are broadband companies exploring untapped market in big cities, making it available for people to use internet with only Rs 100. Among 25 million internet users, more than 15 million of them avail internet services trough mobile phones thanks to cellular operators' packages and awareness drive. The mobile phone subscribers go online through different internet services including, EDGE, GPRS and Blackberry Internet Services (BIS). Majority of the mobile phone subscribers use internet services for browsing, emails, Facebook and Twitter as cellular phone operators introduced different affordable packages to their subscribers. Moreover low cost handsets also facilitate a large number of people to connect online 24 hours.

The cellular phone companies have been working aggressively on the promotion of Internet services for last two years mainly for earning extra revenues besides voice calls and text messages. These companies introduced different bundle packages of Internet services in their youth brands to promote Internet services as an essential for young customers for education and entertainment purposes. The trend of using Internet is increasing rapidly with the arrival of smartphones of different handset makers though low-cost handsets are available in the market having options of online connectivity. It was further given impetus through providing easy connectivity to users for using Facebook and Twitter. Mobile phone companies and handset makers alike have provided easy connectivity of Facebook and Twitter Internet users that gave further impetus to Internet usage among the customers. Officials of the mobile phone

companies said the Internet consumption of their subscribers varies due to different needs of individuals in their daily life. They said the customers having postpaid connection are large users of Internet services due to their business and professional demands. Besides youngsters usage of Internet is limited on mobile phone as they usually avail Internet services for social networking sites, informative webs and browsing. The cellphone operators have created demand of Internet usage among customers through different tools like applications of education, infotainment and entertainment by their own portals. The excessive branding and marketing campaigns of mobile phone companies are generating positive results on their business in fact creating awareness among the customers before the launch of high data service 3G technology. The rising internet utility among the masses have increased the living standard of the people not only for communications and information purpose but for commercial means such as credit and money transactions by branchless and mobile banking. The growth in internet users pave the way towards growth in different sector particularly the access of information and entertainment at affordable purpose but it should be controlled by the watchdog, Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA). In this regard, the government should install a Firewalls system to control the objectionable and indecent material on the internet as if many countries like China, UAE and KSA have done earlier. In this way, the government can minimize the harmful impacts of internet on its users throughout the country and the online landscape will be exploited for constructive and meaningful purposes.

Telenor's Head of Human Resource Department Resigns

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 26, 2014

Muhammad Shoaib Baig, Chief Human Resource Officer, has decided to move on to pursue other interest outside the Telenor Pakistan, a statement has said. His last day in office will be 29th August 2014. Shoaib Baig joined Telenor Pakistan on the 1st of February 2011 as CHRO. During his tenure in Telenor Pakistan he has been instrumental in defining the HR strategy in the company and has come up with robust People policies which have taken the company forward. HCD is a key division at Telenor which takes care of the most valuable asset of the company i.e. the employees and Shoaib is said to have been instrumental in driving a dynamic team and ensuring that the company sets the right direction in its people strategy. “Shoaib has been successfully driving the HR division in the company. We are grateful to him for his valuable service and strategic insight over the years. With his strategic focus and acumen he was able to bring a lot of insight into our key HR projects.” said Michael Foley, Chief Executive Officer. “I wish him all the best going forward!” Shoaib Baig said: “It has been a pleasure working for Telenor Pakistan. I have had a chance to work with some very talented and hardworking people here. I am leaving behind a very dynamic and passionate team who will no doubt carry on the great work that human resource has been doing. I also want to take this opportunity to thank my team members and colleagues for their great support and take this opportunity to wish Telenor Pakistan all the success in future.” The process for hiring a new CHRO has been initiated.

Zong Appoints Abu Nasar Alvi as Head of Device Business

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 25, 2014

Zong Telecom has appointed a head of devices as part of its management changes, revealed a statement issued by the company

Abunasar Alvi of Samsung has reportedly joined Zong as Senior Manager Terminals and Head of device business Pakistan. He will be responsible for Zong’s long-term product roadmap, including hardware, software and design, as well as the company’s joint development efforts. Abunasar Alvi joins Zong with considerable experience of Telecommunications, IT & Mobile Business Divisions, having worked in the leading telecommunications, and Mobile companies for over eight years. Alvi joined Zong from Samsung, where he was a key member of Samsung Pakistan leadership team and led the company business across Middle East and North Africa region. During his previous role at Samsung, Abunasar Alvi drove a transformation program of Samsung IT Business and mobile device and portfolio management business across Pakistan and Afghanistan markets. Prior to this role he held a range of management roles at World Telecom and Tapal Pakistan.Abunasar Alvi is educated at Sunkyunkywan University in Seoul (MBA) and active member of Mensa international and Toastmasters International.

Lenovo Soon to Launch At Least 10 Smartphones in Pakistan

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 19, 2014

Lenovo, largest personal-computer maker by shipments, has decided to launch its smartphones in Pakistan, we have confirmed with sources. Lenovo, which is not only the number one smartphone maker in China, even ahead of Samsung, but also number four vendor by shipments world-wide, will inaugurate in Pakistan with the launch of at least 10 smartphones, we have heard. We are yet not sure about the models that will be launched during an event planned in Karachi next week, however, we are certain that company will introduce at least three low-end phones with price tag of Rs. 15,000 or below.There are couple of S series phone best known for entertainment in the launch pack.

Reportedly Lenovo K series (Premium, Ultra-Slim Smartphones) and Vibe Series (premium designer phones) will also see Pakistani shelves. Lenovo smartphones will be available in the country starting next week, we are told. With the launch of Oppo smartphones and now the Lenovo smartphones hitting the local market, it will be interesting to see how established brands such as Samsung and Qmobile will react to the move. ProPakistani will be covering the launch event to bring you updates and hands-on videos of Lenovo phones as soon as they are unveiled in Pakistan.

Mobilink Extends Collaboration With Teradata

Mobilink, the leading telecommunications provider in Pakistan, and Teradata (NYSE: TDC), the analytic data platforms, marketing applications, and services company, and Mobilink, the leading telecommunications provider in Pakistan, today announced they are enhancing their nearly decade old partnership by enhancing sophisticated data analytics capabilities in Mobilink’s existing IT infrastructure in order to accelerate the company’s evolution as a

www.phoneworld.com.pk

Aug 19, 2014

customer-focused, data-driven business. Mobilink has been using Teradata Enterprise Data Warehouse technology and services since 2005. With this upgrade, Mobilink will enter a superior phase of advanced analytics to provide customer centric services to their users. The IT enhancements are part of Mobilink's strategy to continuously improve their technology for the benefit of their customers, especially in light of the rapidly expanding 3G telecommunications network in Pakistan. Mobilink believes in anticipating customer needs and innovating constantly to provide best customer experience. Robust IT infrastructure plays a pivotal role in creating this experience and calls for unmatched data analytics capabilities. Extension in our collaboration with Teradata will help us continue to enhance our customers' experience by deployment of faster analytics across departments and achieving more relevant insights into the rapidly changing customer needs.

- Bilal Munir Sheikh Chief Commercial Officer with Mobilink

All of the top 15 Communication Service Providers in the world use Teradata data warehousing and analytics solutions. In fact, by using Teradata solutions, one major provider increased close rates 200 percent by micro-targeting key customer segments with event-based marketing. We are positive that with this upgrade Mobilink will also achieve such growth.

- Khuram Rahat, managing director, Teradata Pakistan, Afghanistan & Bangladesh

Pakistan Mobile Communications Limited, (Mobilink), has more than 38 million subscribers served on the country's largest and most modern network of more than 9000 cell sites.The enhancements planned for Mobilink's IT infrastructure include increasing the size of their data warehousing solution, and addressing Mobilink's growing need for data analytics across departments. Mobilink will also increase the number of users on the system in order to enable more decision makers to run enhanced Advanced Analytics Models aimed at stemming customer churn.

Warid Asks Customers to Upgrade Their SIMs for 4G LTE Trials

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 18, 2014

Warid has reportedly approached its customers who will be offered a chance to experience Warid's 4G LTE trials very soon. Warid said that its those customers who were already using 4G enabled handsets were approached so that their current SIM cards are upgraded to compatible 4G LTE SIMs before the launch of 4G LTE trials. Warid said that it is preparing to ship new upgraded SIMs to customers' doorstep ahead of its anticipated 4G LTE launch. These customers, who are already using 4G enabled handsets, will be given access to Warid's 4G network during trials and it is supposed that company will be offering free 4G LTE services during the trial duration. It is still unclear that when Warid is planning to start offering the 4G LTE trial services, but considering that Warid is now in process of upgrading customers' SIM cards, it appears that 4G LTE services are going to be launched soon. From our previous communication with Warid, we know that 4G LTE from Warid will commence somewhere around September 2014.

As confirmed by various ProPakistani readers, Warid's call centre had approached them to inquire if they wanted to become early 4G testers. After affirmation, customers were told that they will be receiving new Warid SIMs with which they will be able to use 4G LTE services after the launch. It is pertinent to mention here that customers will have to upgrade their SIMs to use 4G LTE services as 4G SIM cards are different than our current usual 2G-3G SIMs. Those customers who want to experience 4G LTE services should have 4G enabled handsets as well. With 4G LTE network, Warid customers are likely to enjoy 50Mbps of upload/download speeds on their mobile phones. Warid is aggressively working on the deployment of 4G LTE network in Lahore, Karachi, Islamabad, Faisalabad and Gujranwala. It maybe recalled that Warid contracted Ericsson for its LTE network rollout.

PTCL to Permanently Retire its Vfone Services

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 13, 2014

Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) has decided to roll back Vfone, company's wireless phone service, from August 31st, 2014.

Vfone, company's wireless voice and SMS service, that operated under PTCL's Wireless Local Loop (WLL) license will be permanently disbanded, we have confirmed with the sources. PTCL is currently in process of communicating its Vfone customers about the decision. Vfone customers in Lahore, Karachi and Islamabad are being offered to obtain wired phone service from the company after August 31st, 2014. With closure of Vfone, PTCL is apparently aiming to increase spectrum for its wireless broadband EVO services, company's major revenue generating segment.

With abandoning Vfone, PTCL will be able to allocate its entire WLL spectrum for EVO services. It must be noted that a lot of customers used to prefer Vfone wireless service over PTCL's landline wired phone services due to comparatively lesser technical issues as wireless services do not require any physical network which is usually prone to various natural and otherwise damages. Moreover, Vfone services were used in areas where wired-line landline connections are not available, hence not all Vfone customers may switch to PTCL landline numbers. According to Pakistan Telecommunication Authority, PTCL had more than 1.1 million Vfone customers, as compared to 2.9 million landline wired customers till Q4 of 2013.

Regulatory Delimma, PTA only supporting Cellular Operators!

www.telecoalert.com

ISLAMABAD (GUEST WRITER): Telecommunication industry in going through tough patch as PTA for un-known reasons is only interested to facilitate Cellular Operators. Rest of the industry and the challenges they are facing is simply being ignored. PTA doors are open for representatives of mobile companies whereas others are facing great difficulty even in getting hold of authority officials.

Telecom experts are of the view that sector regulator thinking and planning is revolving around

Aug 12, 2014

Mobile companies and their strategies. This has being observed during April 2014 3G/4G spectrum auction when the entire process was executed as per the script provided by these influential mobile operators. Cellular Operators was successfully able to pursue Chairman PTA to lobby the split of one 10 MHz spectrum into two 5 MHz spectrum in order to end the auction competition pressure. Chairman PTA being known as the expert of the field was then able to push agenda on these mobile operators and convince Ministry of Information Technology and 3G/4G Auction Supervisory Committee for split of spectrum which eventually resulted into end of competition among mobile operators for award of 3G/4G license. If we recall, sensing the situation, Reuters published a detail report predicting the possible level of proceeds from 3G/4G auction two weeks before the auction date. When the report was published, PTA was very disturbed and Chairman PTA publicly announced that authority has decided to take legal action against foreign news agency Reuters for trying to “sabotage” the much-awaited auction of next-generation spectrum licenses however, as usual, nothing happen in this regards and time has proven that Chairman PTA announcement was just another eye wash for the public and we all know that people of Pakistan has very short lived memory.

Time and again PTA has given impression to the other stake holders of industry that future of Telecom industry is linked with future of Cellular operators. This thinking has already cost the country millions of dollars loss in 3G/4G auction and now practically the entire authority is operating as hostage at the hands of mobile operators and other licensees are suffering and paying the cost of this regulatory dilemma. This approach at PTA needed to end quickly otherwise we may end up in a situation where the loss is irreparable.

3G and 4G: Generation gap. DAWN

www.telecoalert.com

Aug 10, 2014

ISLAMABAD (MEDIA): 3G and 4G are the current buzzwords in Pakistan. Social media, news channels and newspapers are all flooded with news pieces of cellular service providers attaining licenses and launching services for the next generation mobile technology. Dawn reported. Until recently, only 2G and 2.5G/2.75G services were offered in Pakistan, despite their being considered obsolete in many other parts of the world. After the recent acquisition of 3G licenses by Mobilink, Telenor, Zong and Ufone, and an additional 4G licence by Zong, there has been much heated discussion regarding these technologies. So what exactly are these next generation mobile technologies and how will they benefit mobile phone users and Pakistan as a country?

1G: This was the first generation of wireless telephone technology. It was introduced in 1981 with limited capacity. Simple phone calls were pretty much all it was able to do.

2G: The second generation of cellular technology was launched in 1991 in Finland. It was based on the technology termed global system for mobile communication (GSM), and text messages or SMS were sent through it. Data speeds were slow and downloading anything meant waiting for a long time.

2.5G: The intermediary technology, also referred to as GPRS, replaced 2G in order to improve communication. This technology allowed transmission of data such as emails and access to the internet, in addition to simple text messages and calls. The standard further evolved to 2.75G, known as EDGE, which allowed slightly faster data rates.

3G: The third generation of cell phone technology was first used in Japan in 2001. This technology enabled various networks to provide services such as web browsing, e-mail, video downloading, picture sharing, global positioning service (GPS), mobile television and video conferencing. It also allows simultaneous transfer of voice and data. Better bandwidth and increased speed of around 200 kbps and above are also possible with this technology. There are three competing 3G technologies currently being used: Universal Mobile Telecommunications System (UMTS), Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA), and Wideband-CDMA. The real difference in 3G and 3.5G technologies is the speed of the network and speed of data transfer. 3G technology can support an average data transfer of about 200 kbit+ and in 3.5G it is around 300 kbit+. 3G devices that support speeds of around 7.2 Mbps are often called 3.5G devices

4G: With this technology, a user can (theoretically) experience speeds from at least 100 megabits per second to up to 1 gigabit per second (peak download rate). The speed depends on various factors such as high mobility communication or low mobility, location etcetera. In addition to faster speeds, another advantage of 4G technology is reduced latency. Latency refers to the time it takes the network to respond to a request. There are two more versions of 4G, LTE and WiMAX.

4G LTE Long Term Evolution: This is considered to be the best version of 4G technology as far as standards are concerned. 4G service without LTE is basically High Speed Packet Access (HSPA), which is a faster version of 3G GSM network. The two formats of 4G wireless technology, which are accepted by the International Telecommunications Union as ‘True 4G’, are LTE Advanced and WiMAX Release 2.

WiMAX Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access (WiMAX) allows speed of 30 to 40 megabits per second. This is probably one of the closest technologies to meet the standards of being called True 4G technology.

The recent auction of 3G and 4G technology held in Pakistan yielded the following results:3G and 4G in Pakistan

Zong 10Mhz for 3G and 10Mhz for 4G

Mobilink 10Mhz for 3G

Telenor 5Mhz for 3G

Ufone 5Mhz for 3G

After the conclusion of the auction for 3G and 4G licenses, all the service providers were busy advertising about the technology they will provide their users. Warid, on the other hand, remained silent at the time. Then they surprised everyone and announced the disputed launch of 4G LTE. Pakistani mobile phone users, who were still struggling to figure out the difference between 3G and 4G, now had another jargon to deal with. Moreover, Warid made an ad announcement that read "We are worth the wait, indeed. The best is yet to come. 4G LTE."

Zong, on their official website, has also mentioned that they will be providing 4G LTE services of speeds up to 150 Mbps. The real question is not who is providing 4G LTE, but rather who will be the first to launch 4G LTE services to their customers?

5G: The next phase of mobile telecommunication

Mobile phone users and service providers are always on the lookout for higher data rates in mobile networks. The next generation of technology which is currently in the development phase is the fifth generation of cell phone technology, or simply 5G. It is the next major advancement in mobile telecommunication standards which will supersede 4G standards. Since 5G is still in the development stage, standards have not been laid out for it by any telecommunication standardisation body. Going forward, the need and desire for faster and higher data rates in cellular communication networks, by not only mobile phone users but also cellular service providers, is one of the biggest motivations behind today's ongoing 5G research. Most experts predict that the deployment of 5G networks will likely occur around 2020.

Conclusion

3G and 4G technologies have been launched in Pakistan, however these are not cheap technologies. Therefore, cellular service providers will probably offer 3G and 4G networks at higher tariffs then for EDGE. However, considering the intense competition between network operators, chances are that the extra burden of the expected cost will not be fully shifted to the mobile phone users. Telecom experts say that cellular service providers will either have to take a hit on their profits or pass on the added cost to consumers. Whatever the case, it is imperative that they strike a balance between the two. It is thought that in the first phase, 3G and 4G services might only be available in major cities of the country such as Islamabad, Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar and Quetta, and will reach other cities later. In the second phase, prepaid customers will also be able to avail this service and 3G services will be expanded to about 80 more cities. Even though the apparent benefit is faster data rates for consumers, the advantages of 3G and 4G services will be well beyond that. For example, the e-commerce industry is expected to boom, as consumers will be able to shop online easily. Education be even less restricted to classrooms and will be more readily available online as well. A feature in The stated: "A recent study by a British consulting firm, commissioned by the Pakistani government, predicted that by increasing economic activity, it could help create up to 900,000 jobs over the next four years, and bring in hundreds of millions of dollars a year of new tax revenues."

Ufone Expands its Biometric Verification System in 200 Cities

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 09, 2014

Under the directives issued by the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), Ufone's deployment of the Biometric Verification System (BVS) for issuance/activation or change of SIMs has now reached to over 200 cities. The move has been made to comply with PTA directives to deploy BVS from 1st of August 2014. The operator had previously initiated the installation of the BVS in December 2013, successfully deploying it at all its service centers and franchises within the same month. As part of a comprehensive phase-wise roll out of the BVS, Ufone had extended the deployment across its retail network in Baluchistan and Karachi by April 2014.

Commenting on this recent development, Mr. Amir Pasha, Head of PR & CSR at Ufone said, "Ufone is committed and has carried out Biometric Verification System installation over 200 cities across Pakistan in order to facilitate our valued customers. In the near future, we aim to extend this BVS network to over 50,000 outlets. We have carried out extensive training sessions for our retail network for the use and adoption of the system." The company has been on the forefront in compliance with the government and PTA's policies, said a statement.

Ufone said that it has always given priority to national security by rolling out initiatives for indirectly curbing crime, even though significant unforeseen expenses had to be faced. The BVS layout was one of the many measures taken under PTA directives to help tighten security and eliminate any possible security vulnerabilities.

RAID ON ILLEGAL GATEWAY EXCHANGES AT LODHRAAN

www.telecoalert.com

Aug 08, 2014

ISLAMABAD (BMZ REPORT) Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) along with Federal Investigation agency (FIA) has conducted three successful raids in Lodhraan and seized big operational illegal VoIP gateway exchanges. According to details PTA and FIA teams through combined efforts carried out raids at Sardar Shah Town, Lodhraan and confiscated 40 gateways and more than 5000 SIMs of various mobile operators. One person was arrested on the spot and was in the custody of FIA for further investigation. It may be added that PTA is observing the international traffic coming in to the country, round the clock. The aim of monitoring is to identify the illegal gateway exchanges and track the elements

operating them. To stop grey traffic in country, these activities are continued under the directions of Dr. Syed Ismail Shah, Chairman PTA and Mr. Abdul Samad, Member (Compliance and Enforcement). PTA Enforcement Division in support of Zonal Directorates are vigilant and requested cooperation of general public in this regard.

Askari Bank Launches World MasterCard Credit Card

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 07, 2014

Askari Bank in collaboration with MasterCard announced the launch of Pakistan's first World Master Card Credit Card. The Card is specifically developed for the bank's customers seeking extravagance and high class service worldwide. The Askari Bank World MasterCard Credit Card will offer a host of unique privileges like invitations to exclusive events, access to airport lounges and priority reservations at top restaurants around the world. Cardholders will also receive travel, medical and accident insurance, as well as free extended warrantees and purchase protection on items bought with the Askari Bank World MasterCard Credit Card.

Commenting on the occasion, Syed M. Husaini, President & CEO Askari Bank said: "We are proud to launch Pakistan's first World MasterCard Credit Card, which is a world renowned premium payments platform. At Askari Bank, we are committed to introduce the latest payment solutions that complement our customers' evolving lifestyle and offer unmatched benefits and privileges around the world. We are confident that our customers will be delighted with the launch of this premium payment tool and will enjoy the numerous benefits of this card"

Aurangzaib Khan, Country Manager for Pakistan & Afghanistan, MasterCard, commented: "The World MasterCard platform is one of our most premium offerings and we are delighted to introduce this sought after payment solution in Pakistan with Askari Bank. We strive to deliver customized payment solutions developed to augment cardholders' lifestyles, and the World MasterCard Credit Card is a key example of our efforts to enhance the shopping experience for affluent consumers."

After Years of hard work, PTA took U-turn on ICH !

www.telecoalert.com

Aug 07, 2014

ISLAMABAD (GUEST WRITER): For years PTA has been pushing the idea of formation of ICH and led LDI industry to form ICH in order to generate valuable foreign exchange for the country and requisite recovery of government duties and taxes however, recently PTA has withdrawn its support as they failed to effectively curb grey traffic. Resultantly, MoIT has withdrawn its ICH policy directive and matter now is sub-judise at Sindh High Court with status quo order till next hearing. It is estimated that grey networks cause loss of revenue for over USD 40 million per month for the country and the LDI industry. Controlling grey trafficking is the responsibility of PTA. Under ICH arrangement, LDI industry upon MoIT and PTA consensus contributed US $ 30 million to install state of the art equipment for controlling grey trafficking. Unfortunately, PTA could not deliver despite all out support by LDIs. There are countries having higher termination rates than Pakistan and those countries are effectively fighting the menace of grey traffic. Grey traffic is global phenomenon and concerned authorities in Pakistan are responsible to curb grey traffic. It is not out of place to mention that the main vehicle for offering grey telephony is illegal and unmonitored issuance of mobile SIMs that also pose other eminent threat to national security and our country. Unfortunately, PTA and other relevant authorities has either completely ignored or knowingly avoided this major contributor of grey telephony. It is also believed that Telecom Authority have soft corner for Mobile Industry and thus not keen in taking strict measures against operators and their sales channels involved in providing huge number of SIMs to these grey operators.

During the entire tenure of ICH, all the major financial set objectives were achieved and revenue for our struggling economy from ICH surpassed USD 1.2 Billion. ICH has ensured due forex inflow for country, timely contribution for Universal Service Funds by LDIs, annual regulatory dues and corporate income taxes against international incoming Telephony increased by multiple folds and was recorded every highest. Experts are of the view that ICH can contribute at least 8 to 12 times more forex revenue for country in next 15 years when comparing it with 3G/4G licensing revenues. ICH has no effect within the territory of Pakistan or upon the citizens of Pakistan. It does not result in the increase in telecommunication tariffs payable by the public in Pakistan when making international calls from Pakistan. By no stretch of the imagination can it have the effect of increasing or reducing the tariffs of telephone calls as charged by international telecom operators to its subscribers in foreign countries. More than 70% of overseas Pakistani are living at Middle East / Gulf Countries and calling rate from there are historically very high for all destinations including India, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, Philippines and Pakistan. Since maximum labour class working at GCC belong to these countries, almost all Telecom operators of Middle East are offering same retail rates for these countries despite huge difference in termination rate for respective country. The only effect of the said Policy Directive is potentially a change in the profit margins of international operators who seek to terminate calls of their subscribers into Pakistan as compared to previous windfall profits.

Chairman PTA, who is author of ICH Policy has no plan how benefit of discontinuation of ICH will be passed on to over 70% of expats Pakistanis living in Middle East. Will they keep paying what they are paying today after scarifying USD 50 Million revenue per month from ICH or someone will ensure that after this huge loss of revenue by country expat Pakistanis will be able to enjoy lesser rates for calling Pakistan.

PTCL Launches E-Learning Program for Underprivileged Youth

Pakistan Telecommunication Company Limited (PTCL) has launched an online education program 'Illuminating Learning Movement (ILM)' aimed at providing customized and interactive e-learning solutions to underprivileged students. The program is being launched in collaboration with Click2Learn, which is a comprehensive adaptive online education platform. The initiative,

www.propakistani.pk

Aug 07, 2014

in the preliminary phase, shall enable 5000 talented and underprivileged students to access and benefit from this customized platform of Click2Learn.

This initiative by PTCL is in alignment with the Prime Ministers' Youth Development Program, enabling youth and marginalized communities to get e-learning education opportunities, resulting in employment and economic empowerment.

Ahsan Iqbal, Federal Minister for Planning, Development & Reform, was the Chief Guest on the launching ceremony. Walid Irshaid, President & CEO PTCL, Muhammad Akram, Chief Executive Officer, Click2Learn along with management and employees of PTCL also attended the ceremony. Renowned writer and poet Amjad Islam Amjadand social activist Sohail Zimdani also attended the event and expressed their views on the significance of corporate values and its linkage with organizational success and economic prosperity.

Prof. Ahsan Iqbal while speaking on the occasion lauded PTCL for their efforts in contemplating social responsibility, adding that this program shall contribute immensely towards promoting e-learning in Pakistan. ICTinnovations offer great opportunities for the talented youth to transform Pakistan into an information and digital super power and create a society with equal opportunities for everyone".

Elaborating further Ahsan Iqbal was of the view that Vision 2025, set to launch on August 11, will provide a road map for Pakistan to strive forward and meet the challenges of future with immense strength. Minister Ahsan Iqbal, while addressing the audience, said that the world has witnessed a knowledge revolution in which models and paradigm of learning has changed. He said, "Learning was based on pen learning at one time. It is now redundant. Today is the age of computer literacy." He said that government is working to enable all the members of society to benefit from this change and for that very purpose, the government has distributed laptops. He commented, "We distributed laptops on merit. Laptop is not a leisure but a necessity item these days. I never realized what the eventual benefit of laptops would be until I hosted young IT entrepreneurs. 75 percent of the entrepreneurs were those who were beneficiaries of the laptop scheme earning good amount."

Walid Irshaid, President & CEO PTCL while speaking on the occasion said, "Development of youth is the single most contributing factor towards national prosperity and growth of the country. We at PTCL strongly believe in playing our active role in contributing towards the society and this cause. Providing learning opportunities to talented youth shall enable them to enhance their development and skill base for future endeavors".

Syed Mazhar Hussain, Chief Human Resources Officer (CHRO) PTCL highlighted PTCL's transformative role to achieve excellence both at organizational and community level by promoting a value driven culture within the organization and by offering advanced digital learning platforms to uplift the educational standards for country's youth.

A cultural transformation program 'Living PTCL Values' was also initiated at the occasion aimed at improving organizational performance. The objective of this cultural transformation initiative is to develop PTCL into a value-driven organization, where core values are translated and reflected upon into employees' attitude and behaviors to ultimately impact the organizational performance.

Telenor Zong bringing international call without ICH

www.telecoalert.com

Aug 06, 2014

ISLAMABAD (ABRAR MUSTAFA): After the abolishment of International Clearing House it seems that Telenor is reverting back to its old policy of handling international calls by itself. Now it seems that Zong is following Telenor in this regard. When ICH was abolished by Ministry of Information and Technology PTCL used local companies to get stay order from Sindh High Court. But Zong and Telenor both didn't accepted the stay order as both pointed out that the stay order was against MOIT policy directive and not them. It is worth mentioning that Telenor is bringing 3.5 to 4.5 million minutes every month of international calls to Pakistan which it seems is not acceptable by PTCL. The reason being PTCL is losing the race as it charges more on international calls compared to Telenor which effects its customer base and revenues. Telenor is not receiving Access Promotion Cost (APC) according to MOIT policy directive however PTCL is still enjoying APC from international markets.

Telenor Pakistan has announced to stop all international calls terminiating through international clearing house (ICH) to benefit the international callers. In a statement issued by the company to all telecom operators has confirmed the decision as a bold step in public interest. It's worth mentioning here that on June 17, 2014, on Moit directives, taxes were eliminated on all international calls. However, 11 companies including PTCL refused to act as per new directives issued by the Moit and take stay order from Sindh High Court.

Taxes should be reconsider on Telecom industry. Foly

www.telecoalert.com

Aug 03, 2014

KARACHI (MEDIA): When it comes to aims and ambitions, there is always room to go higher. Following the spectrum auction that landed 3G and 4G services in the country, a whole new avenue is now available to cellular mobile operators (CMOs) and has set the stage for further growth and expansion.

Same is the case with Telenor Pakistan. Newly-appointed Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Michael Foley is looking to build on the company's "innovation". "Since its inception, the story of Telenor Pakistan has been of innovation," Foley told The Express Tribune via email. "I resolve to take this innovation story forward especially in this new exciting times of 3G that Pakistan has been introduced to." In his first interview since he joined the company on July 1, Foley shared his views on the opportunities Pakistan's cellular market has to offer and the areas he would like to focus on. "It is quite exciting to assume the role at a significant moment in Telenor

Pakistan's history as the country moves into a future where everyone will be able to access the internet, affordably and easily," the CEO said.

Relatively a new player in the market, the Norwegian telecom giant's local subsidiary has been growing its market share constantly. Boasting 26% or 36.5 million of the country's cellular subscribers on its network, the company is closely following market leader Mobilink that enjoys 28% share. However, Telenor Pakistan claims that it dominates the market when it comes to consumers who use internet over their mobile phones.

"My predecessor [Lars Christian Luel] built a strong market position for Telenor Pakistan to capture further market growth. The company continues to grow its market share and is set to further develop its leading consumer internet position following the rollout of its 3G services and it is an honour to drive this transition," the Canadian said responding to a question. As he settles down, Foley, who brings with him 30 years of experience in sales, marketing and operations in the telecom and retail sectors in both advanced and growth-stage markets, said he would be focusing exclusively on the company's mobile internet segment.

"Telenor Pakistan's mobile internet statistics are very encouraging, highlighting future opportunities for us and the consumers for further data consumption."

Explaining, the CEO said global observations point out that the next spurt of telecom growth worldwide is expected from data services rather than voice with evidence from the local industry supporting it. There are 30 million internet users in the country and half of them access it via mobile phones. Internet has a 15% population penetration, showing a year-on-year growth of 43%, Foley said. "We feel that it can be a useful catalyst for sustainably changing lives and supporting socioeconomic development." The country has low internet penetration but technology pundits predict that the use of broadband will increase on the back of recently-introduced third-generation mobile internet services. Foley thinks no differently. The arrival of 3G services represents the beginning of a new age of connectivity in Pakistan, Telenor's new chief said. Today, barely one in every 10 Pakistani has access to the internet. "While millions of Telenor Pakistan customers are using internet services over 2G today, it is expected that this number will soar with 3G uptake," he says. Telenor Pakistan, according to industry sources, was the most-prepared operator in terms of network swap at the time of 3G auction. On June 1, the company commercially launched the service in big cities, while starting the second phase recently. "We have initiated the second phase of 3G services across the country by adding on 10 more cities last month," Foley said. These cities include Sarai Alamgir, Gujranwala, Kharian, Multan, Gujrat, Sialkot, Abbottabad, Faisalabad, Peshawar and Sargodha. While Foley is exciting about market opportunities and Telenor's market position, he also notes that there are certain challenges that will test his leadership skills as he steers the company towards growth.

"Mobile telecommunication is one of the largest tax collecting and paying sectors. However, we believe the sector is rather heavily taxed both from an industry point of view and for telecom consumers," Foley said. "Taxation makes it very challenging for us to reach the neediest in the market. It affects our pricing as well as we are not able to pass on some of the relief to the consumers." The CEO says the tax burden on cellular consumers is very high, especially keeping in view the average income of a Pakistani citizen. Of the 139 million telecom subscribers, 80% are below the threshold of taxable income. "We would request the government to consider rationalising various taxes imposed on the industry, both at the federal and provincial level."

PTCL adds High Speed Evo, launches Charji Evo. TEST CASE FOR PTA

www.telecoalert.com

Aug 02, 2014

ISLAMABAD (BMZ REPORT) Pakistan Telecommunications Company Limited (PTCL) has ushered a new era of technological innovation in the country by introducing the next generation 'Charji Evo' in Pakistan. The new service is an addition to the successful EVO family of prodcuts already serving millions of users in the country. The company announced officially that the new technology provides ultra fast uninterrupted connectivity at speeds up to 36 Mbps, making it the fastest wireless broadband in Pakistan. The service, available in convenient dongles and Mi-Fi clouds, is initially being launched in Islamabad, Rawalpindi, Karachi and Lahore and will be expanded to other parts of the country later. Both dongles and Mi-Fi clouds have the ability to fall back to the Rev A or Rev B network in case the customer uses the Charji Evo device in cities other than the current launch cities.

Furqan Qureshi, Chief Marketing Officer (CMO) PTCL commented at this launch, "We are excited to introduce the next-generation of our EVO broadband service in Pakistan which will enable access to data-rich products and enhance high speed broadband access for customers. We believe that highspeed broadband is a catalyst for growth and that it should be accessible to everyone. Pakistan's demand for data continues to grow and we intend to extend the fastest broadband service to our customers. The launch of the new Chaji Evo, reaffirms our commitment of empowering the nation by providing high speed broadband for all", added Furqan Qureshi. The super fast dongles and cloud devices are a companion for providing a powerful internet experience, enabling faster web browsing, HD video streaming, downloads, uploads and low latency (ping) rates for online gaming. The tremendous ease and comfort of 'Charji Evo' cloud devices with its state of the art Wi-Fi capability and fast internet browsing brings an unparalleled experience, connecting up to 10 Wi-Fi enabled devices (depends on the model) simultaneously to PTCL's revolutionary wireless Evo broadband network. The company currently has the largest wireless broadband network in the country with more than 250 cities powered by its EVO services. After auctioned of 3G/4G spectrum this kind of service from Ptcl is become test case for PTA!

Lag in IT-related growth, exports

By Nasir Jamal

Daily Dawn Aug 11, 2014

Around five years back, Ghana started automating its tax revenue management system in collaboration with the World Bank. In three years, the country's tax revenue doubled. The project was executed by a small Pakistani technology firm, InfoTech.

It was the company's first job outside Pakistan. Ever since, it has expanded into several African, South American and Gulf countries, including the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Iraq and Brazil, revamping their tax systems or rolling out citizen services. Today, its export revenues have surged to $40m a year, equal to its domestic turnover, and it has its offices in the UAE, Singapore, London and Saudi Arabia. InfoTech is an IT (information technology) systems integrator and e-infrastructure provider, and specialises in tax revenue management and power transmission/distribution system automation, as well as in emerging payment systems.

"IT empowers governments and businesses with innovative technology solutions and helps them increase their competitive advantage and return on investment," notes Naseer Akhtar, the company's president and CEO. 'Automation of the power transmission and distribution system can help the government save Rs500bn by controlling line losses and power theft through real-time monitoring of distribution of electricity' "A system integrator in IT like InfoTech means that we cover everything: planning, consulting, building and revamping the infrastructure; going into applications space, optimising business processes, selecting the right kind of technologies and putting together every piece of the puzzle to make it work for our customers."

InfoTech was born almost 20 years ago out of another firm that Naseer had set up in 1987 South Technology and Services offering automation solutions for the industry. "We were solutions providers in hardware, infrastructure and networks etc at that time. We were not really characterised as a systems integrator," Naseer told Dawn.

"I re-branded South Technology as InfoTech in 1995. But for the next decade, we struggled to transform and position ourselves into different domains, and eventually emerged as a system integrator." Though the company aspires to be a leader in its space and grow globally, it has expanded organically in size. In spite of employing 300 people and turning over annual sales of $80m two decades after its formation, it remains a significantly small venture when compared with many Indian firms operating in this field, and which employ thousands and turn over billions of dollars every year. Lack of official focus on the IT services industry, shortage of trained and skilled manpower, the country's unfavourable perception, low usage of technology by government and private firms, and the absence of laws supporting mergers and acquisitions are believed to be responsible for the stunted growth of Pakistani companies and low exports. "Strategic growth requires an enabling environment for mergers and acquisitions. We lack such an environment. We don't have a culture of mergers and acquisitions. Nor do we have the legal framework for that," says Naseer. "By now, we should have had 20-30 big firms to take advantage of the development in Africa, the Middle East and elsewhere, and increase our IT services exports. You need to be a big company to compete globally and handle big orders." He points out that India and Pakistan entered the field of IT at the same time. "India has grown rapidly and its IT industry fetches $60bn in export revenues, compared to $2bn earned by us. It's because India created a highly trained and educated workforce for its growing IT industry, and took strong diplomatic initiatives to bring the global IT business to the country. "You need your government to hold your hand to grow in size and outside the country. Regrettably, it hasn't been the case in Pakistan, and our companies remain small and have to compete hard to win contracts in the global markets, as we neither have enough trained manpower nor access to foreign markets."

The InfoTech president underlined the significance of IT services in increasing export revenue as well as creating new jobs in the country. "The textile industry fetches export revenue of about $1,000 per worker. IT services exports, on the other hand, bring in $12,000-40,000 per person."

Naseer points out that Pakistan is losing billions of dollars and competitiveness because of low level of technology usage both by the government and private businesses. "The government, for example, can substantially increase its tax revenues through automation of the Federal Board of Revenue, like Ghana and other countries have done. "Similarly, automation of the power transmission and distribution system can help the government save Rs500bn by controlling line losses and power theft through real-time monitoring of distribution of electricity. In the same way, we can transfer funds in real time from one bank to another through checks, to the advantage of bank consumers," he said. But, he added that "we don't have the political will or the policy focus to implement solutions to put our house in order. It is despite that that every dollar we spend on adoption of these IT solutions saves us 35-40 dollars."

The fake world of Facebook

By Hazrat Bacha

Daily Dawn Aug 31, 2014

Social media, especially Facebook, perhaps the most powerful medium, can become an effective source for dissemination of useful information, provision of entertainment and obtaining knowledge, but in our society it is being misused by most of the people for spreading baseless news, fabricated photos and sketches just to defame others.

Few years ago when a limited number of people had Facebook accounts, they used to share only historical, useful and interesting information and photos but now the situation has totally changed. The number of Facebook users is increasing with each passing day and several persons have more than one account with different names. The fake Facebook accounts are usually used for negative activities like blackmailing and propaganda. The experts of social media are of the view that most of the youth are using fake names with attractive but fake photos of girls to get fast and massive response. Every user should keep it in mind that social media is used by families also and uploading substandard items is extremely immoral act, says a student. Facebook has become a Hide Park where everyone can use whatever language he/she wants to use. Sometimes one can observe very indecent words against known personalities, mainly politicians. There is no restriction on uploading photos, texts and comments against anyone.

The political workers seem more active on Facebook as they use it mostly for propaganda. The most lamentable aspect of the situation is that people have started disgracing political and religious leaders by uploading their caricatures. The portraits and photographs of leaders are reshaped in different poses with girls and then uploaded to tarnish their image in public. Political workers, especially women, are disgraced by changing their shapes in photo-shop with strange captions. Most of the viewers are now well-versed with the entire process and know that people are using Facebook as a propaganda tool. The Facebook users are educated people and many of them can become opinion makers but they too indulge in the negative activities and not only misuse this powerful platform but contribute no good to the society. The misuse of this powerful social media has caused unrest among many of the people because the threat of fake accounts is also on the rise. Several known personalities, government officials, politicians and even judges have denied having Facebook accounts but IDs in their names do exist on Facebook. Many of them have clarified their position after appearance of objectionable stuff on the site. Tagging of photos on others' timelines is another serious issue because sometimes someone is tagged in a very disgusting photos and stuff against his/her will. Sharing of unconfirmed, inauthentic Qurani verses and Hadiths of Prophet Mohammad (Peace Be Upon Him) is very common and people download and get print out of the same to preserve them but no one bothers to get the stuff verified at least from a religious scholar. "I hate to see the blood stained photos of victims of violence on Facebook and even on television and in newspapers. Media should ban displaying such things, which can terrorise the society," says Mahnoor Ali, a girl student of a government-run college.

Similarly, Mohammad Izhar Ali Shah, a student of Islamia College Peshawar, said that use of fake female photos by boy students had become a routine, which did not suit civilised and sensible citizens. He urged the students to share stuff pertaining to general knowledge, academics and history instead of misuse of the valuable space on the international social media. He also opposed tagging of immoral material on social media, saying most of Facebook users were young students, who should not be misguided. "Every user should keep it in mind that social media is used by families also and uploading substandard items is extremely immoral act, which needs to be checked by the relevant departments of the government," Mr Izhar suggested. An IT expert said that there should be ban on use of useless stuff, which could misguide common users. He said that excessive use of digital cameras and cellular phones had made lives of people miserable by making unnecessary videos and photos. "One cannot preserve privacy in the prevailing situation as in case of any unusual moment one's photo can appear on social media within no time," he said. The expert said that most of the Facebook users had scores of friends on the net but none of them could prove faithful in hour of need. "They only send messages on birthdays and comment on newly uploaded stuff," he said. The youngsters, he said, had devoted their lives to Facebook and Twitter as they didn't sleep at night but remained busy in such activities. He pointed out that students were in the habit of making videos in the classrooms and uploading the same on Facebook to the surprise of parents and teachers. The management of every educational institution should check misuse of the cellular phones and digital cameras, he added. He said that location of fake ID users could be checked but it needed strenuous efforts on part of the cyber crimes unit of Federal Investigation Agency (FIA). Stressing the need to check the originality of the IDs, he said that it was a sensitive thing that could lead to murder of people if not checked. "There are examples that anti-social elements used social media for nefarious designs. They lure girls through chatting, get their phone numbers and try to achieve whatever ill-designs they have in mind," he added.

A sports journalist Azmatullah Khan said that Facebook was like a treasure of knowledge but the youngsters were misusing it. He urged parents to check activities of their children and guide them to use social media for obtaining knowledge.

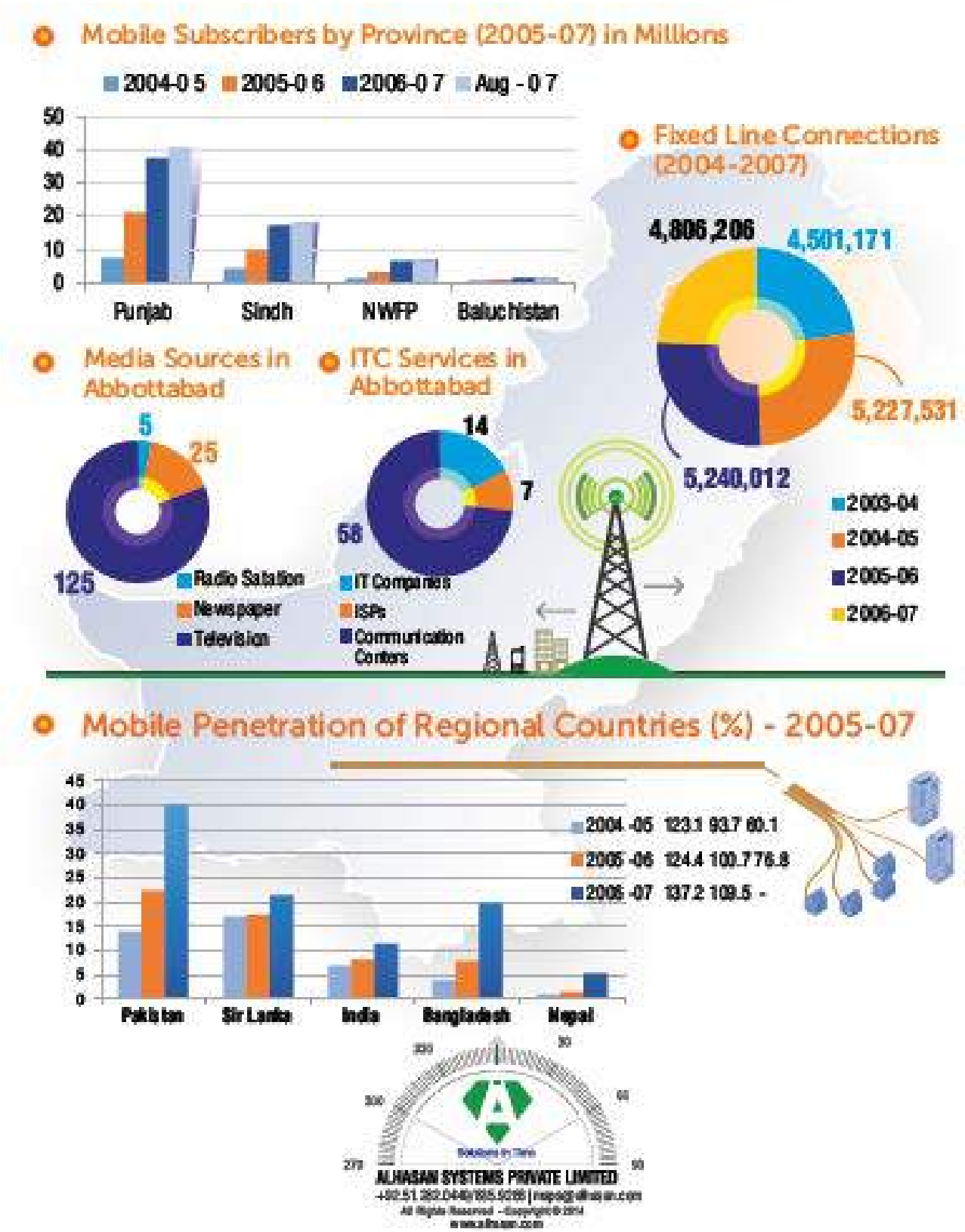
Aneela Shaheen, another journalist, termed Facebook a useful source of information for all those, who were given no space on television and newspapers for expressing their views and emotions. She said that it was like a free of cost effective platform. "The print and electronic media is not supposed to accommodate derogatory and insulting statements but one can easily upload harsh words on Facebook to express his/her emotions," she added.

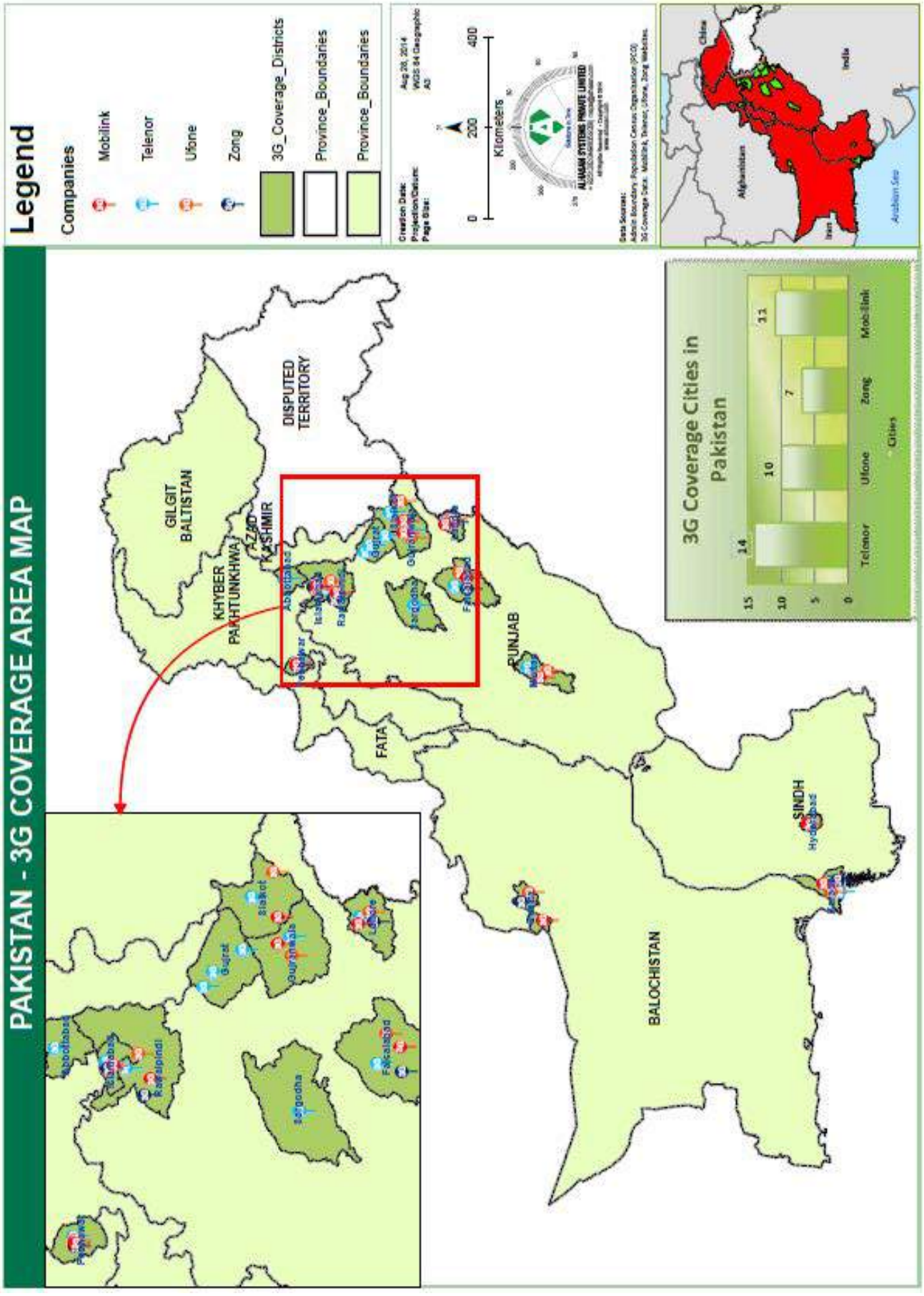
Ms Shaheen said that sometimes educated people used Facebook for sharing very substandard stuff. She also suggested restrictions on uploading of objectionable material on social media because such things could create social problems in the society.

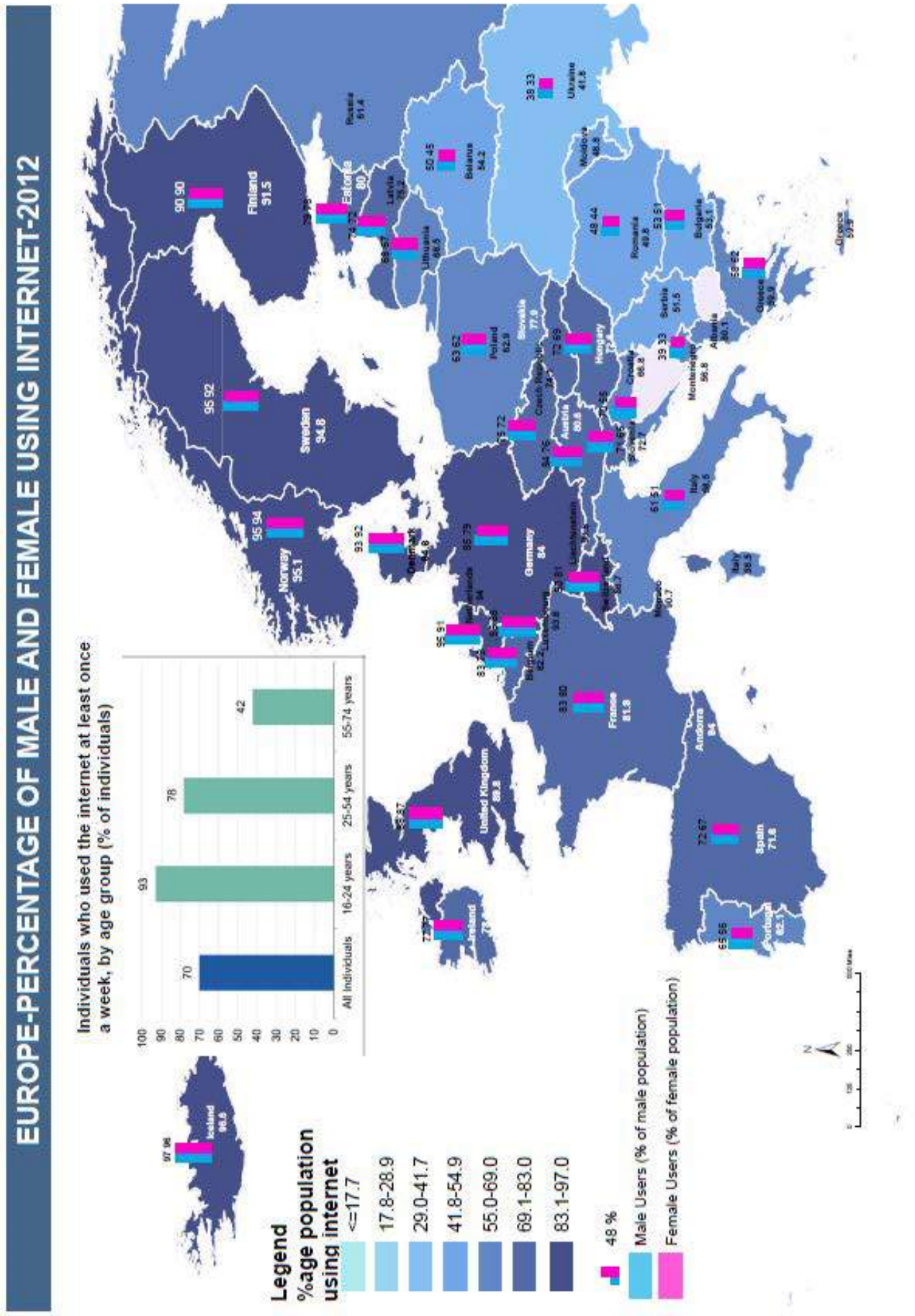
"I use it (social media) mostly for games," Sigtain Ali, another IT expert, said. He said that people were using it so regularly as if they had been assigned it and paid wages for it.

Imran Shahid, a deputy director of FIA, told Dawn that cyber crimes unit of FIA was working on checking misuse of such things and taking action in case of public complaints. "There is lack of awareness among people about the cyber crime unit of the FIA, which is working effectively to check unwanted and disgusting material on internet and Facebook. It can locate the place of origination of an ID," he said. Mr Shahid said that unaware people were in the habit to register complaints with police but it was not duty of the police because only FIA had the facilities to check and block unwanted stuff. He said that they could also seek help of relevant departments including Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) and even Yahoo and Google for the purpose.

District Abbottabad - ICT Infographic




PAKISTAN - 3G COVERAGE AREA MAP
Legend
Companies
Mobilink
Telenor
Ufone
Zong
3G_Coverage_Districts
Province_Boundaries
Province_Boundaries
Kilometers
0
200
400
3G Coverage Cities in Pakistan
Telenor
Ufone
Zong
Mobilink
Cities
14
10
7
11
DISPUTED TERRITORY
GILGIT BALTISTAN
AZAD KASHMIR
KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA
PUNJAB
FATA
SINDH
BALOCHISTAN
China
India
Afghanistan
Iran
Arabian Sea


EUROPE-PERCENTAGE OF MALE AND FEMALE USING INTERNET-2012
Individuals who used the internet at least once a week, by age group (% of individuals)
All Individuals
16-24 years
25-54 years
55-74 years
70
93
78
42
Legend
%age population using internet
<=17.7
17.8-28.9
29.0-41.7
41.8-54.9
55.0-69.0
69.1-83.0
83.1-97.0
48 %
Male Users (% of male population)
Female Users (% of female population)
Finland 91.5
Sweden 94.8
Norway 95.1
Iceland 96.6
Estonia 80
Latvia 75.2
Lithuania 68.5
Russia 61.4
Belarus 54.2
Ukraine 41.8
Moldova 48.8
Poland 62.9
Slovakia 77.9
Czech Republic 76.7
Hungary 73.69
Austria 80.8
Germany 84
Netherlands 94
Belgium 82.2
Luxembourg 93.6
France 81.8
Andorra 84
Spain 71.8
Portugal 62.1
Italy 58.5
Slovenia 72.7
Croatia 66.8
Montenegro 56.8
Serbia 51.5
Albania 60.1
Greece 58.9
Romania 49.8
Bulgaria 53.1
United Kingdom 88.8
Ireland 78

ICT Directory

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS	
Electronic Government Directorate 0092-51-9257236-37 0092-51-9257238 dgegd@e-government.gov.pk www.e-government.gov.pk Plot No. 24-B Street No.6 sector H-9/I, Islamabad	Ministry for Science and Technology 0092-51-9202790,9208026 0092-51-9204541 minister@most.gov.pk www.most.gov.pk 4th Floor, Evacuee Trust Complex, , F-5/1, Islamabad
Ministry of Information Technology 0092-51-9201990 0092-051-9205233 mos@moitt.gov.pk www.moitt.gov.pk 4th Floor, Evacuee Trust Complex, Agha Khan Road,F-5/1, Islamabad	National ICT R&D Fund 0092-51-9215360-5 0092-51-9215366 ceo@ictrdf.org.pk, ahmed.afzal@ictrdf.org.pk, fawad.younus@ictrdf.org.pk www.ictrdf.org.pk 6th Floor, HBL Tower, Jinnah Avenue, Blue Area, Islamabad
National Radio Telecommunication Corporation 0092-995 -611382, 611728 0092-995- 610933 info@nrtc.com.pk www.nrtc.com.pk T&T Complex, Haripur, KP	Pakistan Electronic Media Regulatory Authority (PEMRA) 0092-51- 9107151-3 0092-51-9107138 0092-51-9107104 chairman@pemra.gov.pk, dg-ops@pemra.gov.pk, dg.admn@pemra.gov.pk www.pemra.gov.pk PEMRA Headquarters, Mauve Area G-8/1, Islamabad
National Telecomunication Corporation 0092-51-9218949 , 0092-51-9245900 0092-51-9245902 support@ntc.net.pk, wasi.khan@ntc.org.pk, viqar.khan@ntc.org.pk www.ntc.net.pk NTC Headquarters G-5/2, Islamabad	Pakistan Broadcasting Corporation Headquarters 0092-51-9214278, 9222161 0092-51-9223827 directorgeneral@radio.gov.pk www.radio.gov.pk G-5, Constitutional Avenue, Islamabad
Pakistan Computer Bureau 0092-51-9257781/0092-51-9257724 dg@pcb.gov.pk www.pcb.gov.pk 24-B, Street No.6, Sector H-9/1, Islamabad	Pakistan Software Export Board 0092-51-9204074/0092-51-9204075 info@pseb.org.pk www.pseb.org.pk 2nd Floor, Evacuee Trust Complex, F-5, Islamabad
Pakistan Telecommunication Authority 0092-51-9202700, 51-2878143 0092-51-9212700 complaint@pta.gov.pk www.pta.gov.pk CPD, PTA Headquarters, Sector F- 5/1, Islamabad	Pakistan Television Corporation Limited 0092-51-9212222, 9213333 gmnews@ptv.com.pk www.ptv.com.pk Constitution Avenue, Islamabad, Islamabad
Punjab Information Technology Board 0092-42-35880062 0092-42-99232123 info@pitb.gov.pk ww.pitb.gov.pk 11th Floor, Arfa Software Technology Park, 346-B, Ferozepur Road, Lahore, Punjab	Special Communication Organization 0092-51-111 726 726 info@sco.gov.pk www.sco.gov.pk Convoy Road, Rawalpindi
Telecom Foundation 0092-51-2808159-64 www.telecomfoundation.com.pk TF Complex TF HQ, 7 Mauve Area, G-9/4, Islamabad	Directorate of Information Technology, Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa 0092-91-9211789 0092-91-9211789 Ext 105 bilal@khyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk,basit@khyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk, sysadmin@khyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk www.khyberpakhtunkhwa.gov.pk TF 204-210, 3rd Floor, Dean Trade Center, Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa
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UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES

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Dawood College of Engineering and Technology 009-21-99231195/ 96/97/98 0092 21 99230710 www.duet.edu.pk New M. A. Jinnah Rd Karachi, Sindh	National University of Modern Languages 0092-51-9257646- 50, 0092-51-9257646 Ext 304 0092-51-9257253 InfoIT@numl.edu.pk, info@numl.edu. pk,dir-admin@numl.edu.pk www.numl.edu.pk Sector H-9/1, Khayaban-e-Johar, Islamabad
National University of Sciences and Technology 0092-51-111-11-6878, 0092-51-90851001 0092-51-90851007 rector@nust.edu.pk, dadmissions@nust.edu.pk www.nust.edu.pk NUST Campus, H-12, Islamabad	Virtual University 0092-42-111 880 880 0092-42-99200604, 0092-42-99202174 registrar@vu.edu.pk mitadmissions@vu.edu.pk, mcsadmissions@vu.edu.pk www.vu.edu.pk M.A. Jinnah Campus, Defence Road, Off Raiwind Road, Lahore, Punjab
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Mehran University of Engineering and Technology 0092-22-2772250-73, 0092-022-2772278 info@cs.muet.edu.pk, additional.director@admin.muet.edu.pk Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, Indus Hwy, Jamshoro, Sindh	

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Innovative Development Organization Quetta 0092-81-2834917 0092-81-2838823 ali@ido.org/info@ido.org www.ido.org.pk House # 69-A, Chaman Housing Scheme,, Quetta, Balochistan	iMMAP H# 25, College Road, F-7/2, Islamabad, Pakistan 0092-51.835.0752 0092-51.835.0753 www.immap.org
Pakistan Workers' Federation 0092-42-37222192 0092-42-37239529 pwf@brain.net.pk www.pwf.org.pk Bakhtiar Labour Hall, 28 - Nisbet Road, Lahore, Punjab	Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) http://www.sdpi.org 0092 51 2278134 0092 51 2278135 main@sdpi.org ed@sdpi.org 38 Embassy Road, G-6/3 Islamabad (New Address) Pakistan
Water, Health, Education, Environmental League Quetta 0092-81-2445212 0092-81-2445212 razayt@yahoo.com House No: 8-40/1479-2, Street no: 3, Ismail Coluny Sirki Road, Quetta, Balochistan	

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CYBER INTERNET Services 0092-21-111-44-55-66 0092- 21-35679267 info@cyber.net.pk, corpinfo@cyber.net.pk www.cyber.net.pk Ground Floor, Lakson Square Building No.2, Sarwar , Karachi	Micronet Broadband (Pvt) Ltd 0092-51 111 11 44 44 0092-51 831 0100 info@dsl.net.pk www.dsl.net.pk 73-E GD Arcade, Fazal-ul-Haq Road, Blue Area, Islamabad
Mobilink 0092-51-111-300-300 03000 -60-160 businesscare@mobilink.net www.mobilinkgsm.com Blue Area, Islamabad	Nayatel 0092- 51 111 114 444 0092-51 8310100 info@nayatel.com www.nayatel.com GD Arcade, 73-E Fazal ul Haq Road, Blue Area, Islamabad
NetSol Technologies 0092 42 111 448 800, 0092 42 5727096-7 0092 42 5726740 webinquiry@netsoltech.com www.netsolpk.com	NEXLINX 0092 42 111 432 432 0092 42 35 75 9092 info@nexlinx.net.pk www.nexlinx.net.pk

NetSol IT Village (Software Technology Park) NetSol Avenue, Ghazi Road , Lahore, Punjab	37 C-1/C Gulberg III, Lahore, Punjab
OvexTech Pakistan 0092 51 111 111 502 0092 51 2871137 info@ovextech.com www.ovextech.com 2nd Floor Evacuee Trust Complex F-5/1, Sir Agha Khan Road Islamabad	Pakistan Software Houses Association for IT & ITES (P@SHA) 0092-21-35418121, 0092-21-36061051 secretariat@pasha.org.pk, president@pasha.org.pk www.pasha.org.pk Room 310, 3rd Floor, Business Center, Block 6, PECHS, Main Shahrah-e-Faisal, Karachi, Sindh
Pakistan Telecommunications Company Limited (PTCL) 0092-51-111 20 20 20 acon@ptcl.net www.ptcl.com.pk Corporate Headquarters, Block-E, G-8/4, Islamabad	QUBEE 0092- 11-10-78233 questions@qubee.com.pk www.qubee.com.pk 75 East Plaza, Blue Area, Fazal-ul-Haque Road, Islamabad
Telenor 0092 51 111 345 700 0092-51 2651923 telenor345@telenor.com.pk www.telenor.com.pk 13-K, Moaiz Center, F-7 Markaz, Islamabad	Ufone 0092-51-111-333-100 0092-51-111-333-900 customercare@ufonegsm.net www.ufone.com 13-B, F-7 Markaz, Jinnah Super, Islamabad
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FM 103 Tradeserve International 0092-42-6308576 UAN: 111-111-103 0092-42-6308359 1st Floor, LDA Plaza, Egerton Road, Lahore Lahore, Punjab	FM 98 Asian Broadcasting (Pvt) Ltd 0092-62-2882737, 2888765, 2050202, 2050602-3 0092-622-880156, 732456 20/A, Commercial Colony, Railway Road, Bahawalpur, Punjab
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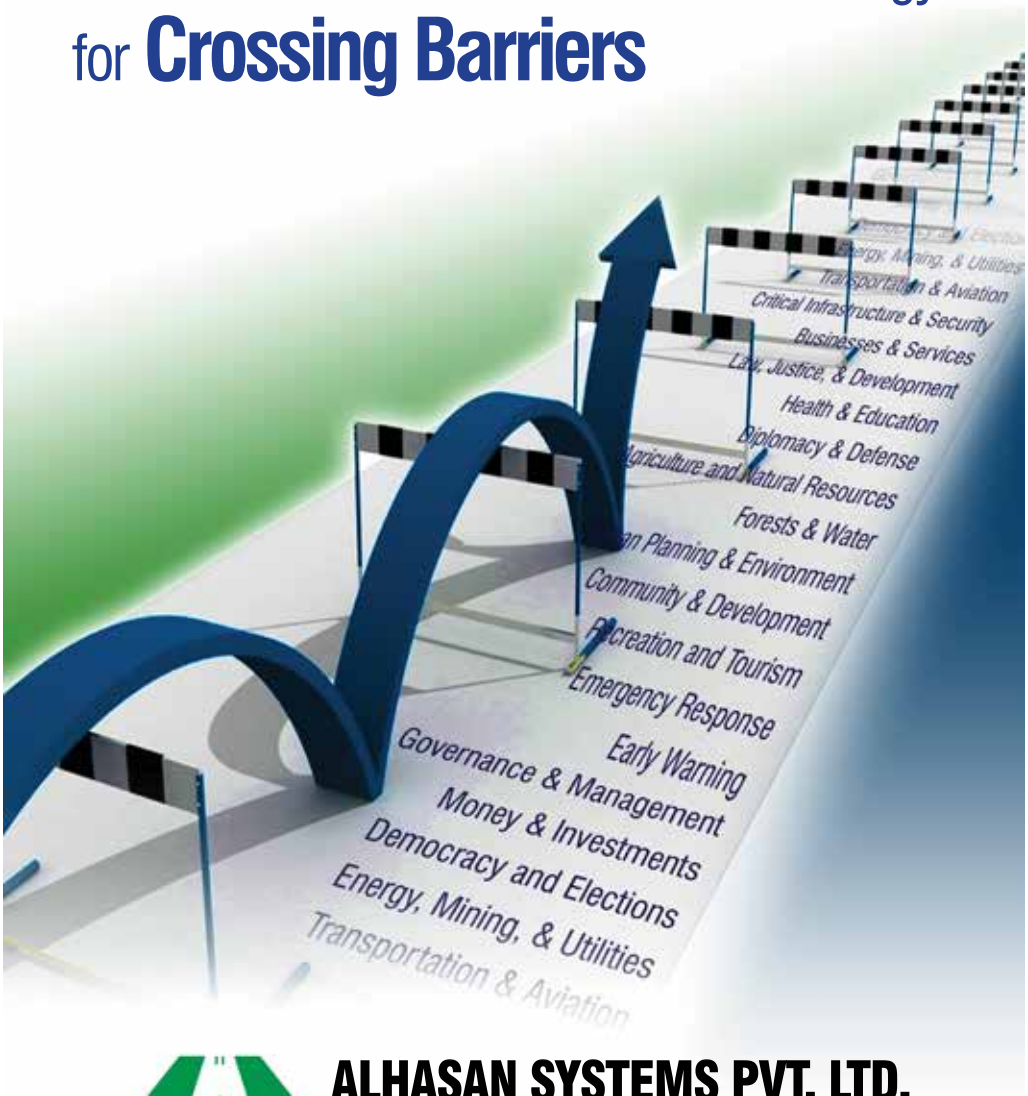

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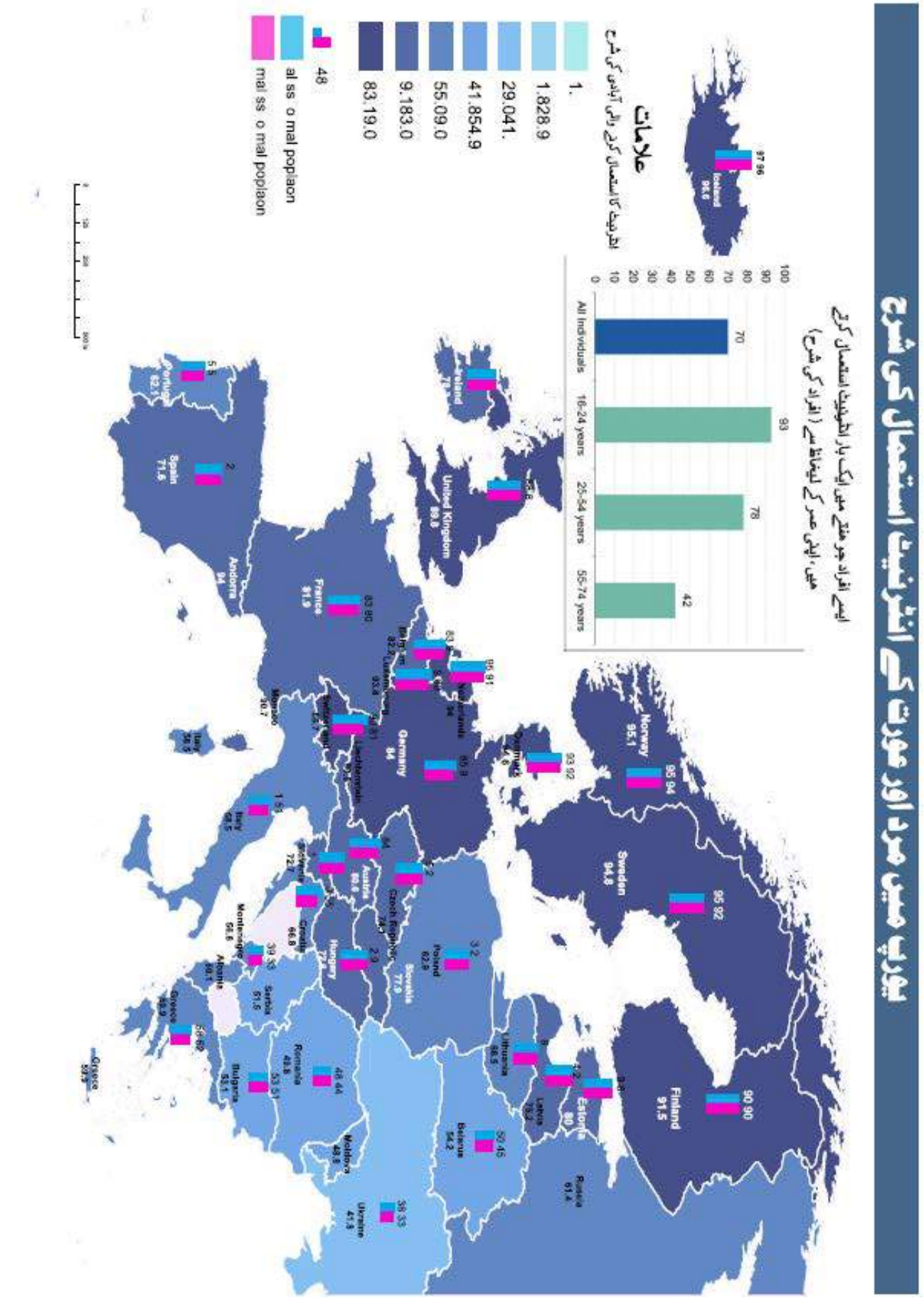
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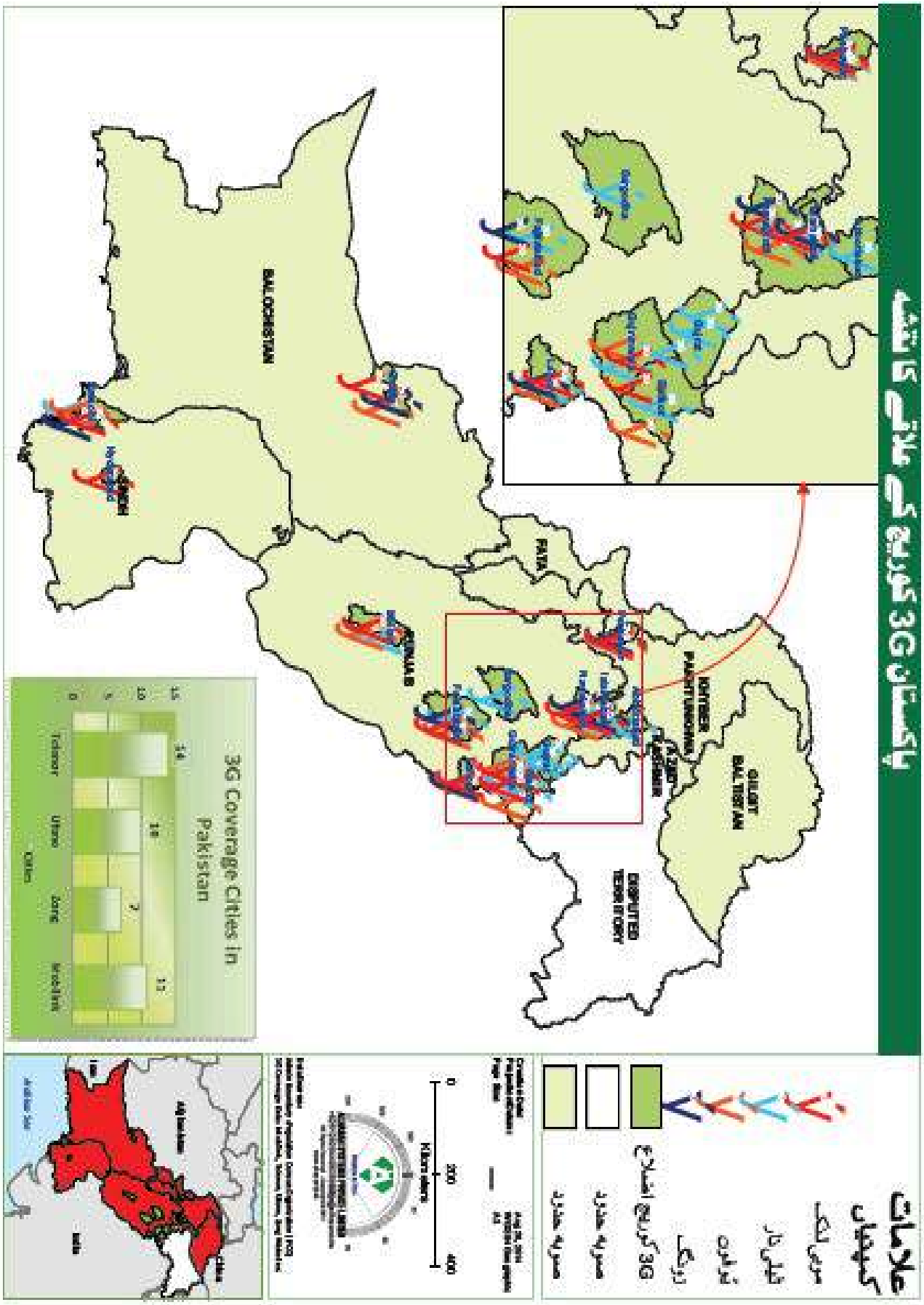
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نے تیار کیا ہے اور انہوں نے اس قانون میں خواتین کے تحفظ کے لیے مناسب شقیں شامل کی ہیں"۔

اسلام آباد: وزارت انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی نے ملک میں قائم اسمال سافٹ ویئر ٹیکنالوجی پارکس کو انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی پارکس میں تبدیل کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا ہے اور عالمی بینک اس منصوبے کے لیے پاکستان میں ساڑھے 4 کروڑ ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری کرے گا۔ اس ضمن میں وزارت انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی حکام نے بتایا کہ مذکورہ اقدام کا بنیادی مقصد ملک میں ابھرتی ہوئی ٹیکنالوجی کی حوصلہ افزائی کرنا ہے۔حکام کا کہنا ہے کہ مجوزہ آئی ٹی پارکس جدید انفرااسٹرکچر کے ساتھ تعمیر کیے جائیں گے جس کا مقصد انھیں عالمی تقاضوں سے ہم آہنگ بنانا اور اس شعبے میں جدید ٹیکنالوجی کو متعارف کرانا ہے۔حکام کا کہنا ہے کہ عالمی بینک نے اس منصوبہ کے لیے ساڑھے 4 کروڑ ڈالر کی سرمایہ کاری کی خواہش ظاہر کی ہے، ان پارکس میں ریسرچ، ڈیولپمنٹ سینٹرز، ٹیلی کام، فارماسیوٹیکل، بائیو ٹیکنالوجی، نینو ٹیکنالوجی، متبادل توانائی اور خلائی شعبے کی ترقی کے لیے کام کیا جا سکے گا۔

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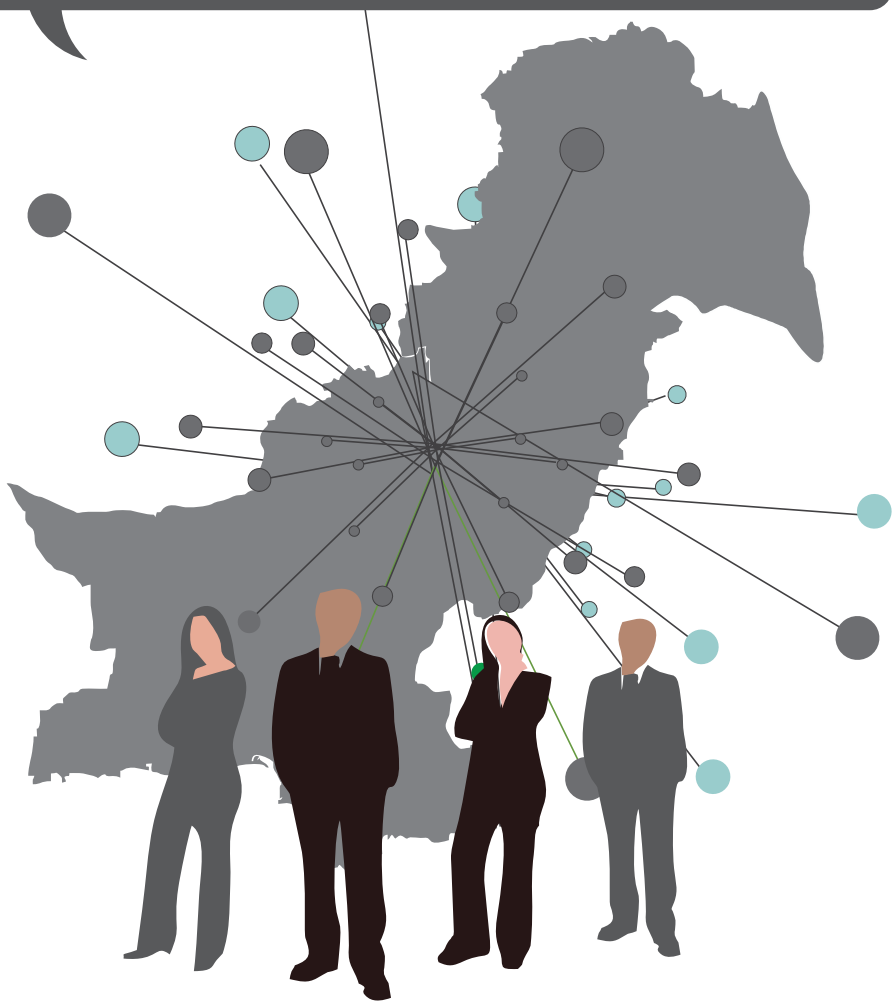

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عائد کردی

روزنامہ اساس

02اگست2014

آن لائن سائبر کرائم کے قوانین کی عدم موجودگی خواتین کے لیے خطرہ

روزنامہ ڈان

02اگست2014

اسلام آباد: مناسب قانونی فریم ورک کی عدم موجودگی کے باعث آن لائن ہراساں کرنے، سائبر حملوں یا نجی مواد افشا کرنے والے بچ نکلنے میں کامیاب ہوجاتے ہیں۔حال ہی میں اسلام آباد ہائیکورٹ (آئی ایچ سی) نے اپنی سابقہ منگیتر کی تصاویر اپ لوڈ کرنے کے الزام میں گرفتار ایک نوجوان کو ضمانت پر رہا کردیا، کیونکہ پراسیکیوشن اسے ملزم ثابت کرنے کے لیے شواہد پیش کرنے میں ناکام رہا تھا۔عدالت سے موصول اطلاعات کے مطابق ملزم راولپنڈی کی رہائشی ایک لڑکی کی محبت میں گرفتار ہوگیا اور ان دونوں کی منگنی لگ بھگ چار سال چلی۔ملزم کے بھائی کے مطابق منگنی دونوں خاندانوں کے لیے خوشگوار ثابت ہوئی مگر رواں برس مارچ میں یہ تعلق ٹوٹ گیا۔ملزم کے بھائی نے ڈان کو بتایا کہ یہ منگنی اس وقت ٹوٹی جب اس لڑکی کی چند نازیبا تصاویر سماجی رابطے کی ویب سائٹ فیس بک پر اپ لوڈ کردی گئیں۔

وفاقی تحقیقاتی ادارے (ایف آئی اے) کے سائبر کرائم سرکل میں درج کرائی گئی شکایت میں لڑکی نے تصاویر اپ لوڈ کرنے کا الزام اپنے سابقہ منگیتر پر لگایا۔اپنی درخواست میں اس لڑکی نے شکایت کی کہ وہ لڑکا اسے سوشل میڈیا پر بلیک میل کررہا تھا اور اس نے یہ تصاویر اس کے ایک کزن کو بھی ارسال کی تھیں۔اس لڑکی کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ ملزم نے اس کے فیس بک اکاؤنٹ کو ہیک کرکے خود اس کے بجائے رشتے داروں اور دوستوں سے بات چیت کرتا رہا۔ایف آئی اے سائبر کرائم سرکل نے ملزم نوجوان کو گیارہ جون کو حراست میں لیا اور اس کے خلاف مقدمہ درج کرلیا۔ایف آئی آر میں لکھا گیا تھا "تحقیقات کے دوران یہ بات ظاہر ہوئی ہے کہ ملزم نے شکایت کنندہ کی اجازت کے بغیر اس کی فیس بک پروفائل تک رسائی حاصل کی اور غیر مہذب کمنٹس پوسٹ کیے، جبکہ اس نے فیس بک پیج پر لڑکی کی نازیبا تصاویر بھی اپ لوڈ کیں"۔پاکستان میں سائبر کرائم سے نمٹنے کا کوئی مخصوص قانون موجود نہیں، خاص طور پر سائبر اسٹاکنگ کے حوالے سے، اس قانون یا آرڈیننس کی عدم موجودگی کے باعث ایف آئی اے متعدد معاملات کو ہاتھ لگانے سے قاصر رہتی ہے۔حکومتی عہدیداران پہلے 2007ء میں پیش کیے گئے الیکٹرونکس کرائم آرڈیننس پر گزارہ کررہے تھے، تاہم نومبر 2009ء میں اس کی مدت ختم ہونے کے بعد سے پرانے الیکٹرونک ٹرانزیکشن آرڈیننس 2002ء (ای ٹی او) کو استعمال کرنا پڑرہا ہے، اس قانون کے تحت سائبر کرائم پر زیادہ سے زیادہ سزا سات سال قید سنائی جاسکتی ہے۔یہ قانون دستاویزات، ریکارڈ، اطلاعات اور کمیونیکیشن کے دیگر ذرائع کے الیکٹرونکس ٹرانزیکشن پر لاگو ہوتا ہے، تاہم اس میں مخصوص معاملات جیسے آن لائن ہراساں کیا جانا یا نازیبا تصاویر و وڈیوز کی اشاعت کے حوالے سے کچھ بھی صراحت موجود نہیں۔ای ٹی او کا مسودہ اس وقت تیار ہوا تھا جب انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی موجودہ دور کی مقابلے میں اس قدر ترقی یافتہ نہیں تھی۔آئی ٹی ماہرین کا کہنا ہے کہ اس قانون کو ہیکرز یا اسلام آباد کے نوجوان جیسے سائبر ملزمان کے خلاف استعمال نہیں کیا جاسکتا، جس نے اپنی منگیتر کی نجی زندگی کو تباہ کرکے رکھ دیا۔اگرچہ نوجوان کے خلاف مقدمہ بدستور عدالت میں زیر سماعت ہے، مگر مناسب قوانین کی عدم موجودگی کی بناء پر اسے سخت سزا ملنے کا امکان نہ ہونے کے برابر ہے۔

اسلام آباد ہائیکورٹ کے جسٹس نورالحق قریشی نے ناکافی شواہد کی بناء پر اس کی ضمانت کی درخواست منظور کرلی تھی، اور عام عدالتی حقیقت بھی یہی ہے کہ ضمانتیں ان مقدمات میں ہی دی جاتی ہے جس میں عدالت کو محسوس ہو کہ ملزم کے خلاف شواہد بہت کمزور ہیں۔انٹرنیٹ سروسز پروائیڈر ایسوسی ایشن آف پاکستان (آئی ایس پی اے کے) کے کنوینر وہاج السراج کا کہنا ہے کہ سوشل میڈیا ویب سائٹس کے غلط استعمال کے حوالے سے کوئی قوانین موجود نہیں۔انہوں نے کہا "قانون نافذ کرنے والے ادارے تاحال ملزمان کے خلاف موجودہ عہد کے تقاضے پورا نہ کر پانے والے قانون ای ٹی او اور پاکستان پینل کوڈ کی مخصوص شقوں پر انحصار کررہے ہیں۔مختلف مقدمات میں لوگوں خاص طور پر خواتین کے لیے اپنے وقار اور پرائیویسی کا تحفظ کرپانا کافی مشکل ہوجاتا ہے"۔ انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ حکومت نئے سائبر کرائم بل پر کام کررہی ہے "مگر وہ ابھی تک پارلیمنٹ میں پیش نہیں کیا گیا اور نہ ہی وفاقی کابینہ میں اس پر بحث ہوئی ہے"۔وزارت اطلاعات و نشریات کے ترجمان صغیر وٹو نے بھی تسلیم کیا کہ اس وقت نازیبا مواد کی روک تھام کے لیے قوانین موجود نہیں جس سے عام افراد خاص طور پر خواتین کی زندگیاں اور عزت خطرے کی زد میں ہیں۔انہیں نے کہا کہ سائبر کرائمز بل 2014ء کو حتمی شکل دے دی گئی ہے اور عید کے بعد اسے وفاقی کابینہ کے سامنے پیش کردیا جائے گا۔ ان کا کہنا تھا "یہ بل انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی کی وزیر انوشہ رحمان

06اگست2014

کمپنیاں سمارٹ فون، ٹیبلٹس اور کمپیوٹر بنانے والی دنیا کی سب سے بڑی کمپنیاں ہیں۔لیکن دونوں مختلف قسم کی قانونی جنگوں میں ملوث رہی ہیں اور ان کے درمیان حالیہ دنوں میں ان جنگوں کی شدت میں اضافہ ہوا ہے۔دونوں کے درمیان مقدمہ بازی کا آغاز سنہ 2011 میں اس وقت شروع ہوا جب ایپل نے سام سنگ کے خلاف امریکہ میں مقدمہ دائر کیا۔اس میں یہ الزام لگایا گیا تھا کہ جنوبی کوریائی کمپنی سام سنگ نے اپنے گیلیکسی سیریز کے سمارٹ فون اور ٹیبلٹس میں 'ایپل کے آئی فون اور آئی پیڈ ٹیبلٹ کی گھٹیا طریقے سے نقل کی ہے۔

اس کے بعد سے جنوبی کوریائی کمپنی نے کئی ممالک میں ایپل کے خلاف مقدمہ دائر کیا کہ وہ ان کے پیٹنٹ کی خلاف ورزی کر رہی ہیں جن میں فوٹو، میوزک اور ویڈیو کو مختلف آلات میں سنکرونائز کرنے اور ویڈیو بنانے اور اسے انٹرنیٹ پر بھیجنے کے طریقوں کی نقل کا الزام شامل تھا۔اس کے جواب میں ایپل نے بھی ان ممالک میں سام سنگ کے خلاف مقدمات دائر کیے تاہم اب دونوں کمپنیوں نے ان مقدمات کو واپس لیے پر اتفاق کر لیا ہے۔اس کے باوجود دونوں کمپنیوں کے درمیان اہم ترین قانونی جنگ امریکہ میں جاری رہے گی۔حالیہ برسوں میں ایپل نے سام سنگ کے خلاف دو قانونی جنگوں میں فتح حاصل کی ہے۔مئی میں ایک امریکی عدالت نے سام سنگ سے کہا تھا کہ وہ ایپل کو ہرجانے کے طور پر تقریباً 12 کروڑ امریکی ڈالر ادا کرے۔یاد رہے کہ ایپل نے دو ارب 20 کروڑ کا دعویٰ کیا تھا۔اس کے ساتھ ہی عدالت نے یہ بھی کہا تھا کہ ایپل نے سام سنگ کے پیٹنٹس کی خلاف ورزی کی ہے اور اسے بھی ایک لاکھ 58 ہزار ہرجانہ دینے کے لیے کہا۔

تھری جی کے دھوکے میں تاوان کی وصولی، موبائل صارفین ہوشیار ہوجائیں

روزنامہ پاکستان

05اگست2014

لاہور (نیوز ڈیسک)موبائل فون کے ذریعے سادہ لوح لوگوں کو لوٹنے کے جرائم اب ہماری روزمرہ زندگی کا حصہ بن چکے ہیں لیکن اس جرم کی ایک نئی قسم انتہائی خطرناک اور خوفناک ہے اور ہمیں اس سے حد درجہ محتاط رہنے کی ضرورت ہے۔متعدد شہریوں کے ساتھ پیش آنے والے افسوس ناک واقعات میں مجرم ملتا جلتا طریقہ واردات استعمال کر رہے ہیں۔عام طور پر کسی اپ گریڈیشن کیلئے یا ایسی کسی وجہ کی بنا پر فون تقریبا 2 گھنٹے کیلئے بند Gصارف کو نامعلوم نمبر سے کال موصول ہوتی ہے اور3 کرنے کو کہا جاتا ہے۔ اگرچہ کال کرنے والے عادی مجرم ہوتے ہیں لیکن اپنا تعارف کمپنی کے نمائندے کے طور پر کرواتے ہیں۔جونہی صارفی فون بند کرتا ہے یہ اس کے گھر والوں کو فون کر کے بتاتے ہیں کہ ان کے پیارے کو اغواء کر لیا گیا ہے اور تاوان کی رقم کا مطالبہ کرتے ہیں۔عموما یہ لوگ اس بات کی معلومات پہلے ہی لے چکے ہوتے ہیں کہ صارف گھر سے باہر ایسی جگہ ہے جہاں گھر والوں کیلئے کسی متبادل نمبر پر اس سے رابطہ ممکن نہ ہو۔فون بند ہونے کی وجہ سے گھر والوں کا سخت پریشان ہونا یقینی ہے اور متعدد واقعات میں لوگ لاکھوں روپے ان بے رحم درندوں کے حوالے کر چکے ہیں۔یہ واردات مختلف طریقوں سے کی جا رہی ہے مگر تقریبا ہر کیس میں یہ بات مشترک ہے کہ کچھ وقت کیلئے فون بند کرنے کو کہا جاتا ہے۔ایسی کال موصول ہونے پر فون بند نہ کریں ،جوابی کال بھی نہ کریں بلکہ گھر والوں سے رابطہ کر کے انہیں صورتحال سے خبر دار کریں۔یہ کالز زیادہ تر +371 اور +375کوڈ سے شروع ہونے والے نمبروں سے کی جا رہی ہیں۔

سام سنگ فونز کو جائن بلیک برڈ ایکریڈیشن کی منظوری مل گئی

روزنامہ دنیا

05اگست2014

لاہور(سٹاف رپورٹر) سام سنگ الیکٹرانکس کمپنی لمیٹڈ نے گروپ سپیشل موبائل ایسوسی ایشن (جی ایس ایم اے) کی جانب سے جائن بلیک برڈ کی ایکریڈیشن کی منظوری دینے کا خیر مقدم کیا ہے۔جائن بلیک برڈ کی شمولیت سے اہم موبائل آپریٹرز کے نیٹ ورک پر سام سنگ گلیکسی کے صارفین کو زیادہ مستحکم اور آسان چیٹ، لائیو ویڈیو اور فائل کے تبادلہ کی سہولیات حاصل ہو گئی ہیں۔سام سنگ الیکٹرانکس میں آئی ٹی اورموبائل کمیونیکیشن کے سی ای او جے کے شن نے کہا ہے کہ آر سی ایس ایک ترقی پسند اور اہم ٹیکنالوجی ہے جو موبائل کمیونیکیشن کے مستقبل کو تیزی سے تبدیل کر رہی ہے۔جائن بلیک برڈ سام سنگ گلیکسی کے صارفین کو روایتی آواز اور ایس ایم ایس سے ہٹ کر زیادہ موثر اور ذاتی انداز میں ملٹی میڈیا کمیونیکیشن کی خدمات سے لطف اندوز ہونے کی اجازت دیتا ہے۔

ٹیلی نار نے سہولت گھروں پر بائیو میٹرک ویریفیکیشن سسٹم نصب کر دیا

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

05اگست2014

اسلام آباد (پ ر) صارفین کے ڈیٹا کی تصدیق کو یقینی بنانے کیلئے عظم کی ترجمانی کرتے ہوئے ٹیلی نار پاکستان نے ملک گیر سطح پر سم کی ایکٹیویشن کیلئے تمام سہولت گھروں پر بائیو میٹرک ویریفیکیشن سسٹم (بی وی ایس) کامیابی کے ساتھ نصب کر دیا ہے واضح رہے کہ یکم دسمبر 2013ء سے کراچی میں ٹیلی نار پاکستان کے تمام سیلز و سروس سینٹرز اور فرنچائزز پر سم کی فرخت بی وی ایس کے ذریعے سرانجام دی جا رہی ہے۔

پی ٹی اے نے موبائل سمزایکٹیویشن پر پابندی

پی ٹی اے نے پرانے طریقہ کار کے تحت موبائل سمزایکٹیویشن پر پابندی عائد کردی ہے، نئی سمزبایومیٹرک سسٹم سے ہی فعال ہوں گی۔پی ٹی اے نوٹیفکیشن کے مطابق تمام موبائل سمز،، بایومیٹرک سسٹم سے ہی فعال ہوں گی۔جو صرف کمپنی کے

کرتے ہیں اور ہم نے چاہا کہ انٹرٹینمنٹ کے اہم کردار کو ایل جی کے نئے جی پیڈ 10.1 کی شکل میں اجاگر کریں۔انہوں نے کہا کہ دیگر ڈیوائسز کے ہمراہ ٹیبلٹس کا استعمال بھی بڑھ رہا ہے ، اس لیے ہم نے دیگر ڈیوائسز کے مقابلے میں ایل جی کا آسان اور باسہولت جی پیڈ 10.1 ٹیبلٹ تیار کیا ، یہ ٹیبلٹ ہمارے جی سیریز کے اسمارٹ فونز کی مرکزی ٹیکنالوجی سے لیس ہے۔

ٹوئٹر کے دو کروڑ 30 لاکھ صارفین انسان نہیں"

بی بی سی اردو

12 اگست 2014

مائیکرو بلاگنگ ویب سائٹ ٹوئٹر نے ایک حالیہ رپورٹ میں اعتراف کیا ہے کہ اس کے ساڑھے آٹھ فیصد صارفین حقیقی نہیں ہیں جنھیں 'خود بخود بغیر کسی صارف کی جانب سے کوشش کے اپ ڈیٹ کیا جاتا ہے۔اگر اس حساب سے دیکھا جائے تو ٹوئٹر کے مطابق جون 2014 کے آخر تک اس کے کُل 27 کروڑ صارفین میں سے دو کروڑ 30 لاکھ ایسے اکاؤنٹس ہیں۔یہ معلومات ٹوئٹر کی جانب سے حال ہی میں سرمایہ کاروں کے لیے جاری کیے گئے بیان میں جاری کی گئیں۔یہاں یہ واضح رہے کہ بوٹس یا ایسے اکاؤنٹس جنہیں کوئی انسانی براہِ راست نہیں چلاتا کا مطلب یہ نہیں کہ یہ جعلی اکاؤنٹ ہیں۔ان میں سے ایسے بہت سے اکاؤنٹس ہیں جو مختلف کمپنیوں اور برانڈز کی جانب سے ان کے کمپیوٹر صارف چلاتے ہیں۔ان میں کوکا کولا، اقوامِ متحدہ اور بہت سارے دوسرے برانڈز شامل ہیں۔فیس بک کے مقابلے میں ٹوئٹر کا معاملہ مختلف ہے جو صرف انسانوں کو اکاؤنٹ بنانے کی اجازت دیتا ہے۔یہ الگ بات ہے کہ اس میں کئی جانور اور پرندے بھی شامل ہو چکے ہیں جن کے بہت بڑے بڑے اکاؤنٹس ہیں۔فیس بک برانڈز کے لیے ایک صفحہ بنانے کو لازمی قرار دیتا ہے۔مبصرین کا کہنا ہے کہ انسانی صارفین کے حوالے سے ایک اہم بات یہ ہو گی جب ٹوئٹر یہ بتائے گا کہ صارفین کتنا وقت اس پر گزارتے ہیں۔فیس بک نے حال ہی میں یہ تفصیلات جاری کی تھیں جس کے مطابق اس کے صارفین اوسطاً 40 منٹ روزانہ اس کی ویب سائٹ پر گزارتے ہیں۔

مائیکروسافٹ کا 25 ڈالر کا موبائل فون

بی بی سی اردو

11 اگست 2014

مائیکروسافٹ نے ایک ایسے سستے فون کے اجرا کا اعلان کیا ہے جس میں انٹرنیٹ کی سہولت نہیں ہو گی، تاہم نوکیا 130 نامی اس فون کی قیمت صرف 25 ڈالر ہو گی۔ایک ماہ قبل افشا ہونے والی ایک دستاویز سے معلوم ہوا تھا کہ مائیکروسافٹ اپنے کئی سستے فون ختم کر کے اپنی توجہ زیادہ مہنگے ونڈوز فون پر مرکوز رکھنا چاہتی ہے۔لیکن اب کمپنی کا کہنا ہے کہ وہ اب بھی سستے فون جاری کرنے میں دلچسپی رکھتی ہے۔مائیکروسافٹ کے فون بزنس کی سربراہ جو ہالو نے بی بی سی کو بتایا: 'ان کی بہت بڑی مارکیٹ ہے اور اس میں کچھ زیادہ کمپنیاں نہیں ہیں۔انھوں نے کہا: 'ہمارے پاس اس مارکیٹ میں موثر مقابلہ کرنے کے لیے تقسیم و ترسیل کا نظام موجود ہے۔یہ ایک ایسا شعبہ ہے جہاں آج کے سمارٹ فون نہیں پہنچ پاتے، اس لیے اس مارکیٹ میں 'بہت فائدہ ہے۔

ہارلو نے کہا کہ مائیکروسافٹ ابھرتی ہوئی معیشتوں میں کم آمدنی والے طبقوں کو ہدف بنا رہی ہے۔انھوں نے مزید کہا کہ کم قیمت کے باوجود فون بنانے اور مارکیٹنگ کا خرچ نکال کر منافع کما سکے گی۔مائیکروسافٹ نے رواں برس اپریل میں نوکیا کا فون ڈویژن خرید لیا تھا۔تاہم ہارلو نے تصدیق کی کہ کمپنی نے آشا اور اینڈرائڈ پر چلنے والے نوکیا ایکس فون اور آشا سیریز بند کر دے گی۔انھیں بند کرنے کا مقصد یہ تھا کہ لومیا سیریز والے زیادہ مہنگے ونڈوز فون کی مارکیٹنگ کی جائے۔تاہم بعض حلقوں کے مطابق اس کی وجہ بڑھتا ہوا مقابلہ ہے۔کمپنی سی سی ایس ان سائٹ کے بین وڈ کہتے ہیں کہ مائیکروسافٹ کو نوکیا 130 کے ہر سیٹ کی فروخت سے بہت معمولی سا منافع حاصل ہو گا، لیکن یہ فون کروڑوں کے حساب سے بک سکتے ہیں۔حال ہی میں ایک رپورٹ آئی تھی جس کے مطابق ایک سال میں 30 کروڑ ایسے فون فروخت ہوتے ہیں جن کی قیمت 35 ڈالر سے کم ہوتی ہے۔

سام سنگ نے صارفین کیلئے طاقتور سائونڈ ایئر ٹریک متعارف کرادیا

روزنامہ دنیا

10 اگست 2014

لاہور(سٹاف رپورٹر) سام سنگ الیکٹرانکس کمپنی لمیٹڈنے اپنے صارفین کیلئے سام سنگ وائر لیس آڈیو سلوشنز کے سلسلے پر مشتمل طاقتور سائونڈ سام سنگ ایئر ٹریک متعارف کرادیاجس کو گھروں میں آڈیو تجربہ میں اضافہ کیلئے ڈیزائن کیاگیاہے ،ایئرٹریک صارف کے سام سنگ ٹی وی کے ساتھ کسی ذریعہ کے بغیر خودکار طریقہ سے جڑ جاتا ہے اوراس کو سام سنگ ٹی وی سائونڈ کنیکٹ سے ریموٹ کنٹرول کے ذریعے بھی چلایا جاسکتاہے۔

ایپل، سام سنگ امریکہ سے باہر مقدمے واپس لینے پر رضامند

بی بی سی اردو

دنیا کی دو بڑی الیکٹرانک کمپنیاں سام سنگ اور ایپل امریکہ سے باہر ایک دوسرے کے خلاف دائر مقدمات واپس لینے پر رضامند ہو گئی ہیں۔ان حریف کمپنیوں نے امریکہ سے باہر برطانیہ، جنوبی کوریا، جاپان اور جرمنی سمیت نو ممالک میں ایک دوسرے خلاف پیٹنٹ سے متعلق متعدد مقدمات دائر کر رکھے ہیں۔سام سنگ نے کہا ہے کہ اس معاہدے میں 'لائسنس کے انتظامات شامل نہیں ہیں اور یہ کہ یہ دونوں کمپنیاں امریکی عدالتوں میں دائر مقدموں کی پیروی جاری رکھیں گی۔یہ دونوں

سام سنگ 2014 (آئی۔ایف۔اے) میں سمارٹ آفس پلیٹ فارم متعارف کرائے گا

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

21 اگست 2014

لاہور (پ ر) سام سنگ الیکٹرانکس کمپنی لمیٹڈ نے 2014 (آئی۔ایف۔اے) میں اپنے نئے سمارٹ آفس پلیٹ فارم اور جدید ترین کثیر المقاصد پرنٹرز متعارف کرانے کا اعلان کیا ہے۔اس سلسلے میں سام سنگ انتظامیہ 4 ستمبر کو جرمنی کے دارالحکومت برلن میں پریس کانفرنس کے دوران اپنی نئی مصنوعات متعارف کروانے کا باضابطہ اعلان کرے گی۔

گوگل سرچ کے پانچ سود مند فیچر، صارفین کی اکثریت لاعلم

روزنامہ پاکستان

21 اگست 2014

لاہور (ویب ڈیسک) انٹرنیٹ کے کم و بیش تمام صارفین گوگل کے بارے میں جانتے ہیں، 1996ء میں ایک ریسرچ پراجیکٹ کے طور پر شروع کی جانے والی یہ ویب سائٹ آج دنیا میں سب سے زیادہ دیکھی جاتی ہے۔ایک سروے میں انکشاف ہوا ہے کہ گوگل سرچ کے پانچ انتہائی سود مند فیچرز سے صارفین کی اکثریت لاعلم ہے۔اپنے شہر، گاؤں یا قصبہ کے موسم کا حال جاننے کے لئے ٹی وی سے چپکے رہنے کی ضرورت ہرگز نہیں، گوگل کھولئے اور اپنے شہر کا نام لکھ کر موسم کی معلومات حاصل کیجئے،مثال کے طور پر اگر لاہور کے موسم کے بارے میں جاننا چاہ رہا ہوں تو میں گوگل پر لاہور ویدر لکھیں۔انگریزی زبان کے کسی بھی مشکل لفظ کا معنی جاننے کے لئے گوگل پر اس لفظ کے بارے میں لکھیں اور آپ کو اس کا معنی، گرامر اور بولنے کا طریقہ سب کچھ فراہم کردیا جائے گا۔کمپیوٹر پر کام کرتے ہوئے اگر اعدادو شمار کو ضرب یا تفریق دینے کی ضرورت پڑے تب بھی گوگل کے پاس اس کا آسان حل موجود ہے۔بس سرچ باکس میں کیلکیولیٹر ٹائپ کیجئے اور گوگل کا کیلکیولیٹر کام کردے گا۔اگر ڈالر کی قیمت پاکستانی روپوں میں جاننا چاہتے ہیں یا پھر دنیا کی کسی بھی کرنسی کا مقابلہ اپنے روپے یا دیگر کرنسیوں سے کرنا چاہتے ہین تو اس کا حل بھی گوگل کے پاس موجود ہے۔

بھارتی ہیکرز نے پاکستان ریلوے کی ویب سائٹ ہیک کر لی

روزنامہ پاکستان

16 اگست 2014

جھنگ (ویب ڈیسک) پاکستان ریلوے کی ویب سائٹ کو ہیک کر لیا گیا۔ویب سائٹ کو بھارتی ہیکرز بلیک ڈریگن نامی تنظیم نے ہیک کیا۔بھارتی ہیکرز نے ویب سائٹ پر انڈیا کا جھنڈا لگایا ہوا ہے اور جشن آزادی مبارک بھی لکھا ہوا ہے۔یاد رہے کہ اس سے پہلے بھی بھارتی ہیکرز کی جانب سے پاکستانی سرکاری اداروں کی ویب سائٹس کو متعدد بار ہیک کیا گیا ہے تاہم پاکستانی حکام کسی قسم کے حفاظتی اقدامات کرنے میں ناکام رہیں گے۔

پاکستان کے 68ویں یوم آزادی پر گوگل کی ڈوڈل کے ذریعے مبارکباد

روزنامہ پاکستان

14 اگست 2014

لاہور(مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) گوگل دنیا بھر میں مختلف ثقافتی اور سماجی ایونٹس کے موقع پر دلچسپ ڈوڈلز تیار کرتا رہتا ہے اور بدھ کی شب پاکستان کے 68 ویں یوم آزادی کے موقع پر بھی ایک نیا ڈوڈل سامنے آیا ہے۔تفصیلات کے مطابق عام طور پر ایک ڈوڈل کسی ملک کی ثقافت اور روایات کا عکاس ہوتا ہے تاہم اس بار گوگل نے یوم آزادی پروفاقی دارلحکومت اسلام آباد میں واقع پاکستان مونومنٹ کی تصویر کے ذریعے مبارکباد دی ہے۔گوگل 2011ء سے پاکستانی یوم آزادی پر ڈوڈل بنا رہا ہے اور سب سے پہلے اس نے چاند ستاروں اور مینار پاکستان سے مزئین سبز رنگ کے ڈوڈل کے ذریعے مبارکباد دینے کا سلسلہ شروع کیا تھا۔2012ء میں اس نے دنیا بھر میں منفرد پاکستانی ٹرک آرٹ گوگل ڈوڈل کے ذریعے اجاگر کیا تھا۔2013ء میں گوگل ڈوڈل نے شمالی علاقہ جات کو دنیا کی دوسری بلند ترین چوٹی کے ٹو کے ذریعے دکھایا گیا اور پس منظر میں پاکستان کے قومی جانور مارخور کو دکھایا گیا جو ایک پہاڑ پر چاند ستارے کے نیچے کھڑا تھا۔

تمام بڑے شہروں میں وی فون مستقل بند کرنے کا فیصلہ

روزنامہ پاکستان

12 اگست 2014

اسلام آباد(مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) یکم ستمبر سے ملک کے تمام بڑے شہروں میں وی فون مستقل طورپر بند کرنے کا فیصلہ کرلیا گیا ہے اور اس سلسلے میں تیاریاں مکمل کرلی گئی ہیں۔ذرائع کے مطابق کراچی ، لاہور، اسلام آباد، راولپنڈی اور پشاور میں 31 اگست تک وی فون وائرلیس چلے گا اور یکم ستمبر سے پی ٹی سی ایل کی طرح لینڈلائن کردیاجائے گا۔ذرائع نے بتایاکہ سیکیورٹی خدشات کی وجہ سے وی فون کو لینڈلائن کرنے کا فیصلہ کیا گیاہے کیونکہ عام طورپر موبائل کے ساتھ وی فون بند نہیں کیاجاسکتا تھا جس کی وجہ سے کسی بھی وقت ناخوشگوار واقعے کا سامنا ہوسکتا تھا۔بتایا گیاہے کہ وی فون کو لینڈلائن کرنے کا فیصلہ ایک اعلیٰ سطحی اجلاس میں مشاورت سے کیا گیاہے جس دوران کمپنی انتظامیہ نے عندیہ دیاہے کہ آئندہ تمام صارفین کو لینڈلائن سروس ہی فراہم کی جائے گی۔

ایل جی نے جی پیڈ 10.1 ٹیبلٹ متعارف کرادیا

روزنامہ دنیا

12 اگست 2014

کراچی(بزنس رپورٹر) ایل جی الیکٹرانکس نے ٹیبلٹس کی سیریز میں سب سے بڑا ٹیبلٹ جی پیڈ 10.0 متعارف کرادیا ہے۔ایل جی کے اس نئے ٹیبلٹ میں میڈیا کے آپشن کو مستقل طور پر چلایا جاسکتا ہے ، اس کی بیٹری 8000ایم اے ایچ ہے جس کے ذریعے طویل وقت تک 10.1 انچ بڑی اسکرین کے ساتھ لطف اندوز ہوا جاسکتا ہے۔ایل جی کی جی پیڈ سیریز میں کارکردگی ، شخصیت اور قیمت کے اعتبار سے ٹیبلٹس تیار کیے گئے ہیں۔ایل جی الیکٹرانکس موبائل کمیونیکیشنز کمپنی کے پریذیڈنٹ اور سی ای او ڈاکٹر جونگ سیوک پارک نے کہا ہے کہ صارفین اسمارٹ فون کے مقابلے میں ٹیبلٹس کو مختلف طریقے سے استعمال

23اگست2014

وار نٹی بھی موجود ہے۔یوفون کے جی ایم مارکیٹنگ تیمور فیض چیمہ نے اس شاندار آفر کے حوالے سے بتایا کہ یوفون ہمیشہ کوشش کرتا ہے کہ مارکیٹ میں نئی ، جدید اور منفرد مصنوعات پیش کرے اور یہ بات یوفون کی انتہائی سستی 4 انچ کی ڈیوائس کے ہمراہ کواڈ کور پراسیسر پیش کرنے سے ثابت ہوتی ہے۔انہوں نے مزید کہا کہ یہ صارفین میں انتہائی مقبول ہوگا کیونکہ U5 کوئی بھی دوسرا برانڈ اتنی خصوصیات کے حامل اور انتہائی کم قیمت پر اسمارٹ فون فراہم نہیں کررہا۔یہاں یہ بات قابل ذکر ہے کہ دیگر برانڈز ایسی ہی خصوصیات کے حامل اسمارٹ فون تقریباً12 ہزار روپے میں فراہم کررہے ہیں۔،قیمت میں غیر معمولی فرق کے باعث یوفون کو توقع ہے کہ موبائل مارکیٹ میں اس کے حریفوں کو سخت مسابقت کا سامنا کرنا ہوگا ۔پاکستان میں تھری جی سروسز کے آغاز کے نتیجے میں جدید ترین ٹیکنالوجی سے لیس ہینڈ سیٹس متعارف کرانا ضروری ہو گیا ہے ،حالیہ پیشرفت کے باعث تھری جی سے لیس انتہائی سستی ڈیوائس کا آغاز مارکیٹ میں یوفون کی تھری جی ڈیوائس سے صارفین کو اس قابل اور بااختیار بنائے گا کہ وہ موبائل U5 متعلق مصنوعات میں ایک اور پیش قدمی ہے ، یوفون اسمارٹ سروسز کی اگلی نسل کے غیر معمولی استعمال سے واقف ہوں اور انہیں بہترین ڈیٹا کی فراہمی میسر آسکے۔بلاشبہ یوفون اسمارٹ تھری جی لیس ڈیوائس مارکیٹ میں اپنی کامیابی خود ثابت کرے گی۔ U5

اسلام آباد کے ریڈ زون میں موبائل فون سروسز بند

روزنامہ ڈان

23اگست2014

اسلام آباد: وزارت داخلہ کے احکامات کے بعد اسلام آباد کے ریڈ زون میں موبائل فون سروسز تاحکم ثانی بند کر دی گئی ہیں۔واضح رہے کہ اس علاقے میں پاکستان تحریک اانصاف(پی ٹی آئی) اور پاکستان عوامی تحریک (پی اے ٹی) نے حکومت کے خلاف دھرنے دیئے ہوئے ہیں جبکہ اسی علاقے میں اہم سرکاری عمارات بھی ہیں مگر اتوار کے روز تعطیل کے باعث وہ بند ہوں گی۔

ترجمان پاکستان ٹیلی کمیونیکشن اتھارٹی (پی ٹی اے) کے مطابق وزارت داخلہ کی ہدایت پر ریڈ زون میں تاحکم ثانی موبائل فون سروسز بند کی گئی ہیں۔پی ٹی اے نے تمام موبائل کمپنیوں کو بھی سروسز بند کرنے کے احکامات جاری کر دیئے ہیں۔ڈان نیوز کے مطابق ذرائع نے بتایا ہے کہ موبائل فون سروسز بند کرنے کا فیصلہ سیکیورٹی وجوہات کی بنیاد پر کیا گیا ہے۔

علاوہ ازیں عمران خان کی جان کو شدید خطرات کے باعث ریڈزون میں سیکیورٹی ہائی الرٹ کردی گئی ہے۔ڈان نیوز نے بتایا ہے کہ پولیس ذرائع کے مطابق پاکستان تحریک انصاف کے چیئرمین عمران خان کی زندگی کو شدید خطرات لاحق ہیں، جس کے بعد اسلام آباد کے ریڈ زون میں سیکیورٹی ہائی الرٹ اور داخلی راستوں پر اضافی نفری تعینات کر دی گئی ہے۔علاوہ ازیں تمام پولیس افسران، ضلعی انتظامیہ اور انٹیلی جنس اہلکاروں کو بھی الرٹ کردیا گیا ہے۔ڈان نیوز کی رپورٹ میں بتایا گیا ہے کہ پولیس ذرائع کے مطابق ممکنہ دہشت گردی میں غیر ملکی ہاتھ کو خارج ازامکان قرار نہیں دیا جا سکتا۔

سام سنگ کا لیول باکس منی سپیکر متعارف کرانے کا اعلان

روزنامہ پاکستان

22اگست 2014

لاہور (ویب ڈیسک) سام سنگ الیکٹرانکس کمپنی لمیٹڈ نے سامک سنگ لیول باکس منی سپیکر متعارف کرانے کا اعلان کیا ہے جو سام سنگ کے پریمیم آڈیو پرڈکٹس سطح کی سیریز میں جدید اضافہ ہے۔سام سنگ لیول باکس منی، لیول باکس کی طرح ہلکے اور کمپیکٹ دھاتی جسامت میں اعلیٰ معیار کی آواز فراہم کرتا ہے۔سام سنگ لیول باکس منی ایک بڑے 55ملی میٹر کے سٹیریو سپیکر اور ساکت ریڈیئٹر کو سپورٹ کرتا ہے۔لیول باکس منی سام سنگ لیول ایپلی کیشن کے ساتھ مکمل مطابقت رکھتا ہے جو والیوم کنٹرول، ٹیکسٹ ٹو سپیچ، ایس وائس اور ساؤنڈ ایلائیو فراہم کرتا ہے۔سام سنگ کی جدید آڈیو ٹیکنالوجی ساؤنڈ الائیو ، سورس کا تجزیہ کرتے ہوئے مستعدی اور خود کار طریقہ سے ایڈجسٹمنٹ کرلیتا ہے،اسکے علاوہ لیول باکس منی کا منسلک ہونے کا تجربہ بھی شاندار ہے اور فوری کنکشن کیلئے صارفین کو صرف این ایف سی کے حامل سمارٹ فون کو لیول باکس منی کے قریب رکھنا ہوتا ہے۔بلڈ ان بٹنز کے ساتھ سپیکر کو کنٹرو کرنا بھی انتہائی آسان ہے۔لیول باکس منی ایک دلکش اور ہلکے دھاتی جسامت کے ڈیزائن کا رنگین سپیکر ہے اور اس میں 1600میگا ہرٹزکی بیٹری نصب ہے جو 25 گھنٹوں تک پلے بیک فراہم کرتا ہے۔

پی ٹی سی ایل کا ایوواو کنکشن ریکونیکٹ کرنے پر فری انٹرنیٹ کی آفر

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

21اگست2014

اسلام آباد(پ ر) پاکستان ٹیلی کمیونیکیشن کمپنی نے ایووصارفین کو اپنی غیر فعال ایووڈیوائسز ریکونیکٹ کرنے پر مفت انٹرنیٹ اور تمام بقایا جات معاف کرنے کی پیشکش کی ہے۔یہ پیشکش پری پیڈ اور پوسٹ پیڈ ایوو ، ایوو نائٹرو ، ایوو کلائوڈ ، نائٹر وکلائوڈ اور ایووونگل ڈیوائسز پر دستیاب ہے جو 30 مارچ 2014ء سے ری چارج نہیں کئے گئے۔پری پیڈ صارفین اس آفر سے ریچارج شدہ رقم کے برابر فری بیلنس حاصل کر سکیں گے۔جبکہ پوسٹ پیڈ صارفین کو سابقہ واجبات کی ادائیگی سے استثنیٰ اور ریچارج شدہ رقم کے برابر بیلنس حاصل ہوسکے گا۔

1975ء میں ٹلی فون کی ایجاد کے بعد سے ضرورت محسوس کی جارہی تھی کہ ٹیلی فون پر رابطے کا تیز رفتار نظام وضع کیا جائے۔آخر 1891ء میں ایلمن براؤ سٹروگر نے ٹیلی فون کا ڈائل ایجاد کیا۔ڈائل والا پہلا فون 1892ء میں استعمال کیا گیا۔

ٹیلی فون کی پیڈ:

بیل لیبارٹریز کے جان ای کارلن نے ٹیلی فون کا کی پیڈ ایجاد کیا تھا۔کی پیڈ میں اعداد اور نشانات تین عمودی اور چار افقی خطوط میں ترتیب دیئے جاتے ہیں جس کے نچلے دائیں کونے میں "ہیش کی" اور نچلے بائیں کونے میں سٹار یا "ایسٹیریسک کی" ہوتی ہیں۔

آٹو میٹک ٹیلی فون ایکس چینج:

99 لائنوں والا پہلا آٹو میٹک ٹیلی فون ایکس چینج امریکہ کی ریاست انڈیانا کے شہر لاپورٹے میں نصب کیا گیا تھا۔

ایریا کوڈ:

اگرچہ ایریا کوڈ کا تصور بیسویں صدی کے پانچویں عشرے میں پیش کیا گیا تھا لیکن اس کا باقاعدہ اجرا و آغاز 1951ء میں امریکہ کی ریاست نیو جرسی کے لئے ایریا کوڈ متعارف کروانے سے ہوا، نیوجرسی کا ایریا کوڈ 201 ہے۔

ہنگامی نمبر:

ہنگامی نمبر تین یا چار اعداد پر مشتمل ہوتے ہیں تاکہ لوگ انہیں آسانی سے یاد رکھ سکیں اور ہنگامی ضرورت کے وقت تیزی اور آسانی سے ڈائل کر سکیں۔انہیں کسی ملک کے کسی بھی حصے کے رہنے والے لوگ ہنگامی ضرورت کے وقت استعمال کر سکتے ہیں۔انہیں یونیورسل ایمرجنسی ٹیلی فون نمبر بھی کہا جاتا ہے۔ہنگامی نمبروں کا نظام بھی امریکہ میں وضع کیا گیا تھا جس کے کامیاب ہونے کے بعد دنیا کے دوسرے ملکوں نے بھی یہ نظام اپنالیا۔

مہنگاترین فون نمبر:

دنیا کا سب سے زیادہ قیمت پر فروخت ہونے وال سیل فون نمبر 6666666 ہے۔اسے خیراتی مقصد سے قطر میں فروخت کیا گیا تھا۔اس نمبر کے خریدار نے اس کے لئے 27 لاکھ ڈالر کی سرچکرادینے والی رقم ادا کی تھی۔چین میں نمبر 88888888 دو لاکھ اسی ہزار ڈالر میں فروخت ہوا تھا۔

فلموں میں استعمال ہونے والے تخیلاتی ٹیلی فون نمبر:

امریکہ اور برطانیہ کی حکومتوں نے فلموں میں استعمال کے لئے فرضی ٹیلی فون نمبر وضع کئے ہیں۔امریکی فلموں کے کرداروں کے ٹیلی فون نمبر 555 سے شروع ہوتے ہیں تاہم بعض فلم سازوں نے اس اصول سے انحراف کرتے ہوئے اپنی فلموں کے کرداروں کو اصل فون نمبروں سے مماثل فون نمبر استعمال کرتے دکھایا ہے۔

فون نمبر میجک ٹرک:

ریاضی خشک علم تو ہے مگر اس کے اصول استعمال کرتے ہوئے بہت سے دلچسپ کھیل بھی ایجاد کئے جاچکے ہیں۔ٹیلی فون نمبروں کے ضمن میں بھی ایک میجک ٹرک موجود ہے جو کچھ یوں ہے: کوئی بھی سات اعداد والا ٹیلی فون نمبر لیجئے۔مثال کے طور پر 9417990 لیجئے۔اس کے پہلے تین اعداد کو 80 سے ضرب دیجئے۔جو حاصل آئے اس میں ایک جمع کیجئے۔حاصل جمع کو 250 سے ضرب دیجئے۔حاصل ضرب میں اصل فون نمبر کے آخری چار اعداد جمع کیجئے۔اس کے بعد آخری چار اعداد دوبارہ جمع کیجئے۔حاصل جمع میں سے 250 نفی کردیجئے۔اور باقی بچنے والے اعداد کو 2 سے تقسیم کردیجئے۔آپ کے سامنے وہی نمبر ہوگا جو آپ نے ابتدا میں منتخب کیا تھا۔

یو فون کا تھری جی سے لیس سستا اسمارٹ فون متعارف کرانے کا اعلان

روزنامہ دنیا

کراچی(بزنس رپورٹر) یوفون نے ایک بار پھر مارکیٹ میں بہترین معیار قائم کرتے ہوئے تھری جی ٹیکنالوجی سے لیس اور متعارف کرانے کا اعلان کردیا۔یوفون کا یہ U5 کواڈکور پراسیسر کے حامل پاکستان میں انتہائی سستے ہینڈ سیٹ یوفون اسمارٹ اسمارٹ فون غیر معمولی خصوصیات کا حامل ہے جس میں 4 انچ کی اسکرین ، کوالکم کا کواڈ کور پراسیسر ، 512 ایم بی ریم جبکہ پانچ میگا پکسل کا ریئر اور فرنٹ کیمرا موجود ہے ، یہ ناقابل یقین قیمت 5,999روپے میں دستیاب ہے جبکہ اس کی 6 ماہ کی

میں کمپنی کے اسمارٹ فونز پیش کرنے کے موقع پر ہیڈ آف اسمارٹ فون بزنس برائے مشرق وسطیٰ اور افریقہ شارع شمس کا کہنا تھا کہ پاکستان ثابت کررہا ہے کہ وہ اسمارٹ فون کے حوالے سے اہم مارکیٹ ہے۔

یو ٹیوب بند، پاکستانی طالبعلموں نے "ویمو" یو ٹیوب ایپلی کیشن بنا ڈالی

روزنامہ پاکستان

26 اگست 2014

لاہور (ویب ڈیسک) سرگودھا یونیورسٹی کے دو طالب علموں طاہر عمر اور ابصار اکرم نے ایک ایسی ویب ایپلی کیشن تیار کی ہے جس کے ذریعے یو ٹیوب کی تمام ویڈیوز نہ صرف دیکھی جاسکتی ہیں بلکہ ان کو ڈاؤن لوڈ بھی کیا جاسکتا ہے۔

اخباری رپورٹ کے مطابق دونوں طلباء کا کہنا تھا کہ دو سال قبل انٹرنیٹ پر جب ایک گستاخانہ فلم چلائی گئی تو دنیا بھر کے مسلمانوں کی طرف سے شدید ردعمل سامنے آیا۔یوٹیوب انتظامیہ کی طرف سے گستاخانہ مواد ویب سائٹ سے ہٹانے سے انکار پر اسے پاکستان سمیت بہت سے مسلمان ملکوں میں بند کردیا گیا جس کے باعث طلبہ و طالبات اور تحقیق سے وابستہ افراد کو بھی مشکلات کا سامنا کرنا پڑا کیونکہ یو ٹیوب ایک ڈیجیٹل لائبریری کی حیثیت رکھتی ہے۔ انہوں نے کہا کہ دنیا بھر کی بڑی بڑی کمپنیاں اور افراد بھی یوٹیوب پر مواد اپ لوڈ کرنے کو ترجیح دیتے ہیں۔ایسی صورتحال میں حکومت پاکستان کی ذمہ داری بنتی تھی کہ یوٹیوب انتظامیہ کے ساتھ سنجیدگی سے بات کرکے گستاخانہ اور قابل اعتراض مواد ہٹوا کر جلد سے جلد یوٹیوب کو بحال کیا جائے یا پھر صرف قابل اعتراض توہین آمیز مواد کو بلاک کردیا جاتا، پوری ویب سائٹ کو بلاک کرکے ایک علمی ذریعے سے دوری پیدا کرنا کوئی مسئلے کا حل نہیں تھا۔ہم نے تحقیقی کام کرنے والوں کیلئے "ویمو" نامی ایپلی کیشن تیار کی ہے۔ اس ویب میں یہ سہولت بھی دی گئی ہے کہ یوٹیوب کی کسی ویڈیو کا لنک بھی پیسٹ کرکے مطلوبہ ویڈیو دیکھی جاسکتی ہے لیکن کوئی بھی توہین آمیز ویڈیو کو تلاش کرنے یا لنک دینے پر ویب پہ پیغام آجاتا ہے کہ ایسی ویڈیو میسر نہیں ہے۔

ڈی جوس کو فیس بک پر دنیا کا سب سے زیادہ مخلص برانڈ قرار دے دیا گیا

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

24 اگست 2014

اسلام آباد (پ ر) ٹیلی نار پاکستان کے نوجوانوں پر مرکوز برانڈ 'ڈیجوس' کو ایک عالمی تحقیق کے مطابق دنیا بھر کی ٹیلی کمیونی کیشن صنعت میں فیس بک پر سب سے زیادہ مخلص (سوشیل ڈیوٹیڈ) برانڈ قرار دے دیا گیا۔(سوشیل بیکر۔کام) کے جاریکردہ اعداد و شمار کے مطابق 'ڈیجوس' نے جولائی 2014ء میں فیس بک پر موصول ہونے والے تمام سوالات کے جواب دیکر عالمی سطح پر اپنی سبقت قائم رکھی ان سوالات کی تعداد 10 ہزار سے زائد تھی۔

فون نمبروں کے بارے میں 10 حیران کن حقائق

روزنامہ پاکستان

24 اگست 2014

اسلام آباد(مانیٹرنگ ڈیسک) ماضی میں انسان اپنے دوستوں اور رشتہ داروں سے رابطے کیلئے مختلف طریقے استعمال کرتا رہا، الیگزینڈر گراہم بیل نے 2 جون 1875ء کو ٹیلی فون ایجاد کرکے انسان کو آواز کے ذریعے ایک دوسرے کے حال احوال سے باخبر رہنے اور اپنے حال احوال سے آگاہ کرنے کے قابل بنادیا۔فون نمبروں کی ایجاد سمیت ان کے بارے میں 10 ایسے حقائق جن سے آپ اس سے پہلے شاید واقف نہیں ہوں گے۔

فون نمبر کی ایجاد:

فون نمبر ایجاد کئے جانے سے پہلے فون کالیں فون کے مالک کے نام کے ذریعے کی جاتی تھیں جس شخص نے کسی کو کال کرنا ہوتی وہ ایکسچینج میں موجود آپریٹر کو اپنے مطلوبہ شخص کا نام بتاتا، آپریٹر اپنے سامنے موجود بہت سی ٹیلی فون لائنوں میں سے ایک لائن کے ذریعے اس شخص سے کال ملادیتا۔ٹیلی فون کے موجد الیگزینڈر گراہم بیل کے دوست ڈاکٹر موسس نے فون نمبروں کی ایجاد میں بنیادی کردار ادا کیا تھا۔انہوں نے کہا کہ کوئی ایسا طریقہ اختراع کیا جائے کہ لوگ ہنگامی حالت میں آپریٹر کی مدد کے بغیر مطلوبہ شخص سے جلد رابطہ کرسکیں۔چنانچہ ٹیلی فون رکھنے والوں کے ناموں کی بجائے ہر شخص کے لئے مخصوص نمبر مختص کیا گیا۔ ٹیلی فون نمبر پہلی بار امریکہ کے شہر لوویل میں 1879ء سے 1880ء کے درمیانی عرصے میں استعمال کئے گئے۔یہ نظام اتنا پسند کیا گیا اور اتنا کارآمد ثابت ہوا کہ اسے آج بھی استعمال کیا جاتا ہے۔

پہلا تجارتی ٹیلی فون ایکس چینج:

28 جنوری 1878ء کو امریکہ کے شہر نیوہیومن کی بورڈمین بلڈنگ میں دنیا کا پہلا تجارتی ٹیلی فون ایکس چینج قائم کیا گیا تھا۔ اسے ڈسٹرکٹ ٹیلی فون کمپنی آف نیوہیومن کا نام دیا گیا تھا۔تجارتی ٹیلی فون ایکس چینج کا تصور امریکہ کی خانہ جنگی میں حصہ لینے والے ایک سابق فوجی اور ٹیلی گراف آفس کے منیجر جارج کوائے اور ان کے دو ساتھیوں ہیرک فراسٹ اور والٹر لیوس نے پیش کیا تھا۔

گھومنے والا ڈائل:

موبائل فون کے ذریعے قدرتی آفات سے خبردار کرنے والا نظام متعارف

روزنامہ ڈان

29اگست2014

اسلام آباد: ٹیلی نار پاکستان نے ہنگامی ردّعمل ظاہر کرنے کے حوالے سے اپنے شراکت دار پاکستان ہلالِ احمر سوسائٹی (پی آر سی ایس) کے ساتھ ایک معاہدے پر دستخط کیے ہیں۔ اس معاہدے کے تحت ایس ایم ایس کی بنیاد پر ابتدائی انتباہی نظام کے ذریعے قدرتی آفات کے اثرات کو کم کرنے کی کوشش کی جائے گی۔

انفارمیشن ٹیکنالوجی اور ٹیلی کام کی وفاقی وزیر انوشہ رحمان کی موجودگی میں ٹیلی نار پاکستان کے چیف ایگزیکٹیو آفیسر مائیکل پیٹرک فولے اور ہلالِ احمر کے سیکریٹری جنرل محبوب سردار نے ہلالِ احمر کے صدر دفتر میں اس معاہدے پر دستخط کیے۔ایک بیان کے مطابق اس منصوبے کا ڈیزائن ایک ابتدائی کوشش ہے، جس کے تحت ہنگامی ردّعمل، ہنگامی بازیافت، بحالی اور پیش رفت کے ذریعے قدرتی آفات سے بچاؤ کے لیے قبل از وقت تیاری اور اس کے اثرات میں کمی لانے کی کوشش کی جائے گی۔اس منصوبے سے امدادی اداروں اور قدرتی آفات سے متاثرہ علاقوں کے موبائل فون کے صارفین کو فوری طور پر ایک دوسرے کے ساتھ ایس ایم ایس کے ذریعے رابطے کی سہولت فراہم ہوگی، یہ منصوبہ ہنگامی حالات میں رابطے میں آسانی پیدا کرے گا۔ریڈ کریسنٹ کی بین الاقوامی فیڈریشن اور ٹیلی نار پاکستان نے اس منصوبے کے لیے مشترکہ طور پر فنڈز فراہم کیا ہے۔آئی ٹی اور ٹیلی کام کی وزیر انوشہ رحمان نے اس موقع پر کہا کہ ”بدقسمتی سے پاکستان حالیہ برسوں کے دوران قدرتی آفات سے متعدد بار متاثر ہوتا رہا ہے“۔انہوں نے کہا ”یہ بات نہایت خوش آئند ہے کہ ٹیلی نار پاکستان اور ہلالِ احمر نے دوبارہ مثبت سماجی تبدیلی لانے کے لیے اپنی بنیادی مہارت کو استعمال کرتے ہوئے ایک نظام کی تیاری میں تعاون کیا ہے“۔انوشہ رحمان نے کہا ”یہ حقیقی معنوں میں اختیارات کی تقسیم ہے، جس کے ذریعے ممکنہ متاثرین کو زندگیاں بچانے میں پیش رفت کی اجازت ملے گی۔اس طرح درحقیقت ہر کوئی مددگار بن جائے گا“۔مائیکل پیٹرک فولے نے کہا ”روایتی ایس ایم ایس سروس کے برعکس، جس میں کسی نیٹ ورک کے ہر ایک صارف کو پیغام نشر کیا جاتا ہے، اس نظام سے ہلالِ احمر کو یہ سہولت حاصل ہوگی کہ وہ کسی مخصوص علاقے یا ملحقہ علاقے میں موبائل فونز کے ذریعے ٹیکسٹ مسیجز بھیج سکے گی“۔انہوں نے کہا ”امداد کی ضرورت پڑنے پر موبائل فون کے صارفین کی جانب سے یہ ٹیکسٹ پیغامات فوری ردّعمل حاصل کریں گے۔

ٹیلی نار پاکستان کے چیف ایگزیکٹیو آفیسر نے کہا کہ ”دنیا کے مختلف حصوں میں ہنگامی صورتحال کے دوران امدادی رابطوں کے اثرات کا جائزہ لینے کے بعد ہم پاکستان میں اپنی نوعیت کے اس پہلے منصوبے کے بارے میں پُرامید ہیں، جو اطلاعات کی سہولت کے ذریعے قدرتی آفات سے متاثرہ لوگوں کی بحالی میں مدد کرسکتا ہے۔

ہلالِ احمر کے چیئرمین ڈاکٹر سعود الٰہی نے کہا ”قدرتی آفات سے متاثرہ علاقوں میں امدادی تنظیموں کو درپیش بہت سے چیلنجز میں سے ایک اہم چیلنج یہ تھا کہ متاثرین کے لیے پہلے سے خبردار کرنے کے نظام کی کمی تھی، ایک ایسا نظام جو آفات کے اثرات میں کمی اور بہت سی زندگیاں بچانے کا باعث بن سکتا ہو۔

کراچی،انفارمیشن اینڈ ٹیکنالوجی ایشیا 2014نمائش کا آغاز

روزنامہ اساس

28اگست2014

کراچی: میں انفارمیشن اینڈ ٹیکنالوجی ایشیا دوہزارچودہ نمائش کا آغاز ہوگیا۔نمائش میں ساٹھ سے زائد غیر ملکی مندوبین اورڈیڑھ سومقامی کمپنیز شریک ہیں،کراچی ایکسپو سینٹر میں چودھویں آئی ٹی سی این تین روزہ نمائش کا افتتاح ایگزیٹ گروپ کے چیئرمین شعیب احمد نے کیا۔اس موقع پر شعیب احمد نے کہا کہ پاکستان میں آئی ٹی شعبے کیلئے سال میں ایک نمائش ہوتی ہے جبکہ بھارت میں سو نمائش کا انعقاد ہوتا ہے۔نمائش میں شریک نجی موبائل کمپنی کے نمائندے کا کہنا تھا کہ اس طرح کی نمائش کے انعقاد سے جدید ٹیکنالوجی کے بارے میں آگاہی ملتی ہے۔نمائش میں دبئی اور چین سے آنے والے مندوبین نے کہا کہ پاکستان میں آئی ٹی کے شعبے میں سرمایہ کاری کے وسیع مواقع ہیں۔نمائش میں نجی کمپنیوں کی جانب سے آئی پیڈ، انٹرنیٹ سروسز، تھری جی اور فورجی ٹیکنالوجی سمیت دیگر سروسزاورپروڈکٹس کے بارے معلومات فراہم کی جارہی ہیں

لینوو کا پاکستان میں اسمارٹ فون متعارف کرانے کا اعلان

روزنامہ دنیا

26اگست2014

کراچی(بزنس رپورٹ) کمپیوٹر،لیپ ٹاپ،ٹیبلٹ اور آئی ٹی سے متعلق دیگر سامان تیار کرنے والی عالمی کمپنی لینوو نے اعلان کیا ہے کہ یہ پہلی بار پاکستان میں اپنے 10 مختلف اقسام کے اسمارٹ فونز ستمبر میں متعارف کرا رہے ہیں۔ مختلف اسٹائل کے اسمارٹ فونز شخصیت اور بجٹ کو مدنظر رکھتے ہوئے تیار کیے گئے ہیں، نئے اسمارٹ فونز ستمبر 2014 کے آخر میں مارکیٹ میں آجائیں گے۔ پاکستان میں پیش کیے جانے والے لینووا سمارٹ فونز کی پہلی کھیپ ستمبر کے اوائل میں پاکستانی مارکیٹ میں پہنچ جائے گی، فیشن ایبل، پتلے، دہری سم اور کواڈ کور ایس سیریز کے حامل ایس۔ 850 اسمارٹ فون میں 5 انچ کا ایچ ڈی ڈسپلے ہے۔ ایس۔ 850 اسمارٹ فون میں 5.3 انچ ڈی ڈسپلے ہے جبکہ 4000 ایم اے ایچ بیٹری ہے جس کی بدولت 3جی سے 24 گھنٹے اور 2جی سے 43 گھنٹے بات کی جاسکتی ہے جبکہ یہ 40 روز تک اسٹینڈ بائی پر بھی رہ سکتا ہے۔

ایس۔ 850 میں 4.7 انچ کا ایچ ڈی ڈسپلے ہے جس میں تھری ڈی ٹیکسچر ڈیزائن کا لیزر سے جڑا ہوا فیبرک کا کور ہے۔ لینوو کی جانب سے پاکستان

تصاویر کی بدولت قابل رحم بنادیا ہے۔اس نے کہا"کسی کو بھی عام صورتحال میں دیگر افراد کی پرائیویسی میں مداخلت نہیں کرنا چاہئے، کیونکہ کسی شخص کی زندگی کے کسی غیر معمولی لمحے کی تصویر کو سوشل میڈیا تک پہنچنے میں کوئی وقت نہیں لگتا"۔اس ماہر کا مزید کہنا تھا کہ فیس بک کے بیشتر صارفین کے انٹرنیٹ پر بہت زیادہ دوست ہوتے ہیں مگر ان میں سے کوئی بھی ضرورت کے وقت کام نہیں آتا" وہ صرف سالگراؤں پر پیغامات بھیجتے ہیں اور نئے مواد اپ لوڈ کرنے پر کمنٹس ہی کرتے ہیں"۔آئی ٹی ماہر کے مطابق نوجوانوں نے اپنی زندگیاں فیس بک اور ٹویٹر کے لیے صرف کردی ہیں اور رات کو سونے کی بجائے اس طرح کی سرگرمیوں میں ہی مصروف رہتے ہیں۔اس نے کہا کہ طالبعلموں کے اندر کلاس رومز میں ویڈیو بنانے اور اسے اپ لوڈ کرنے کی عادت والدین اور اساتذہ کے لیے حیرت کا باعث بنتی ہے، ہر تعلیمی ادارے کی انتظامیہ کو موبائل فونز اور ڈیجیٹیل کیمروں کے غلط استعمال پر نظر رکھنی چاہئے۔ماہر کا کہنا تھا کہ فرضی آئی ڈی بنانے والے صارفین کے مقامات کو ڈھونڈا جاسکتا ہے مگر اس کے لیے وفاقی تحقیقاتی ادارے ایف آئی اے کے سائبر کرائمز یونٹس کو بھرپور کوشش کرنا ہوگی۔ اس نے آئی ڈیز کی حقیقت پر نظر رکھنے کی اہمیت پر زور دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ یہ ایک حساس معاملہ ہے جس پر نظر نہ رکھی جائے تو یہ لوگوں کے قتل کا باعث بھی سکتا ہے۔آئی ٹی ماہر کے مطابق" یہاں ایسی مثالیں موجود ہیں کہ سماج دشمن عناصر سوشل میڈیا کو اپنے قابل نفرت مقاصد کے لیے استعمال کرتے ہیں، وہ لڑکیوں کو چیٹ کے ذریعے ورغلاتے ہیں، ان کے فون نمبرز لے کر اپنے ذہن میں موجود بیمار ذہنیت کے مقاصد حاصل کرنے کی کوشش کرتے ہیں"۔ایک اسپورٹس صحافی عظمت اللہ خان نے اس بارے میں رائے دیتے ہوئے کہا کہ فیس بک علم کے خزانے کی طرح ہے مگر نوجوانوں کی جانب سے اس کا صحیح استعمال نہیں کیا جارہا۔انہوں نے والدین پر زور دیا کہ وہ اپنے بچوں کی سرگرمیوں پر نظر رکھیں اور انہیں سیکھائے کہ کس طرح سوشل میڈیا کو علم کے حصول کے لیے استعمال کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ایک اور صحافی انیلہ شاہین نے فیس بک کو ہر ایک تک اطلاعات کی رسائی کے لیے مفید ذریعے قرار دیا، جہاں ہر اس فرد کو اپنے خیالات اور جذبات کا اظہار کا موقع ملتا ہے جو ٹیلیویژن اور اخبارات میں ایسا نہیں کرسکتے۔ان کا کہنا تھا کہ یہ مفت اور موثر پلیٹ فارم ہے" پرنٹ اور الیکٹرونک میڈیا کی جانب سے توہین آمیز اور بدنام کرنے والے بیانات کو جگہ نہیں ملتی مگر فیس بک پر ہر کوئی اپنے جذبات کے اظہار کے لیے آسانی سے سخت الفاظ کو پوسٹ کردیتا ہے"۔انیلہ شاہین نے کہا کہ کئی بار تعلیم یافتہ افراد بھی فیس بک کو انتہائی غیر معیاری مواد کو شیئر کرنے کے لیے استعمال کرتے ہیں، انہوں نے تجویز دی کہ قابل اعتراض مواد کو اپ لوڈ کرنے پر کچھ پابندیاں عائد ہونی چاہئے کیونکہ اس سے معاشرے میں معاشرتی مسائل پیدا ہورہے ہیں۔ایک اور آئی ماہر سگتین علی کا کہنا تھا" میں سوشل میڈیا کا استعمال اکثر گیمز کھیلنے کے لیے کرتا ہوں"۔اس نے بتایا کہ جو لوگ اس سائٹ کے استعمال کو روزانہ کی بنیاد پر اس طرح استعمال کرتے ہیں جیسے انہیں اس پر کام کرنے کی ہدایت دی گئی ہو اور وہ پیسے دیئے جارہے ہوں۔ایف آئی اے کے ایک ڈپٹی ڈائریکٹر عمران شاہد نے ڈان سے بات کرتے ہوئے بتایا کہ کہ سائبر کرائمز یونٹ اس طرح کے پلیٹ فارمز کے استعمال پر نظر رکھنے کے لیے کام کررہا ہے اور عوامی شکایات پر اقدام بھی کیا جاتا ہے۔ان کا کہنا تھا"ایف آئی اے کے سائبر کرائم یونٹ کے حوالے سے بیشتر افراد کو زیادہ معلومات حاصل نہیں، جو کہ انٹرنیٹ اور فیس بک پر موثر طریقے سے غیر مطلوب اور تضحیک آمیز مواد کی روک تھام کے لیے کام کررہا ہے، یہ یونٹ کسی بھی آئی ڈی کے حامل فرد کو تلاش کرنے کی صلاحیت رکھتا ہے"۔عمران شاہد نے بتایا کہ شعور نہ ہونے کے باعث لوگ اپنی شکایات پولیس کے پاس درج کراتے ہیں مگر یہ پولیس کی ذمہ داری نہیں، کیونکہ صرف ایف آئی اے کے پاس ہی غیر ضروری مواد پر نظر اور بلاک کرنے کی سہولت موجود ہے۔انہوں نے بتایا کہ اس حوالے سے پاکستان ٹیلی کمیونیکیشن اتھارٹی سمیت متعلقہ اداروں یہاں تک کہ یاہو اور گوگل تک سے بھی مدد لی جاتی ہے۔

موبی لنک نے موبی لنک مارکیٹ کا آغاز کر دیا

روزنامہ نوائے وقت

30اگست2014

لاہور(پ ر)موبی لنک نے موبی لنک مارکیٹ کے نام سے نئی الرٹ سروس کا آغاز کر دیا۔جس کا مقصد صارفین کو تازہ ترین مالیاتی خبروں، کرنسی کے تبادلے کی شرح، سونے کی قیمت، مارکیٹ اعشاریوں، کمپنی ریٹس اور زکوۃ اور کرنسی کیلکولیٹرز سے اپ ڈیٹ رکھنا ہے۔موبی لنک کے ڈائریکٹر پراڈکٹس سید عاطف رضا نے کہا کہ موبی لنک اپنے کسٹمرز کے لئے جدید خدمات اور ایپلی کیشنز شروع کرنے میں ہمیشہ سب سے پیش پیش رہی ہے۔سروس استعمال کرنے کیلئے، موبی لنک صارفین کو 'سب' لکھ کر 7004 پر ایس ایم ایس کرنا ہو گا جس کے چارجز فی ایس ایم ایس 0•20 روپے جمع ٹیکس ہیں جبکہ پری پیڈ صارفین کے لیے سبسکرپشن چارجز2•50 جمع ٹیکس فی ہفتہ ہیں۔

سرخیاں

پاکستان میں فیس بک کے غلط استعمال کی شرح میں خطرناک اضافہ

روزنامہ ڈان

31 اگست 2014

تفصیلات

سماجی رابطوں کی ویب سائٹس خصوصاً فیس بک موجودہ عہد میں مفید اطلاعات کے پھیلاؤ، تفریح اور علم کے حصول کے لیے موثر ذریعہ بن چکی ہے، مگر ہمارے معاشرے میں بیشتر افراد اسے لوگوں کو بدنام کرنے کے لیے بے بنیاد خبروں کو پھیلانے، تصاویر اور خاکوں میں ردوبدل جیسے طریقوں کے ذریعے غلط استعمال کررہے ہیں۔چند سال قبل جب فیس بک صارفین کی تعداد محدود تھی تو اسے تاریخی، کارآمد اور دلچسپ اطلاعات اور تصاویر کو شیئر کرنے کے لیے استعمال کیا جاتا تھا مگر اب صورتحال مکمل طور پر بدل چکی ہے۔فیس بک صارفین کی تعداد ہر گزرتے دن کے ساتھ بڑھ رہی ہے اور متعدد افراد کے مختلف ناموں کے ساتھ ایک سے زیادہ اکاؤنٹس ہیں، یہ فرضی فیس بک اکاؤنٹس اکثر منفی سرگرمیوں جیسے بلیک میلنگ اور پروپیگنڈہ وغیرہ کے لیے استعمال کیے جاتے ہیں۔

سوشل میڈیا کے ماہرین کے خیال میں بیشتر نوجوانوں کے لیے فرضی ناموں کا استعمال کشش رکھتا ہے جبکہ لڑکیوں کی فرضی تصاویر کے ذریعے انہیں تیز اور بہت زیادہ توجہ ملتی ہے۔فیس بک ہر ایک کے لیے ہائیڈ پارک بن چکا ہے جہاں کوئی بھی اپنی پسند کی زبان استعمال کرسکتا ہے، کئی بار کوئی صارف معروف شخصیات جن میں زیادہ تر سیاستدان ہوتے ہیں، کے بارے میں نامناسب الفاظ استعمال کرتا ہے، یہاں تصاویر اپ لوڈ کرنے، تحریر اور کمنٹس پوسٹ کرنے پر کوئی پابندی نہیں۔سیاسی ورکرز فیس بک پر بہت زیادہ متحرک نظر آتے ہیں جو اس سائٹ کو عام طور پر پروپیگنڈہ کے لیے استعمال کرتے ہیں، اس صورتحال کا سب سے تکلیف دہ پہلو یہ ہے کہ لوگوں کی جانب سے سیاسی اور مذہبی رہنماؤں کی بے عزتی کے لیے مضحکہ خیز فرضی تصاویر کو اپ لوڈ کیا جاتا ہے۔ان رہنماؤں کی تصاویر کو لڑکیوں کے ساتھ مختلف پوز میں ایڈٹ کیا جاتا ہے اور پھر ان کی شخصیت پر دھبہ لگانے کے لیے انہیں عوام کے لیے اپ لوڈ کردیا جاتا ہے۔سیاسی ورکرز خاص طور پر خواتین کی تصاویر کو فوٹو شاپ میں جسمانی ساخت کو تبدیل کرکے عجیب کیپشنز کے ساتھ پوسٹ کی جاتی ہیں، فیس بک کے بیشتر صارفین اب اس پورے عمل سے کافی واقف ہوچکے ہیں اور وہ جاننے لگے ہیں کہ لوگ اس سائٹ کو پروپیگنڈہ کے ہتھیار کے طور پر استعمال کررہے ہیں۔فیس بک کے صارفین تعلیم یافتہ افراد ہوتے ہیں اور ان میں سے بیشتر رائے عامہ پر اثرانداز ہونے کی طاقت رکھتے ہیں، مگر وہ منفی سرگرمیوں میں بہت زیادہ مصروف رہتے ہیں اور نہ صرف اس طاقتور پلیٹ فارم کا غلط استعمال کرتے ہیں بلکہ وہ معاشرے میں بھی کوئی اچھائی نہیں پھیلا رہے۔طاقتور سوشل میڈیا کا غلط استعمال انتشار کا سبب بنتا ہے کیونکہ فرضی اکاؤنٹس کا خطرہ بڑھتا جارہا ہے۔متعدد معروف شخصیات، حکومتی عہدیداران، سیاستدان اور یہاں تک کہ ججز نے فیس بک اکاؤنٹس ہونے کی تردید کی ہے مگر ان کے نام کی آئی ڈیز سماجی رابطے کی اس ویب سائٹ پر موجود ہیں، یہی وجہ ہے کہ قابل اعتراض مواد سامنے آنے کے بعد بیشتر شخصیات کو اپنی صفائی پیش کرنا پڑ جاتی ہے۔دیگر افراد کی ٹائم لائن پر تصاویر ٹیگ کرنا ایک اور سنجیدہ معاملہ ہے کیونکہ کئی بار کوئی صارف قابل نفرت فوٹوز اور مواد دیگر شخص کی مرضی کے بغیر ٹیگ کردیتا ہے۔غیر مصدقہ اور غیر مستند قرآنی آیات اور احادیث نبوی صلی اللہ علیہ و آلہ وسلم کو شیئر کرنا بہت عام ہے اور لوگ انہیں ڈاؤن لوڈ کرکے ان کے پرنٹ نکال کر استعمال بھی کرتے ہیں مگر کوئی بھی اس چیز کی زحمت نہیں کرتا ہے کہ اس کی تصدیق کسی مذہبی عالم سے کرالے۔ایک سرکاری کالج کی طالبہ ماہ نور علی کا کہنا ہے" مجھے نہ صرف فیس بک بلکہ اخبارات اور ٹیلیویژن پر تشدد سے متاثرہ افراد کی خونریز تصاویر دیکھنے سے نفرت ہے،میڈیا کو اس طرح کے مواد کو دکھانے پر پابندی لگادینی چاہئے، جو معاشرے کو دہشت زدہ کردیتا ہے"۔اسی طرح اسلامیہ کالج پشاور کے طالبعلم محمد اظہار علی شاہ بھی کہتے ہیں لڑکوں کی جانب سے لڑکیوں کی فرضی تصاویر کا استعمال عام معمول بن چکا ہے، جو کسی مہذب اور باشعور شخص کو زیب نہیں دیتا۔اس کا اصرار ہے کہ طالبعلموں کو اس قابل قدر پلیٹ فارم کو مذموم مقاصد کی بجائے ایسی عام معلومات، تدریسی اور تاریخی مواد کو شیئر کرنے کے لیے استعمال کرنا چاہئے۔محمد اظہار نے سوشل میڈیا پر غیر اخلاقی مواد کو ٹیگ کرنے کے عمل کی بھی مخالفت کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ بیشتر فیس بک صارفین نوجوان طالبعلم ہیں، جنھیں اسے لوگوں کو بہکانے کے لےے استعمال نہیں کرنا چاہئے۔اس کا کہنا تھا" ہر صارف کو یہ بات ذہن میں رکھنی چاہئے کہ سوشل میڈیا کو خاندان بھی استعمال کرتے ہیں اور غیر معیاری مواد کو اپ لوڈ کرنا غیر اخلاقی کام ہے، جس پر حکومت کے متعلقہ اداروں کو نظر رکھنی چاہئے۔ایک آئی ٹی ماہر نے بتایا کہ بے کار مواد کے استعمال پر پابندی لگائی جانی چاہئے جو عام صارف کو بہکانے کا سبب بنتا ہے۔اس کا کہنا تھا کہ ڈیجیٹل کیمرہ اور موبائل فونز کے بہت زیادہ استعمال نے لوگوں کی زندگیوں کو غیر ضروری ویڈیوز اور

رہیں باخبر

آئی سی ٹی بُلیٹن

اگست 2014ء، شمارہ 2، نمبر 9

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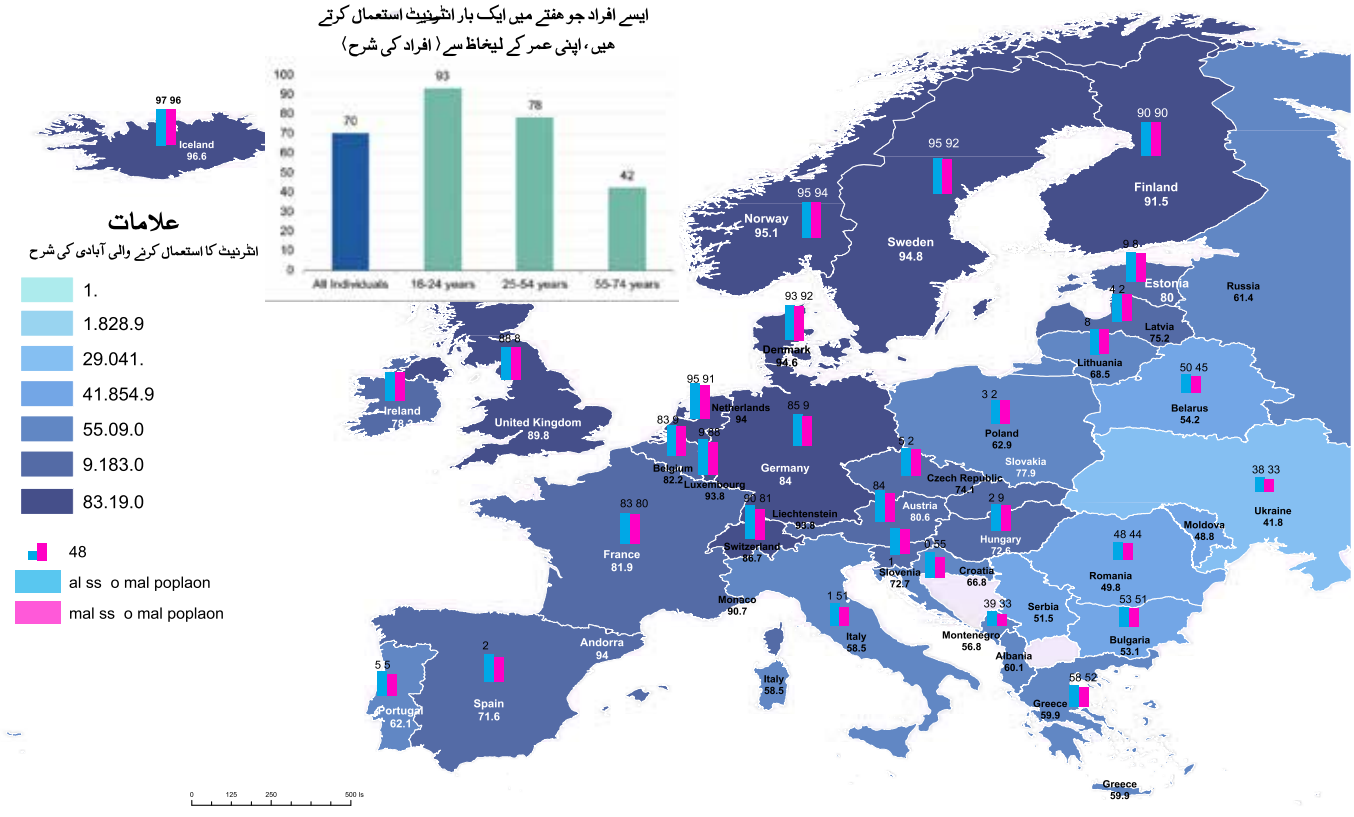

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