

TELECOM ACT KICKS IN TODAY, PARTIALLY

Govt can now intercept, stop messages

This can be done for public safety or during public emergencies

SUBHANYA CHAKRABORTY
New Delhi, 25 June

Certain chunks of the Telecommunications Act, 2023, will come into effect from Wednesday, allowing the Centre and state governments to intercept messages, and take temporary possession of telecom networks in the interest of public safety or during emergencies.

New rules on right of way for telecom infrastructure and penalties on SIM ownership will also be implemented.

However, much-awaited provisions dealing with administrative allocation of satellite spectrum, the mandatory biometric verification of users by telcos, and a smoother telecom dispute resolution mechanism, will be implemented at a later date.

Sections 1, 2, 10 to 30, 42 to 44, 46, 47, 50 to 58, 61 and 62 of the Act, which was passed in Parliament in December last year, will be enforced from Wednesday.

Crucially, Section 20 (2) of the Act allows the government to stop the transmission of any message in the interest of public safety and during a public emergency. This majorly expands the number of government entities that may be able to intercept messages. In 2019, the government had informed the Lok Sabha that 10 central agencies including the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Intelligence Bureau (IB) can intercept telephone communications, provided they have the Union home secretary's prior permission to do so.

The same section allows the Centre



KEY CHANGES

- Govt can permit telecom infra on private land under certain cases even if owner refuses
- Telcos have to secure user consent for receiving advertising messages
- Commercial messages sent without user consent may get telco suspended
- Having more than 9 SIM cards will attract fines up to ₹2 lakh
- Universal service obligation fund to become Digital Bharat Nidhi
- Regulatory Sandbox to encourage innovation and new technologies

or states to take temporary possession of any telecom service or network during a public emergency, including disaster management, or in the interest of public safety.

The Act defines telecommunication as the 'transmission, emission or reception of any messages, by wire, radio, optical or other electro-magnetic systems, whether or not such messages have been subjected to rearrangement, computation or other processes by any means in the course of their transmission, emission or reception'.

It further defines a message as any sign, signal, writing, text, image, sound, video, data stream, intelligence or information sent through telecommunication'.

Consequently, messages sent

through internet-based messaging service providers such as Whatsapp, Signal, and Telegram, as well as those which are encrypted, are understood to be within the Act's ambit. However, after the Act was passed in Parliament, then Telecom Minister Ashwani Vaishnav had stressed that Over-the-Top (OTT) services are not covered under the scope of the Act. Until further clarity is provided by the government, messaging OTTs will remain a grey area.

Interception of messages is also allowed in the interest of friendly relations with foreign states, maintenance of public order, or for preventing the incitement towards any offence.

Internet-based messages
In April, WhatsApp told the Delhi

High Court that if it is made to break encryption of messages, then the social messaging platform would exit India. It had filed a petition challenging the 2021 Information Technology (IT) rules for social media intermediaries. They required the messaging app to trace chats and make provisions to identify the first originator of information.

The IT rules had been the government's primary legislation directing the interception of messages so far.

"The definition of 'telecommunication' and 'telecommunication service' is diluted and ambiguous, potentially including online communication services like WhatsApp & Zoom under its ambit," said digital rights group Internet Freedom Foundation (IFF) on

Tuesday. Senior officials at the department of telecommunications (DoT) had said the verification of OTT users and related issues may be taken up under the ministry of electronics and information technology's (MeitY's) proposed Digital India bill.

Currently, efforts are also underway to finalise the rules regarding the interception of calls and messages on grounds of national security, prevention of incitement of offences, or public order. These are to be administered on defined procedures, and in-ministerial consultations with MeitY are ongoing, officials told Business Standard.

Right of way & spam

Relevant sections dealing with updated rules for right of way, both on public and private property, will also come into force. The Act has broadened the definition of public entities to include government agencies, local bodies and public-private partnership projects like airports, seaports, and highways.

In a key move, the government can now grant permission to telcos to install mobile towers or lay telecom cables on private properties, if absolutely necessary, even if the landowner objects.

Going forward, telecom infrastructure will also be distinct from the property it is installed on. This is expected to help reduce the disputes when property is sold or leased.

Section 28 of the Act also cracks down on spam. Getting prior consent from subscribers to receive advertising messages, and establishing Do Not Disturb registers have been made mandatory for operators.

SPORTS WATCH

mybs.in/t20wc

T20 WORLD CUP: AFG BEAT BAN IN A THRILLER, ENTER SEMIFINAL



Afghanistan scripted history Tuesday morning by sealing their first semifinal spot in the T20 World Cup after beating Bangladesh by 8 runs (DLS method). In a must-win match marred by frequent rain interruptions, Afghanistan scored 115-5 in their 20 overs and then returned to bowl out Bangladesh for 105 in 17.5 overs. The result also led to former champions Australia, whose slim hopes were hanging on Bangladesh winning this game, getting knocked out of the tournament.

Brief scorecard

Afghanistan: 115-5 in 20 overs (Gurbaz 43; Rishab Hossain 3/26)
Bangladesh: 105-10 in 17.5 overs (Litton 54*; Rashid 4/23).

India seal semifinal berth with 24-run win vs AUS

Riding on skipper Rohit Sharma's scintillating 41-ball 92, India beat Australia by 24 runs in their final Super 8 fixture and qualified for the semifinals of the T20 World Cup in St Lucia Monday night.

Batting first, India scored a competitive 205-5 in 20 overs and then restricted Australia to 181-7. Travis Head top-scored for Australia with 76 off 43 balls. Among Indian bowlers, Kuldeep Yadav (2/24) performed brilliantly in the middle overs, while Arshdeep Singh ended with figures of 3/37. Afghanistan and South Africa will lock horns in the first semifinal, while India will play against England in the second, on June 27.

COMPILED BY ANISH KUMAR

NEET, UGC-NET EXAM ROW

Committee on NTA reforms to plug irregularities, meet parents

SANKET KOUL
New Delhi, 25 June

The high-level committee of experts constituted by the Ministry of Education to recommend reforms in the National Testing Agency (NTA) will prioritise engaging with parents and students, besides setting up a robust and foolproof exam mechanism, a senior member of the panel said.

The seven-member committee met on Monday evening, under the chairmanship of former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairman Dr K Radhakrishnan.

Speaking to the media after the meeting, Dr Radhakrishnan said that the first priority of the committee would be meeting students and parents to understand their difficulties. "Our top priority is to ensure a transparent, smooth and fair conduct

of examinations," he said.

"Another top priority will be to set up a robust and foolproof exam mechanism process that would also be tamper-proof. The intention is to set up such a transparent exam process as soon as possible," he added.

The Centre had formed the seven-member high-level committee last week to oversee transparency amid controversy over the cancellation of UGC-National Eligibility Test (NET) exam and irregularities in conducting the National Entrance-cum-Eligibility Test-Undergraduate (NEET-UG).

The move to form the committee came after the removal of the then-NTA director general Subodh Kumar Singh and the notification of rules of the anti-paper leak Public Examinations (Prevention of Unfair Means) Act by the Centre.

The committee has been asked to submit its

report to the education ministry within two months, making recommendations on reform in the mechanism of the examination process, improvement in data security protocols and structure and functioning of NTA.

The terms of reference for the committee include analysing the end-to-end examination process and suggest measures to improve efficiency of the system, forestall any possible breach and conduct a thorough review of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) of the NTA, suggesting measures to strengthen these procedures to ensure compliance at every level.

The high-level panel will also examine existing security protocols related to the paper setting and other processes for different examinations and make recommendations to enhance the robustness of the system.

Mindspace 1st Reit to issue bonds linked to sustainability

K Raheja-backed Mindspace Business Parks Reit on Tuesday announced that it has raised funds by issuing sustainability-linked bonds worth ₹650 crore from the International Finance Corporation (IFC). It became the first Indian real estate investment trust to issue such bonds. The bonds have been issued for the tenure of seven years.

Wendy Werner, IFC country head for India said that this investment would help Mindspace enhance the sustainability of its portfolio of business parks and reduce greenhouse gas emissions year-on-year.

"This partnership aligns with India's net-zero ambitions and demonstrates the viability of climate finance in the real estate sector," he said.

BS REPORTER

CAUTION NOTICE

SEQUOIA

It has come to the notice of our client, Sequoia Capital Operations, LLC, USA (hereinafter referred to as 'Sequoia'), that certain unknown individuals are posing as the investment advisors or employees of Sequoia and reaching out to the general public through fake profiles on WhatsApp, Telegram, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, and other media platforms. These unscrupulous persons are circulating false and fake investment tips through various media platforms, claiming that such tips are from Sequoia. Some of the fraudulent third parties go by the names 'Senee Trader/Senee Group', 'Sequoia Capital', 'leadlec' 'leadleacoin', and Sequoia Capital Business School/Academy. Please be informed that Sequoia does not deal in retail investment or personal finance and its employees and representatives never solicit investments or otherwise reach out to the general public through social media and messaging apps such as WhatsApp, Telegram, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube, etc.

Sequoia has taken legal action against several such fraudsters in the Delhi High Court.

The general public is advised to be vigilant and aware of such fake communications soliciting money and promising 100% to 500% profit returns or soliciting business using the Sequoia name. If you come across any such fraudulent website, mobile application, or WhatsApp and Telegram group using Sequoia's name, you are advised to immediately report the same to sequoia@fiduslawchambers.com, and not to invest any money or share your personal information.

Sequoia's affiliates, and employees will not be responsible and liable for any kind of loss or damage suffered by anyone as a result of dealing with any fraudsters purporting to represent Sequoia.

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CIN: L24100MH1986PLC039837

NOTICE

Transfer of Equity Shares of the Company to Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF Authority)

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the provisions of Section 124 of the Companies Act, 2013 (the Act) read with the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 (the Rules), as amended, the Equity Shares of the Company in respect of which dividend declared for the Financial Year 2016-2017 has remained unclaimed or unpaid for a period of seven consecutive years or more are required to be transferred by the Company to the demat account of the IEPF Authority.

The Company has sent individual notices to the registered addresses of the concerned shareholders whose shares are liable to be transferred to the IEPF Authority advising them to claim their unclaimed dividends. The Company has uploaded details of such shareholders on its website www.vinylchemicals.com. The concerned shareholders are requested to refer to the said website to verify the details of unclaimed dividends and the shares which are liable to be transferred to the IEPF Authority.

The concerned shareholders are requested to claim the dividend declared for the Financial Year 2016-2017 and onwards before the same is transferred to the IEPF.

The concerned shareholder(s) holding shares in physical form and whose shares are liable to be transferred to the IEPF Authority, may note that upon transfer of shares to IEPF Authority, the original share certificate(s) which are registered in their name will stand automatically cancelled and be deemed non-negotiable. In case of shares held in demat form, the quantity of shares liable to be transferred, shall be debited from the shareholders account and transferred to the IEPF Authority.

In case the concerned shareholders do not claim their unclaimed dividends on or before 23rd September, 2024, the Company shall with a view to comply with the Rules, transfer the shares to the IEPF Authority without any further notice to the shareholders and no liability shall lie against the Company in respect of the shares so transferred.

The shareholders may note that once the shares, including all benefits accruing on such shares, if any, are transferred to the IEPF Authority, the same can be claimed only from the IEPF Authority by making an application to the IEPF Authority in Form IEPF-5 as prescribed under the Rules and the same is made available at IEPF website www.iepf.gov.in.

For any queries in respect of the above matter, shareholders may contact M/s. Link Intime India Pvt. Ltd., the Registrar & Transfer Agents of the Company at C-101, 1st Floor, 247 Park, Lal Bahadur Shastri Marg, Vikhroli (West), Mumbai- 400083; E-mail: csq-unit@linkintime.co.in or contact the Company at cs.vinylchemicals@pidilite.com.

for Vinyl Chemicals (India) Ltd.

Place: Mumbai P.C.Patel
Date: 26/06/2024 Secretary

Sundram Fasteners Limited
CIN: L35999TN1962PLC004943
Registered & Corporate Office: 98-A, VII Floor, Dr Radhakrishnan Salai, Mylapore, Chennai - 600 004
Tel: +91 - 44 - 28478500 | Fax: 91 - 44 - 28478510 | Email: investorhelpdesk@sfli.co.in | Website: www.sundram.com

NOTICE to Shareholders regarding Transfer of Equity Shares to Investor Education and Protection Fund

NOTICE is hereby given that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 124(6) of the Companies Act, 2013 (the Act) read with the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 ("Rules") as amended to date, the Company is required to transfer Equity Shares on or before **October 26, 2024** in respect of which dividend amounts for **seven consecutive years or more remain unclaimed as on September 27, 2024** to Investor Education and Protection Fund ("IEPF").

The shareholders are requested to encash / claim such unclaimed dividends on or before **September 20, 2024**. The Company has displayed on its website, www.sundram.com, the names, folio numbers / DPID & Client ID and the number of shares held by the shareholders, whose shares are liable to be transferred to IEPF as per the above mentioned Rules, in case such shareholders have not encashed / claimed their dividends.

In case, where there is a specific order of Court or Tribunal or Statutory Authority restraining transfer of such shares and payment of dividend or where such shares are pledged or hypothecated under the provisions of the Depositories Act, 1996, the Company will not transfer such shares to the IEPF.

Hence, in the absence of any communication received from the concerned shareholders in respect of such shares on or before September 20, 2024, the Company will proceed to transfer the said Equity Shares to IEPF as stipulated in the Rules, without any further notice. All further dividends in respect of the shares so transferred will also be directly credited to IEPF.

The Shareholders may please note the following in this regard:-

1) In case, the shares are held in physical form	A new share certificate will be issued in lieu of your existing share certificate(s) and upon such issue, the Company shall inform the Depository by way of corporate action to convert the share certificates into Demat form and transfer in favour of IEPF.
2) In case, the shares are held in dematerialized form	Your demat account will be debited for the shares liable for transfer to IEPF.

The concerned Shareholders whose shares are transferred to IEPF can claim both the unclaimed dividend and the shares from the IEPF Authority by making an application in the prescribed Form IEPF-5 through online submission to the IEPF Authority and sending a physical copy of the same prescribed by the IEPF Authority duly signed as per the specimen signature registered with the Company along with the requisite documents specified in Form IEPF-5, to the Company Secretary of the Company. The Company will issue an entitlement letter to the shareholder / claimant, subject to receipt of the requisite documents specified in Form IEPF-5. It may be noted that the shareholder has to attach a copy of the entitlement letter issued by the Company along with other requisite documents at the time of submission of E-Form IEPF-5. Please note that no claim shall lie against the Company in respect of shares / unclaimed dividend transferred to IEPF pursuant to the above mentioned Rules.

In case of any queries in this regard, the concerned shareholders may contact the Registrar and Share Transfer Agent, Sri S Sriram, General Manager, Integrated Registry Management Services Private Limited, Kences Towers, 2nd Floor, No 1, Ramakrishna Street, North Usman Road, T Nagar, Chennai - 600 017, Telephone: 91-44-28140801-803, E-mail: srirams@integratedindia.in / Sri G Anand Babu, the Nodal Officer of the Company at the contact details mentioned above.

For SUNDARAM FASTENERS LIMITED

G Anand Babu
Senior Manager - Finance & Company Secretary
Chennai
26.06.2024

www.bankofbaroda.in

NOTICE

28th Annual General Meeting - Election of One Shareholder Director

List of Valid Candidates

Notice is hereby given in respect of 28th Annual General Meeting of the Bank inter alia for the Election of One Director from amongst Shareholders other than the Central Government, that after scrutiny of nominations and determination of their 'Fit & Proper Status', nominations of the following candidates have been found to be valid and in order:

Sl. No.	Name & Address	Age (Years)	Educational / Professional Qualifications
1	Shri Sanjay Kapoor H. No. 296, Sector 15, Panchkula, Haryana - 134 112	57	BSC, FCA (Chartered Accountant)
2	Shri Kartar Singh Chauhan 70-71, Scindia House, Connaught Place, New Delhi - 110 001	60	M.Com, FCA (Chartered Accountant) Certificate Courses on Concurrent Audit of Banks, Forex & Treasury Management and Goods & Service Tax.
3	Shri Suresh Chand Garg House No B136-A, Gopalpura, By pass Scheme 10B, Jaipur-302 018	58	M.Com, Chartered Accountant and Insolvency Professional
4	Shri Vijay Dube A- 306, Kendriya Vihar, Sector 56, Gurgaon, Haryana - 122 011	60	MBA, MSC (Statistics), CAIIB and Certificate in Risk in Financial Services (CIS), London.
5	Shri Rameshwar Prasad Vijay 70-B Heera Nagar, "A" Ajmer Road, Jaipur - 302 021	64	B.Com HON (ABST), M.Com (ABST), LLB, FCA, DISA, CCV, IFRS, CCA, FAFD (ICAI)

Accordingly, the election of One Shareholder Director will be held at the 28th Annual General Meeting of the Bank scheduled to be held on 05th July 2024 through VC / OAVM and Remote E-voting / e-voting at AGM will be held as per the schedule already announced in the Notice. Shareholders attending the meeting through VC / OAVM, who have not cast their votes through Remote E-Voting shall be able to cast their e-votes during the Meeting.

Any of the aforesaid candidates desirous of withdrawing his candidature may do so by sending a letter in writing duly signed addressed to Chief General Manager (Operations), Bank of Baroda, 7th Floor, Baroda Bhawan, R.C.Dutt Road, Opp. Centre Point, Alkapuri, Vadodra 390 007 / The Company Secretary, Bank of Baroda, 7th Floor, Baroda Corporate Centre, C-26, G-Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra East, Mumbai 400051 or sending scanned and signed letter over e-mail at gm_ops_ho@bankofbaroda.com; OR alternately companysecretary.bcc@bankofbaroda.com so as to reach before **4.00 p.m. on 29th June 2024**

Place: Mumbai
Date: 26.06.2024

For Bank of Baroda
P K Agarwal,
Company Secretary