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June 05, 2023

Shri Sanjay Kumar Agrawal
Dy. Director General (Disaster Management)
Department of Telecommunications

Subject: MAIT suggested Technical Requirements of Cell Broadcasting for DoT confirmation & other points discussed on May 19, 2023

Respected Sir,

Greetings from MAIT, the apex industry association for ICT in India!

We convey our thanks to you for taking note of industry's concerns and calling for a meeting on May19, 2023. This is in further reference to DoT's discussion with the industry bodies including handset OEMs.

In line with the discussion, please find the below points as per our meeting for your kind confirmation.

- During the meeting, MAIT had mentioned the point that Google should be invited for future Consultative Meeting on 'Cell Broadcasting' as none of the requirements are hardware-based and has dependencies on Google/Android for majority of the mobile brands. Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has asserted brands to push Google for the same. **However, industry requests DoT to send a communication to Google for its faster implementation.** As we all understand, majority of the changes mentioned in the gazetted notification are the software changes and needs to be incorporated on the OS and Android based Smartphones. OEMs are only the implementor, hence it is vital that Google **gets involved in this process, as there are only 4 months left to implement the mandatory receiving of broadcast messages in English & Hindi Language and only 7 months left for auto read out feature in English and Hindi Language in Indian Accent** and to implement other features as mentioned in the notification (released on 6th April 2023).
- It was discussed and a concern raised by industry regarding the implementation of CB messages in other Indian Vernacular Languages, **in response to which DoT asked the industry to implement the CB feature in English and Hindi Language only.**
- **Auto read out feature has a lot of challenges on effort and cost and a multi-year effort to implement on the devices. We request DoT to reconsider this requirement for CBS/CMAS feature implementation. Also request to defer this feature until there is clarity on implementation.**
- MAIT to arrange a discussion between the OEMs (iOS and Android based) to mutually finalize the CB Message Ids (for National and Extreme alerts) and share the same with DoT for their acknowledgement. Basis the inputs received from the Handset industry; we are hereby enclosing the CBS requirements. **The CBS requirements given in the Annexure is agreed by all stakeholders including DoT and the industry for CBS implementation.** All handset & OS OEMs will adhere to the baseline requirements in the Annexure.

- MAIT in the enclosed Annexure has covered **Alert title in English based on our last meeting**. However, we request for DoT's guidance on Alert Titles in Hindi.
- DoT clarified during the meeting that ETWS is not part of the requirements for CBS implementation.
- Mobile Industry also requests to issue Standard/Technical reference documents specifically on CBS for the OEMs to internally verify the location-based Cell Broadcasting feature for Disaster Alerts and needs clarity on how to verify the Mobile Handsets as CBS-compliant?
- DoT to provide clarity on the lab testing facilities, lead time of testing and audio library features.

We request a line in confirmation from DoT on its agreement with the CBS requirements as mentioned in Annexure so that MAIT can confirm to its industry members who subsequently can share it with Google/Android and iOS.

We look forward to a quick and early response.

Warm regards,



Col. AA Jafri, Retd.
Director General

Annexure: Requirements for implementing CB by OEMs