

Message from Dr. Shailendra K Hajela,
Chairman, ITU-APT Foundation of India
(Camp: #12137, Terrence Avenue, SARATOGA, CA-95070, USA)

It is a matter of great pleasure for all of us to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the International Telecommunication Union by opening the Bangalore Chapter of ITU-APT Foundation of India, which incidentally is the location where it was registered eleven years ago as an autonomous not-for-profit scientific society comprising ICT professionals and industry to serve as a Think Tank for the development of ICT sector and undertake activities, among others, aimed at building national consensus on regional and global issues for deliberations at APT and ITU. As sector member of ITU-D and ITU-T and likely of ITU-R (in process), the Foundation plays a meaningful role, in submitting its proposals to them as relevant through the Ministry of IT and Communications, Government of India, in matters relating to the ICT policy and regulation, standardization and radio regulations. With MOUs signed with the ITU Associations of Japan and ITUC of Indonesia, the Foundation helps in jointly addressing issues of common concern to the region.

Bangalore, home to two Nobel laureates in Science, workplace of eminent academicians, scientists and technologists in frontier technologies, enjoys pride of place as the internationally recognized Science and ICT capital city of India. Indian Institute of Science, and post-independence founded public sector entities, like the ITI, BEL, HAL, HMT, BEML, BHEL, LRDE, ISRO, DRDO, CDoT, CDAC and other R&D organizations, private electronic industry created the nucleus for growth of scientific activities. Far-sighted Government IT policy that in the early seventies recognized the potential of digital technology, created R&D and industry-friendly environment that fueled the growth of private sector IT industry, some of which rank today amongst the world's top companies. It is no wonder that whenever information technology is talked about in an international forum, Bangalore is inevitably mentioned. If anywhere the vision of our founding fathers, to give India the scientific temper, is realized, it is here in Bangalore that it has been truly achieved! 20th Century concluded with disruptive technology of Internet that brought about a paradigm shift in information and communication technologies, and that with social media and mobile communications has succeeded to a large extent in the empowerment of masses. Digital India is the program that is expected to usher in a new social and economic order to improve the quality of life by several orders of magnitude. Twenty-first century with ubiquitous communications, internet of things, robotics, AI, and so on, is unfolding other challenges, particularly cyber security, threatening peace and endangering human life. The Chapter at Bangalore would be best suited to provide a forum for addressing these and other emerging issues.

That the chapter at Bangalore starts its full-fledged activities coinciding with the 150th year celebrations of ITU is very auspicious and augurs well for its future. Commensurate with the ICT ecosystem of the metropolis, the spirit of goodwill and cooperation of IIT-B, ISRO, CDAC, Amrita University, and other esteemed organizations, and the hard work put in by the Foundation's core members team at Bangalore, I am sure that the inaugural function will be a great success. I thank all the cooperating institutions and wish that I was there at Bangalore to savor and rejoice the inaugural event with distinguished guests, participants and fellow members, but I have to be content by sending my best

wishes from the Silicon Valley in California to its counterpart in India! For me personally, it is a dream come true!

S. V. Hajil

..Message from Shri Tilak Raj Dua,
Co-Chairman and Founding Member, ITU-APT Foundation of India

Dear Members and Colleagues,

I personally planned to come to the Bangalore and participate in the IAFI celebration of the 150th anniversary of the International Telecommunication Union on a Event organised "ICT for Innovation". I regret due to loss of our beloved family member I restrained back home, my humble apologies.

I thought that I could communicate my views to the esteemed audience gathering at the event through my short message.

I vividly recall in 2003 with the leadership of our Founding Chairman Late Shri Pradhan S Saran and Dr. SK Hajela our current Chairman along with few professionals laid down the foundation of ITU-APT Foundation of India. The Foundation was unique in its nature as it was one of four such ITU's Associations in the world and it had enjoyed blessings of Dr. Hamadoune Toure, Former Secretary General ITU and Shri Amarendra Narayan Former Secretary Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT).

Without having adequate financial resources it was not a smooth sailing for all us to carry forward the torch which was lit by legendaries of Telecommunity. Today we are running its 11th years of operation with the cooperation and active involvements of our strong membership base of 100 plus.

IAFI is well recognised as a not to profit body in India. Our track records of last five years achievements' being presented to you, we are also actively participated in the ITU and APT meeting and contributed immensely.

In our last Annual General Meeting we have decided to spread our activities in various region of our country and Bangalore came first in our radar having being a large membership base. I am very pleased to note that Mr. SK Manocha our Founding Member and our esteemed members have organised the event coinciding with the ITU 150 Years celebrations.

I hope that you would enjoy deliberation at the event and welcomes you to join Telecommunity of IAFI if not joined yet.

Yours sincerely

Tilak Raj Dua

“Hearty Congratulations on the completion of 150 years of International Telecom Union.

Best wishes to ITU APT Foundation of India (IAFI) on the very first event “ ICT for Innovation” in Bangalore. “”

Nandan Nilekani

Chairman

EkStep



सत्यमेव जयते

अनिल कौशल, भा.दू.से.

ANIL KAUSHAL, ITS

सदस्य/Member

भारतीय दूरसंचार विनियामक प्राधिकरण

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July 7th, 2015

Dr. SK Hajela,
Chairman,
ITU-APT Foundation of India
304, Gagandeep, 12 Rajendra Place
New Delhi-110008

Dear Dr. Hajela,

I take immense pride in acknowledging that ITU-APT Foundation of India (IAFI) has completed 10 years of operation and now running in its 11th year. The number of events and program organised by the IAFI have been very timely and informative. The IAFI has created much needed awareness about ITU and APT programs among all the stakeholders in India.

I have been invited to several of IAFI's events in the past and have found the quality and content of presentations extremely good. I am looking forward to participate in the future events too.

I also pleased to note that ITU is celebrating its 150 years and its celebration is been organised and planned in number of countries. The IAFI decided to organise a series of events to celebrate the same in India and one such event is being organised at Bangalore on "ICT for Innovation" 9th July 2015 with IIT-Bangalore. I have been told that the event will be soliciting participation of a large number of professionals and government officers.

The IAFI is also planning to open its regional chapters to spread its activities and the first such chapter has been planned to be opened at Bangalore.

I wish the best for IAFI and for the event being organised on ICT for Innovation on 9th July 2015 at Bangalore.

Yours sincerely

(Anil Kaushal)