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MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
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Member of Standing Committee on Defence
Member of Consultative Committee on Defence
Member of Central Advisory Committee for National Cadet Corps
Co-Chairman, Vigilance & Monitoring Committee, Bangalore Urban District
Vice Chairman, National Military Memorial Management Trust, Bangalore

January 13, 2015

Dear Ran Chankar,

Happy New Year. I wish you a very successful 2015.

I write to you regarding a very important policy matter that has serious implications on of the government's "Digital India" and "Make in India" programs. This relates to the policy formulation by the Ministry of Communication & IT on Machine-to-Machine (M2M) also broadly known as and linked with Internet of Things (IOT).

I have followed closely over the last year the discussions which began during the UPA government and continue in your tenure. At the outset there, it must be recognized that there is rapid progress in this regard. However, it has come to my notice that rather than approaching the entire M2M / IOT opportunity through a **single comprehensive policy framework** – as envisaged under the National Telecom Policy 2012, there is currently a fragmented approach – perhaps a legacy of the UPA government in regard. This continues till date.

I call your attention to the draft policy titled "Draft IoT policy" released by DeitY on 16th October 2014, and further, to the draft roadmap document titled "National Telecom M2M Roadmap" released by DoT on 6th January 2015, for consultation. (Both drafts attached for your ready reference.)

Both departments are pursuing these drafts fairly independently, as 2 different drafts. Regardless of whether there is a discussion between the two departments, an approach which produces 2 different drafts on the same issues, is both ill-advised and seriously problematic in terms of practical implementation.

Notwithstanding DoT's primary role as a licensor, and therefore its responsibility for telecommunications, transport and "related issues", and DeitY's role in fostering manufacturing and creating a national environment for attracting global investment, under the "Make in India" program, etc., there needs to be a single policy which addresses these artificial distinctions right from the beginning.



I wish to take this opportunity to laud the efforts of officials in both departments, but remain unwavering on the fact that the current approach is fragmented and therefore and unlikely to yield desired results.

Further, you may wish to consider incorporating experts from academia, industry and technical communities within a Committee that can formulate a **single uniform M2M policy**. Mere consultation with multi-disciplinary groups, without an obligation for including experts' views, has turned out to be a failure in the past.

UPA's endeavors such as the NOFN project, PMA policy and attempts to get Cloud services off the ground, are visible examples of such failure, where your government is now having to work twice as hard to make serious mid-course corrections.

Therefore I request you to direct the departments to formulate a single, multi-disciplinary Committee to produce a single uniform M2M / IOT policy, which will advance the objectives of "Digital India" and "Make in India".

Sincerely,

RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR

Shri. Ravi Shankar Prasad
Hon'ble Minister of Communication & IT
Government of India
New Delhi

Encl: As above

→ Copy to: Hon'ble Prime Minister, Govt of India