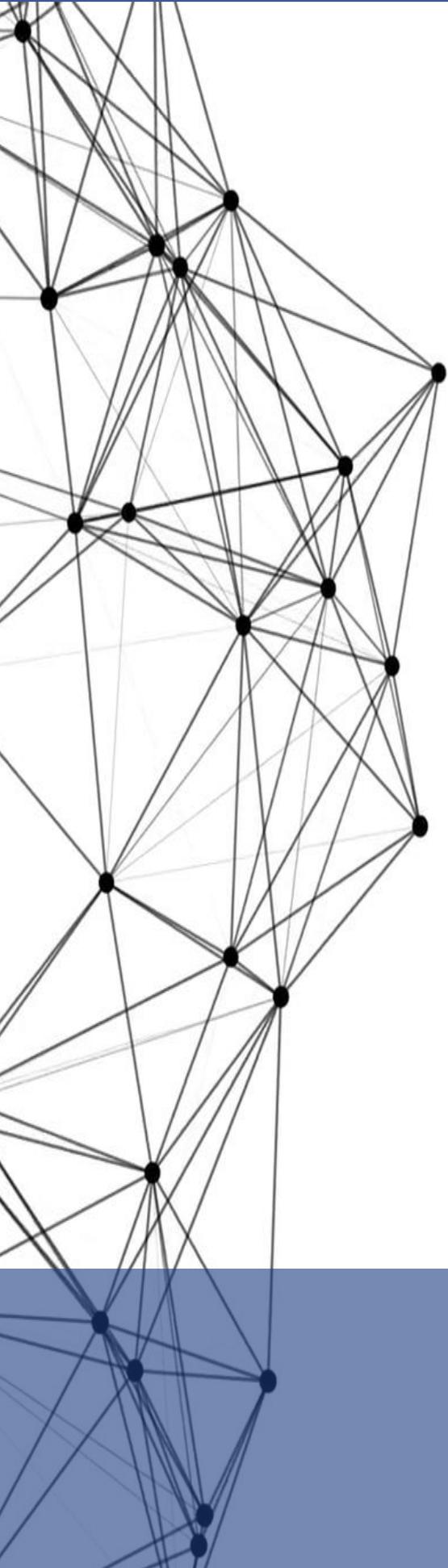


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ACMA Updates [Class Licencing](#) Arrangements Supporting 5G

The updates, among other things, include the expansion of frequency range for 60GHz data communication systems to cover 57-71GHz for indoor and outdoor usage, and new arrangements for transmitters in the 57-64GHz band supporting motion sensing technology. This is based on consultations carried out between 2018 and 2019. The ACMA still invites new suggestions on devices and technologies for potential future updates to licencing arrangements for the [Low Interference](#) Potential Devices (LIPD) Class Licence.

[Huawei](#) Cuts Australian Workforce

The Chinese equipment maker has let 100 people go since it was not allowed by the govt to participate in the 5G networks being constructed in the country. Huawei is also quitting the Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA) as it is unhappy with the AMTA not putting up a stronger fight on behalf of Huawei.

NPPA Issues Statement on Mandatory [Compliance](#) Requirements

The New Payments Platform Australia (NPPA) has published a cursory statement on its website reaffirming that the NPP's integrity and performance is protected by minimum technical, operational and security requirements that all participating institutions must comply with.

- The NPP Regulations were amended in Jun to allow for specific requirements to become mandatory and enforceable through non-compliance charges or financial penalties.
- The first "Mandatory Compliance Requirements" are set to come out in Oct.

JCIS Reviewing National [Facial Recognition](#) System and Database Bill

The Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security (JCIS) which recently held talks on the new encryption laws and Australia's telecom data retention laws is now looking at a new bill to set up a national facial recognition system, after a previous bill had lapsed due to the dissolution of parliament earlier in the year.

- The Identity Matching Services Bill 2019 will permit federal govt agencies to access identity information like the photographs on state driver licences, giving the Department of Home Affairs the right to develop a National Driver Licence Facial Recognition Solution (NDLRFRS) database.
- Submissions are being accepted until 6 Sep. The govt says the system will be designed not to accept live video feeds from CCTV.
- According to Comparitech Sydney ranks as the sixth most surveilled city outside of China with an average of 12 cameras per 1,000 people.

DTA Trialling Linking [myGov](#) with Digital Identification Solution

The trial will run over the next twelve months connecting the govt online portal myGov and digital identity measures such as using Apple Face ID or fingerprint authentication to log in. The trial will also look at using fewer questions people are asked when logging on and linking different govt services like those offered by Centrelink or the tax office.

- There are ongoing trials with applying for a Tax File Number, the Unique Student Identifier (USI), Grants Management, Youth Allowance and Newstart and My Health Record. The DTA will look into removing the need to use AUSkey and replacing it with a digital identity solution and also at biometrics under the TDIF.

PBOC [Unveils](#) Three-Year Fintech Development Plan

PBOC has unveiled a Fintech Development Plan for 2019-2021 that seeks to strengthen fintech applications capabilities, enhancement on financial services, and to improvement both the financial risk control, and financial regulatory efficacy.

- The Development plan outlines development targets and six prioritized tasks as follows:
 - 1) Overall and long-term strategic planning to build up fintech talent and ensure the implementation of coordinated measures;
 - 2) To strengthen the development of fintech applications;
 - 3) The use of technology to improve quality and efficiency of financial services, lower service cost, increase service channels and product ranges;
 - 4) Improvement in the capability to identify, curb and tackle cross-market and cross-industry financial risks, enhance cybersecurity and financial information protection;
 - 5) Establishment of a fintech regulatory framework, exploring new monitoring systems, to accelerate the drafting of fintech regulations and assessment; and
 - 6) To improve the ecosystem of the fintech sector and support the development of fintech through enacting laws and regulations, standards development and consumer protection.

China Telecom [Mulls](#) 5G Network Sharing with China Unicom

In response to China Unicom’s call for collaboration with other mobile operators to co-build the 5G networks in a bid to share construction cost and reduce the capital expenditure involved, China Telecom has agreed to cooperate with China Unicom by setting up a team to evaluate how best to share resources.

- China Unicom estimates cost savings accrued to each operator could amount to CNY200bn (USD28.2bn). Both companies are planning to build 40,000 5G base stations by the end of 2019, incurring a network expenditure of CNY9bn (USD1.27bn).

Impact Analysis: To the mobile operators, sharing of network construction can ensure roll-out requirements are met, avoid duplication of resources and bring greater savings on network build-out cost and operation cost which are important to the operators as they have been facing issues including revenue declines, uncertainty in the demand for 5G services and immense pressure from the govt to lower tariffs. However, the resultant decrease in 5G infrastructure spending will also mean reduced revenue for network equipment suppliers like Huawei.

Hangzhou Industrial Internet Demonstration Zone [Commences](#) Operation

The 260,000m² industrial Internet demonstration zone has attracted over 20 service providers including Alibaba’s industrial platform supET in the first phase of the development.

- With floor space eventually triple, the municipal govt aims to bring in a total of 45 tenants across different technology fields such as 5G, AI, industrial apps, and cloud computing to digitally transform the operation of 100 large enterprises and 1,000 SMEs in the manufacturing industry.

Huawei [Releases](#) High-Performance AI Chip to Rival Nvidia’s Processor

Huawei officially launched its AI chip, Ascend 91, claiming it as the world’s most powerful processor for deep learning training, doubling the performance of Nvidia’s GPU.

- Huawei has also unveiled a machine learning framework, MindSpore, that can be deployed on both the cloud and edge computing platforms to enhance the efficiency for AI application development.
- Huawei plans to offer a portfolio of AI products such as processors tailored for autonomous driving, AI acceleration card, and server.

Impact Analysis: Despite the US Commerce Department extending the reprieve for another 90 days to allow Huawei to do business with US companies and serve existing customers, 46 more Huawei affiliates have been added to the entity list and there is no sign that a resolution will be reached soon. While the temporary reprieve will give more time for US suppliers to adjust and minimise the disruption to operators of networks who rely on Huawei's equipment, Huawei is trying every possible way to accelerate the development of its home-grown technologies including AI chipsets, AI design software, proprietary operating system, and mapping services to reduce its vulnerability to US blacklisting.

Govt [Sets up](#) Technical Advisory Committee on Smart Lampposts

A technical advisory ad hoc committee on multi-functional smart lampposts, chaired by the Govt CIO, has been established to examine personal privacy protection and information security issues related to applications enabled by cameras and involving collection of data such as car number plates. Currently, 50 smart lampposts have been installed to collect real-time traffic flow, air quality and meteorological data.

- Members of the Committee include representatives from industry associations, academics, the Privacy Commissioner. The Committee will submit a report detailing their recommendations on measures to address public concerns on personal privacy, information security safeguards and community engagement strategies by end of the year.

Transport Department to [Pilot](#) Smart Parking System to Reduce Congestion

Under the smart parking pilot, 200 parking spaces will be made available in Sham Shui Po district using the cylinder-vertical-lifting technology which parks cars via a lift.

- Self-parking technology with the use of robotic systems can further reduce drivers' time to park and pick up their cars and to re-purpose the space above the car parks for leisure areas and playgrounds.
- The Smart Parking pilot project also includes the development of a cloud-based server that collects real-time parking vacancy data and data analytics to determine the shortest or fastest route based on real-time traffic conditions.

 **Impact Analysis:** Smart parking system can only alleviate congestion arising from illegal parking in the short term. The scheme might even increase car ownership as more parking spaces are made available. For the govt to craft out more effective long term strategies to reduce the number of cars in Hong Kong or at least encourage the adoption of electric vehicles to reduce pollution, it is important to understand why people want to own a car despite low usage rate and high ownership costs, as well as the barriers for electric vehicles adoption.

TRAI [Issues](#) Consultation Paper on Tariff Related Issues for Broadcasting and Cable Services

TRAI has issued a consultation paper on tariff related issues for broadcasting and cable services. Three main issues that TRAI has sought to address through the paper are: (i) whether channel bouquets should be allowed; (ii) should a cap on discounts within bouquets be reintroduced; and (iii) whether the ceiling price of channels in bouquets needs to be re-examined. This consultation is meant to review the new regulatory framework for the broadcasting sector that came into effect in Dec 2018.

Maharashtra Govt to [Use](#) Blockchain in Various Applications

The Maharashtra Govt is preparing a regulatory sandbox for testing blockchain technology solutions across various applications such as vehicle registration, agriculture marketing, supply chain, and document management systems, in a bid to increase efficiency in operations. This sandbox is expected to be prepared over the next five to six months.

- The state has already completed its first blockchain pilot in the fields of health, supply chains, documents, and secondary school certificates (SSC).
- The Maharashtra Information Technology Directorate will be the nodal agency responsible for the implementation.

RBI [Releases](#) Framework for Regulatory Sandbox for Innovative Financial Products

The RBI has released an Enabling Framework for Regulatory Sandbox that will allow start-ups, banks and financial institutions to set up regulatory sandbox (RS) based on thematic cohorts such as financial inclusion, payments and lending, and digital KYC. These cohorts may run for varying time periods but should ordinarily be completed within six months.

Google [Signs](#) MoU with Telangana Govt to Bridge Digital Divide

Google and the Telangana govt signed a MoU to improve and get more local language content online using Google's digital publishing tool – Navlekha. Under the MoU, Google will work to help digitise the state govt's content in Telugu to make it easier to access information and services on govt websites in the local language. In addition, Google will also collaborate with the state govt to support its digital literacy vision and overall "Digital Telangana" vision.

Impact Analysis: Improving access to the Telangana govt's vast pool of online information in the local language, Telegu, could help to extend the benefits of the internet to a larger section of the local population in the state.

BI Officially [Launches QRIS](#)

BI has officially launched its Quick Response Indonesia Standard (QRIS) code system, which will come into effect on 1 Jan 2020.

- BI has released [Regulation of the Members of the Board of Governors Number 21/18 / PADG / 2019 concerning Implementation of the National Quick Response Code Standard for Payment](#), setting out rules for payment service providers to comply with.

➤ **Impact Analysis:** After a number of ‘soft’ launches, BI has officially released rules setting out technical requirements for providers to comply with – along with a transition period. On face value, QRIS is a good initiative – however how far this differs from Singapore and Thailand’s QR code system will be important for cross-jurisdictional interoperability going forward.

Kominfo [Predicts Delay in Passing Data Protection Law](#)

Kominfo has stated that it is no longer confident that the Personal Data Protection Law can be passed prior to the new Cabinet commencing in Oct. Kominfo has noted that it will push for immediate processing of the draft bill in the next period.

- Approval is still required from two Ministries.

➤ **Impact Analysis:** Despite being initially optimistic about passing a comprehensive data protection law by Sep, this latest readjustment from Kominfo seems much more realistic. It is unlikely that the planned – or at least considered – public consultation for the draft Personal Data Protection Law will take place.

WhatsApp In Payment Partnership [Talks](#)

WhatsApp is in talks with multiple Indonesian digital payment providers, including Go-Jek’s Go-Pay, Grab and Tokopedia’s e-wallet provider – OVO, and DANA, an Indonesian mobile payments player, in order to [sidestep](#) complicated e-money regulations in Indonesia and offer mobile transaction services.

Second Shipment of High-tech Materials to South Korea [Approved](#)

Following the tightening of Japan's export controls in Jul, and approving the first shipment of high-tech materials to Samsung since, a second shipment of photoresists to Samsung has been approved.

✎ **Impact Analysis:** While the approvals have been a positive sign and relieved fear that there would be an embargo on Japanese exports, this has not allayed South Korean fears that the Japan govt may use export controls as a political tool, which is fast becoming a modern weapon of economies around the world today. For instance, South Korea is mulling restricting the export of dynamic random access memory, or DRAM, chips to Japan in response.

Industrial Internet Consortium [Approves](#) Testbed For AI Systems

The Industrial Internet Consortium (IIC) has approved a Negotiation Automation Platform Testbed which will be led by NEC in cooperation with the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST).

- The Testbed will leverage a variety of AI infrastructure technologies, which automatically negotiates trading conditions and resource assignment to coordinate interests among various AI systems.

Govt Digital Payments Platform, [MyPay](#)

The launch of Dapat Vista's govt e-payments service platform, MyPay has enabled services with agencies for Malaysians to perform services such as checking loan balances and making payments, getting updates on outstanding traffic summons and tax, and to perform license renewal. MyPay aims to extend its services beyond govt agencies and into payment services for utilities.

Celcom Announced its [5G Live Cluster](#) Field Trial

The live integrated cluster field trial co-exists with its 4G LTE network spanning a 1.22sq km area in Petaling Jaya, Selangor. The aim is to provide a live 5G test bed for third parties to incubate and test new 5G applications and use cases.

- MIMO 64T6R network running at 3.5GHz with 100Mhz of bandwidth for indoor coverage will be deployed at its Menara Celcom with five outdoors sites on 4T4R 28GHz with 800MHz of bandwidth all connected by high-speed fibre and 10Gbps E-Band microwave.

Maxis' 5G-Ready [A.I. Network](#) Completed

Built on next-gen IP network architecture, the A.I. Network is said to self-optimize data traffic along the most efficient routes and could even self-heal by anticipating and rerouting traffic, ensuring for a seamless and lag-free internet connection.

As West Retreats, China [Surges](#) in Myanmar

Myanmar's ethnic turmoil and political uncertainties are keeping Western investors and tourists away, allowing China to emerge as a major investor in Myanmar.

- According to a report, the surge in new Chinese investment has been concentrated in Yangon but is also growing fast in other parts of the country.
- The report said: "China is planning to implement multi-billion dollar projects, including a deep seaport, new cities, industrial parks, border economic cooperation zones, and high-speed railroad lines under its ambitious Belt and Road Initiative."
- At the same time, Myanmar is increasingly turning to China to fill its foreign investment shortfall.
- Big ticket projects include a planned high-speed railroad from the Chinese border to Mandalay, a deep sea port with an adjacent free trade zone in Rakhine state, and an entirely new modern city opposite the river from the old capital Yangon.

Amata Corporation to Develop a [Smart City](#) in Yangon

Amata Corporation Pcl, Thailand's largest industrial estate developer, has announced it will be involved in efforts to turn Yangon into a smart city, bringing advanced technology and quality investors to Myanmar while ensuring environment protection for the local communities.

- Support from the regional authorities has been sought after, calling for one-stop service so that investors do not need to visit various govt offices before building their factories.
- The company plans for the first phase targeting an inflow of USD1bn in foreign direct investment and job opportunities for nearly 30,000 people, and expecting that the govt to receive at least USD60m in taxation.

[Tackling](#) City Issues with Tech

As part of the e-govt system, the Digital Economy Development Committee has launched the Digital Yangon App that allows citizens to connect with the govt, MPs, local council, regional assembly, and departments on day-to-day issues related to life in a major city.

- The Digital Yangon App was first piloted in Kyauktada township in Mar, and was mostly used to handle complaints about rubbish, road problems, and abandoned vehicles.
- With the success of the trial in Kyauktada, the app can now be used in Pabedan, Botahtaung, Latha, Lanmadaw and Pazuntaung townships for everything from floods and fires to waste disposal issues.

IRD Publishes Special Report on GST for Distantly [Taxable](#) Goods

The Inland Revenue Department (IRD) issued a report that takes a closer look at the GST (Goods and Services Tax) rules on low value imported goods, those that have an estimated customs value of NZD1000 (USD639) or less, that foreign e-commerce platforms (or a supplier of remote services) will have to comply with starting in 1 Dec.

- The report looks at the methods by which e-commerce providers determine the GST treatment of goods and how they will register and return GST.

GCSB Approves Vodafone New Zealand [5G Network Plans](#)

The Govt Communications Security Bureau (GCSB) has given security approval to Vodafone New Zealand for its upcoming 5G network build. Vodafone is working with Nokia. Spark and 2degrees in the past have worked with Huawei and this has led to difficulty for the two competitors to Vodafone in their 5G push.

New Independent [Infrastructure](#) Commission Established

The commission will develop a long term infrastructure plan and pipeline. It will become operational by Oct. It might look at telecommunications and other ICT related infrastructure such as the NZD45m (USD29m) to improve digital connectivity, including new fibre links and improved mobile coverage, in West Coast and Southland.

Westpac Launches NZ Govt [Innovation](#) Fund

The program is jointly run by the gov't and Westpac to invest in ideas that support gov't agencies solve problems around themes such as digital identity, digital inclusion, optimising payment systems, crisis management and data. Submissions can be made until 4 Sep. The fund managers are also interested in hearing ideas on improving gov't payments that might utilise Westpac prepaid or virtual card solutions, reimagine existing gov't payment processes or offer new payment solutions to those on the margins of society.

EU [Urges](#) Philippines to Review Electronic and Electrical Design and Manufacture Policies

The European Union (EU) has urged the electronics industry to review its existing electrical and electronic equipment manufacturing principles and practices and use recycled plastic where possible to reduce pollution and waste.

- This follows a new Nordic Council of Ministers' study recommending the drive towards a circular economy, one which reduces plastic consumption by designing and setting up a system that enables 'circulation', taking products back and reprocessing material back to the same product.

 **Impact Analysis:** The excessive production and use of electrical components and devices which underly the digital economy needs to be done in a sustainable fashion and recognised at an early before irreversible damage is done to the environment.

DICT [Launches](#) Free Wi-Fi Program in West PH Sea

The DICT has expanded its Free Wi-Fi program service to remote island of Pag-asa in the Kalayaan Group of Island which is home to 184 inhabitants.

Launch of Accountancy Industry Digital Plan ([IDP](#))

The IMDA, Institute of Singapore Chartered (ISCA) and the Singapore Accountancy Commission (SAC) has collaborated to launch the Accountancy IDP which aims to promote digital transformation within the accountancy sector and to assist in the adoption of technology for small-medium practices (SMPs). As part of IMDA's SMEs Go Digital Programme and in line with the Industry Transformation Map (ITM), the Accountancy IDP supports the goals of the Accountancy Roadmap.

MHA Passes Science and [Tech Bill](#)

The passing of the Home Team Science and Technology Agency Bill has led to the establishment of the Home Team Science and Technology Agency (HTX), a statutory board under the MHA, to focus on developing ways to overcome the evolving challenges of cybercrimes faced by agencies under the Home Affairs.

- The passing of the Bill is in light of the New Clearance Concept (NCC) that has been implemented by the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA).

Apple **Claims** Local Presence Has Led to 325,000 Jobs

Apple claims its South Korean business has directly and indirectly created over 325,000 jobs, including around 200,000 new positions related to its App Store. While also revealing it had earned KRW4.7tn (USD3.9bn) profit from its App Store operations, it declined to reveal its tax payments amidst increased calls for international tech giants to pay taxes in accordance with their activities in Korea.

- The MSIT has [requested](#) the state-funded Korea Legislation Research Institute to research how other countries are taxing OTT businesses and what options are available for the govt, looking initially at online broadcasting.

Cryptocurrency Exchanges in South Korea at **Risk** of Bankruptcy

Following an outflow of activity to foreign markets, citing restrictive regulations, as many as 97% of all cryptocurrency exchanges in South Korea are facing imminent bankruptcy due to the lack of trading activities.

- Countries in Southeast Asia including the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand have been the benefactors with more traders increasingly active there.

South Korea is North Korea's Most **Frequent** Cyber-target

According to the United Nations (UN)'s investigation on North Korea cyberattacks, among a total 35 incidents, 10 involved South Korea, followed by India with three and Bangladesh and Chile with two each.

- In South Korea, the North is increasingly targeting cryptocurrency exchanges for cyberattacks, with major cryptocurrency exchange Bithumb attacked at least four times between Feb 2017 to Mar 2019, with each attack losing between USD7m to USD31m.
- Costa Rica, Gambia, Guatemala, Kuwait, Liberia, Malaysia, Malta, Nigeria, Poland, Slovenia, South Africa, Tunisia and Vietnam also suffered one attack each.

Telcos Jointly **Launch** Upgraded Messaging Service

SK Telecom, KT, and LG Uplus have jointly launched the Chatting+ messaging service, based on Rich Communication Services (RCS), in a bid to talk on OTT messaging services, particularly Kakao Talk.

- While the service will only initially be available on Samsung phones, with LG set to enable the service later in the year, the service will be offered data-free till year end to entice users to switch over from Kakao Talk.

Impact Analysis: While Chatting+ and Kakao Talk offer similar services, the joint venture may be too late with most users already used to the Kakao ecosystem – further users can simply use both services without being penalised. The RCS platform designed by the GSMA to replace SMS in 2016 has faced little success since, losing ground to OTT apps such as WhatsApp and others who have had no restriction on networks, compared to RCS which requires all carriers to collaborate to be interoperable.

Govt [Ramps up](#) Efforts to Accelerate Mobile Payment Adoption

Mobile payment service penetration rate soars from 24.4% to 50.3% between 2016 and 2018 and transaction value is expected to exceed NTD100bn (USD3.18bn) this year.

- The govt will continue to boost mobile payment adoption through:
 - 1) Completion of amendments to the Act on E-Payment Institutions to increase their service scope and permit fund transfers between financial institutions;
 - 2) The extension of tax incentives until 2025 to small scale businesses that adopt mobile payment;
 - 3) FSC and the MOEA to ensure strong compliance with data security regulations; and
 - 4) Developing strategies to accelerate adoption rate in schools and hospitals.

MOHW, MOST Jointly [Explore](#) the Use of Big Data Analytics for Smart Healthcare

To make good use of the trove of de-identified medical data accumulated under the NHI system, the MOHW will partner with the MOST to establish a public-private partnership model that will employ AI, cloud computing and big data analytics to advance the development of biotechnology, precision medicine and enhance the quality of healthcare services.

NCC [Receives](#) Research Funding for 5G Application Development and Cybersecurity

The TWD26.6m (USD847,100) funding will be used to enhance collaboration between telecoms operators, application developers, equipment manufacturers and the govt to develop 5G-enabled services and content such as smart mobility systems.

Part of the funding will go to the Telecom Technology Center funded by the NCC to assess cybersecurity risks and understand international practices on safeguarding cybersecurity. NCC is also applying for more funding subsidise for 5G development in the next three years.

E-commerce Tax Expected to be Rolled Out

The surging of e-commerce in Thailand has led to the announcement by the Finance Ministry to introduce a value-added-tax on electronic businesses in 2020. The tax is expected to seek parliamentary approval this year, though there are no further details being mentioned.

Taiwan, Thailand Cooperation on Smart City Development

Taiwan's Ministry of Economic Affairs (MOEA) and its Industrial Development Bureau (IDB) is in collaboration with the Institute for Information Industry (III) and Thailand's Internet of Things Association (TIOT) to create development trials in Thailand around smart city projects leading to clustering of innovative technologies with strong commercial outcomes.

- Thailand has three smart cities; Phuket, Sriracha and Bangkok with plans underway on its smart city centre in Bangkok.

Huawei's White Paper on Smart City Initiative Launched

Huawei is looking at smart city development in Phuket with the launch of its Smart City White Paper which aims to drive Thailand 4.0 initiatives, paving way major digital and infrastructure development.

- The white paper features Phuket-focused Smart City frameworks consisting of 5 service verticals which includes smart energy and utilities, smart mobility, smart environment, smart living and smart economy, and 8 service enablers comprises of smart governance, smart infrastructure and smart people for Smart City development at Phuket and the national level.
- The White Paper is seen to have provided comprehensive insights into action plans to transform Phuket into a smart city by 2020.

Thailand IoT White Paper Released

A "Thailand IoT Industry Whitepaper" has been released by MDES, DEPA, Quectel, and Huawei, outlining the framework of Thailand's IoT technologies, ecosystem, and applications.

- Huawei Thailand has also released its OceanConnect IoT Platform, an open ecosystem built on IoT and public cloud, for local SI partners to speed up in the development of IoT.

MDES Plans to Set Up 'Anti-fake News' Centre

The centre is expected to be introduced in the next couple of months, and MDES is relying on assistance of the private sector to monitor information circulating on social media. A coding platform will also be created to support schools in teaching computer coding.

Regulator Seeking 5G Strategy Committee

The NBTC is seeking for the govt to set up a national 5G strategy committee to accelerate 5G adoption in the country.

- The NBTC claimed to have faced problems, including bringing back frequencies held by state agencies or the armed forces that have not yet used the spectra's full capacity.
- The auction value for 2600MHz for use on 5G technology will be appraised by the end of Aug and is expected to be auctioned out early 2020.
- NBTC has indicated the two sets of multi-band ranges for 5G technology to be auctioned: the first batch consists of 700MHz, 2600MHz and 26-28GHz spectrum, and the second comprises the 3400-3600MHz and 1800MHz ranges.

MIC [Announces](#) Vietnam Needs 50,000 ICT Firms

In order to support the country's digital transformation, MIC minister announced that the country must develop 50,000 more ICT firms to accelerate this process of entering the digital economy. No concrete plans were announced on how to achieve this number.

 **Impact Analysis:** This announcement was made at the Vietnam ICT Summit 2019, which also saw the debut of the Vietnam Digital Transformation Alliance, comprising eight members: Viettel, FPT, VNPT, CMC, Mobifone and BKAV.

MIC Releases [Draft Decree](#) on Electronic Identity and Authentication

The draft sets out definitions for electronic identification and establishes the legal validity of electronic identifiers. It also sets out which organisations are allowed to provide electronic identification, i.e. the Police, the MPI, the Vietnam Social Insurance organisation, financial organisations, and others who are certified by the MIC. These organisations must have specified levels of security assurance, stipulated in the draft decree. Implementation plans are also included. Comments close on 8 Oct.



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