

## Mobile India 2015: Speakers Profile



**Dr. Venkat Padmanabhan, Principal Researcher and Research Manager, *Microsoft Research, India***

Venkat Padmanabhan is a Principal Researcher and Research Manager at Microsoft Research India in Bangalore, where he founded and has led the Mobility, Networks, and Systems group since 2007. Venkat was previously with Microsoft Research Redmond, USA for nearly 9 years.

His research interests are broadly in networked and mobile systems, and his work over the years has led to highly-cited papers, technology transfers within Microsoft, and also industry impact. He presently serves on the Sigcomm Conference Technical Steering Committee and also the Sigcomm Industrial Advisory Board. He has also served as an affiliate faculty member at the University of Washington, where he has taught and been on student thesis committees.

Venkat holds a B.Tech. from IIT Delhi and an M.S. and a Ph.D. from UC Berkeley, all in Computer Science. He has been elected a Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE), a Fellow of the IEEE, and a Distinguished Scientist of the ACM.



**Dr. Sascha Meinrath, Director, X-Lab and Founder, Open Technology Institute, USA**

Sascha Meinrath is the Director of the X-Lab and the Founder of the Open Technology Institute. He has been described as a "community Internet pioneer" and an "entrepreneurial visionary." He is a well-known expert on community wireless networks, municipal broadband, and telecommunications policy. In 2009 he was named one of Ars Technica's Tech Policy "People to Watch" and is also the 2009 recipient of the Public Knowledge IP3 Award for excellence in public interest advocacy.

Sascha is a co-founder of Measurement Lab, a distributed server platform for researchers around the world to deploy Internet measurement tools, advance network research, and empower the public with useful information about their broadband connections. He also coordinates the Open Source Wireless Coalition, a global partnership of open source wireless integrators, researchers, implementors and companies dedicated to the development of open source, interoperable, low-cost wireless technologies. He is a regular contributor to Government Technology's Digital Communities, the online portal and comprehensive information resource for the public sector.

Sascha has worked with Free Press, the Cooperative Association for Internet Data Analysis (CAIDA), the Acorn Active Media Foundation, the Ethos Group, and the CUWiN Foundation.

## Session 1: : State of the Net: Challenges and opportunities for Telcos



### **S.J.S. Selvinson, VP and CTO, Bharti Airtel, Karnataka**

Selvinson SJS has 20 years of rich telecom experience in India, South Asia and Europe in setting up and operating Mobile networks for 2G, 3G and the latest 4G technologies, Wireline Voice, broadband, and Backbone fibre 100G transmission network catering to unprecedented data growth.

Even before the first mobile call was made in India, he joined the Mobile telecommunication field in October 1995 at New Delhi with Essar Cellphones and worked for 5 years in one of the first green field Mobile telecom network across various telecom domains. In the year 2000, he joined Lucent technologies as head of Network Architecture planning and deployment for setting up MTNL Delhi and Mumbai networks. Between 2001 and 2004, he worked as an international technology consultant - as a senior consultant for Mobile Network planning and optimization for setting up One 2 One network (T Mobile – Northern Ireland), Regional Manager for Motorola Thailand for Planning and Deployment (TA Orange) and GSM consultant to Korean Telecom (KT).

For the last 10 years, he has been working with Bharti Airtel in different capacities as Vice President and Head of Wireless Network Quality and Head of Wireless Network Planning at the corporate office managing all 23 states across India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. In the current role, he is working as Vice President and Chief Technology Officer for Airtel Karnataka managing Wireless Technologies (2G / 3G / 4G / WIFI), High speed Transmission network (Intracity / Intercity / FTTH), Wireline Network (DSL / Landline Voice / IPTV), Network Security and Regulatory. He has played a pivotal role in formulation, negotiation and closure of the Managed Capacity Contract and Managed Services Contract for Bharti Airtel with leading telecom partners such as Ericsson, NSN & Huawei, which was indeed a pioneering initiative in India with an indigenous business model. Selvinson has represented Bharti Airtel in COAI, TRAI and DOT for various technical discussions to formulate new regulations and guidelines for Indian Telecom.

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### **Yathish Nagavalli, CTO, Huawei Technologies India**

Yathish is the Chief Architect & Chief Technology Officer at Huawei Technologies India Pvt. Ltd. and is part of Huawei Software Company that deals with Carrier Software and Core Network Business. Yathish has responsibility for ensuring technology readiness and driving key strategic initiatives for the global organization. Yathish is currently focused on driving Huawei's SOA, BPM and Big Data initiatives and has setup the 'Innovation Center' based out of Bangalore, India to build the underlying core technologies, platforms, infrastructure, tools, standards and methodologies to help realize the vision of creating futuristic ICT infrastructure for the knowledge driven digital enterprise.

As a member of Business Technology Advisory Council at the corporate level, Yathish also has responsibility to define corporate technology strategy for the Huawei Software Company.

Yathish is a seasoned technologist with over two decades in the Software industry designing innovative enterprise software. Yathish spent about 14 years in USA working for global technology MNCs before moving back to India and settling in his home town Bangalore.

Yathish holds a Masters Degree in Business Administration from University of Nebraska, USA and Bachelor of Engineering Degree in Computer Science from Bangalore University, India.

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**Jayant Moghe, Practice Head – Mobile Broadband, Ericsson India Limited**

Jayant leads the Mobile Broadband (MBB) Practice in Ericsson India and is responsible for developing and promoting customer centric offerings based upon 3GPP & WiFi technologies towards service providers to meet their business needs of providing competitive and quality mobile broadband services. He has 24 years of experience in the telecom industry of which twenty years have been with Ericsson, most of them in customer facing roles as a CTO in customer accounts, technical solutions and as a product manager in India, Malaysia, Sweden and Canada.

Jayant holds a B.E (Electronics) from VRCE (VNIT) Nagpur and a M.Eng (Elect) from Concordia University, Montreal Canada.

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**Rajesh Chharia, President, Internet Service Providers Association of India (ISPAI)**

In 1999 Mr. Rajesh started M/s CJ Online Pvt. Ltd., the first Operational Private ISP on 100% digital platform in Ghaziabad (NCR Town of Delhi) and its adjoining areas. CJ Online is the largest ISP in and around Ghaziabad catering to Large Educational Institute like Engineering, Management,

Dental and Schools along with corporate, software development company, Call Centers and BPOs. Mr. Rajesh is also the Member in Regional Advisory Committee of Central Excise & Service Tax under Ministry of Finance, Government of India. Mr. Rajesh Chharia was elected the President of the Internet Service Provide Association of India in September 2006 and for the consecutive term also. Prior to this he has also served as the Vice President for the same organization in 2002. He has also played a major role in creating National Internet Exchange of India; presently he is one of the Director of NIXI. From the platform of ISPAI and NIXI he raised a lot of development issues for the Internet Industry and got the same solved, resulting in the growth of Industry. Further he is looking keenly for development of Broad Band and telephony in rural parts of India, which is 70% of the total population of India. Now, he, along with great technocrats, has started a new venture by the name of RENOVAU TELECOM, which is pioneering development & deployment of high-density carrier grade multi-play switching systems including multi-million lines Class 5 Packet switches and Class 4 media gateway to provide Video Telephone, Surveillance, and streaming.

Rajesh Chharia completed his Bachelors degree from Delhi University and Masters Degree from Meerut University in Commerce Honors.

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### **Dipak Vagadiya, National Manager, SDN and Data Center Networking at Hewlett-Packard India**

Prior to joining HP, Dipak was Network Architect at REI; Senior Technical Relationship manager at Citrix; and was with Microsoft and Cisco earlier.

He is a graduate of University of Allahabad.



### **Swami Krishnan, Vice President, and CMO, Sasken Communication Technologies**

**Swami Krishnan** is vice president, chief marketing officer for Sasken Communication Technologies Limited. In this role, he is responsible for overseeing all marketing activities including Communications, Branding and Analyst Relations. Swami has been part of the IT and Communications industry for close to three decades. He has held senior management roles both in India and overseas at British Telecom, and Tata.

Swami carries Bachelors in Engineering and a Masters in Management from Lancaster University Management School.

## Session 2: Domesticity: Handsets, applications, equipment, and software



### **Jayanth Mysore, Product Manager, Google**

At Google, Jayanth is building online consumer experiences for millions of users. He is also involved in development of business and operating models for mobile operators; product strategy and launch experience in online consumer products, wireless services, e-commerce, online advertising. Prior to Google Jayanth was a Senior Associate at Diamond Management & Technology Consultants; and a Principal Research Engineer at Motorola Labs.

Jayanth is an MBA from the Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University with a major in Marketing, Strategy, and Entrepreneurship and a Masters in Computer Engineering, University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign.

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### **Shirish Purohit, Head - Sales and Marketing Support, Tejas Networks**

At Tejas Networks, Shirish heads the sales teams for India and the emerging economies, and is leading the high growth opportunities in these markets. He has a strong sales as well as general product lifecycle management experience in telecom domain. Prior to joining Tejas, Shirish co-founded Midas, with a few IIT, Madras Alumni. Midas started as a group of 10 engineers, in 1994 primarily as a design house in wireless telecom domain and created a number of end to end network technologies both in wireless and wireline fields. Midas became one of the largest exporter of Telecom equipment in the early 2000s, and till date systems based on Midas designs have been sold for over INR 1,500 Cr.

Before his Midas stint, he started Texel Systems, in the late 80s, which focused on industrial automation projects.

Shirish won several awards in his professional career, he was instrumental in his he and his organizations won several awards, including the National award for successful commercialization of indigenous technology by the Technology Development Board(TDB), Government of India; CISR Diamond Jubilee Award for technical excellence, Government of India 2004; ELCINA Award for excellence in Research and Development; JK Industries IIM Lucknow Young National Leadership award,2005 amongst the other many.

Shirish holds an M.Tech degree from IIT Madras and is a product of NIT Nagpur.

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### **George Mathews, Founder Director, Icarus Design Services and Icarus Nova**

George Mathews is the Founder of Icarus Design and the current Director of Icarus Nova a product development firm working in the area of early stage design and development of Medical Devices. He is a graduate of the National Institute of Design and also holds a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

His area of special interest in the Design field has been in Design research, i.e the use of Design as a means of enquiry and Icarus has instituted it through the phrase “Design to Discover” which describes its expertise.

His company is as much at home with clients like GE, Philips and Medtronic as it is with Startups, and Icarus is a several time recipient of the NID CII Design Awards and also a recipient of the Gold Medal for ENTRAVIEW one of the top 30 technology innovations in the country for the the DST-Lockheed Martin - India Innovation Growth Program.

George is a long time guest speaker for the NPD course at the IIM Bangalore and has been on the juries of several Graduate projects for NID.

George is a product of National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad.

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**Arvind Pani, Co-Founder & CEO, Reverie Language Technologies.**

Arvind's mission and passion is to achieve equality of language experience for users by making local language experience as good as it is for English. He firmly believes that as users engage more with their mobile phones, English cannot be the dominant medium of engagement anymore. Over 50 other languages of the world need to be as delightful in their experience for over 3.5 Billion users, who are otherwise digitally excluded today.

Arvind is working to realize his vision of equality of language experience through Reverie, a company he founded along with 2 other like-minded individuals sharing the same vision. With a mission to remove language barrier in communication, Reverie's solutions today touch over 100 Million users worldwide in over 35 languages and will reach at least over 500 Million more users in next 18 months. Using Reverie's integrated language platform and cloud solution, device manufacturers, mobile applications and content owners can deliver rich language experience and content to over 3 billion untapped users in India and other global markets. Reverie's products have won several prestigious awards including Qualcomm's QPrize, NASSCOM League of 10, Microsoft Code for Honour and mBillionth for providing best user experience in local languages, and are being used today by several prestigious Indian and multi-national companies worldwide.

Trying his luck at entrepreneurship was a dream that Arvind nurtured along with his younger brother since their schooldays. This dream, coupled with an intense desire to break-free from the corporate life made Arvind start Reverie with his 2 other co-founders, one of them being none other than his younger brother. Arvind envisaged the opportunity in digital language divide existing today, over 10 years ago. Arvind has graduated from National Institute of Technology, Rourkela.

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**Dr. T.K. Srikanth (Moderator), Professor, IIIT-Bangalore**

Dr. Srikanth heads IIIT-B's Mobile Apps Centre of Excellence (I-MACX). His areas of teaching and research interest include mobile and cloud applications, geometric modelling and graphics, and distributed computing.

He has over 28 years of experience in the software industry in various capacities. Prior to joining IIITB, he was Vice President at Sasken Communication Technologies, where he handled business, technology and product management roles, and lead various product and R&D initiatives, especially around wireless and multimedia technologies and mobility. Earlier, he co-founded and lead software development for a startup in the US, focusing on geometric modelling with applications in mechanical design and geo-sciences.

Dr. Srikanth obtained his Ph.D. in Computer Science from Cornell University, and has a B.Tech from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras.

### **Session 3: U-Governance: Ubiquitous Government services through mobiles**



#### **Dr. D.S. Ravindran, Secretary (Khajane II) and ex-officio Commissioner, Treasuries, Finance Department, Government of Karnataka**

Prior to his current role, Dr. Ravindran was the Chief Executive Officer, Centre for eGovernance, Government of Karnataka. During his tenure, he steered the e Governance activities including providing core infrastructure services such as Data Centre, Networks and Core Platform applications and setting up of Citizen Service Delivery touch points. He was also the Registrar for UID enrolment in Karnataka, with responsibilities of enrolling 61 million residents of Karnataka and enabling UID –based delivery of services in the State. He held n senior administrative positions in Forestry, Environment and e- Governance Departments and as Professor in Management Institute, Bhopal.

Dr. Ravindran belongs to Indian Forest Service (1986 Batch) with 27 years in Government in various capacities.

Dr. Ravindran holds a Ph.D. in Economics from University of Wales, Bangor, UK as a Commonwealth Scholar. He has Master's degrees in Agriculture, Forestry and Management Degree from IIM, Bangalore. Ph.D.

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### **Dr. Pramod Varma, Chief Architect, Aadhaar**

Dr. Pramod Varma works as Chief Architect, Technology to UIDAI (Aadhaar project) and sits on the advisory board for few startups to mentor and provide technology and architecture directions.

Since the inception of Aadhaar (UID) project - - he was the Chief Architect at UIDAI responsible for entire system architecture and strategic technology decisions. He joined UIDAI in 2009 and has been pivotal in ensuring an open, scalable, and secure architecture is built to meet the needs of Aadhaar project. He led the overall technology and application architecture and application development within UIDAI Technology Unit and is based in Bangalore.

Before joining UIDAI in July 2009, he was the Chief Technology Architect and Vice President of Research at Sterling Commerce, now part of IBM. He joined Sterling in 2005 when Sterling Commerce acquired Yantra Corporation, a leading supply chain software company based in Boston. He was one of the founders of Yantra and was the Vice President of Technology. During his career with Yantra, he has been anchoring all technology and architecture strategies and has been key part in building Yantra's supply chain application product suite. Over the past 20 years, he has studied architectures spanning from mainframes to web and has worked extensively with most programming languages and databases.

Pramod holds a Master's and Ph.D. degree in Computer Science along with a second Master's in Applied Mathematics.

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### **Sridhar Pabbisetty, CEO, Namma Bengaluru Foundation**

Sridhar Pabbisetty, a public policy and Urban Governance specialist, is the Chief Executive Officer of Namma Bengaluru Foundation, an organization working towards making Bengaluru a model city, be it in terms of well-planned infrastructure, well laid out neighborhood community models, or its people-driven governance measures.

He is also the Chief Enabler at Centre for Inclusive Governance, a citizens collective for social actions on public problems.

Prior to joining Namma Bengaluru Foundation, Sridhar was the Chief Programs Officer at the Bangalore Political Action Committee (B.PAC - [www.bpac.in](http://www.bpac.in)). Sridhar is a regular speaker at various national and international fora on the issue of open governance and inclusive growth and also advises various government departments regarding the same.

He has been advisor to the Government of Karnataka's Sakala Mission in improving Transparency and Accountability in Governance.

He is also part of various government committees including Samarthya - Enabling Informal waste pickers get formal recognition and Simplification of Citizen oriented forms in BESCO. He is a special invitee to the Karnataka Tourism Vision Group. He specializes in nurturing inclusive enterprises across the world and helps them to develop long term corporate strategy and build business models with focus on scalability and sustainability. He has also worked on Electoral Reforms being part of the National Election Watch and leading the NEW efforts for the 2008 assembly and 2009 Lok Sabha elections in Karnataka.

He has also served as the Chief Operating Officer of the Centre for Public Policy, IIM Bangalore. His focus was on building and maintaining relationship with all members in the public policy ecosystem - government, regulatory bodies, industry, opinion leaders, researchers, partner institutions and foundations that are focused on policy research. Earlier Sridhar has worked with fast growing hitech companies including Zyme Solutions and Aditi Technologies.

He is on the Board of Advisors of Namma Cycle and Reap Benefit and is on the panel of judges of various startup competitions including the Next Big Idea, Acara Challenge and the William James Foundation's Entrepreneurship challenge.

Sridhar has an MBA from Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore and a BE in Computer Science with distinction from Bangalore University.

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### **Abhijit Gupta, Co-Founder & CEO, Praxify**

Abhijit is the Founder & CEO of Praxify, which is curating a connected healthcare ecosystem via its cloud and mobile based applications for both providers and patients. Praxify's vision of democratizing healthcare access via improved care delivery, quality and cost-effectiveness in the health system is seen through its technology, people and processes they follow. Abhijit strongly believes that by engaging the consumer, aligning care delivery and upgrading the current health system infrastructure, Praxify would be able to truly revolutionise the healthcare industry. Praxify today is the most preferred solution by doctors because of its ZeroType, specialty specific Electronic Health Record and connectivity with patients, hospitals, labs, pharmacies and insurance players. It has a first of its kind patient app & portal - ConnectHealthy through which you can manage yours and your family's medical records. The patient records get automatically updated via various nodes like the labs, diagnostics, pharmacies, clinics and hospitals, because of the connected ecosystem provided by the Praxify platform.

Before founding Praxify, Abhijit worked as part of the founding team of Azingo (acquired by Motorola Mobility) and Codito Technologies. He is a product of University of Pune.

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**Dr. Amit Prakash, Professor, IIT-Bangalore**

Dr. Amit Prakash is a faculty member at the International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore (IIITB) where he heads the Centre for IT and Public Policy. He teaches courses on technology and society to students of IIITB's post-graduate and research programmes. His current research and consulting interests lie in the areas of public policy, ICT and development, e-governance, evaluations and impact assessments of social programmes. He has been actively associated with various public policy deliberations leading to design of national and regional development policies in India over the past 15 years.

Amit has a graduate degree in engineering from IIT Roorkee and a doctoral degree in Information Systems from IIM Bangalore.

## Session 4: Regulation and Policy: Power of OTTs vs. telcos



### **Rajkumar Upadhyay, ex-advisor TRAI and Director , DoT**

Mr. Rajkumar Upadhyay is an officer of Indian Telecommunication Service (ITS) of Government of India . He has recently joined as Director, Network and Technologies, Karnataka in Department of Telecom. Prior to moving to Department of Telecom he was Advisor in Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. At TRAI he was involved in preparation of National Broadband Plan and National Telecom Policy -2012 for the Country. He worked on various consultation papers/recommendations on issues related to infrastructure, Spectrum Pricing, Merger & Acquisition Guidelines for telecom sector, Application Services, Television Rating Points, Competition issues, Next Generation Networks, Communication for Differently Abled Persons, Indigenous Telecom Equipment Manufacturing, Interconnect Usage Charges (IUC) and Issues Related to Cross Media. He was chairman of the working group on 'Policy and Regulation' for South Asian Regulators Council (SATRC) during 2011-2012. Prior to taking up the TRAI position, Mr. Upadhyay had a long stint at BSNL and erstwhile DoT.

Mr Upadhyay has written various articles on IT, Telecom and Management which have been published in various Magazines and Journals. He has also given lectures at APT, ITU and SATRC conferences. He is a winner of several awards including: J. C. Bose award (1987) by Ministry of Defence, National e-Governance award (2007) by Government of India, CIO 100 award (2007), by International Data Group (IDG), Deepak C. Jain Award ( 2009) by IIM Bangalore.

He holds Master of Technology from IIT Roorkee and Masters in Business Administration from IIM Bangalore. He also holds a certificate on International Relations from Syracuse University, USA. He is currently finishing up his Ph.D. in Corporate Strategy and Policy at IIM Bangalore.

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**Ganesh Jayadevan, SVP - Messaging & Broadband solutions, Mahindra Comviva**

Ganesh has strong track record of growing business (from 5 million USD in FY10-11 to over 35 million USD in FY14-15) by growing a technology business, customer base by building high-performance and customer focused teams at Mahindra Comviva. He has a deep understanding of technology and computing with creation of intellectual property and innovation.

Prior to his long stint at Bharti Telesoft/ Comviva, Ganesh has varied experiences in Wipro, Encore software and Lucent Technologies.

Product of Mysore University, Ganesh has an MBA from IIM Bangalore and an M.S. from Teks A&M University.

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**Sundeep Kathuria, Executive Vice President, Policy and Regulation, Vodafone India**

Sundeep Kathuria is presently working as Executive Vice President – Policy & Regulation, Regulatory Affairs with Vodafone India Ltd. He has 16 years' experience in Indian Telecom Industry and is well versed with regulatory and policy issues. These include spectrum, licensing, new services, broadband and security related aspects with close involvement in recent spectrum auctions and Intra Circle Roaming related developments in India. His working experience includes 15 months as Policy Specialist for Emerging Markets in Vodafone Group. He is a qualified Company Secretary and Cost Accountant.

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**Dr. G. Venkatesh, Chief Technology and Strategy Officer, Sasken Communication Technologies**

Dr. Venkatesh started his research career at India's premier research institute TIFR, Bombay, then moved to the Computer Science department of IIT Bombay where he spent 8 years teaching and researching topics in the areas of temporal logic, functional/logic programming, and applications of logic and languages to VLSI design, which resulted in about 50 papers in international conferences and journals in these areas.

He made his transition to the industry when Sasken Communication Technologies Ltd was being formed in 1990, and moved full time to Sasken as Technology head in 1995. He has played various

managerial roles at Sasken and is currently a board member and their Chief Technology and Strategy Officer. Sasken's primary technology focus is in the area of wireless and broadband communications.

Venkatesh also currently holds a chair professor position at IIT Madras.

Venkatesh is a graduate in Electronics from IIT (Indian Institute of Technology) Madras, a Ph.D in Computer Science from TIFR, Bombay, and is a Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineers.



**Dr. D. Manjunath (Moderator), Professor, IIT-Bombay and Co-Chair, Mobile India 2015**

Dr. Manjunath is Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering at IIT-Bombay since 1994. Prior to joining IIT Bombay, he was a Post Doctoral Fellow in the Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada. His area of research includes Computer and Communication Network Protocols, Systems and Algorithms Performance Modelling, Queueing Theory and Simulation, and Stochastic Systems. Prof. Manjunath is an accomplished scholar with 2 published books in the area of communications and networks; many peer-reviewed research papers in reputed journals. He also advises the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India on policy related issues.

Dr. Manjunath holds a Ph.D. from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; M.Tech. from IIT Madras and B.E. from Mysore University.



**Dr. V. Sridhar, Professor, IIT-Bangalore and Co-Chair, Mobile India 2015**

**Dr. V. Sridhar** works in the area of telecommunications technology, management and policy. He has published many peer-reviewed articles in leading telecom and information systems journals. His book titled *The Telecom Revolution in India: Technology, Regulation and Policy* was published by the Oxford University Press India (2012). He has co-authored a recent book titled *The Dynamics of Spectrum Management: Legacy, Technology, and Economics*, published by the Oxford University Press (2014). Dr. Sridhar has taught at Ohio University and American University in the U.S.; visiting scholar at Aalto University, Finland and University of Auckland, New Zealand; and was in the faculty of IIM Lucknow and Management Development Institute, Gurgaon, India. Prior to joining IITB, he was a Research Fellow at Sasken Communication Technologies, Bangalore, India. He has been a member of Government of India committees on spectrum allocation and pricing. He has written more than 200 articles on telecom regulation and policy in prominent business newspapers and magazines.

Dr. Sridhar has a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa, U.S.A.; PGDIE from the National Institute of Industrial Engineering (NITIE), Mumbai, India and Bachelor of Engineering from the University of Madras, India.

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