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NEWSLETTER

DoT nod for Vodafone-Idea merger likely this month



The telecom department is likely to approve the merger between Idea Cellular and Vodafone India within this month, which will pave the way for creating the largest carrier in India by subscribers and revenue market share.

The country's No. 2 and No. 3 carriers, Vodafone India and Idea Cellular, are merging their operations in India to create an entity that will be equally owned by UK's Vodafone Group and India's diversified Aditya Birla Group.

The merged entity will have over 410 million customers, nearly 42% customer market share (CMS) and nearly 37% revenue market share (RMS), leaving it stronger place to take on competitive pressures triggered by Jio, with 160 million subscribers and over 16% CMS and 15.3% RMS. Airtel has a CMS of 29.5% and an RMS of 31.5%. The merger has been approved by National Company law tribunal, Securities Exchange Board of India and Competition Commission of India.

Sweden, India agree to strengthen cooperation on defence

India and Sweden will soon sign an agreement on sharing of classified information required for defence manufacturing and co-production in India. Swedish defence major SAAB has shown interest in

manufacturing Gripen aircraft in India under the 'Make in India' initiative. SAAB fighter jets are considered as one of the best in the world.



SAAB has partnered with the Adani Group for defence manufacturing, with the joint venture expected to bid for supplying fighter jets to the Indian Air Force. Further, SAAB has offered transfer of technology and is ready to Make in India. The offer has is a lot more than moving a second-hand production line to India and will bring state-

of-the-art technology and production line along with capabilities, which will eventually lead to creation of jobs in India. Accordingly, 85% of the aircraft will have to be manufactured under the Make in India programme, for which the partnership will be done with an Indian company.

World Bank- India highest recipient of remittances at \$69 billion


As per the report of World Bank, India retained the top position recipient of remittances with its diaspora sending about USD 69 billion back home last year. The remittances in India picked up sharply by 9.9 per cent. This was an increase of 8.5 per cent over 429 billion in 2016.



WORLD BANK

as

USD

Further, in a latest Migration and Development Brief, the World  Bank estimated that officially recorded remittances to low-and middle-income countries reached USD 466 billion in 2017.

Also, the Global remittances, which include flows to high-income countries, grew 7 per cent to USD 613 billion last year, from USD 573 billion in 2016.

CISCO-India can play key role in tech development for other markets & come first for investment decisions

India can play an important role in developing technologies around areas like healthcare and education that can be deployed at scale in other developing markets like Latin America and Africa, as per the CEO of the CISCO. Also, India ranks high in priority when it comes to global investment decisions.

The technology adoption in India has grown at an "unprecedented rate" in the last few years and that Cisco is looking at taking its learnings from the Indian market to other countries. Accordingly, Cisco has set up its first manufacturing unit in India, a Cisco Cyber Range Lab in its Gurgaon facility to provide specialised technical training workshops on cybersecurity, a Global Delivery Centre (its second in India) and a Security Operations Centre (SOC) in Pune.



Cisco had also announced a series of strategic investments of over US 100 million, including a commitment to train 2,50,000 students in India by 2020. The company has allotted USD 280 million to invest in Indian startups and has already invested in over 25 companies and made two acquisitions in India

Corporate Office

B-7/1,SafdarjungEnclaveExtn.

NewDelhi-110029,India

T. +911126101906,41354615

F.+911126171201

E.info@maheshwariandco.com

Mumbai

Level8,VibgyorTowers,C-62

Block-G, BandraKurlaComplex

Mumbai - 400098,India

T. +91 2240907271

Lucknow

IIND Floor, YMCA Complex

13 Rana Pratap Marg,

Lucknow - 226001

Uttar Pradesh

T. +91 5222209390

F. +91 5222209749

Network Offices

Bangalore

Chennai

Hyderabad

Pune

Kolkata

www.maheshwariandco.com