

Ravi Shankar Prasad replaces Kapil Sibal in the Telecom Ministry of India

Ravi Shankar Prasad, a three-term Rajya Sabha member from Bihar, is one of the several ministers in the Narendra Modi government who earned their spurs in the ABVP, the student arm of BJP's ideological mentor, the RSS. In 1973, he was elected as assistant general secretary of the Patna University Students' Union, which had RJD president Lalu Prasad Yadav as its president and former Bihar deputy chief minister Sushil Kumar Modi as its general secretary. Mr Prasad's father, Thakur Prasad, was a founder member of Bharatiya Jan Sangh,



the BJP's previous incarnation. He was also senior advocate, and Mr Prasad followed his

father's footsteps. In 1999, when Atal Bihari Vajpayee was sworn in as the

country's prime minister for the third time, Mr Prasad, 59, was inducted in his council of ministers, and held the portfolios of information and broadcasting, coal and mines and law and justice. He was elected to the Rajya Sabha soon after. He was named as a BJP spokesman in 2007, and as its chief spokesman in 2007. He was appointed as a BJP general secretary in 2010. Two years later, he was nominated as the party's deputy leader in the Rajya Sabha. Now he will replace Kapil Sibal as Telecom Minister in Narendra Modi Government. **T**

EfroTech organized successful Open House

EfroTech organized the ET Open House at its Head Office in Karachi and witnessed the gathering of over 200 IT, HR, Supply Chain and Finance management professionals from numerous industry verticals and technology/management consultancy firms. The products showcased at the event were TimeTrax HCMs - a HR Information Management System BizzTrax ERP - an Enterprise

Resource Planning and Supply Chain management Software or Bitrax - an Online Reporting and Business Intelligence. Among the noteworthy attendees of the event were Mr. Arif Akhai of PharmaLink Karachi, one of the largest distributors of Pharmaceutical products in the country and Dr. Syed Irfan Hyder, Dean CBM & CES at IoBM Institute of Business Management.

The visitors greatly appreciated the appealing graphical interface and user-friendliness of the systems and were impressed by the depth and maturity of the applications as due to their generic design they are suitable for any and every industry. Developed as On-cloud and On-premise applications, all three solutions are available on the ET-Cloud and thus readily available on the pay-as-you-go model and ideally suited for startups and small-midsized organizations that do not wish to incur a heavy start-up cost. Multiple project contracts were signed during the event and included Channel Partnership agreement with two Management & Financial Consultancy firms. **T**



VIVA Bahrain joins datamena ecosystem

datamena, the carrier neutral data centre and connectivity platform based in the UAE and servicing the Middle East and Africa (MEA) region, has announced that VIVA, the leading telecom operator in the Kingdom of Bahrain, will be the newest entrant into its ecosystem. The announcement follows a partnership agreement signed at International Telecoms Week (ITW). Through this partnership, VIVA Bahrain, will extend its presence into datamena in Dubai, opening up interconnectivity benefits with the global and regional carriers that datamena hosts. Enterprises and carriers currently within the datamena ecosystem will benefit from enhanced and amplified connectivity toward Bahrain and the region through VIVA's backbone network. VIVA Bahrain plans to peer on the UAE exchange, benefiting from low latency peering with global and regional content. **T**