

Informatics

AN  GOVERNANCE BULLETIN FROM NATIONAL INFORMATICS CENTRE

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- Awards of Excellence for NIC e-Governance projects

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Common Integrated Police Application (CIPA)



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We march ahead taking quantum strides bringing accolades and adding feathers to our cap. Our efforts have been greatly appreciated, recognized, and rewarded. Yes, friends it was an award time, several of our projects have been awarded for their effectiveness, service delivery and global standards. I am sure we will continue in the same spirit and strive towards bringing greater glory to our organisation.

In this issue we have featured CIPA (Common Integrated Police Application), a project developed in collaboration with NIC, which will ensure higher levels of transparency in police functioning. This issue also highlights the visit of a high level delegation from the Royal Government of Bhutan to NIC headquarters and Assam, and the finalisation of a broad framework of collaboration for e-Governance application technologies and solutions between the two countries.

As you browse through the pages, I am sure you will be able to analyse the stories, articles and give us your feedback, which will definitely help us to improve.

Anshu Rohatgi

Readers are invited to send their comments/suggestions to the Editor through this column. Your letters may be sent through email at, anshu.rohatgi@nic.in

or by post at the following address:
Room No. 379, NIC HQ, A-Block, CGO Complex,
Lodhi Road, N.Delhi 110003

Readers Write

Dear Editor,

Informatics, being the most visible symbol of NIC and its most audible voice, has always highlighted the achievements of various units of NIC and its dedicated and talented pool of scientists and engineers. This serves to bridge the geographical gap between the NIC family members posted across the country and makes all of us feel proud to be a part of this vibrant organisation. It has also proved to be a very effective tool of spreading awareness among the government departments and other stakeholders in the growth of ICT, about the goals, activities and dreams of NIC professionals. The achievements of NIC Arunachal Pradesh in the section 'State in Focus' of October issue served to inspire us here in J&K considering that such significant achievements has been made in that remote and less privileged state. I extend my congratulations to the editorial team of Informatics and its contributors and wish Informatics a long life.

Saleem Khan,
Principal Systems Analyst,
J&K State Unit, Jammu

Dear Editor,

The recent news in Informatics about the Right to Information Act, 2005 titled – "Right to Information: Step towards Transparent Governance" made an interesting read. The logic and the essential purpose to provide transparency in the governance systems of a country cannot be faulted. The key challenge here would be to constantly monitor the efficacies of the law subsequent to its implementation. If it just remains a new and fancy word the sensibility of the whole exercise will stand diluted. On the contrary, if it were able to enhance transparency by even a few percentage points, it would be a great achievement. The technology update section on 'Open Source Open Standards' provided valuable insight into the Java Technology, PostgreSQL, XML & VRML. I like reading the 'Happenings Section' that keeps us informed on the various e-Gov initiatives in different parts of the country & would like to extend my thanks to the entire team of Informatics for keeping us abreast with latest news & technologies.

Ashish Aggarwal, SSA, NICHQ

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► | Suchitra Pyarelal, NIC HQ

India Bhutan Cooperation on e-Governance - A Value Up Chain

Under the India-Bhutan International Cooperation initiatives in the area of e-Governance, a twelve member senior level multi sectoral team from the Royal Government of Bhutan visited the NIC Headquarters, New Delhi to attend a six day e-Governance Solutions Workshop from 9 – 14 January, 2006. The workshop aimed at creating awareness among the delegates about the various e-Governance applications, technologies and solutions implemented by NIC, which may be relevant for replication in Bhutan.



Delegates from Bhutan and other dignitaries at the NIC headquarters

Sh. Pankaj Saran, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs inaugurated the workshop, which was followed by welcome address to the delegates from the Programme Director,

Smt. Suchitra Pyarelal. Dr. N Vijayaditya, DG NIC gave the inaugural address, and a booklet titled 'e-Governance Solutions Workshop for INDIA-BHUTAN Cooperation on Information Communication Technology' was also released on the occasion.

Dr. Y K Sharma, DDG, NIC gave a brief presentation on the Mission report of Ministry of C&IT (May 2004) on the ICT Projects to be taken up during the 9th Plan Period of the Royal Government of Bhutan in assistance with the Government of India. The inaugural meet concluded with the Vote of Thanks given by Sh. M Moni, DDG, NIC.

Various successful e-Governance initiatives of NIC were showcased during the workshop. The delegation thanked NIC for hosting a very engaging and highly stimulating workshop and identified following areas of ICT development in Bhutan that could immediately benefit from the technical expertise of NIC:

- Strengthening of DIT-Bhutan and establishment of Regional Information Centres
- Security Clearance System
- Electronic Money Transfer System
- e-Governance Standards
- Quality Management System
- Automated Border Management System

- Trade, Commerce and Industry System
- Agricultural Informatics System
- Rural Informatics: BhulekhSoft, PriaSoft, eNRICH, and RuralBazar
- e-Procurement System
- ICT for Grassroot Level Planning
- Government Intranet Solutions

The Director, DIT, Royal Government of Bhutan also invited a team from NIC to visit Bhutan and carry out a systems study with their Bhutanese counterparts to quantify the scope of work required to achieve the broadly outlined areas of assistance focusing on:

- Study of existing ICT Infrastructure, Systems and Human Resources and its limitation for deployment of e-Government and e-Governance Service for rural population.
- Analyze and workout Financial, HR and Systems requirements.
- Define the scope of work, interoperability issues, time schedule tentative work plan etc. for e-Governance to be successfully implemented in a sustained manner.

In his letter to DG NIC, Sh. Tenzin Chhoeda (Director), DIT, Royal Government of Bhutan conveyed his appreciation by saying, "First of all I would like to thank you and your officers for hosting a very engaging and highly stimulating workshop on e-governance in NIC Delhi and Assam. We now look forward to the possibility of building a rewarding partnership with NIC to address some of our e-Governance applications needs."

Field Trip of Bhutan Delegation to NIC Assam State Centre

The delegation, headed by Mr. Tenzin Chhoeda, Director, DIT, Royal Government of Bhutan, had a two day field visit to NIC Assam State Centre to have the first hand experience on e-Governance activities being implemented in the State.

On the first day, the delegates were briefed about the various IT projects of the State including Pragati, Dharitree, ASHA, Network Operation Centre (NoC), Video Conferencing facilities (in all the districts), etc. during the conference organised by NIC Assam in collaboration with IIT, Guwahati and the State Government.



Dr. Saurabh Gupta, TD & SIO, NIC Assam and other officials of the State Unit welcoming the Bhutan delegation at Guwahati airport

On the second day, the delegation was taken on a visit to CIC Dimoria followed by a visit to the office of the Commissioner of Taxes, Assam to have a glimpse of the Computerized Sales Tax System.

After two days of enriching experience at NIC Assam, and a soothing cruise on the Brahmaputra River, the delegation returned back to New Delhi.

For further information, mail to suchitra@nic.in



► Anshu Rohatgi, NIC UP (with inputs from Ashesh Agarwal, NIC UP and Swarup Dutta, NIC HQ)

Awards of Excellence for NIC e-Governance Projects



Proud NICians and other dignitaries at the 'Oracle Excellence in e-Governance Awards' function

Twenty Indian e-Government projects, implemented by National Informatics Centre were felicitated with the Oracle **Excellence in e-Governance** awards at the Oracle Open World held in Mumbai during January this year.

The underlying theme of the awards was **'Enabling Citizen Service Delivery and Innovations'**. The awards were given in nine different categories including IT for efficiency, IT for Service Delivery, IT for Revenue, Capacity Building and IT for Globalising India.

The projects were assessed by a renowned assessment agency, Skoch Consultancy Services, which in its presentation at the award ceremony, stated that NIC is the biggest provider of e-Governance solutions across the country controlling over 22% market directly and another 40% of the market will use NIC applications or services in the coming years. Sh. Derek Williams, Executive Vice President, Oracle Asia-Pacific praising the efforts of NIC said, "Our awards recognise the e-government projects which are not only exemplary for their effectiveness in India but they also meet global standards of government work-flow automation and citizen

services delivery".

The award for **'Leading the Change'** was conferred to Dr. N Vijayaditya for his vision, leadership and the role he has played in computerizing various sectors like Treasuries, Customs, Passport, Judiciary, Transport, etc across the country, and for initiating projects that have touched the lives of millions of people, such as ASHA in Assam, e-Kosh in Chattisgarh, VICTORY in Bihar, CARD in Andhra Pradesh, Rural e-Seva in West Godavari District and many more.



Dr. N Vijayaditya, DG NIC receiving award from Sh. Derek Williams, Exec. VP, Oracle Asia-Pacific

Various NIC projects that won awards are:

- e-Panchayat - **NIC Andhra Pradesh**

- **e-AWAS** - Government Accommodation Management System, NIC HQ
- **Computerization of Directorate of Pension, PF and Group Insurance** - NIC West Bengal
- **CARD** - Computer Aided Administration of Registration Department - NIC Andhra Pradesh
- **Vahan and Sarathi** - NIC Jharkhand
- **LRMIS** - Land Records Management Information System - NIC Andhra Pradesh
- **e-Kosh** - Online Treasury Computerisation - NIC Chhattisgarh
- **Treasury Computerization System** - NIC Rajasthan
- **ITSANIC**- Integrated Treasury System Application of NIC - NIC Uttar Pradesh
- **IMPACT** - Information Management and Promotion of Administration in Commercial Taxes - NIC West Bengal
- **DC-CMS** - District Courts Case Management System - COURTNIC, NIC HQ.
- **Rural e-Seva** - NIC Andhra Pradesh
- **ICES** - Indian Customs EDI System - NIC HQ.
- **PLI & RPLI** - Postal Life Insurance, Rural Postal Life Insurance - NIC HQ.
- **Computerization of PAY & ACCOUNTS OFFICE** - NIC Gujarat
- **FAIS** - Integrated Financial Accounting System - NIC Kerala
- **ASHA** - Assam Small Farmers' Agribusiness Consortium - NIC Assam
- **VICTORY** - VAT Information Computerization to Optimise Revenue Yields - NIC, Bihar
- **ICS** - Immigration Control System - NIC HQ.
- **PCIS** - Passport Control and Issuance System - NIC HQ.

The projects were judged, on the basis of parameters such as Effectiveness, Innovation, Relevance, Significance and Replicability by a panel of judges including Dr. D B Phatak, IIT Mumbai and Dr. Gulshan Rai, ED, ERNET.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. N Vijayaditya, DG NIC said, 'Consumption of ICT has unique challenges in the Government domain. Our challenge is to make a change, embedding our applications in the user community'.



NIC e-Governance Projects were also in the limelight at the **National e-Governance Awards** function held in Kochi (Kerala) during the 9th National e-Governance Conference in February 2006.

NIC Projects bagged four Gold, two Silver and three Bronze Icon Awards in the four different categories - Process Re-engineering, Service Delivery, Innovative Practices, and ICT Achievement of the year.

Sh. M K Muneer, Hon'ble Minister for Public Works, Govt. of Kerala, distributed the awards, which have been constituted by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances and Department of Information Technology, and are given for exemplary initiatives in the field of e-Governance.

The nominees were judged by a panel of experts on various parameters such as Strategic Planning and Implementation, Information and Analysis, Human Resource Focus, Process Management, Performance and Results.

NIC teams from different states that participated in the awards ceremony



State Government & NIC team from Assam receiving awards for ASHA and Dharitree



Haryana NIC team receiving the Bronze Icon award for HALRIS



The Himachal team received two Golden Icons for HIMRIS as well as e-Pension



NIC team from Uttar Pradesh received the Golden Icon award for Lokvani

In the 'Professional Excellence for Process Re-Engineering' category following projects were awarded:

- **HIMRIS** – Himachal Registration Information System - Golden Icon
- **Koshvani** – Maharashtra – Silver Icon
- **Dharitree** – Assam – Bronze Icon
- **HALRIS** – Haryana – Bronze Icon

In 'Exemplary Leadership and ICT Achievement of the Year' category, ASHA (Assam) won the Golden Icon award.

'Outstanding Performance in Service delivery' awards were conferred to:

- **Lokvani** – Uttar Pradesh – Golden Icon
- **Vahan** – Jharkhand – Silver Icon

Awards in the category 'Innovative Operations and Best Practices' were given to:

- **e-Pension** - Himachal Pradesh - Golden Icon
- **Result through Binocular** – Haryana – Bronze icon

Dataquest e-Gov Champion Award 2006

Sh. S B Singh, STD & SIO, NIC UP State Unit, Lucknow was honoured with the '**Dataquest e-Governance Champion Award 2006**' for the northern region.

The Award is the first of its kind in India to recognise individuals for championing the cause of e-Governance in the country. It comes in addition to the Transformation Leadership Samman 2005 received by Sh. S B Singh from Lucknow Management Association in November 2005.



Sh. R Chandrashekhar, AS & Coordinator e-Gov, DIT, Ministry of C&IT, Govt. of India presenting the award to Sh. S B Singh

A jury comprising of industry experts, senior government officials, academicians and civil society selected Sh. Singh as the e-Gov Champion for developing and executing models that suit the needs of the industry, government and the citizens as well as for driving a highly motivated team of more than 200 IT professionals in Uttar Pradesh. These initiatives have helped in achieving 'Good Governance' in the state through ICT implementation.

As per Dataquest, the aim and purpose of organising the 'e-Gov Champion Award' is to recognise, encourage and further disseminate novel e-Governance practices and delivery. The award recognises innovative e-gov solutions that break the traditional mode of public delivery mechanisms in day-to-day governance. It is part of a nation building exercise for driving high societal impact in bridging the digital divide, information gap and bringing in transparency in the governance process thereby enabling the country to meet the Millennium Development Goal of 'Good Governance'.

For more information, contact
anshu.rohatgi@nic.in



Common Integrated Police Application (CIPA)

Common Integrated Police Application Project was launched by the Ministry of Home Affairs, for Police Department with a view to reduce manual records/register maintenance at Police Stations. It eliminates duplication and inconsistency in record keeping and facilitates maintenance of details of criminals.

The most striking feature of the CIPA system developed by NIC is that it will instantly make available digitised data pertaining to all aspects of policing to officers at various levels. The system will ensure higher levels of transparency in police functioning, as the officers will have round-the-clock access to details and developments in investigations. That would not only mean better follow-up and watertight scrutiny of cases but will also instil confidence among the general public.

Objectives:

- Significant reduction in manual records/register maintenance at Police Stations.
- Elimination of duplicate and inconsistent record keeping.
- Facilitate maintenance of the details of criminals.



Launching ceremony of CIPA at New Delhi

- Keep track of the Status of Cases.
- Introduce element of transparency in the working of Police.
- Facilitate Investigating Officer with availability of Records.
- Facilitate supervision by the Senior

Officers.

- Generate various reports required from time to time.
- Faster Response to Public.
- Open Source software tools for Rollout at Police Stations.
- Ownership of Application with Government for continuous support.

Background

Availability of relevant and timely information is of utmost necessity in conduct of business by Police, particularly in investigation of crime and detection of criminals. Police organisations everywhere have been handling a large amount of such Information and huge volume of records. ICT can play a very vital role in improving the functioning of the Police organizations, by facilitating easy recording, retrieval and analysis of the pile of information. Quick and timely information availability about different facets of Police functions to the right functionaries can bring in a sea change both in crime/criminal handling and related operations, as well as administrative processes.

Criminals too, in today's world have become techno savvy; they make maximum use of all the modern technologies and methods in committing crimes. This has facilitated them in operating easily over the length and breadth of the country. For effectively meeting out challenges of crime control and maintenance of public order, creation of databases on crimes and criminals in digital form, cannot be neglected anymore. So, all the States need to be at par in the use of IT, especially for crime, record maintenance and criminal related functions. This requires that the efforts that are put in for police modernisation should focus on information gathering, organising and its dissemination among various Police organisations to give an edge over the criminals.

There is a need to re-look at the philosophy

of data collection at a central level. It has to be tied up with the automation of the processes at the primary sources of Data Generation. Once the primary source of data viz. the Police Stations, are automated, the derived data required at different levels e.g. District, State and Central, will automatically flow.

The Framework

The framework for 'Induction of IT in Police' has been built around 'Investigation of Crime and Detection of Criminals' to start with, as this happens to be the primary function of police. The present attempt is to build an infrastructure and mechanism to provide the basis for evolution of Crime & Criminal Information System based on CrPC. This infrastructure would be uniform across the country.

The nature of interaction among various levels of police functionaries within the framework of CIPA may be as follows:

- A majority of Crime and Criminal Information originates from the police station level with the registration of cases of various offences, search and seizure of properties, arrests of accused during the investigation, etc. Police stations also gather information by regular surveillance of known/suspected criminals, and from the law and order point of view, in their respective area. Such information from all the police stations within a district will be accumulated at the District headquarters, for possible sharing by other police stations and other investigation agencies.
- The information that needs to be shared by all the police stations in the State e.g. Missing Persons, Stolen Vehicles, unidentified dead bodies, criminal dossiers etc., including the Information required for monitoring purposes by the higher levels, flows from police stations to districts to state headquarters. This information would be accumulated and broadcast back upto the police station level.
- The above information, if relevant, is also transmitted to NCRB and made available to the Public through a Web-based Citizen Interface on Internet.
- The databases that are created for



applications developed and implemented by other departments, e.g. Registered Vehicles, Driving Licenses, Passports and Foreign Nationals visiting India, would be accessible to all the concerned levels of police functionaries through the State headquarters.

The Developments

The Ministry of Home Affairs initiated the project in the year 2004 with formation of a Sub-Group consisting of senior police officers from five different states, Dr. B K Gairola, DDG NIC and Sh. Sharda Prasad, Director, LNJNI NICFS. The Sub-Group defined the scope, and identified the functionalities for the proposed CIPA Software, which was to be developed keeping in view the provisions of CrPC and had to function at the police stations.

A Technical Committee consisting of officers from NIC, NCRB, and Delhi Police prepared a System Requirement Specification (SRS) for the project that was approved by the Sub-Group and vetted by the Empowerment Committee constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs. It was also decided that the Pilot implementation would be carried out in Delhi.

Software Functionalities

- **Registration:** This module facilitate the Duty Officers (DO) in registering a case by capturing the details of the complainant, accused, properties stolen/involved, victims, place and time of occurrence, etc.
- **Investigation:** This module allows the Investigating Officers (IO) to record the Events of developments/progress as and when taking place/made by the IO during the course of investigation e.g. arrest/surrender of accused, seizure of properties, witness statements recorded, etc., and also facilitate entering the text of his Case Diary.
- **Prosecution:** This module allows the Investigating Officer to record the Events of developments as and when taking place from time-to-time relating to the prosecution stage in the Case e.g. Hearing of the case, Summons/Warrants issued by the Court, etc.
- **Information:** This module facilitate in

maintaining various details of criminals within the jurisdiction of a police station and the Listed Organized Gangs and updating it time to time based on the



Screen shot of CIPA software

information received from various sources e.g. Modus Operandi, details of knowns, History of Involvements, etc.

- **State Specific Requirements:** Any additional Inputs and/or Outputs requirement developed by individual states are made available through this module.
- **General/Daily Station Diary:** This facilitates capturing the information recorded by the police stations in its Daily Station Diary.
- **Reports/Registers/Queries:** generates various outputs required at different levels.

The CIPA Software Development and Rollout in States

The CIPA Software has been developed by NIC in Java and implemented under Open Source environment viz. Linux (OS), PostgreSQL (RDBMS). The Central Development Team comprises of IT professionals from NIC, NCRB and Sun-Certified Java Programmers.

'State Development Teams' constituted by the State Governments, consisting of the personnel from NIC State Units, SCRBS, and Police Departments, take charge of the centrally developed CIPA Software, and carry out customisation of the software according to the local requirements within the existing software framework. Customisation follows strict version control and instructions from the "Central Development Team". State Development Teams are also provided with the services of Java Programmers for limited period to carry out software development.

Rollout of CIPA Software in states has been taken up in stages with implementation of the application at selected police stations first. One technical person is placed full-time at each of the selected police stations for a period of six months for on the job training and handholding support to the police staff. One senior technical person is provided at district headquarters who oversees 10 police stations for trouble shooting on demand. The supply of the hardware/software, training, software implementation and handholding support is entrusted to a single agency for all the police stations within a state.

A state-level CIPA Implementation Committee is formed under the chairmanship of the IG/DIG In-charge of Police Modernization in the State/Head of the SCRB with State Informatics Officer as one of the members. District-level CIPA Implementation Committee is formed under the chairmanship of the police head of the district, with District Informatics Officer as one of the members.

The Central Development Team imparts training on CIPA Software to the state level CIPA Development Teams. The supervisor level persons placed at the district level are imparted training by the State Development Team on CIPA Software, who in-turn imparts training at District headquarters to the Handholding Persons. The Handholding Persons placed at each police station are the final link of the above chain that is responsible for imparting necessary on-job training both on Office Automation Software and the CIPA Software to the identified operational staff and the supervisory officers of the police stations.

CIPA Software was implemented on a pilot basis at six police stations in New Delhi. His Excellency the Lt. Governor of NCT Delhi and the Hon'ble Union Minister for Communications & IT formally launched the pilot Implementation on 16th December' 05 at Connaught Place Police Station. Rollout at the remaining 122 police stations in Delhi and at the selected police stations in all the other States/UTs has also been started.

For more information, mail to
ambresh@nic.in



► Shahid Ahmad & Amar Sinha, NIC Jharkhand

Jharkhand : Bridging the Digital Divide

Jharkhand - the 'Land of Jungles' is known for its rich and colorful tribal culture, vast treasure of natural resources, spectacular waterfalls and thick forests. Formerly a part of Bihar state, Jharkhand was formed as a separate state on November 15th, 2000 with Ranchi as its capital. Jharkhand is one of the richest states in mines and minerals in the country. Spreading over an area of more than 79000 sq. km, the state has 5 divisions, 22 districts, 33 sub divisions and 212 blocks. The Literacy Rate is around 54%.

NIC Jharkhand State Center came into existence in the year 2000 and since then it has been providing valuable ICT support to the government departments at various levels. The major areas include consultancy, training, establishing network and ICT infrastructure, video conferencing, design and development of application software, project implementation, etc.

● | Network Infrastructure

Network Infrastructure is the backbone for all IT enabled services. NIC Jharkhand took up the challenge to connect 12 administrative buildings of the secretariat including the 2 main buildings – Project Building and Nepal House. A Campus Area Network of more than 500 nodes, with its hub centre at Nepal House, has been established to provide Intranet and Internet connectivity to the State Administration through NICNET. The hub centre is equipped with high-end routers, managed switches, antivirus servers, Firewall, NMS, etc to provide a secure connectivity.

● | Video Conferencing

The State Government's dream of facilitating easy interaction with the villagers of remote districts came true in November 2001, when four Commissioners of Jharkhand got connected through Video Conferencing network of NIC.

The initiatives of NIC Jharkhand to bridge the digital-divide bore fruit when the then PM of

India Shri A. B. Vajpayee inaugurated the 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' and interacted with the villagers of a remote Koinjhari village through Video Conferencing. Subsequently, NIC extended the VC facility to His Excellency the Governor of Jharkhand, Hon'ble CM, Ministers in the State Cabinet, senior functionaries of the State Govt. and all the Districts. The installation work of VC facility at Jharkhand Bhawan, New Delhi is in progress.



Hon'ble CM chairing a VC session with all DCs in a meet on the issue of Drought

● | Web services

Through the websites developed for various departments, NIC has not only presented Jharkhand to the national and international community, it has also highlighted the mineral rich remote tribal districts of the state. To name a few websites developed by the State Centre:

- <http://jharkhand.nic.in> - The official website of Government of Jharkhand.
- <http://jharkhandhighcourt.nic.in> - The official website of Jharkhand High court is very popular for causelist generation.
- <http://jharkhandcomtax.nic.in> - the official site for the Department of Commercial Taxes
- <http://cipranchi.nic.in> - Central Institute of Psychiatry started its electronic patient care through this website.
- <http://sisiranchi.nic.in> - The official

website for Small Industries Service Institute Ranchi.

- <http://kvsurda.nic.in> - The official website for the All India Soil & Land Use Survey, Ranchi

● | District websites:

Almost all the districts of Jharkhand have a website furnishing details of the districts. The websites are available at <http://districts.nic.in>.

● | Result Publications on Web:

NIC Jharkhand publishes results of various examinations conducted by Jharkhand Academic Council and Central Institute of Psychiatry on the Internet. In some cases, the admit cards are also made available on the web.

● | INTRAJHR Portal

An 'INTRAJHR' portal has been developed by NIC Jharkhand on open source using Zope/Plone Content Management Framework. NIC employees use this portal extensively for official communications, discussion forums and knowledge sharing.

● | Patient Registration and Enquiry

In an attempt to extend the benefits of ITES in the health sector – a single window system for registration and enquiry of patients was developed and implemented at the Mahatma Gandhi Medical College, Jamshedpur. The software was inaugurated by Dr. Dinesh Sarangi, Hon'ble Minister of Health, Govt of Jharkhand in August 2003 and has the following features:

- Out Patient Registration
- In Patient Registration
- Enquiry of In Patients
- Generation of Discharge Certificate for In Patients.

● | Treasury Computerization

Treasury Computerization in Jharkhand started in the year 2005. A LAN based solution has been designed and developed on a 2-tier architecture (VB/Oracle 9i on Linux server) incorporating a tight role based security for different types of users. The application has automated all the major processes of the treasury functions and authentication procedures. Transactions through bank have been made online using Dial up connectivity or LAN. The application



has helped in timely generation of accounts, reduced paper work and removal of offline entry of vouchers. The system also facilitates GPF accounting and is fully operational at 17 locations and will soon be extended to all treasuries and sub-treasuries of the state.

A centralised web-based interface (<http://jhr.nic.in/treasury>) has been implemented to monitor the daily transactions being made in the districts. The State Government officials are extensively using this interface for monitoring the financial health of the state.

● | GPF Computerization

The Directorate and all the District GPF offices are computerized for maintaining the subscribers details, their contributions, advances and refunds and generates the necessary accounts and reports as and when required. A web interface has also been developed for the subscribers of the Directorate.

● | Transport Computerization

NIC Jharkhand successfully implemented VAHAN and SARATHI software in all the 18 District Transport Office (DTO), 4 Regional Transport Authority and State Transport Authority offices in the state. The registration of vehicle, tax realisation, issue of permits and vehicle fitness details are done through VAHAN software whereas SARATHI is used for issuing driving license, conductor's license and license to driving schools.

In six districts, namely Dhanbad, Ranchi,

Jharkhand won the **Silver Icon** award at the 9th National Conference on e-Governance under Service Delivery category for VAHAN software.



Hon'ble Minister of Transport, Transport Commissioner and SIO-Jharkhand at the inauguration of Smart card Based Driving License and Registration project at Ranchi

Hazaribag, Jamshedpur, Bokaro and Koderma, the Registration Certificate Book and Driving License are being issued in smart card medium. Efforts are being made to extend this facility to all the 18 DTOs in the near future.

● | Land Records Information System

Unicode based application software has been developed in VB.Net on MS SQLSERVER for the Land Record Computerization in the state. The pilot implementation is being carried out in east Singhbhum district to maintain the information regarding KHATIYAN and REGISTER-II in digital format. Once the pilot is successful, the application will be rolled out in the entire state.

● | Budget Preparation for the State Government

NIC is providing necessary support for the computerization and preparation of the State Budget every year. The Budget is also uploaded on the state website and a budget CD is released every year.



(L to R) SIO-Jharkhand, Principal Secretary-Finance, Chief Secretary, Minister-Finance, George Dieken-Mission Director, USA at the release of Budget CD

● | Election Support System

NIC Jharkhand provides active support to the state Government during the Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha elections. This includes management of entire range of pre-poll and post-poll activities, data transmission, website management, etc. An application software has been developed to take care of activities such as personnel deployment at the polling booths, management of booth information, support in counting processes, etc.

● | Prison Management System

The Birsa Munda Central Jail, Ranchi has been computerized on the pattern of the

Tihar Jail, on pilot basis. The system maintains a comprehensive database about the prisoners - their photographs and biometrics, physical locations, their movements, medical history, actions taken by the court and crimes committed by them, etc. The Visitors information and monitoring is also done through the system.

● | Video Conferencing based Public Justice in jails of Jharkhand

ISDN based video conferencing facility has been setup between the Birsa Munda Central Jail and the civil court, Ranchi for the hearing of cases without physically moving the prisoners. On an average 50 cases are attended daily using the VC facility. Another 16 pairs of Civil Courts and Central jails are being taken up in the current financial year.

● | City Civil Court Computerization

Ranchi civil court has been taken up as the pilot site for the city civil court computerization project. A state of art LAN has been established covering 50 courts and offices in different buildings in the campus. The software for maintaining the case details, judgment orders and causelist generation has already been made operational.

● | High Court Computerization

Jharkhand High court computerization has been a major achievement of NIC State Centre. The court information system maintains the status of cases right from its filing and generates the causelists on Daily and Monthly basis which is uploaded on the court website. The system also maintains the Judgment of the cases for future references and the litigants can enquire their case status through the IVRS facility.

● | Appointment Management System

An Appointment Management System has been implemented for His Excellency the Governor and Hon'ble CM of Jharkhand. The system maintains and manages the appointments and engagements and prepares the daily schedules resolving the time conflicts. The system operates on authority based security model.

● | Computerization Support to the Raj Bhawan and CM Secretariat

NIC is extending full support for computerization of Raj Bhawan and CM



Secretariat. A technical expert has been posted at both the locations to support their computerization activities and a Campus Area Network is in place to cater to the connectivity requirements.

● | Training Support

NIC Jharkhand is conducting both - general awareness programmes and specialised training programmes on application software for the officials of Jharkhand Government.

● | Public Grievances Monitoring System

The pilot implementation of PGMS is being carried out at the district of Palamu. The system captures the grievances from the point it is lodged till the time it is redressed. The application is used for monitoring of pendencies and helps in early redressal of grievances.

● | Human Resource Management System (e-Personnel)

e-Personel is a web-based system that maintains the details of government officials posted in the department. The MIS supports generation of different reports based on the requirement. Pilot implementation is underway at Dhanbad district and some of the secretariat departments.

● | DM's Court Monitoring System

A web-based application has been designed for monitoring the cases in District Magistrate's court. The application allows the DM to enter the next hearing date right from the courtroom without intervention of any other staff. The application generates date wise caselist and has been implemented in Dumka district on pilot basis

● | Online Project Monitoring

The E-Vikas application enables district level officials like DC, DDC and BDO to monitor the implementation status of various schemes and projects. The highlight of this application is that state level officials can also monitor the individual projects. This is a web-based application using Unicode. The individual schemes/projects can be monitored upto the village, panchayat, block and district level. This has been implemented at the district of Lohardagga on pilot basis.

● | Other District Activities

The 22 District Centers of NIC are broadly contributing in areas like DRDA, schemes

monitoring, arms licensing, education, health, revenue, recruitment and transfer processes, welfare, Old Age Pension Scheme, Court Cases Monitoring, internet and email support through local RAS, Training, etc.

● | Online Passport

The PCIS (Passport Control and Issuance System) package has been implemented at Regional Passport Office, Ranchi since April 2003. The entire process starting from receiving application to printing and dispatching of Passport is now on-line. A computer generated file number is given to applicant during submission of application for future enquiry over telephone or through passport website (<http://www.passport.nic.in>). Various modules covered under this project are:

- Complete computerization of applications, fees, CID reports handling, loss case entry, report generation and number allotment and system administration.
- Passport Index Retrieval System
- Prior Approval Category System
- Passport Booklet Printing

In addition to this, the District Administration, Jamshedpur (East Singhbhum) launched a site (<http://jamshedpur.nic.in/login.asp>) where the applicants applying for passport in District Passport Cell can view the status of verification being done by SP and CID office. The verification details can be viewed using the receipt number allotted by the District Passport Cell.

● | FCI-Integrated Information System for Foodgrain Management (Central Project)

It is a web based Integrated Management Information System for FCI which captures the complete workflow of FCI from depot to head office levels and extends a new way of reconciliation of stock figures, thereby transforming the current depot setup into a computerized environment. NIC is supporting the computerization activities at the District Centres of Ranchi and Hazaribagh as well as their depots too.

● | Implementation of other Central Projects & Miscellaneous activities

- 7th All India School Survey has been completed successfully
- Support to AGMARKNET is being provided

and the data is uploaded regularly from the districts. It facilitates generation and transmission of prices and arrival of particulars of commodities from APMC and web-based dissemination. Farmers Awareness Programmes were also organised at Ramgarh, Lohardagga, Hazaribagh, etc.

- DACNET websites have been developed and maintained.

- CBSE-AIEEE -Online counselling for fee collection, refund, choice submission, deletion, allotment letter generation, as well as technical support was provided to counselling centre officials at BIT Mesra, Ranchi.

● | Up-coming Projects:

- Computerization at RINPAS (Ranchi Institute of Neuro Psychiatry and Allied Sciences)- The modules - Patient Information System, Hospital Inventory Management, Library Computerization, PIS are under progress.
- CPF Computerization for the employees under the new pension scheme of Government is being done for the Directorate of GPF.
- Cooperative Bank Computerization - Ranchi -Khunti CCB and DCB are being taken up on Pilot basis and remaining 7 CCBs and 53 DCBs will be taken up in subsequent phases.
- State wide Modernisation Program for PHED under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission Program
- Stamp paper stock Monitoring system for Treasuries
- CONFONET (Consumer Forum Network)- project implementation is under progress
- VAT Computerisation for Commercial Taxes Department (a Web Application based on Oracle/Java)
- CIPA - Common Integrated Police Application

For Further Information, contact
Shahid Ahmad
 Technical Director, NIC,
 Nepal House
 Doranda, Ranchi-834002
 email: sio-jhr@nic.in



► M H Ali & S J Kurulkar, NIC Maharashtra

Osmanabad: Forging Ahead in ICT



Surrounded by the Balaghat hills, Osmanabad is one of the eight districts of Marathwada region in Maharashtra. The district constitutes of eight blocks and two Sub-divisional headquarters- Osmanabad and Bhoom.

● | NIC District Centre

Established in the year 1989, NIC Osmanabad District Centre has been a pioneer in providing ICT solutions to the various government departments, educational institutions and public sector undertakings. The Centre also played a significant role during the Latur-Osmanabad earthquake and provided all necessary support to the administration and the affected people. Various ICT activities taken up by the District Centre are:

● | **Land Record Computerization:** The Land Record Computerization has been successfully completed and all the eight talukas in the district have started issuing computerized ROR



Rana Jagjitsingh Patil, Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture, Govt. of Maharashtra inaugurating the distribution of ROR through Mobile Van

(V.Form 7/12) to the landholders. Osmanabad is also the first district in Maharashtra where online mutation module has been implemented.

● | **Property Card Computerization:** As an integral part of the land records

computerization, the property card database of whole district has been compiled. The system of issuing PR Cards in Kalamb and Tuljapur talukas have been computerized and both these talukas are distributing computerized PR Cards to the public.

● | **District Web site:** The district website <http://osmanabad.nic.in> was designed and developed by the NIC District Centre and has undergone many modifications and upgrades since its launch. A district level committee has been formed to carry out regular updates and maintenance of the website.

● | **Land Acquisition Software:** Osmanabad has been one of the first few districts to have developed and implemented the Land Acquisition Software that keeps track of the stages of land acquisition and monitors the status of cases. It helps in early disposal of the cases, speedy compensation to landowners and provides faster availability of land for executing government projects.

● | **Computerization of BPL database:** The Below Poverty Line (BPL) database has been generated for district Osmanabad. The activity was carried out jointly by DRDA and NIC. The project execution mechanism used for data entry and preparation of final score points was highly appreciated by the authorities and has been adopted as a role model for the entire state of Maharashtra

● | **Agmarknet Project:** The District Centre has made sincere efforts in implementing the Agmarknet Project, which includes computerization of two APMC- Murum and Kalamb. These APMCs have started to provide information to farmers on a regular basis. NIC has also conducted training programme for the concerned staff and the focus is now on providing kiosks at village level to facilitate farmers in getting commodity prices right at their doorstep.

● | **Training Programmes:** As part of the initiative to develop trained human resource in the field of ICT, NIC Osmanabad regularly conducts training programs for the government

employees. These training programs not only create awareness and interest in using ICT but also help in implementing IT projects in the district.

● | **Video Conference, Data Centre Services & District LAN:** NIC Osmanabad has been providing data and video communication services to various departments of the district. The VC facility is being extensively used for monitoring the status of various developmental programmes and ongoing schemes. A Campus Area Network has been established at the District Collectorate that connects various offices like District Treasury, Small Savings, Planning Office, Supply Office, EGS, DAO and also enables access to Internet, email, etc.

● | **Lok Sabha & Assembly Elections:** The District Centre provides ICT support for different activities pertaining to Lok Sabha and Assembly elections like deployment of poll personnel, establishment of EDP centre at observers' office, preparation of lists/reports of election analysis, counting process, etc.

● | **SETU SUVIDHA KENDRA – ISO 9001: 2000 certified:** Setu Suvidha Kendra is an ambitious citizen-centric project of Maharashtra Govt., which is based on the concept of Single Window System for issuing licenses, certificates, bills, bonds, stamp paper, various scheme application forms, ROR, etc. to the general public. NIC Osmanabad played an important role in establishing these centres not only at district but also at all the taluka offices. Recently, this project got ISO9001 certificate for quality management system.

● | New Initiatives:

- Extension of network connectivity to the block level through establishment of Maharashtra State Wide Area Network under the second phase of MAHANET project.
- Enhancing IT enabled services in rural areas through Gramdoot Seva Kendras for Zila Parishad - detailed action plan and SRS under preparation.

NIC Osmanabad District Unit
District Informatics Officer
Shrikant J. Kurulkar
District Informatics Associate
B S Daulatabad

For further information, mail to mahosm@nic.in



► Zohra Chatterji, IAS, Principal Secretary, IT & E, Government of Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh – Moving Ahead With ICT



‘Much before IT was recognized as the “Sunrise Sector” and the driving force behind the economy and the nation, the sun had already risen on it in Noida, Uttar Pradesh.’

Known as the land of Unlimited Potential – UP is still the prime destination for National and International IT companies due to its close proximity to the national capital, New Delhi, highly developed infrastructure and a rich source of disciplined labour and technical manpower

Noida and Greater Noida are fast emerging as one of the largest IT hubs in the world for RIM, BPO, Call Center and other related businesses. No wonder companies like Wipro, HCL, Adobe, Intel, Microsoft have either setup their bases in Noida or Greater Noida, or are in process of doing so.

In this era of e-Governance and IT, Uttar Pradesh is surging ahead with a mission to take Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to every village, to every citizen, to every business and to transform the way Government works using ICT. The State Government has taken a number of initiatives in e-Governance –

- An institutional framework has been put in place for development of IT industry in the State with committees headed by Chief Minister, Chief Secretary and Sh. Nandan Nilekani, MD Infosys.
- State and Department mission teams have been formed for identification of projects with public interfaces.
- IT Policy has been modified to incorporate special incentives for the IT industry, like preferential allotment of land, continuous power supply, 100% exemption from stamp duty, extended working hrs for women, etc.

UP has established leadership in many e-Governance initiatives. However, the transformation from being an IT laggard state to becoming a front runner in the race for various National and International awards for excellence in e-Governance applications has been made possible due to hard work, grit and determination of the State Government, IT Professionals involved in the projects and the people.

UP is also one of the largest and the most populous state of the country. It requires huge efforts for implementing projects/applications across the state, and supporting them. Here, I would like to applaud the services of NIC in UP, for their enthusiastic and untiring efforts, and active role in transforming the State Government’s IT vision into reality.

E-Governance projects in UP cover the entire spectrum of interfaces - G2G, G2C, G2B, G2E, G2S. However, the major achievements of the e-Governance initiatives of the state have been development of IT culture in government functioning, quicker and faster delivery of services to the people, change in mindset and attitude of government employees and transparency in government procedures. Some of the successful projects of the state include -

Lokvani – it is one of the pioneering initiatives of e-governance in the State. A recipient of the **Golden Icon award** at the 9th National Conference of e-Governance in the service delivery category, the project is a unique model of *Citizen Grievance Redressal System*.

Treasury Computerization - one of the few government sector projects to have been **certified by ISO**, the treasury computerization in the state is one fine example of G2G and G2C interfaces. Benefiting more than six lakh pensioners of the state the software has been implemented in all 73 treasuries of the state, and provides information over IVRS and web.

Bhulekh – the land records computerization in UP started as an application especially for farmers but with concepts such as **‘Khatauni on Web’, ‘RoR Aapke Dwar’** the project has benefited government, banks, NGOs and all other stakeholders. Implemented in all the 305 tehsils of the state, the project has been instrumental in bridging the digital divide to a great extent.

Vahan – The state has already computerized the major activities (Registration, Tax Collection, Permits, etc) of 19 RTO and ARTO offices. The project will be extended to all the RTOs of the state in the next couple of years.

Telemedicine – UP was among the first in the country to have started the telemedicine project. Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences and IIT Kanpur have successfully implemented the project in rural areas of the state.

There are numerous other projects like Property and Land Registry System, GIS based Planning Atlas, Online Counseling for UP Technical University, Results on Web, Nagar Nigam computerization, File Monitoring System and web based MPR, which are providing better services to the citizens and MIS for the administrators and policy makers.

The IT roadmap for enhancing e-Governance penetration in rural areas is ready with projects that will give a boost to the IT infrastructure in the state like State Wide Area Network, State Data Centre, Centre for Excellence, etc, and with projects that will extend the fruits of ITES to people of far-flung and remote areas of the state like Community Service Centres, Citizen Information Kiosks, Jan Mitra Ekal Seva Kendra, etc.

The journey does not end here... it has just begun to transform Uttar Pradesh into “Uttam Pradesh” as envisioned by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of UP.

For further information, mail to psedit@up.nic.in



▶ Parmeshwor Singh & Lalhmachhuani, NIC Mizoram

Mizoram : Implementing ICT for e-Governance

Perched on the high hills of north-eastern India, Mizoram is a storehouse of natural beauty with its picturesque landscape, hilly terrains, meandering streams, deep gorges as well as rich wealth of flora and fauna. Flanked by Bangladesh on the west and Myanmar on the east and south, Mizoram occupies an important strategic position having a long international boundary of 722 Kms. As per 2001 census, the total population of the state is 8,91,058, with a high literacy rate of 88.49 %. Agriculture is the main occupation and most people in Mizoram speak **Mizo**, the local language.

The State has been divided into eight Districts, 23 Rural Development Blocks, 24 Sub-Divisions and 3 Autonomous District Councils. Total number of villages as per 2001 census is 817 and there are 40 Assembly Constituencies.

Recognising IT as the fastest and the most advanced vehicle of change for all-round progress and development of the State, Mizoram advocates widespread proliferation of IT in the state and supports promotion of IT in the fields of e-Governance, empowerment of people, education, industry, health, rural development, agriculture, tourism and IT enabled services.

With a vision to 'improve the quality of life of every citizen of Mizoram and transforming Mizoram into a knowledge based state', the Government of Mizoram and NIC Mizoram are working together for an effective e-government in the state with a well defined action plan -

Strategy and Approach Plan

- Adopting enterprise approach i.e. identify, fund and implement cross-departmental, cross-tier e-Government interoperable initiatives.
- Developing generic core applications which can be 'built once, but used many times'

- Set ambitious electronic service delivery targets.
- Adopting an intention based approach.
- Strive for skill upgradation, high reliability of ICT components, etc.
- Adoption of Open Source System.

What have been done/achieved?

Ever since its inception in 1989, the continuous and tireless efforts of NIC Mizoram have resulted in spreading of IT culture in the state. NIC along with the Government of Mizoram has taken up many initiatives in facilitating and promoting e-government in various sectors such as Transport, Land Record, Public Health Engineering, Accounts and Treasuries, etc.

Transport Computerization

'**Sarathi**' and '**Vahan**' provide a complete solution for the District Transport Office computerization including Registration, Licensing, Permit and Enforcement, Tax & Fee collection, etc. NIC Mizoram took up the challenge in the year 2004 and till now it has implemented the system in five DTOs at Aizawl, Lunglei, Champhai, Saiha and Kolasib.



Sh. Lalrinchhana, Hon'ble Transport Minister inaugurating online Vehicle Registration in Aizawl

Various training programmes have been organized by NIC, Mizoram on Vahan and

Sarathi for the officials of the Transport Department to acquaint them with the different modules of the software. A website (<http://transmizo.nic.in>) has been designed and hosted, which gives detailed information about the transport department and provides necessary registration and tax details of the vehicle in an online mode.

A Vehicle Statistics Information Systems has been developed that helps in collection of various reports required annually by State Transport Authority, Government of Mizoram. NIC is also planning to start the SMART card based Vahan and Sarathi implementation from the year 2006. This will not only provide impetus to the project but will also revolutionize the licensing and registration system of the transport sector in the state.

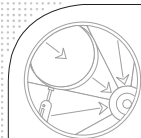
Community Information Centres

The CIC project was launched in the north-eastern region in the year 2000 with a vision to extend the benefits of global connectivity through Internet and to bring the region closer to the national mainstream by enabling more efficient and faster information flow amongst the people. CICs also help the State Government in implementing IT-based citizen-centric applications.

In Mizoram, 26 CICs have been established till now. All are equipped with Computers, VSAT, TV, web cameras, printers, UPS, etc. Two qualified operators manage these CICs, which provide the following services to the people in the far-flung and remote areas of the state -

- E-mail, web browsing and document printing.
- Imparting IT training to the villagers, school students, staff of BDOs, etc on computer fundamentals and IGNOU/DOECC courses.
- ICT support to district and block administration for office automation.
- G2C services such as support for BPL Survey, Village Council Elections, publication of tenders, notifications, etc.
- Providing entertainment to the local people through telecast of TV programmes.
- Information services such as online news paper reading, railway reservation enquiry, airline enquiry, hospital enquiry, etc.

CICs have evoked a great interest in the people, especially youngsters, as it is one of



the main medium of communication and is being effectively used as:

- **Rural Postal Service** – using e-mail as the mode of communication.
- **Labs** - Computer Practical Classes are held for schools that lack such infrastructure.
- **Centre for Assembly and Lok Sabha Elections** for transmission of data and providing support to the local authorities.

AGMARKNET

The AGMARKNET (Agricultural Marketing Information System Network) project utilizes ICT facilities for the betterment of the Agriculture Sector. It seeks to provide the farmers with prompt and reliable market information thereby improving their decision making capability and strengthening their bargaining power. NIC Mizoram has already provided training to a number of marketing personnel and state-level-officers on the AGMARKNET phase IV market software. Computer hardware and software has been provided to 10 Agriculture Produce Market Committees (APMCs) of the state, which are now connected to the nationwide agriculture information network.

Management Information System for PHED

Web based MIS for PHED is one of the major IT initiatives of the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India for effective planning, monitoring and implementation of various activities under Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Sector. The software design and development work has already been started at Mizoram and the SRS has been prepared using the latest UML tools. Mizoram has also decided to customize and implement the software that has been developed for Arunachal Pradesh. This will avoid duplication of efforts and will also save valuable time.

The project deliverables include Revenue Collection, Complaint Monitoring, Contractor and Supplier Information, Personnel and Payroll, Water Source and Asset Management, Water Quality Management, Material and Stores Management, Equipment Information System, Finance and Work Accounting, etc.

Seventh All India School Educational Survey

This was a joint project of NCERT, State Education Department and NIC. The project included collection of various information pertaining to schools - enrollment, amenities, teachers, etc. collected through six different forms from the block/village level and data-entry of these forms, processing, master-list creation, validation etc. The project at Mizoram has been completed and the data has been handed over to the national agencies for final report generation.

GPF Monitoring System

NIC Mizoram developed a GPF Monitoring System to benefit more than 36000 GPF subscribers of the State. The system implemented at Directorate of Accounts & Treasury, Aizawl has been developed with SQL Server at the back-end and Visual Basic as front-end. The software has features to generate various reports for the department such as broad sheets, annual ledger, annual GPF statement, and is used to maintain the up-to-date GPF accounts, which includes monthly subscription, advances, refunds, withdrawals, interest calculations and final payments.

Land Record Computerization

NIC Mizoram developed a data management and land allotment system for the State Government. The Unix based system is successfully running at the Land Revenue and Settlement Department and more than 2.21 lakh records of different districts have already been entered. The system allows data entry of land allotment and mutation. However, with the advancement of GIS technology the need has now been felt to digitize the existing cadastral maps and correlate them with the attribute data already available in the digital format.

The State Government, in consultation with NIC, is in process of implementing a new system where all the cadastral maps will be digitized and the RoR along with map will be issued to the farmers/land owner by means of information kiosks. The mutations will also be carried out from the digitized cadastral maps. This will usher in a new era of e-

Governance in the state as more than 70% of the Mizo population is directly or indirectly connected with agriculture.

Support of NIC and CIC during elections

NIC Mizoram provides active support to the office of Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) of the state. All the CICs, NIC District Centres and State Centre act as 24 hours State Control Room during the Legislative Assembly Election and the Lok Sabha Election. Some of the major activities carried out by NIC and CIC's during election are:

- **Software Development** – A randomisation software of polling stations and polling parties was developed by NIC Aizawl. The software incorporated all the checks necessary for fixing of election duties of polling parties. All districts extensively use this software at the time of elections.
- **Data Transmission** - Collection and transmission of election related data to election server at Delhi is carried out on 24x7 basis from all the stations.
- **Electoral Roll Computerization** - The entire voters list of Mizoram - assembly constituency wise has been put on web. People can log on to the website <http://ceomizoram.nic.in> and check if one has been correctly listed in electoral rolls or not. Web enabled online request for name inclusion is also possible through the website.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Robust hardware, software and network infrastructure is a must for extending IT enabled services to the government and the people. Over the years, NIC has already established the basic infrastructure and is continuously upgrading and augmenting it to roll out more citizen-centric applications.

Mizoram already has a state-of-art NIC State Center, 3 District Centers, 26 Community Information Centres, an e-Governance Centre at Aizawl and a State Secretariat LAN connected through RF extending their services to the people of Mizoram. A number of projects are in the pipeline to enhance these centers and equip them with the latest technology. Some of the ongoing infrastructure related projects are -



• **Video Conferencing:** The plan envisages establishment of VC studios at nine locations, including all eight districts and the CM Office. VC equipment has already been installed and commissioned in all sites, and waiting for formal inauguration.

• **Sub Division Network:** Site preparation is under progress at all the 27 selected sub divisions and autonomous district councils for the sub division network. Twenty-six sites have already been completed and the network will be commissioned soon which will provide a boost to the e-Governance initiatives of the state.

• **State Data Centre:** A data centre consisting of Secured Network Infrastructure and Storage Area Network (SAN) is being set up in the Civil Secretariat by NIC. Under the State Data Center, it is envisaged to have a data repository at state level. The data center will have high-end Application, Database, Mail and Web servers.

Web Services

Website is one of the easiest and simplest ways to ensure transparency in Government functioning. It is considered to be one of the first building blocks of an e-Governance application. A website of a department keeps the citizens informed and updated about the various activities and functions of those departments. NIC Mizoram has developed a number of websites, which are aesthetic in nature and rich in content. Some of the prominent websites are-

- <http://transmizo.nic.in> - Transport Department
- <http://mizobamboo.nic.in> - Bamboo Development Agency
- <http://investinmizoram.nic.in> - Investment Opportunity in Mizoram
- <http://mizopwd.nic.in> - Public Works Department
- <http://zoramassembly.nic.in> - Mizoram State Assembly, etc.

The websites of the districts of Aizawl, Saiha, Lawngtlai have also been designed and hosted on NIC's webserver.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

NIC Mizoram has a well-equipped training centre that conducts regular training courses

on different topics for the officers and the staff of the state and central government organisations located in Mizoram. In-house training for NIC officials on the latest technology and tools is also a regular feature.

NIC Mizoram jointly organized and conducted ICT Awareness training for MLA's and Ministers of Mizoram during 2nd February to 4th March 2005. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram, Sh. Zoramthanga distributed the Training certificates to all Ministers and MLAs who attended the training. A five days training programme on 'ICT tools for e-readiness in Government' was conducted jointly by NIC and Science & Technology



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Mizoram distributing certificates of IT Awareness Training

Department, Mizoram during April, 2005. The training was attended by participants from the State Government, who showed keen interest in the e-Governance initiatives of NIC.

An IT awareness-training programme 'IT in Journalism' was specially designed for the local journalists of Mizoram. This was conducted recently in two batches and was well appreciated by the participants.

OTHER SERVICES

- NIC Aizawl District Unit provided comprehensive IT support and data management during Intensive Integrated Revision of electoral rolls in 2005.
- NIC Mizoram provided Internet connectivity to media personnel during the visit of Union Home Minister to Mizoram during January 2005.
- NIC Mizoram provided comprehensive ICT support during the visit of His Excellency the President of India Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam to Mizoram last year.



SIO Mizoram receiving letter of appreciation from Dr. R Lalthangliana, Hon'ble Information Minister, Govt. of Mizoram

ROAD AHEAD

- Establishment of VC studios in the CM Office and in all the districts of the state
- Establishment of NIC District Centres at remaining five districts.
- Installation of 10 new CICs
- Implementation of Vahan and Sarathi at the remaining DTOs and issuance of SMART CARD based Driving License to public
- Increase the number of training programmes to generate awareness of e-Governance initiatives of the central and the state government.
- Design and Development of Mizoram State Portal and wider publicity of Intra CIC portal
- Initiation of Rural Intranet- a community owned self-sustainable and low cost project in line with GYANDOOT.
- Implementation of the National Rural Employment Guarantee Programme of Govt of India.
- Implementation of File Monitoring System at Chief Secretary's Office
- Faster implementation and rollout of projects such as the PHED MIS, Civil Court Computerization, etc.

For further information, please contact

Th. Prameshwar Singh
TD & State Informatics Officer
NIC Mizoram State Centre
Block C, Room No 109, Civil Secretariat
Aizawl, Mizoram
Email: sio-mizo@nic.in



▶ Manoj P A & Harish Patel, NIC Gujarat

Jamnagar- Gujarat



Jamnagar, a coastal district of Gujarat is famous for its Marine National Park, Bird Sanctuary, Bandhani (unique style of printing Sari with tie & dye method), brass work and oil refineries.

"NIC-Jamnagar is providing valuable services in inculcating an information technology enabled work culture in Jamnagar District in Software development, adoption & training, and building e-Governance based citizen service delivery systems in the offices of the district."

Sh. T Natrajan (IAS), DM Jamnagar

NIC Jamnagar District Centre since its inception in 1989 has carried out design and development of various software, State/Central project implementation, IT consultancy and is involved in various e-governance activities. Some key projects of NIC Jamnagar are:

Land Records Computerization (LRC): With the successful implementation of LRC in the district, online mutation and issue of Records of Rights is operational in all taluka. So far, 2.30 lakhs RORs have been issued in the district.

SWAGAT (State Wide Attention on Grievances by Application of Technology): This system enables the Chief Minister of Gujarat to review district-wise pending grievances of citizens every month through Video Conferencing.



Civic Centre at Kalavad Taluka

Ration Card: Ration Card Software is successfully implemented in all 11 taluka Mamlatdar offices and two zonal offices of the district.

One-Day Governance (Civic Centre): It is a citizen centric application implemented in all Mamlatdar offices, to issue various kinds of affidavits and certificates to the citizens.

Property Card Information System (PCIS): PCIS has been implemented in Jamnagar on a pilot basis.

ReD: The system has been implemented in two Sub Registrar offices for the automation of the registration process of various documents with market valuation.

Panchayat Accounting System: It is implemented in all Taluka Panchayats, Education and European Commission Programme for computerizing day-to-day accounting details of income and expenditure under various heads.

Registry-Citizen Charter Software: Implemented in Collectorate, Prant Offices, Mamlatdar Offices, Planning Office, Supply, MDM, Panchayat Office, and SP Office, this system manages office mail and citizen applications.

Sales Tax: Total Solution for the Sales Tax offices has been implemented in three Ghatak of the district.

Jail Information System: This has been implemented in the District Jail to keep up-to-date information of the prisoners.

NIC Jamnagar has developed various Software that are:

KJP Information System: It is designed and developed for the District Inspector of Land Records (DILR) and provides solution for the village wise land information.

PF System: Provident Fund Information System helps in maintaining the PF, loan and advance details of employees. It has been adopted by the Rural Department and is used for the panchayat employees and primary teachers of the districts throughout the State.

Land Acquisition Software manages the land acquisition award process.

Employment Assistance System for Ex-servicemen (EASEX) is developed for the Sainik Welfare Board. It keeps the registration information of ex-servicemen that helps in finding eligible person for job vacancies.

Panchayat & Corporation Election Process System: This has been developed for the District/Taluka Panchayat and Corporation election process.

Other services and departments computerized with the assistance of NIC are Arms License, Payroll, JRY fund allocation, LPG connection, Establishment System for SLR and Panchayat, District Jantri preparation, Treasury and Old-Age Pension, SSI Monitoring, etc. Some of the web applications implemented by NIC District Centre are - District Website, Explosives Permit, Expenditure system, Civic and LRC status, Mid-Day-Meal Monitoring, etc.

NIC Jamnagar has also been instrumental in the following projects:

- Setup of 40 nodes LAN at Collectorate, 45 nodes LAN at Panchayat and all Mamlatdar office LAN.
- Implementation of APMC project in 4 APMC
- After the Cyclone in 1998 and Earthquake in 2000, ICT support for relief works.
- Lok Sabha and Assembly Elections - ICT support in polling staff team formation, polling day process, result process and information dissemination.
- Medlars & Census-1991 data dissemination
- Data transmission activities for various schemes like - NSSO, ICDS, NWDPPRA, Industry, APMC, Sales Tax, Treasury, Key Indicator, etc.
- Setting up of district FTP server for software releases, important data backup of various taluka centers, collectorate branches and other offices.
- Training program for the district-taluka employee on various applications, e-mail, WINDOWS, MS Office etc.

NIC Jamnagar District Unit
District Informatics Officer
Harish Patel
District Informatics Associate
Swetan Shah

For more information, mail to gujjam@nic.in



▶ Alok Tiwari, NIC UP & Saleem Khan, NIC J&K

Haptics Technology: Breaking New Barriers

What is Haptics technology?

Haptics is the science of simulating sensory perceptions like pressure, texture, temperature, vibration and movements like poking, squeezing, sticking, heaving et al in IT enabled applications used for design, testing and diagnostics in various fields. The term 'Haptics' is derived from Greek word meaning "ABLE TO GET HOLD OF".

With the advent of Haptics and Virtual Reality (VR), a new era in virtual computing is coming up. This will have a profound effect on the social environment as well. VR is based on the idea of generating "virtual worlds" that contain computer-generated, three-dimensional (3D) objects. When Haptics is integrated with VR technology, it will generate miracles in the field of computing. At present, physical interaction is lacking in online interactions. Haptics will step in here and enable the physical interaction between an online user and an object. There is a plethora of possibilities where this science can be applied.

How Haptics technology works

Haptics, the science of perception, lets computer users interact in virtual worlds. When a computer system is enabled using haptics technology, it helps the scientists in simulating - modelling of cars, impact of a golf club hitting the ball, springiness of a kidney ulcer using the forceps, texture of clothing for sale on the internet, push of an individual carbon nano tube in an atomic force microscope, etc. The technology has made it possible to model free-floating 3-dimensional objects that can be explored from all sides. It is even possible now to perceive and manipulate objects that do not exist in reality

Applications of haptics Technology

Gaming is one of the first applications of

haptics that is being realized. Many video games controllers such as force-feedback steering wheels and joystick already contain simple Haptics device to enable virtual rally drivers and pilots to feel the bumps of artificial roads or the rumble of machine guns.

The medical arena is the other popular area for applying the Haptics systems in making virtual, keyhole surgery and needle insertion simulators that provide a realistic pop as the needle enters the virtual vein.

Mobile phones of future would employ Haptics for recreating touch and texture through artificial stimuli. While the aviation industry, which is already using flight simulators to train their commercial pilots before handling actual aeroplanes with real passengers, can use the technology to make these trainings more worthwhile and useful. Some of the other important application areas of Haptics are:

- Databases
- Networking
- Graphics
- Tele-collaboration
- E-commerce, etc

Using haptics technology, the computer communicates sensations through a haptic interface — a stick, scalpel, racket or pen that is connected to force-exerting motors. Haptic



interfaces can communicate with the contours of a sculpture, and they can apply pressure to help in sculpting. By coordinating the forces that are exerted on one's handle, probe, stylus or fingertips, you can make it feel as though one is touching something physical.

As the trend in processor power has been showing an upward swing, haptics technology will also receive a big boost in near future. Concisely speaking, the Haptics systems are going to provide:

- Feel of sensing and manipulating objects
- A feel of being in control remotely
- Computer generated reality
- A new level of fidelity & convenience
- Means of exploring the new world of haptic interaction
- Convenience in GUI, gaming and training.

Issues in the usage of Haptics Technology

In the last 15 years or so in Web environment, we moved from static web pages to dynamic web pages and then to Database driven web pages. With the arrival of Haptics Technology, all this will end. The servers would automatically talk to each other with the automated programs that are wholly dependent upon the state of the system. Various technical and social issues would crop up when Haptics is put to widespread usage in near future.

- Powerful Real time Operating Systems would be needed.
- Backward integration software would be required.
- Network delay compensation in tele-haptic applications
- Social changes will also be major issue.

However, after this technology gains ground and is applied, this will usher in a new world order in which a lot of logical things would happen with the use of technical equipments. Collaborative Hapto Virtual Environments would open new ways for human interaction, collaboration and learning. Thus, many miracles can be expected with the use of this technology in near future.

For further details contact
alok.tiwari@nic.in
or
saleem@jk.nic.in



CYBER GOVERNANCE

A glimpse of some of the new websites/portals launched on NIC's web servers.....

<http://kollam.nic.in/tsunami/tsunami.htm>



Website on Tsunami Disaster, Kerala: A website on Tsunami disaster in Kollam District of Kerala was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister of Labour Sh. Babu Devakaran in January 2006.

The website mainly focuses on the relief and rehabilitation measures taken up by the State Government and the District Administration at Kollam district during the Tsunami disaster. It gives information on the relief camps, medical assistance, shelters, assessment of damages, supply of relief kits, infrastructure works, NGO's participation, Photo Gallery, data processing center setup by NIC etc.

Asha Verma, Kerala Correspondent

<http://mahanet.maha.nic.in>



Department of Animal Husbandry, Maharashtra: Sh. Haji Anees Ahmed, Hon'ble Minister of Animal Husbandry, Maharashtra inaugurated website of Department of Animal Husbandry, Govt. of Maharashtra. The website has been designed, developed and hosted by

NIC Software Development Unit, Pune.

The website provides comprehensive information about the department and also provides details about tenders, circulars, citizen charter, Right to Information Act 2005, etc. It has separate sections for Maharashtra Livestock Development Board (MLDB), Sheep & Goat Development Corporation, Disease Investigation Lab, and Institute of Veterinary Biological Products (IVBP).

Punam Gupta, Maharashtra Correspondent

<http://tnrajbhavan.gov.in>



Official Website of Raj Bhavan, Chennai: NIC Chennai has designed and hosted the official website for Raj Bhavan, Chennai. It was launched recently by His Excellency Sh. Surjit Singh Barnala, Governor of Tamil

Nadu. The website contains the complete history and photo gallery of both Chennai and Udhagamandalam (Ooty) Raj Bhavans, profile of the Governor, important speeches delivered by the Governor, details of important events and information about the past Governors of the State, contact details of Raj Bhavan officers, etc.

R Gayatri, Tamil Nadu Correspondent

<http://churu.nic.in>



Web Site of Churu, Rajasthan: The website of the district Churu was inaugurated recently by Sh. Rajendra Singh Rathore, Hon'ble PWD Minister at a function presided by Sh. Ram Singh Kaswa, Hon'ble Member of Parliament.

The website has been designed and developed by NIC Churu and it provides valuable information about the district and various services provided by the administration like district profile, administrative setup, places of tourist interest, district map, major projects, industry, etc. It also features an interesting photo gallery, which contains several photographs of ancient haveli's, temples and other interesting places of the district.

Deepak Bhargava, Rajasthan Correspondent

<http://chandigarh.gov.in/tourism>



Launch of Chandigarh Tourism Department website: The website of Chandigarh Tourism Department was launched recently by Sh. Krishna Mohan, Secretary Tourism & Home, Chandigarh Administration at UT Secretariat, Chandigarh. On the occasion Sh. Vivek Atray, Director Tourism, Sh. R C Sharma, Director Public Relations, Sh. Ajay Rampal, State Informatics Officer, other senior officers and prominent citizens were present.

In addition to the basic information about the city with details like "How to reach", "Where to stay" etc., the website also provides details relevant for Tourists like "Tourist Information", "Places to see", etc.

Vivek Verma, Chandigarh Correspondent



<http://civilsupplieskerala.gov.in>



Civil Supplies Department, Government of Kerala: The Hon'ble Minister for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Sh. Adoor Prakash inaugurated the official website of Civil Supplies Department on 27th January, 2006. Smt. Sheela

Thomas, Commissioner and Secretary for Food, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Sh. V Padmanabhan, Director of Civil Supplies Department and other senior officials attended the inaugural function. The portal has been design and developed by NIC Kerala and features information related to Public Distribution System, acts and rules, state level off-take details, forms for download, etc.

Asha Verma, Kerala Correspondent

<http://trti.mah.nic.in>

Website for Tribal Research & Training Institute, Pune: Tribal Research & Training Institute, Pune went online with the launch of its website in January this year. The website contains information about the institute and its activities. It has various sections including Public Notice Board, Glimpses of Tribal Museum, Tribal Culture, Survey Information, Publications & Reports, Tribal Statistics, Right to Information Act, List of Tribes of Maharashtra, etc.

This site is a useful source of information for the general public, researchers, government organisations and NGOs.

Punam Gupta, Maharashtra Correspondent

<http://keralawomenscommission.gov.in>



Womens Commission Website, Kerala: Kerala Womens Commission celebrated the International Womens Day on 8th March 2006 at Science and Technology Museum, Trivandrum with the inauguration of its official website. Speaking on the occasion,

the former Chief Secretary of Kerala Dr. D Babu Paul emphasised the importance of having a website for the commission. Smt. Lida Jacob, Secretary, Dept. of Social Welfare inaugurated the website and appreciated the efforts of NIC Kerala State Centre which has conceptualized and developed the website. She also appreciated the content of the website.

Asha Verma, Kerala Correspondent

<http://pblabour.gov.in>



Labour Department, Punjab: Choudhary Jagjit Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Labour and Employment, Government of Punjab inaugurated the website of Labour Department. This website has important

information for the citizens and industrial community like Notifications, Acts, Rules, List of Public Information Officers, Forms and Procedures and Proactive Disclosures under RTI Act 2005, etc. Apart from above general information about the department, the website also provides contact addresses and links to important related websites.

Sarbjeet Singh, Punjab Correspondent

<http://ccharyana.gov.in>



Website of CCA Haryana: The website of Controller of Communication Accounts, Haryana under Ministry of C&IT, Govt. of India, was launched in February 2006. The core idea behind the website is 'Reaching out to serve you better'. The site provides useful and pertinent information to the BSNL employees, pensioners and general public. The information has been categorized into a number of subsections to provide better navigation.

Special section has been provided for the senior citizens (pensioners), where they can view the benefits provided to them. The Public/Employees can share their views with the department using the Feedback/Grievances Section whereas important documents can also be downloaded from the website. The site has been designed and developed by NIC Haryana State Centre.

Hari Chand, Haryana Correspondent



HAPPENINGS

This section features news about NIC's activities/events across the Country and the various new software being developed by NIC in its mission towards facilitating e-governance.....

Workshop on land records computerization held at LBSNAA, Mussorie

Two-days national workshop on



'Computerization of Land Records: Achievements and Experiences' was held recently at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy Of Administration, Mussoorie. It was conducted by Center for Rural Studies (CRS), LBSNAA, Mussoorie. The theme of the workshop was to give a clear vision about the specific approach to be adopted for speedy implementation of computerization of land records (both spatial and non-spatial data) and their integration with other departments. Issues relating to digitization of cadastral maps and modern equipments like Global Positioning System (GPS) and Electronic Total Station (ETS) for land surveying were also discussed. Representatives of more than 17 states attended the workshop. The participants were from government sector, private sector, officials from the Academy, officials from various NIC centers and faculty members of NIC Training Unit, Mussoorie.

Mantosh Chakraborty, NICTU Mussoorie

CIPA training held in Rajasthan

A 19-days Trainers' training programme from 16-01-2006 to 07-02-2006, was successfully conducted for officials of State Crime Record Bureau (SCRB), Rajasthan under CIPA project. It was held at training division of NIC

Rajasthan State Centre in which 17 officials belonging to SCRB, Jaipur participated. The training aimed to make the participants technically sound so that they can handle the complete system independently as well as provide further training to the officers of the police stations. The training programme covered fundamentals of computers and operating system, concepts of Linux, functionalities of the CIPA software and installation of Linux operating system and CIPA software. It was ensured that each participant had complete knowledge of the CIPA functionality and its usage.

Deepak Bhargava, Rajasthan Correspondent

e-Disha project being implemented in Haryana

The Electronic Delivery of Citizen Services at Haryana (e-DISHA) project is an IT driven electronic interface between the Government and the citizens. It has been developed to facilitate general public to obtain information/status about transactions being done with various government departments at district and lower levels. e-DISHA is a



district Network that provides effective and timely service to the general public through a chain of computerized Integrated Citizen Service Centers.

It is being implemented by IT Department through District IT Societies with

technological and software support from NIC Haryana State Centre. The district level e-Disha Centres, that are being established by Haryana Government, will be integrated with NIC District Network Control and Management Centres.

It intends to cover various departments like Electricity, BSNL, Public Health & Engineering, RPO, City Corporations, Municipal Offices, Road Transport Corporation, Registration & Stamps, Commercial Taxes, Small Savings, Transport, Tourism and Medical & Health of both the State as well as the Central Government. The e-DISHA Centres have already started functioning at Gurgaon, Kaithal, Rewari, and Hisar. The e-DISHA Centres at remaining districts are also being established and shall be made operational in the near future. The time bound delivery of services will result in improving the efficiency of service delivery and elimination of corruption with the removal of middlemen from the process.

Hari Chand, Haryana Correspondent

Software demonstration held in Goa

A demonstration of Land Acquisition System and Recovery Monitoring System was organised recently by NIC North Goa District Centre at conference hall of the District Collectorate. Sh. Nikhil Kumar, District Collector (North Goa) and all Land Acquisition Officers and District Recovery Officers of the district attended the demonstration. The demonstration aimed at familiarising the officials with the automation software that has already been implemented at the land acquisition offices of Quepem, Vasco and Salcete. The state government has planned to have an integrated database of all land acquisitions in Goa.

Sh. T Hanumantha Rao, SIO, Sh. J J R Anand, TD and Head of Software Development Group, Sh. G H Subhash, DIO (North Goa) and Sh. S





Sivaraman, Scientific Officer coordinated the demonstration.

J J R Anand, Goa Correspondent

Online inauguration of schemes by CM, Jharkhand

Sh. Arjun Munda, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Jharkhand inaugurated various developmental schemes through video conferencing at Giridih district in January 2006. The inauguration was done during the Vikas Mela organised by the district administration. Many remote areas of the district were connected to the mela site through video conferencing setup provided by NIC. The Jharkhand State



Unit of NIC and Giridih District Unit extended full support to the district administration for the online inauguration.

Prashant Belwarier, Jharkhand Correspondent

Six days training programme for CICOs Conducted by NIC J&K

Two separate six day training Programmes were organized by NIC J & K State Unit for the Community Information Centres Operators' (CICOs) of the Jammu & Kashmir Division. More than 100 participants from 39 blocks of the two divisions attended the training programmes at Jammu and Srinagar. Additional Dy Commissioner, Mr. Sanjeev Verma, IAS inaugurated the Jammu session, while the Kashmir session was inaugurated by Dy Commissioner Srinagar, Dr. Asgar Hussain Samoon, IAS. NIC J & K State Unit in association with the agencies (Wipro, Acer, Microsoft, Bharti and Electronics Controls) involved in the project addressed the participants. Sh. L.D. Jha, Commissioner/ Secretary, Information Technology Department, Govt. of J&K, who was present



during the Jammu session, interacted with the participants. He appreciated the efforts of NIC, J&K for organizing the programme and emphasized on the role of CICOs in spreading IT awareness among rural masses of the state.

Jit Raj, J&K Correspondent

Inauguration of SMS service for SUWIDHA on the Republic Day function at Ludhiana.

Capt. Amarinder Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab inaugurated the SMS based status dissemination for SUWIDHA on the Republic Day function at Ludhiana. The facility to view status of SUWIDHA and Passport applications received at SUWIDHA counters, has been made available on <http://suwidha.nic.in>. Ludhiana is the first district where the district level passport application status has been incorporated in the website. Both services are now available on mobile also and can be accessed through SMS. Earlier, applicants had to visit the SUWIDHA/Passport counter to know the status of their applications, which was very time consuming.



Ludhiana is the pioneer district in the state to start the service of sending SMS to the applicants, which is proving to be very helpful for the citizens.

Vikram Jeet Grover, Punjab Correspondent

NIC officials felicitated on the eve of Republic Day

NIC District officers have been the torchbearers of ICT in all the districts of India. It is only due to their painstaking efforts that even the remote hamlets and backwaters of the country have been able to reap the fruits of IT. The metros and major towns of the country have anyway a vast pool of India's IT talent. But many NIC District Centres are the only source of IT solutions in the far-flung areas of the country. In Recognition of their outstanding contribution in implementing various IT projects, the following district Officials of NIC were presented Certificate of Appreciation by their respective State Government/District Administration on the Republic Day, 2006

- Sh. Pankaj Bajaj, DIO, Bhiwani, Haryana
 - Sh. Vishwanath Sharma, DIO, Hanumangarh, Rajasthan
 - Sh. Dinesh Sharma, DIO, Ferozepur, Punjab
 - Sh. Ashok Maurya, DIO, Korea, Chattisgarh
 - Sh. Satyesh Kumar Sharma, DIO, NIC, Janjgir-Champa, Chattisgarh
 - Sh. Gaurish Kumar Vashistha, DIA, Dholpur, Rajatan
 - Sh. P Madhavan, DIA, Bhilwara, Rajasthan
 - Sh. R C Jain, DIA, Tonk, Rajasthan
 - Sh. K G Vardharajan, DIO, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu
 - Sh. N Syed Mubarak Ali, DIO, Thiruvannamalai, Tamil Nadu
 - Smt. K Shanthi Devi, DIO, Villupuram, Tamil Nadu
 - Sh. D Vadivel, DIA, Villupuram, Tamil Nadu
- Anshu Rohatgi, Officiating Editor

NIC participates in the Disaster Management Exhibition at PATNA

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar Sh. Nitish Kumar inaugurated a Disaster Management Exhibition, 'CHETNA-2006' at Gandhi Maidan, Patna on 6th February 2006. The Exhibition was jointly organized by Govt. of Bihar, UNDP and UNICEF. Sh. A K Singh, STD & SIO, Bihar chaired a seminar on 'ICT for Disaster Management' at the NIC stall in the exhibition. Dr. M S Rao, STD & Head, National Disaster Management Information System Division, NIC HQ, New Delhi gave a presentation on 'Role of ICT in



Disaster Management and NIC Experience' to the participants from different parts of Bihar. He shared the experience of NIC during Tsunami- 2004, Bhuj earthquake-2001 and the Super Cyclone of Orissa - 1999.

N K Prasad, Bihar Correspondent

Training on 'ICT Tools for e-Readiness in Government' held at Pune

A two-week training on 'ICT Tools for e-Readiness in Government Module II' was organized by Training Division, Software Development Unit, NIC Pune during 6-17 February, 2006. The training was sponsored by the Department of Personnel & Training, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Government of India. The course was organized for officers of



Central and State Government Departments. 17 officers attended the programme and benefited from it. Basics of RDBMS, MS Access, Web Technology, Information Systems, Data Security, E-governance, and Communications were the topics that were covered during the course.

Punam Gupta, Maharashtra Correspondent

National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) Launched at Orissa

Sh. Naveen Pattnaik, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Orissa launched the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (NREGS) from Nadiali Grama Panchayat in Dhenkanal district of Orissa.

NIC Orissa State Unit had setup a mobile

computer cell with Internet connectivity to facilitate the demonstration of web-enabled application that has been developed for monitoring of NREGS. Hon'ble CM issued job cards to a group of unemployed youths using the application software to mark the inauguration of the scheme. The software automates the processes at



different agencies that are involved with NREGS such as panchayats, block and district headquarters as well as in the offices of Program Officer, District Project Coordinator, etc.

Sh. S N Tripathi, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Panchayati Raj & Information Technology, Govt. of Orissa, Smt. Usha Padhee, Collector, Dhenkanal were also present during the demonstration of the software.

A K Hota, Orissa Correspondent

'RoR at Village' project inaugurated in Gujarat

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Gujarat Sh. Narendra Modi inaugurated the 'RoR at Village' project on 25th January 2006 at Metoda village in Lodhika taluka of Rajkot district.

The project is an integration of e-Dhara project with Vishwa Gram Project. In Gujarat, Land Records Computerization is in place since January 2004 in all taluka and developed by NIC Gujarat State Centre. With the RoR at Village project, the facility of issuing computerized RoR is extended to Village Panchayat. The system uses Gujarat State Wide Area Network, SAN setup at NIC Gujarat State Centre and e-Dhara Kendras. Village Talati posts the request for RoR using Intranet site and e-Dhara project. Dy. Mamlatdar at the e-Dhara Kendra processes the RoR and uploads to SAN. Talati then prints the RoR using the Intranet site. Client-Server and Web based application has been

integrated to provide the solution. computerized RoRs are distributed from e-Dhara Kendra situated at taluka mamlatdar office using Bhulekh-soft



Manoj PA, Gujarat Correspondent

E-Governance centre inaugurated in HP

Sh. Kuldeep Singh, Hon'ble Minister of Industry for Himachal Pradesh inaugurated second Pehal Centre in Una district on 27th February 2006. On this occasion, Sh. Rakesh Kalia, local MLA, Smt. Anita Tegta, DC Una and other senior officials were also present. The Pehal Centres provide varied citizen services like issue of Driving License (Sarathi), Registration of Vehicles (Vahan), Registration of Deeds (HimRis), issue of various certificates (E-Praman), Nakal of Land Records (HimBhoomi), etc. With the start of this Pehal centre, the total number of e-governance centres in the state has risen to 31.

Various officials including the DIO and DIA of Una were honoured on this occasion. Along with this inauguration, the Hon'ble minister also inaugurated computer centre at Bharwain sub-tehsil.

Mukesh K Ralli, Himachal Pradesh Correspondent

IT Training for MLAs of Haryana

Haryana Government has provided laptops to all the MLAs of the state to involve the State Legislature and Executive in e-Governance projects and to make them IT savvy. To familiarise the MLAs with the laptops and latest ICT, a comprehensive training module was designed by NIC Haryana and State IT Department, in consultation with Vidhan Sabha Secretariat.

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Haryana, Sh. Bhupinder Singh Hooda inaugurated the first training programme on 21st February 2006. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister



said that MLAs would be able to manage and monitor the development activities in their constituencies in a much better way by



utilising services of Information Technology. The training programme is spread over a period of two months and cover topics ranging from computer basics, working with laptop, working with Windows, Word Processing, creating presentations, e-mail/ Internet, etc. The participants have been grouped into batches and the training has been planned in a way that all the participants get at least 90 minutes of training each week.

Hari Chand, Haryana Correspondent

Inauguration of Collabcad Cell at VSSC, Thiruvananthapuram

CollabCAD is a java based 2D and 3D CAD/CAM Software system developed by the Computer Aided Design Group of NIC headquarters, New Delhi. It uses open domain libraries of java, Java 3D, Open CASCADE, Zope, VRML Viewer, etc. CollabCAD has been put into maximum use at VSSC, Thiruvananthapuram. After developing few



CAD models, VSSC with the support of NIC has established a 'Collabcad Cell' which was inaugurated recently by Sh. Madhavan Nair, Chairman ISRO. A multimedia presentation was demonstrated during the inauguration of Collabcad Cell. Dr. Savita Dawar, STD CAD

Division, New Delhi and SIO Kerela were present during the inauguration. The design, development and other support to the cell are provided by CAD division, NIC New Delhi. Asha Verma, Kerala Correspondent

Information Systems on National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) implemented in Tamil Nadu

An application software, which is developed by Rural Informatics Division of NIC Delhi, has been customised for use with Tamil Interface and implemented in six NREGA districts of Tamil Nadu. All the 3,915 villages covered under these six NREGA districts have



been provided with computer systems by the Government of Tamil Nadu and one Village Administrative Assistant trained in computers is also available in each of these villages. The NREGA software was customised to work off-line with Tamil and has the provision to consolidate the data at State/Central levels. The Village Administrative Assistants have been given hands on training on using the software. Training programme on the software was conducted from 8th February 2006 to 28th Feb 2006 at the six NREGA districts in batches. The software works both under Windows and Linux environment using PostgreSQL/PHP.

R Gayatri, Tamil Nadu Correspondent

Launching of Tripura Registration Information System

Sh. R K Mathur, Chief Secretary, Tripura inaugurated and launched the Tripura Registration Information System (TRIS) at Sadar Sub-Registry Office, Agartala in January 2006. The Chief Secretary suggested to deploy TRIS solution in other Sub-Registry offices and integrate land registration with land records system. The DM highlighted the achievements of the district in rolling out IT applications like e-Suvidha, Land Records,

Land Acquisition, Swajaldhara, etc. TRIS is a comprehensive workflow based



application software developed by NIC Tripura which takes care of various registration activities like serialisation of document, determination of stamp duty and registration fees based on the type of the document, generation of receipts and notices to the parties, market value assessment, cross verification with Land Records Database, on-line photograph and Bio-metrics impression capturing, generation of duplicate document; Index register, etc. It is an easy to handle, user-friendly GUI based software with a 3-tier security mechanism and options for automatic backup. The software is also highly versatile, robust and scalable. It uses Visual Basic as front-end and SQL Server as back-end.

C Bhattcharjee, Tripura Correspondent

'Samadhan Online' Launched by Hon'ble CM of Madhya Pradesh

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Sh. Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the 'Samadhan Online' programme for redressal of public grievances and streamlining district level administrative machinery. Launching the programme at Mantralaya, Sh. Shivraj Singh said that an administrative work culture



devoted to prompt disposal of public grievances would be evolved using Information Technology for the masses.



'Samadhan Online' is a web based grievance redressal and monitoring system designed, developed and implemented by NIC MP State Unit. The general public lodges its complaints/grievances on the Madhya Pradesh Samadhan Online website which is accessed by the District Collectors and the feedback/action by them is updated on the website. The Hon'ble Chief Minister reviews the complaint and the action taken through the Video-conferencing facility established by NIC.

After the inauguration, the Hon'ble CM interacted with district collectors of about 20 districts of the state through video conferencing for sorting out the complaints and grievances received on the website.

Santosh Shukla, MP Correspondent

MEDIMIS training programme for medical staff, Lakshdweep

A training programme on Medical Inventory Management Information System (MEDIMIS) was organized for the pharmacists of the Department of the Medical & Health Services, Lakshadweep on 6th February 2006. Sh. Wasnik, Secretary Health of the UT inaugurated the training programme in Kavaratti. The software has been designed and developed by NIC and would help the



health department in efficiently managing its medicine stock.

Sh. K P Mohammed Koya, DIO Kavarati, explained the salient features of the MEDIMIS software. The existing standalone/offline system can be converted to a web based application that will enable the department to review latest stock position of all medical inventories in all the PHCs, CHCs and Hospitals in Lakshdweep.

The 7-day training programme was held to familiarise the pharmacists on ICT tools and covered the detailed aspect of the software. The module also featured training on e-mail and Internet.

K P Mohammed Koya, Lakshdweep Correspondent

State level Kisan Mela cum Exhibition at Jhabua (MP)

NIC Madhya Pradesh participated in the State Level Kisan Mela cum Exhibition held at Jabalpur from 30th January to 1st February 2006. It was organised jointly by Agriculture Ministry, Govt. of India and Jawaharlal Nehru Agricultural University. A stall on AGMARKNET project was setup in the Mela, which was inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor of Madhya Pradesh, Dr. Balram Jhakar.

Sh. Kantilal Bhuria, Hon'ble Minister of State for Agriculture, Govt. of India visited the stall



setup by NIC at the mela and appreciated the efforts of NIC MP in implementation of AGMARKNET project in the state. Thousands of farmers, traders and government officials also visited the stall and got acquainted with AGMARKNET portal, which provides online availability of the commodity-wise/mandi-wise rates of agricultural produce.

Santosh Shukla, MP Correspondent

Web enabled "District Infoway" developed and implemented by NIC - Hanumangarh

The district Hanumangarh in Rajasthan has taken a major step towards e-Governance with the introduction of web-enabled software named 'District Infoway'. This unique application, developed by NIC, Hanumangarh,

facilitates collection & consolidation of information from various departments within the district.

The State Government frequently requires information pertaining to the progress made in various schemes and programmes running for socio-economic development at the grass-root level. The district administration finds it difficult to collect & compile the data from various departments functioning in the district.

The district infoway software simplifies this cumbersome procedure and acts as a new gateway to information. It consists of features to collect 'works' and 'baseline formats' related information from different departments over district Intranet. The Government departments geographically located at different places at district hqrs. and tehsils connect the intranet server using dial-up connectivity and submit the required information. The officers and computer operators of these departments have been trained on using the system.

The software was developed by Shri. Vishwanath Sharma, DIO & Shri. Parvinder Singh, DIA, hanumangarh after a detailed survey of the IT infrastructure available at all the government offices of the district. The



tools and techniques used for developing "District Infoway" are :

- Linux based Intranet at NIC, Collectorate
- Apache Web Server
- PHP and MySQL
- Squid proxy server for collectorate LAN
- Sendmail as mail server
- Squirrel mail as webmail
- RAS server, Gateway server.

Deepak Bhargava, Rajasthan Correspondent

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National Informatics Centre, Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Communications & Information Technology, Government of India, A-Block, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003

Telephone: 91-11-24361133 Fax: 91-11-24362628 www: http://home.nic.in