Syed Ismail Shah PHD   *Executive Profile*

Contact:
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Profession
Telecommunications
Technologist

Passion
Technology, Policy
making related to ICTs

Contributing Roles

**Head of Telecom
Regulatory Body**

**Technical Head of
Telecommunications
Division (Ministry)**

**Qualcomm-certified
Industry Trainer**

Renowned Panelist

Keynote Speaker

Academician

**International
Consultant**

Dr. S. Ismail Shah ranks among Asia's most renowned telecom professional, with expertise and experience spanning 2G, 3G, 4G and 5G technologies. With an extensive background in technology implementation and telecommunications policy-making & regulations, Dr. Shah is serving as the **Chairman of the Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA)** since 2013, and has led some of the most high-profile undertakings in Pakistan's telecommunications industry that has a worth of more than USD 21 Billion. These undertakings include spectrum auction and subsequent launch of 3G/4G and subsequent growth in one of the world's most competitive and price-sensitive markets. This has been recognized by the GSMA in the shape of the **Spectrum for Mobile Broadband Award 2015** given to Pakistan.

In 2014, Dr. Shah played a key role in the election of Pakistan to the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Council. He has also been elected as the Vice-President of the General Assebly of the Asia Pacific Telecommunity (APT), and over the years, has been a keynote speaker and a sought-after panelist on major global events like the ITU Telecom World Forum 2014 and MENA Spectrum Management Conference, sharing his insights on spectrum management, technical capacity-building, regulations, broadband policy, and the proliferation of digital services and applications.

With a prolific research and teaching background, Dr. Shah has provided extensive consultation to the communications industry as well as different government agencies. Among his earliest assignments, Dr. Shah provided technical advice on limited mobility issues related to the Wireless Local Loop services in Pakistan. Later, as the Executive Director of Central Asian Cellular Forum, Dr. Shah led technical audits of CDMA2000 networks, UMTS/WCDMA and LTE trainings in various countries of Central Asia, South Asia, Middle East and the United States.

Dr. Shah has been a technology consultant to one of the world's largest telecommunicaions technology companies, Qualcomm (USA), and has served as a leading expert on the LTE technology. As an independent thinker concerned with the future of digital services development on advanced networks, Dr. Shah has advised on technological choices on the use of ICT in education, m-education, m-governance, and other digital services for development initiatives.

Prior to becoming the Chairman of PTA, Dr. S. Ismail Shah served at the highest technical management position in the Pakistan's Ministry of IT & Telecommunications as Member Telecom. He is experienced in handling major national-level administrative and security issues linked to the misuse of SIMs, unauthorized exploitation of telecommunications networks, highly volatile market dynamics, online content, low-cost end-user terminals and impact of digitalization on national security, deployment of optical fiber to guarantee connectivity to rural areas, and licensing.

Dr. Shah has more than 100 journal and conference publications and holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh, USA. He is also a Senior Member of IEEE, USA and Member of the Institute of Electronics Information and Communication Engineers, Japan.

Dr. Shah is a strong proponent of using ICT to create smarter societies and believes in the power of digitization.

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