

**AIC Media Statement
India's Telecommunications Bill, 2023
22 December 2023**

To be attributed to Jeff Paine, Managing Director, Asia Internet Coalition

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The Asia Internet Coalition appreciates the government's efforts to update regulations on telecommunications services. As we understand that it is not the intent of the Government to include OTTs and online application services in the scope of the Telecom Bill, we request for additional clarity around the definitions of terms such as “message” and “telecommunications” so that these are not misinterpreted to include internet services. The exclusion of OTTs from the bill reinforces a supportive policy environment essential for India's strong digital growth and we urge the Government to continue to adopt a balanced and consultative approach in developing regulations that promote innovation, protect user rights, and align with global best practices.

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About the Asia Internet Coalition

The Asia Internet Coalition (AIC) is an industry association comprising leading Internet and technology companies. The AIC seeks to promote the understanding and resolution of Internet policy issues in the Asia Pacific region. Visit www.aicasia.org for more information.