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Ref.No.MAIT/PY/2323

October 20, 2023

Shri Ashwani Kumar Mahaur
Director (DM-T)
Department of Telecommunications

Subject: Seeking support on Auto-Read out feature

Respected Sir,

Greetings from MAIT!

This bears reference to the meeting held on 16th Oct'23 at DoT regarding CBS implementation queries. One of our requests was on the gaps found during the LSA testing for auto readout feature. During the large-scale testing iOS devices were not able to detect the language type of the broadcasted CBS emergency alert for local languages while it was working fine for English language.

There could be an error in the system which is encoding the incorrect value for the language indication field. We would need a dedicated testing support and also help to work with technical teams of C-DoT and Celltick about the incorrect encoding that is observed in the UE messages logs.

IOS typically uses the DCS value in the broadcasts to determine the language of the message (Packet Data Unit) as per 3GPP 23. 038. The values that we expect as per 3GPP standards are:

- For English: DCS = 1 working fine during the LAS testing.
- For Hindi, either:
 - DCS = 16 (0b00010000) followed by a two-character representation of the language encoded according to ISO 639 (which should be "hi" for Hindi) followed by a CR character
 - DCS = 17 (0b00010001) followed by a two GSM 7-bit alphabet character representation of the language encoded according to ISO 639 (which should translate to "hi" for Hindi so we are expecting 0x6869)

It was noticed that the DCS value for a Hindi CMAS was 0x59 which is invalid in the broadcasted messages. The best guess is that the DCS value was malformed, unless there is something missing.

We request your help to facilitate dedicated testing from Celltick and C-DoT and also technical discussion to clarify how do we ascertain the broadcast language?

This support is needed on immediate basis so that we can plan to get the software release to meet the Auto-read out timeline given in the Gazette notification. A minimum of 2 weeks dedicated testing is requested.

Looking forward for your support.

Warm regards,

Col Suhail Zaidi (Retd)
Director General

CC: Shri Sanjay Agarwal, DDG(DM), DoT
CC: Shri Shriphal Meena, ADG(DM), DoT