

# Informatics

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### **NIC Co-operates with the Climate Change Secretariat on COP-8**

From Kevin Grose, Climate Change Secretariat & Sanjay Gahlout, NIC HQ

From 23 October to 1 November 2002, India played host to the the 8th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Climate Change Convention provides the framework for

governments around the world to take action to combat the threat of global warming caused by increasing economic and industrial activity, particularly in the North. The Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) was responsible for the hosting the conference at the Vigyan Bhawan. The MoEF selected the National Informatics Centre (NIC) to provide all needed information and communications technology to support conference activities as well as a full webcast of the proceedings over the Internet.

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Preparations for the conference began in December 2001 with the first visit of the Climate Change Secretariat to Delhi. However, it was from February 2002 when detailed analysis of requirements and implementation plans were drawn up. Heading these missions from the UNFCCC secretariat in Bonn was Kevin Grose, Manager, Information Services together with John Kiarie, the secretariat's Network Administrator. Dr.N. Vijayaditya, Director General of NIC lined up the 'COP 8' team headed by Mr. Sanjay Gahlout.



*Ms.J. Waller-Hunter, UNFCCC Exec. Secretary, Sh.Atal Behari Vajpayee, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Sh.T.R. Baalu, Hon'ble Union Minister (E&F) and Mr. R. Kinley, COP Secretary*

Climate Change Conferences attract 5000 or more governmental delegates, observers from nongovernmental organizations, business and the media. These participants came to Delhi to negotiate on behalf of their governments or to influence government positions.

As such, information and communication technology was at the very heart of the meeting. All 168 delegations to the conference used email to communicate with their capitals throughout the meetings. The secretariat's website - <http://unfccc.int> - was the primary source for conference information and documents while a full on-demand COP8 webcast service provided thousands of people around the world with access to what was going on.

### • **Internet connectivity and the MAN**

The conference requirements provide for fast Internet access for 500 concurrent users and a stable VPN connection allowing for the synchronization of the secretariat's Lotus Notes R5 servers in Bonn with those on site in Delhi. As well, the VPN makes it possible to transform parts of the secretariat's LAN into a WAN.



*R.S. Mani, NIC internet / network team leader and John Kiarie, UNFCCC*

NIC undertook an analysis of the requirements based on the specifications provided by the Climate Change Secretariat. NIC proposed redundancy at all critical points. NICNET installed 11mbps (full duplex) RF along side 4 E1 lines (8 mbps full duplex) to connect NIC HQ to the Vigyan Bhawan.



*Participants at the computer centre in Vigyan Bhawan*

This enabled load sharing and by using dynamic routing it proved possible to achieve auto-failover. Finally, the gateway router was configured in fully-redundant mode. A third level backup was also prepared - a VSAT link of 256/512Kbps. NIC put in place a pure link to the Internet with redundant gateways and capacity of 10x10mbps, and all running the BGP4 routing protocol.



***Kevin Grose, Information Manager for the UN checks the arrival of first PCs on the site***

### • **Vigyan Bhawan gets its first LAN**

320 PCs, 42 printers, and 10 servers, all provided by NIC were combined with 5 servers, 50 laptops, a 10 station photo-ID badge production system and various scanners and CD writers provided by the UN. All were connected to over 580 network nodes installed in both the main Vigyan Bhawan building, its Annexe as well as temporary structures that served as the Registration Hall. Given the scale of the requirements, the MoEF agreed early on to permanently network the entire Vigyan Bhawan, including the installation of a fibre optic backbone. This upgrade puts the Vigyan Bhawan on par with other international conference centres around the world.



***Cécile Camenen, UN production coordinator, A. Rathore, NIC HQ***

The MAN between the NIC and the Vigyan Bhawan was connected through a gateway router in the Vigyan Bhawan. All nodes were connected to the core switches (working back to back) using 37 distribution switches. Redundancy was provided to the core switches as well as UPS services. All nodes were connected using 100mbps to the distribution switches. VLANS were configured to provide necessary security and a reduced collision domain. Installations were



organized by the NIC.

Two hundred United Nations staff and a complement of 180 local staff were on site to support the conference proceedings, prepare documents and assist participants. During the meeting 2 million pages were printed or copied! Staff were accommodated in existing and temporary offices in the Vigyan Bhawan and its Annex. While the UN staff were on duty, so too were the thousands of participants. All 100 PCs in the computer center were in use from 0800hrs to 2200hrs every day. While the media centre was equally busy with 30 PCs connected to the Internet and even a special 'plug 'n play' centre (using phone cards from MTNL) provided laptop users with dial-up. The National Informatics Centre had responsibility for supporting the WAN/MAN/LAN connectivity, conference servers and participants network and computer centres. UN staff from the Climate Change Secretariat had responsibility for accessing and synchronization of data between Bonn and Delhi, management of the UN network and provision of support to UN staff.

### ■ **NIC webcasts to the world**

The Climate Change Secretariat (unfccc.int) has been webcasting the proceedings of conferences and other meetings since the famous Kyoto meeting in 1997 which attracted 14,000 participants. With up to 6 concurrent live language streams - Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish, the demands for climate summits are high indeed.

The NIC webcast team worked with the UNFCCC Information Services team on a full webcast programme for COP 8. The programme included live concurrent webcast from two halls and in two languages over the conference Intranet. From the public website, all streams were archived and were available on-demand. In addition, special events were recorded by Doodarshan on Betacam tapes and were then published over the conference Intranet and Internet. Doordarshan provided the facility to convert Betacam/SP tapes to digital files for encoding.

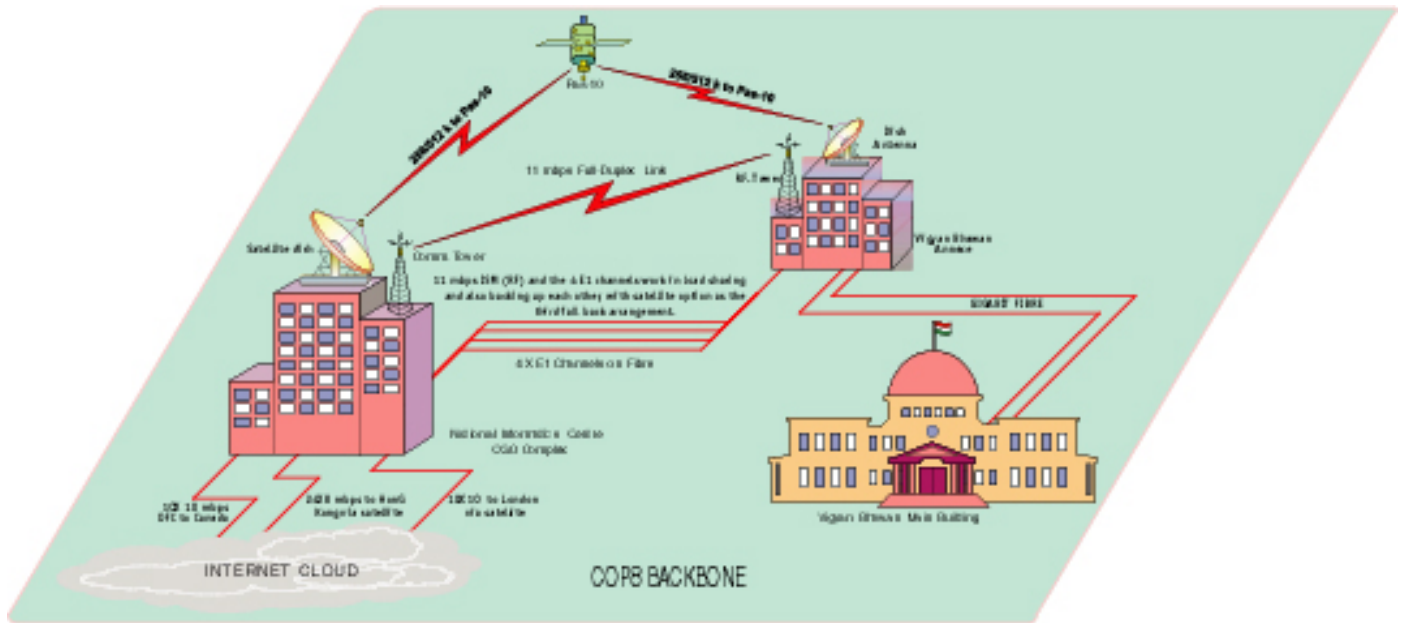
The UN provided technical specifications for the webcast production and database design. These were implemented by NIC that was responsible for technical implementation of the project and hosting the live and on-demand services. UN staff coordinated the programme production and post-production data transfer to Bonn.

Audio and video signals were provided by Doordarshan. Doordarshan organized for 3 fixed camera positions in the plenary hall as well as the Press Conference Room in hall 6. 3 ENG crews were on site too for ad hoc filming in any other room.

The COP 8 information and communications technology project drew on expertise and services across the broadest spectrum of technology in the market today. Satellite communications services, leased line and radio connections, firewalls and network servers, client hardware and software applications as well as a global webcast were all required to make the COP 8 a success. These resources were then combined through an extensive planning and coordination process.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests, the UN Climate Change Secretariat and NIC worked closely together for nearly an year on the project. Work moved forward during three UN technical missions to Delhi, follow-up video conferences and planning meetings between NIC and MoEF. In addition, there were consultations with the Central Public Works Department. The CPWD is responsible for the buildings of the Vigyan Bhawan.





The UN Climate Change Secretariat is pleased to have had the opportunity to work with the MoEF and the National Informatics Centre on this conference project. The project provided an excellent opportunity to work together, share ideas and experience and even implement some new technologies along the way.

For further information , please contact  
 Environment and Forest Informatics Division, NIC HQ  
 Email : [gahlout@envfor.delhi.nic.in](mailto:gahlout@envfor.delhi.nic.in)

For queries related to Webcast, please contact  
 Web Services and Multimedia Applications Divison, NIC HQ  
 Email : [wsmad@hub.nic.in](mailto:wsmad@hub.nic.in)

• **NIC at COP8**



The COP 8 IT team -UNFCC Secretariat IT Staff together with NIC staff



Neeta Verma, NIC webcast project leader



V. Pasricha, B.K. Das, John Kiarie, A. Goel, P. Vinod.



L to R: V. Pasricha, A. Kumar, N.Ahmed, R.K. Pathak, S. Gahlout, L. Kanotra, R. Gaikwad, P. Chand



Anil Kumar, Dr. N. Vijayaditya, Sanjay Gahlout, R. K. Pathak



UN information services staff at work in their temporary conference offices

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## **E-Governance Awards for Websites/Papers**

From Sonal Kalra, Editor (with Inputs from Sunil Kumar, NIC-Haryana, Ajay Chahal, NIC Himachal, Alka Aggarwal, NIC Yojana Bhawan Unit, Gautam Gupta, NIC A&N and Ravish Azad, NIC HQ)

The Government of India is committed to building up an organisational environment that inspires and facilitates developing and deploying processes and web enabled applications which provide better citizen services and encourages participation of users/stakeholders. With an aim to encourage the drive for modernization and e-governance, the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances recently instituted awards, at various levels for the websites of those government/semi-govt departments, organizations and offices that operationalize and institutionalize in an exemplary way, the framework of the underlying principles encompassing 'good governance'. Awards were also instituted for exemplary Papers written on themes related to e-governance.

The Awards were in the form of an icon status and stars (Gold Icon : 5 stars ; Silver Icon : 4 stars ; Bronze Icon : 3 stars and Merit Icon : 3 stars) and were presented as mementoes and certificates to the Head of the Organization/Team owning and managing the websites and to the author(s) of the selected Papers.

Nominations were received for forty seven websites of various State Governments, Departments, Undertakings etc. as well as forty-five papers on themes related to e-governance.

True to the spirit of carrying out work of the highest order, websites designed by NIC were nominated in large numbers and three out of the four websites which finally bagged the coveted awards turned out to be developed by NIC. Also, a paper by NIC Haryana team won the Silver icon for its effective content. The winners were awarded at a special ceremony during the 6th National Conference on E-Governance held at Chandigarh on 24th and 25th October'2002 by Capt. Amarinder Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Punjab. Here's a brief glimpse of the winners.....

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## • Winner Websites

### **Gold Icon Status : Andhra Pradesh State Portal**

(<http://www.aponline.gov.in>)

The website is a true example of how Internet can be effectively used to reach out to the common citizens and make their lives easy. The features of the site include a one-stop link to online citizen services, application forms for various services, query facility for request status by citizens, secured e-payments, integration with wireless devices etc. Designed by Tata Consultancy Services, the website has won other awards too, in the past.

### **Silver Icon Status : Himachal Pradesh Government Portal**

(<http://himachal.nic.in>)

The official web portal of the Himachal Pradesh Government has a plethora of useful information and links for the visitors. A special feature is the link to Lokmitra Citizen Government Interface which provides services like downloadable forms, government telephone directory, online electoral rolls, causelist of the State High Court, daily market rates of food items and commodities, admission notices, civil list, exam results, blood donors' database, weather, events etc. Since Himachal Pradesh is a tourism intensive state, the website also provides link to the hotel directory and the online hotel reservation system. The website, designed and developed by NIC Himachal Pradesh State Unit is simple but smart and a major step towards E-Governance in the State.



*Sh. Ajay Chahal, NIC HPSU receiving the award from Capt Amarinder Singh, Hon'ble CM of Punjab.*

### **Bronze Icon Status : Planning Commission Website**

(<http://planningcommission.nic.in>)

The website of the Planning Commission provides in-depth details about the various five year plans, related reports, data and statistics on various economic and social indicators and a large number of useful links to the Government of India websites. Several useful reference papers and reports about the five year plans have been provided in an 'easy-to-download' manner for the visitors. The site has been designed and developed by the Yojana Bhawan Unit of NIC.

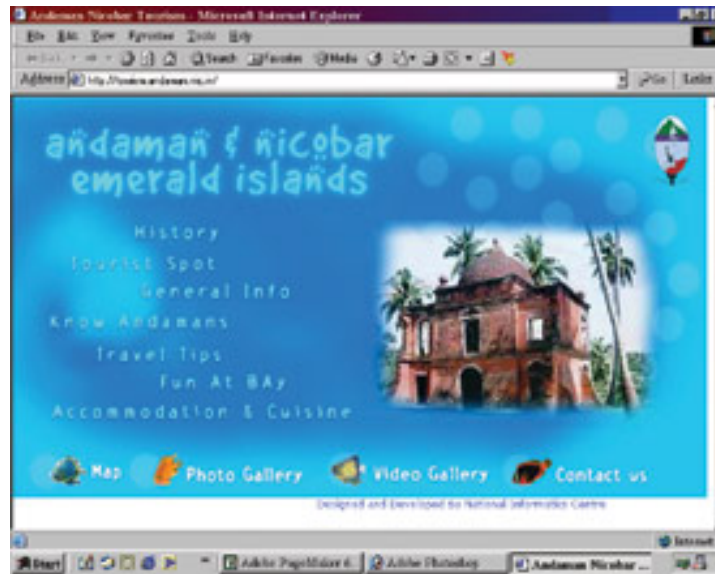
### **Special Award : Andaman & Nicobar Islands Tourism Website**

(<http://tourism.andaman.nic.in>)

This website, exclusively on the tourism aspect of the picturesque islands of Andaman and Nicobar islands acts as a one-



stop guide to all one needs to know about visiting the islands. The site, designed and developed jointly by NIC –A&N Unit and the Web Services Division at NIC HQ , provides information on the History of the Islands, the favourite tourist spots, general info, travel tips and accommodation etc.,. A highlighting feature is the photo gallery depicting beautiful images of the emerald islands.



## Best Paper Silver Award

Apart from the websites, a paper submitted by NIC Haryana State Unit also won the Best Paper “Silver” Award at the event. The Paper on “Enhancing Transparency in Welfare Pension Schemes through IT” has been co-authored by Sh. Dharam Vir, IAS, Principal Secretary IT Haryana, Sh. Ghan Shyam Bansal, SIO, NIC-Haryana State Unit and Sh.Susheel Kumar, PSA, NIC-HSU. The paper deals with various categories of welfare pension schemes and salient features of the HaPPIS (Haryana Pension Processing and Information System) software developed by NIC Haryana State Unit.

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- **GUJARAT**
- **CHHATTISGARH**

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### **GUJARAT- Scaling heights in difficult times**

**From** Rajnish Mahajan & Manoj. P. A., NIC Gujarat

NIC Gujarat State Unit has consistently and efficiently supported the government by providing infrastructure design and development for IT in the field of Network set up. It has also executed turnkey projects in the application of electronic means for the interaction between government and the citizen as also in internal government operations.

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#### ■ **BHULEKH Soft Gujarat**

With the objective to maintain and update the land records data of each district at its Taluka Offices and generate various village forms for administration as well as for public demand, in tandem with other States, Government of Gujarat started the Land Records Computerisation project in 1998-99 and is funded by Government of India. NIC Gujarat has developed Bhulekh in Gujarati. The software supports the recording of all type of transactions pertaining to land and various village forms can be generated. The crop information for each season as well as number of trees, irrigation details and tenant details if any are recorded. Different taxes to be collected on these lands from the owners can also be generated.

Apart from landowners, departments like Revenue, Agriculture and Irrigation are also beneficiaries of the land records database. Data has been entered for around 14000 villages out of the total 17000 villages spread over 227 Talukas of the 25 revenue districts in the State. 13 Talukas have been made online with issuing copies of ROR (record of right) to

the farmers and landowners. Approximately 1400 Mutations are done using the software so far. Both the public and the administration have benefitted tremendously from the Project. The public can get the accurate land records in minimum time and the reports generated by the software prove useful for the Administration in district planning and policy making.

### • **Registration of Documents (ReD)**

The ReD Software is for the Inspector General of Registration and Superintendent of Stamps, Government of Gujarat. The Software integrates the Registration process and Market Value Evaluation and is an efficient administrative tool for the department. The Software will increase the transparency and revenue earnings for the department. The bilingual system is operational at the Memnagar and Paldi offices at Ahmedabad. The software has distinct modules for Registration and Scanning which comprise various features.

### • **PCIS-Gujarat (Property Card Information System)**

Every sq. inch of land in Gujarat is surveyed and land records are prepared scientifically and stored within a well defined system. But over a period of time, Land Records have turned to be highly dynamic. An approach for computerisation of Urban Land Records i.e. Cities / Towns, which includes the Property ownership & other attribute information, spatial scope of the property, maintenance of the spatial & tabular database, is underway.

NIC has developed a complete software solution for Urban Land Records System for the use of 66 City Survey Offices located at 25 districts of Gujarat State. Software is being implemented in pilot offices at Ahmedabad and Sabarkantha districts. The software supports local language and generates the PROPERTY CARD for the landowner. GIS support is expected to be provided in future.

### • **KAMI-JASTI PATRAK (KJP)**

KJP software is implemented in many districts for the District Inspector of Land Records (DILR), providing solutions regarding the mutations of the land.

*"The NIC and the Revenue Department have worked shoulder to shoulder as partners in the introduction of e-governance in various aspects of revenue administration. The ability of NIC to appreciate the needs of the client -Department and to promptly translate these needs into workable, software-based applications has resulted in a dynamic partnership, striving to find IT solutions aimed at making the Revenue administration both friendly and transparent. That the Revenue Department is considered to be the most advanced in the Gujarat Government in the application of IT is due in no small measure to the forging of this partnership."*

**Shri. C.K.Koshy, I.A.S., Principal Secretary, Revenue Department**

### • **GSTAX2000 (Turnkey project for Gujarat Sales Tax)**

This Information System is a total solution for the Sales Tax Department and provides dealer friendly administration and employee facilitation for better governance. All the sales tax offices in the State are set up with a computer centre with dealer windows. The progress made so far is leading to electronic filing of returns under the new VAT regime.





### *Dealers filing Sales Tax Returns at the computerised counter at Ahmedabad*

Online Registration of Dealers, Return & Challan Monitoring System, Forms Control System, New Industries Incentives Monitoring, Assessment System, Check Post Monitoring System, Recovery Module, Enforcement Module, Electronic Verification of Treasury sheet, Dealer Ledger, Professional Tax Module and administrative modules like Payroll, Accounting, Personnel Information, Court Case Monitoring etc. cover every routine of the sales tax administration. 140 offices spread throughout the State is currently using the package. Employees are trained on the modules and the computer culture is cultivated even in the remote offices of the department. The dealer master for the State of Gujarat is built and is being updated online. The database of around 7 lakh Professional Tax payers is being developed now.

*The re-registration process of the dealers is over and the benefit of the computerisation will be more visible in the coming year. Extensive training by NIC to our staff on the modules developed and the support at State and District level is leading us towards better governance”,*

**- Shri. K. George Joseph, I.A.S, Commissioner of Sales Tax**

### ■ **EEMS (Employment Exchange Management System)**

A fool proof system developed by NIC has been implemented in all the 42 employment exchanges including five special Employment Exchanges for Physically Handicapped. Database of more than 11 lakh jobseekers (unemployed) is operational since October 2001. This transparent, effective and unbiased interface provides a convenient service to the unemployed youth.



*Unemployed youth registering at the employment exchange at Navsari*

The employers can submit their job requirements and select the candidates for the job from the registered youth. Since the functions of the employment directorate in other States are similar in nature, a few other State Governments are in the process of customization.

***“The Software System and Database Management System by NIC are so advanced, it took us less than six months further to integrate the same with Web Based Online Employment portal of our Directorate***

***”*** ,

**- Shri. Raj Kumar, I.A.S., Director, Employment and Training**

● **TRAMS (TRAInees Management System for ITI)**

Gujarat is a highly industrialised State and it has requirement of hundreds of trained skilled workers. For meeting these requirements, Government of Gujarat is running more than 200 Industrial Training Institutes, which offer more than 100 courses (known as trades) related to Civil, Mechanical, Electrical, Chemical, Electronics and IT. TRAMS is a comprehensive system covering Admission, Attendance, Internal and Final exams. These activities are from admission of the trainees to mark sheet / certificate printing. Module-I i.e. Admission has already been implemented in June 2002. Module-II i.e. Attendance was implemented in October 2002. Module-III i.e. Internal and Final Examination

is near completion.

### ■ **CM Online – An innovative application of NIC for Public Grievance Redressal**

Gujarat Government has commissioned “Chief Minister’s Call Center” or “CM Online” (“Tele Fariad”) for addressing public grievances through Gujarat State Wide Area Network (GSWAN). People can register their grievances by dialing 1505 (at a local call charge) from any where in the district and the same reaches CM’s office immediately. Complaint deposited in original voice format is compressed and forwarded to the designated mailboxes at CM’s office, Gandhinagar. Voice messages are transcribed by the operators on a web based application developed by NIC and forwarded to related departmental head and others for necessary action under intimation to CM’s office.

### ■ **Major Network Projects**

Setting up of an elaborate network brings about a seamless transition between the various computing devices currently in use in the public domain or those, which may be put to use in future. To ensure the proliferation of IT, the State Government has decided to create an “Information Corridor” with the support of NIC State Centre. The core of this corridor would be connecting the State capital right up to Taluka headquarters by first connecting the capital to the district headquarters. On peripheries of this “Information corridor” would be supporting databases of various Government departments as well as computerised public counters, kiosks/information centers that will help providing electronic interface for the citizens with the Government.

The entire project of creating “Information Corridor” has been divided in three parts.

- Connecting all Government Departments at capital city Gandhinagar through Fiber backbone for Voice, Video and Data communication.

- Connecting all district offices through 2 MBPS lines to Gandhinagar at Sachivalaya, and all Taluka to Districts through 64KBPS links (Which is referred as GSWAN).

- LAN facility to be provided at District Panchayat and Collectorates in all 25 districts.

NIC/NICSI has undertaken the task to design, install and integrate Networks at the following locations :

- Sachivalaya Data LAN – 2200 node network connecting various departments and directorate located at New Sachivalaya and Old Sachivalaya complexes. Network is in operation since May 2001. Various useful Intranet applications are being run by NIC on the secretariat LAN.

- District LAN - 50-node network at each District Collectorates and District Panchayat office. These LAN are integrated with GSWAN.

- Gujarat High Court Network- 700-node network where Fiber backbone is used to connect all blocks of High Court.

### ■ **Jail Information System**

This system is successfully tested and implemented in the Jails (Central, District and Sub Jail) of Gujarat and every jail has a set up of computer system with web camera and multimedia. Besides maintaining important information about the prison inmates, this system has the facility of multilingual support with GIST SDK , photo feature with web camera and the provision to merge data of different jails to the IG (Prisons) Office.

### ■ **Geo-Mine**

Minerals play vital role in the development of any country, as they are the backbone of the industry. The statistical data pertaining to area of mining, production and dispatch details, royalty, payment etc. form important information in determining the growth of the mining industry. GEO-MINE software has been developed by NIC to handle the mineral statistics right at the district level and compiled at the head office to support decision making.

### ■ **NIC at High Court of Gujarat**

NIC is lending its services to the High Court of Gujarat since 1993. With active help and constant support from the High Court of Gujarat, public centric applications like availability of case status at the query counter and on the internet, advocate wise cause list, simple copy of the order/judgment instantly, certified copies of the judgment / orders etc. are operational. A Database of around 5.5 lakh court cases has been developed. The cause list and Case status has been made available on Internet at [www.gujarathighcourt.nic.in](http://www.gujarathighcourt.nic.in) and the judgements of the High Court are also expected to be put up on the net soon.

Besides, NIC has also developed the District Court Information System (DCIS) which is running at 17 district courts, metropolitan court and city civil court wherein a whole range of services have been computerised.

### ■ **Girnar Mountain Climb up-down Competition**

Akhil Gujarat Girnar Arohan Avrohan Competition is held by the Junagadh District Administration every year. Recording of arrival and departure time of more than 1000 participants and preparation of the result immediately was made easy by using NIC developed software. Computer installed on road at the starting point of the competition was an attraction for the public.



*Collector Smt. Sunaina Tomar, IAS, with NIC Officers at Girnar Competition venue at Junagadh*

### **Model District**

Gujarat Government made a program to make Vadodara a model district in every aspect of governance by introducing citizen charter in all departments. The goals set were quality, transparency and timeliness. An information gallery is set up to implement the Citizen's Charter in its true spirit. NIC has developed the software for various socio-economic applications in the district which can be replicated for all the 25 districts in the State.

*“It is a unique project where all the aspects of E-governance have been addressed. E-governance is not only using Information Technology but a change process where I. T. becomes a means to the overall objective of transparent, cost effective, efficient and qualitatively superior administration”,*

**Shri. Anil Mukim, I.A.S, Addl. Pri. Secretary to Chief Minister**

Besides the above, various important Central Government projects such as computerisation of Customs and Central Excise at Ahmedabad, Vadodra, Rajkot and Surat, Regional Passport Office at Ahmedabad, Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Registrar of Companies (ROC) and Postal Life Insurance (PLI) have been undertaken by NIC Gujarat State Unit.

### ◆ Websites Developed

Important websites for various State Government entities have been developed and/or hosted. The prominent ones include Gujarat Vidhan Sabha (<http://www.gujaratassembly.gov.in>), Gujarat Sales Tax (<http://www.gujaratsalestax.gov.in>), Water Resources Development Corporation (<http://www.gwrdc.nic.in>), Customs Gujarat (<http://customsgujarat.nic.in>), High Court of Gujarat (<http://gujarathighcourt.nic.in>) and Gujarat State Highway Project – (<http://gshp.gujarat.gov.in>).



*Hon'ble Governor of Gujarat Sh S.S Bhandari inaugurating the Vidhan Sabha website. Also seen in the picture are Hon'ble Chief Minister Sh Narendra Modi*

## **NIC Infrastructure in the State**

State Centre at Sachivalaya Complex, Gandhinagar, 25 District Informatic Offices  
NIC High Court Cell, NIC Sales Tax Unit and NIC Cell at Chief Secretary's Office

- Email Server, Web Server and Database Server at State Centre
- Video Conferencing (room based) at State Centre
- SCPC & IPA VSAT at State Centre
- IPA VSAT with DPC at NIC District Centres with dialup facility for internet and email
- Database Server at each NIC District Centre

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**For further information, please contact**  
**State Informatics Officer,**  
**NIC, Gujarat State Unit ,**  
**Block – 13, II Floor, New Sachivalaya,**  
**Gandhinagar – 382 010**  
**Tel – (079) 3223035, 3223890**  
**Email : [sio@guj.nic.in](mailto:sio@guj.nic.in)**

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## **Chhattisgarh – The Rice Bowl of India**

**From** M. K. Mishra & Y. V. Shreenivas Rao, NIC - Chhattisgarh

The state of Chhattisgarh, popularly known as the 'Rice Bowl' of India, came into being on the 1st November 2000. The states which form its boundaries are Uttar Pradesh to the North, Jharkhand to the North East, Orissa to the east, Andhra Pradesh to the south-east and south, Maharashtra to the south-west, Madhya Pradesh to the west and north-west. Amongst the larger states in India, Chhattisgarh has the highest percentage of population of Tribes. The state has sixteen districts in all. The State has made significant advancement in the field of IT ever since its formation.

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### **■ NIC Chhattisgarh - A significant maiden year**

To meet the e-governance needs of the pro-IT Chhattisgarh state, the NIC's State Unit (NIC CGSU) was established in the premises of Mantralaya, on 01.11.2001. Keeping pace with the ever growing demands of the State Government and accomplishing numerous time-bound as well as near- impossible assignments in a period of just one year, the NIC Chhattisgarh state unit has proved that time is no constraint, may what the number and complexity of the targets be. Starting from personnel training to Videoconferencing it has provided all sorts of solutions for the benefit of the



administration and public. Soon after its establishment, all the NIC District centres of the state were ensured to be functioning. All these centers have been equipped with at least one server and two clients and IP Advantage VSATs to cater to the e-governance needs of the district administration.

**NIC Chhattisgarh at a glance :**

- Total NIC manpower in the state – 34
- 16 District centres
- NIC Central Excise cell
- NIC Highcourt cell at Bilaspur

**NIC Chhattisgarh State Unit:**

- Located in the Mantralaya.
- SCPC DAMA V-SAT for VC and dedicated SCPC V-SAT for Internet/E-mail.
- DIALUP connectivity.
- 3 Servers, 25 clients.

**NIC District Centres :**

- 16 District centres functioning.
- SCPC DAMA VSATS one each at Bastar and Bilaspur centres.
- Rest of the centres connected to NICNET through IPA VSATs.

**■ Mantralaya LAN**

As part of Local Area Network, the NIC State Unit has three high power Servers and twenty five clients with necessary peripherals for its internal use. The three servers are configured to serve as WEB server, MAIL server, FTP server and DATABASE server supporting the entire 300-node LAN of the Mantralaya. A high-speed SCPC PAMA VSAT has been setup to provide internet/E-mail services to various Government departments.

**■ Highcourt -Bilaspur**

The Highcourt of Chhattisgarh was established on the 1st November, 2000. To meet the office automation and electronic communication needs, the NIC Highcourt Cell was set up on 10th, August 2001. The State High Court has been equipped with 1 server and 21 clients connected in LAN. The terminals have been provided to the Hon. Chief Justice and judges and at various sections. The Internet and e-mail facility have also been extended to all the nodes of the LAN. The RF-Link facility is also expected to be provided shortly. The LOBIS software is being implemented through which, the proposed cases to be listed on a particular date for each court can be generated for all sections. The status of each case (including judgment) is regularly updated and stored in the server. The information is provided to the litigant or advocate directly at the Enquiry Counter over the phone whenever requested for. Other activities being carried out in various sections of the High court include, Pay bill generation, processing of personnel information, Budget preparation, processing of daily Order and Final Order / Judgment etc.

**■ Video Conferencing - Public Grievances redressal**

As a part of the Video-Conferencing services being provided by NIC to the State, SCPC DAMA VSATs have been set up at Raipur, Bilaspur and Bastar, ISDN based VC setup has been installed at a remote rural location – Pendra and an ISDN based VC setup has been installed at CM office, Raipur



The General Administration Department (GAD) of the state Govt. conducts Videoconferencing with Bilaspur, Bastar and Pendra on daily basis. The general public can freely approach these centers and lodge their complaints and explain their difficulties to the administration. The CM office also monitors the progress of the case on the time limit date of the case. This arrangement is gaining popularity day by day as people are now able to contact the senior most officers of the state with their grievances face to face on VC.



*Congress president Mrs Sonia Gandhi inaugurating ISDN based VC of Marwahi constituency on the 1st Nov 2001*



*Hon'ble Chief Minister Sh. Ajit Jogi at the inauguration of VC facility between Raipur, Bilaspur and Bastar*

#### ■ **Web Services**

Since its establishment, NIC Chhattisgarh State Unit has developed a number of important websites for the State Government. Some of the prominent ones include :

\* Official web site of the Chhattisgarh govt. - <http://www.chhattisgarh.nic.in>. The website is rich in content

about the State Government and is frequently updated with the latest information. All the policies of the state government and general information to be provided to the public is available on the web site. The site has been highly appreciated and has received rave reviews from research scholars from U.S & U.K. Among other things, the site has links to e-mail directory, tenders, gazette, history, statistics, schemes and tribes in the state.

Other important websites include

- \* Land records computerization
- \* Public grievances
- \* High court
- \* Finance department
- \* Chhattisgarh Jail
- \* Tourism department
- \* Health department
- \* General administrative department
- \* Public Works Department

Beside the above, websites of many districts in the State have been developed and hosted by NIC. These include : **Bastar, Bilaspur , Durg, Dantewada , Koriya , Kanker , Raigarh, Rajnandgaon , Raipur and Surguja**

#### ■ **E-mail Service**

The facility of Email and Internet Connectivity have been provided to all the Ministries, senior officers, district centres and departments in the State. Besides, the Mantralaya staff has been adequately trained by NIC in computer usage.

#### ■ **Web Enabled Solutions**

The web enabled software developed for various departments include

**Public grievances monitoring system** : The software has been developed for monitoring of the public grievances received through video conferencing held daily from district headquarters of Bilaspur & Bastar. Grievances entry by general public through web, from any part of the state is also possible with the help of site.

**Letter monitoring system** : The system has been developed for the CM secretariat for monitoring the letters received by the Chief minister from MPs/MLAs. The individual letters are marked to the concerned department. The assembly constituency / parliamentary constituency wise monitoring can be done.

**Departmental expenditure monitoring system** – Developed to enable budget controlling officer [BCO] wise budget and expenditure monitoring of all departments. All the BCOs can update as and when required. Any type of query can be made by the finance department on the available data.

**Agmark monitoring system** - Developed for monitoring the progress of Agricultural marketing network. The DIOs login and feed the status of site preparation, hardware received and installed, status of software installation and usage and hardware software problems being faced.

Some other useful Information Systems developed and implemented by the NIC State Unit include :

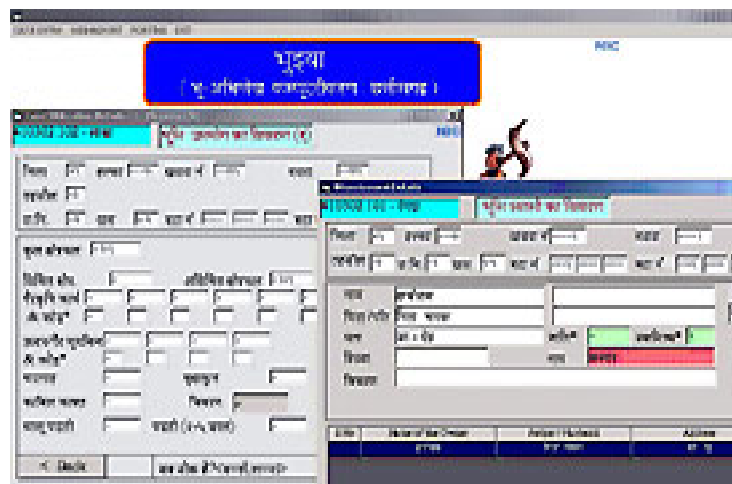
- \* Rural industries inventory monitoring system

- \* Rain fall monitoring system
- \* Epidemic monitoring system
- \* Hardware monitoring system
- \* Pay details monitoring system
- \* Stock monitoring system

## ■ Software Developed/Customised

### Land Records Computerisation – “BHUIYA”

The State Government has decided to implement the Land Records Computerisation (Named as ‘Bhuiya’) in all the Tehsils of the State. Under the Bhuiya project it is envisaged that apart from maintaining the Land Records data at Tehsil headquarters, the ROR would be readily made available to any aspiring citizens on remittance of nominal charge. It is further decided that LR details stored on Tehsil Server would be made available (for display) through Dialup facility at all the Indira Suchna Shakti centres (ISS) located in that tehsil. The project was formally inaugurated by the Hon’ble Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh on the 1st Nov’ 2002.



### • Inventory monitoring system of Rural Industries (Hastshilp , Handloom & Textiles)

This Web enabled system has been designed for maintaining the stock of the products for the departments of Hastshilp & Handloom & Textiles. The data can be fed into the database using ASP technology from any of the four locations as and when the products are procured and purchased and the instant stock position can be maintained and viewed by the users. Further, it is planned to use the Ruralbazaar software of NIC HQ to present the web interface to the products for better marketing.

### • Markfed - Draw of Lots

The Marketing Federation, Chhattisgarh has distributed coupons to about 1.5 lakh farmers who are the members of about 1500 marketing societies in the state. The draw of lots is to be conducted using the software for error free process for the coupons of farmers as well as of the societies to distribute fixed number of prizes in both the cases. The software has been designed to enter the data duly observing the validation checks and to select winners on random basis.

### • E- Governance Cell

The e-Governance cell was initiated in June 2002 with an objective of show casing various e-Governance products

developed at various units of NIC including Chhattisgarh for the user departments so that the identified products can be customized and implemented for the departments with minimum efforts saving considerable time. This cell coordinates collecting e-Governance products developed so far from various state units and installing important products. The brochures related to the e-Governance packages are made available in this cell for necessary reference by users. About 25 e-Governance packages have been collected so far. The packages viz. Treasury s/w of NIC-Punjab, Property Registration s/w of NIC-Haryana, e-Granthalaya of NIC-Karnataka, STAMINA for Dept. of Commercial Tax of NIC-Bihar, Financial Accounting for DRDA of NIC-AP have been demonstrated to the user departments.

### • Training

About 250 employees of Mantralaya, Rajbhavan and Treasury departments have been trained so far on “Office Automation Tools”. The training is provided in two batches in a week. At the end all the participants are required to pass through an online test covering the course designed to evaluate the skills of the individual.

### • NICNET connectivity through RF Link

NIC Chhattisgarh State Unit has taken the initiative for connecting various offices established at Raipur and Bilaspur by RF link to get the high speed NICNET and Internet connectivity. NIC State unit, Mantralaya and NIC district center, Bilaspur will be having HUB stations for connectivity. Important sites for providing connectivity include Raj Bhavan, CM House, Vidhan Sabha, Police Headquarters etc.

### • Moment of pride

During the inauguration of The ‘BHUIYA’ project, the Hon’ble Chief Minister, Shri Ajit Jogi said that “***this ambitious project could be implemented in record time due to the marvelous efforts of NIC, which worked restlessly in association with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Chhattisgarh Infotech Promotional Society (ChiPS).***” He observed that “***the unparalleled dedication and expertise of these organizations has made it possible to realize the goal within a short span of two months.***” He reiterated that “***unlike in the other states, the IT is used in his state to serve the people instead of as an aid to the administration and the BHUIYA project was one of the successful attempts made since the formation of the state.***”



*The Revenue Minister , Govt. of Chhattisgarh, Shri Bupesh Baghel presentiing the Land Records data of 16 tehsils of Chhattisgarh to Honourable CM on the occasion of inauguration of 'Bhuiya' project.*

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- **Dehradun**
- **Varanasi**

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## **Dehradun - Moving Ahead With Technology**

**From** Arvind Kr Dadhichi, Uttaranchal Correspondent

Dehradun is one of the most picturesque valleys in Asia nestling in the arms of the Himalayas. The city also serves as the Provisional Capital of newly created Uttaranchal State. The district which has a population of 1,279,083 (provisional fig. of census 2001), spans a total area of 3088 sq kms. The headquarters of many National Institutes and Organizations like ONGC, Survey Of India, Forest Research Institute, Indian Institute of Petroleum etc and many premier educational and Training Institutions like Indian Military Academy, RIMC (Rashtriya Indian Military College), Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA) etc. are also situated at Dehradun.

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### ■ **NIC Dehradun**

NIC Dehradun District Unit was setup in 1989 with the objective of promoting computer culture among the government sector and general public. Ever since its inception, the NIC District Centre at Dehradun has carried out software development and implemented various projects for the district administration.

### ■ **Key Activities**

#### **Land Records Computerisation :**

Land Record Management Information System has been implemented in the district whereby Land records of all the villages of the district are now fully

#### **Recovery Certificates Monitoring System :**

Revenue Recovery Certificate Computerization has been done for general administration in the district . Reports of

different recoveries and pending positions are generated through this system in an efficient manner. Output can be generated according to the requirements of the district administration i.e bank wise, amount wise etc.



### *NIC Dehradun District Unit*

#### **Integrated Pay and Accounts Office (IPAO) :**

A Computerized Integrated Pay and Account office has been established in Dehradun Treasury. This office is responsible for executing all pay related matters of all the government departments and their employees. Computerization helps in disbursement of the salary to the employees and generating all the pay related reports and other required information for Accountant General in time. The software is integrated with Treasury Information System of NIC (TISNIC)

#### **Public Distribution Management System (PDMS) :**

A software developed for district supply office which monitors allocation and distribution of PDS commodities at fair price shop level, district level and state level.

#### **Gram Panchayat Information System (GPIS) :**

This software generates various reports / analysis which focus at panchayat, block, district and state level to choose the priority sector for various developmental purposes.

#### **Basic Shiksha Parishad Payroll Computerisation :**

Entire payroll system of Primary Education Department has also been computerized. The System helps in generating all kind of pay related reports of the teachers of the entire district.

#### **■ Other Activities**

Other achievements of NIC Dehradun include

- Computerisation work in deployment of polling personnel at the time of Lok Sabha, Assembly and Municipal Elections.
- Providing E-Mail facility to various Government Departments.
- Conducting various training programmes for a number of user departments.
- A comprehensive Web Site containing various useful information about the district has been designed and launched



### ■ Moving Ahead

Being a part of IT world, there are no boundaries to the mandate of NIC Dehradun Unit.

Keeping pace with trend of latest technologies, various new projects are under way using the best techniques and tools.

- Computerised Registrar Office Of Uttaranchal (CROUN) – This project which is using VB-6 and SQL Server 2000 will facilitate online registration of all types of deeds, computation of stamp duty, registration fee etc., and will help in better monitoring of revenue collection.
- Agricultural Marketing Information System Network (AGMARKnet) which is already on the rails of implementation, is a centrally sponsored project to establish nation wide information for speedy collection and dissemination of market information for its efficient and timely utilization.
- References Monitoring System is under implementation at Dehradun Treasury and has been developed using VB. Net and SQL Server 2000.

**NIC Dehradun District Unit**

District Informatics Officer

**Manish Jugran**

District Informatics Associate

**Jeetika Walia**

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### **VARANASI: The ‘City Eternal’**

**From** Vinod Taneja, Uttar Pradesh Correspondent

Varanasi or Banaras is one of the ancient cities of India. Also called ‘Kashi’ or the city of spiritual light, it is an eternal city with rich and vibrant past. The city has an inherent charm of its own, despite not having any exquisitely carved palaces, or impregnable forts, or even architectural splendour to support its history.

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### ■ NIC in Varanasi

Established in 1988, NIC in Varanasi spread out to two centers in the city – one serving the needs of the District Administration, and another that of the office of Divisional Commissioner of Varanasi Division. With the active

participation & support of its users, NIC Varanasi has so far maintained its position as a premier IT consultant at the District level and has been one of the front-runners in fulfilling the objectives of NIC.

## **Citizen Interface Projects**

NIC Varanasi is proud to provide direct benefit to the citizens through the development/implementation of the following Citizen Interface Projects at the district level:

- Varanasi Development Authority- Complete monitoring of VDA's Schemes/Sub schemes details.
- Cash flow monitoring at Kashi Vishwanath Temple- Monitors donations received and puja performed at the temple.
- District Treasury Computerisation- Automates handling of all types of bills and receipts of the state government covering all types of budget heads



*NIC Varanasi District Unit*

## **Internet Services & Videoconferencing Services**

NIC in Varanasi has covered a long distance since its successful NICNET services. Those who are successfully using the VC facilities and their respective Internet PPP Accounts provided locally by NIC Varanasi include Divisional Commissioner, District Magistrate, District Judge etc.

## **Web Development & Maintenance**

NIC Varanasi has considerable expertise of dynamic web deployment of any content. A comprehensive website (<http://varanasi.nic.in>) developed & being maintained is a live example. One of its popular features has been the Primary Census Abstract (PCA-1991).

## **Training**

NIC Varanasi with its spacious office-space has been conducting regular & frequent introductory, on-the-job & refresher training programmes for its users.

## **Other IT Solutions/Software Products Support to National/State-Level Projects**

Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)– Computerisation of Export/Import code allotment, receipt & issues of

applications, duty entitlement passbook, export promotion of capital goods etc.

District Courts- Automation of filing, maintenance & analysis of fresh & old court cases;

Networking to facilitate live entry & data access in the court rooms itself of all District Court Judges.

Automation of Registrar, Cooperative Societies- Automates various activities of cooperative and gathering of PACKS information.

MIS for

- Food Corporation of India (FCI)
- Ambedkar Grams
- District Plan
- District & Divisional Statistical HandBook
- Census of India

### **Locally conceived Projects which are useful for other districts/divisions**

MIS for

- Revenue Collection and RC issuance at the Divisional & District level- Automates & analyses the collection and recovery of all types of main and miscellaneous dues; Monitors performance, and major defaulters.
- Arms Licensing- Monitors issues, renewal, suspension, cancellation, deposits of licences.
- District Magistrate- Monitors Public Grievances, Court cases, Dues collection, Land ceiling/acquisition, Audit objections, Pending references, Departmental proceedings.
- Social Welfare Pension- Maintains old age/widow/handicapped pensioners' database, their premium calculation, bank advice etc.
- Additional Commissioner (Foods) - Monitors distribution and allotment of essential items, retail and wholesale prices of selected commodities and enforcement of fair price shop.

### **In the words of Commissioner, Varanasi Division, Mr. Manoj Kumar, I.A.S.:**

“The role played by NIC Varanasi & its officers in the usage of I.T. to solve day-to-day problems of the Government administration in Varanasi has been exemplary – both at the district & divisional level. We find them trustworthy & indispensable during critical times ..... its my privilege to seek their expert technical opinion on city planning and for launching state-of-the-art services like Telemedicine in & around Varanasi”.

**NIC Varanasi District Unit**

District Informatics Officer

**A.K Chaudhary**

District Informatics Associate

**Prasanna Pandey**

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**For further information, please contact :**

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# Technology update

## Streaming Media :

From Neeta Verma, Anil Rathore - NIC HQ

Streaming media technology enables the live or on demand distribution of audio, video and multimedia on the internet. Streaming media is distributed as a continuous real-time stream and starts displaying video or playing back audio as soon as enough data has been received and stored in the receiving station's buffer. The viewer no longer has to wait for long to hear or see a few minutes of downloaded audio and video, as in the past Streamed media can be accessed or viewed on anything from an ordinary telephone line to a broadband connection.

## How Streaming works ?

To stream media via the Internet one needs to convert it to digital format using a capture card. Next compress that media with an encoder so that it can travel efficiently over the Internet. And lastly media files are streamed from a server for clients to access/ view. Major components of this technology are :

1. Capture Card : This is a special piece of hardware installed on a computer that can translate video and audio input from a video source, such as a camcorder, into digital format and write it to the hard disk in a number of formats, some of which can be compressed and streamed. A sound card available on your computer is usually sufficient for audio digitization for streaming.
2. Encoder : In order for the data to stream efficiently over the Internet to a range of targeted bandwidths, it must be compressed into small information packets. This compression is done with the software, often called an "encoder".
3. Media Server : Media Server is an Internet server equipped with a special piece of software known as streaming server . Media is finally streamed using this server. The streaming server software determines the types of streamed media-such as RM or ASF-it can stream. Generally they are capable of streaming in multiple formats.
4. Player : A player is a software application that receives streaming (digital) media from a Media server, decodes it and plays it back on the computer.
5. Protocols : Streaming media products use proprietary protocols to communicate between a client & server. However of late, most of them are also supporting HTTP in addition to their proprietary protocols.



## On-Demand vs Live Web Cast

## **On Demand Audio/Video :**

Pre-recorded clips are delivered, or streamed, to users upon request. A user who clicks a link to an on-demand clip watches the clip from the beginning. The user can fast-forward, rewind, or pause the clip. Therefore on demand streams can be created from archived live events or recorded clips.

## **Live Web Cast of Audio/Video :**

Web casting, which is also known as Internet broadcasting, is the transmission of live or pre-recorded audio or video to personal computers that are connected to the Internet. A user who clicks a link to a live clip joins the live event in progress. Because the event is happening in real time, fast-forward, rewind, and pause capabilities are not available. Web casts are most suitable for high demand live presentations to large geographically dispersed audiences. Participants can attend these virtual presentations from their desktop by visiting a web site. Interaction between instructor and learners occurs in real-time. Participants can use a chat window to type in questions to the presenter during the session. Web casts simulate the look and feel of a live event and can even be recorded for later viewing for those who missed the original web cast. This method is also less expensive than satellite broadcasting.

### Popular Streaming Technology Products

#### Real Networks Technology

(<http://www.realnetworks.com>)

1. Encoder : Real / Helix Producer
2. Server : Real /Helix server.
3. Player : Real Player.
4. Protocols : RTSP, PNM, HTTP

#### Microsoft Media Technology

(<http://microsoft.com/windowsmedia>)

1. Encoder : Windows Media Encoder
2. Server : Windows Media server.
3. Player : Windows Media Player
4. Protocols : MMS, HTTP

## **Multimedia Presentations on the Web**

The Synchronized Multimedia Integration Language (SMIL, pronounced “smile”) enables simple authoring of interactive audiovisual presentations. SMIL is typically used for multimedia presentations which integrate streaming audio and video with images, text or any other media type. SMIL is an easy-to-learn HTML-like language, and we can write SMIL presentations using a simple text-editor.

## **Streaming Media Facilities at NIC**

NIC has set up state of art infrastructure to provide streaming media services. Facilities for on-demand as well as live web cast are available. Web Services and Multimedia Application Division at NIC hq is maintaining Media Servers to support both the popular technologies i.e. Real Network and Microsoft Media are supported.

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**For further information or to avail these services please log on to**

<http://webservices.nic.in>

or contact at [wsmad@hub.nic.in](mailto:wsmad@hub.nic.in)

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# E - Governance Products and Services

## Electronic Data Information Filing And Retrieval (EDIFAR) System

Nagesh Shastri & Sanjeev Katara, NIC HQ

Timely and accurate information is central to the efficiency and fairness of the securities market and for investor protection. EDIFAR (Electronic Data Information Filing And Retrieval) System has been set up by the Securities and Exchange Board of India, in collaboration with the National Informatics Centre to enable listed companies to electronically file their periodic disclosure reports which are currently filed by them in physical form with the Stock Exchanges.

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The process of Electronic filing of reports is likely to help centralise the information and accelerate receipt, acceptance, dissemination and analysis of time sensitive corporate information filed with various stock exchanges and regulatory bodies. Investors, researchers, economists etc. can access the information soon after electronic filing by the companies. The EDIFAR system is expected to help increase the efficiency and fairness of the securities market in India and facilitate investor protection. The application is accessible through the web site of SEBI (<http://sebi.gov.in>). It can also be accessed directly from the website <http://sebidifar.nic.in>.

### Filing of Statements and Documents by Member Companies

For the quarter ending June 2002, about 200 listed companies which are currently included in the BSE Sensex 30, NSE S&P CNX Nifty and BSE 200 Indices, were enabled to file select financial statements electronically. In order to file the statements, the companies need to register in the system. The registration is carried out through SEBI authorised agencies viz. BSE and NSE. The details for registration of companies are fed by them on-line, followed by allotment of user id and password by the system administrator. The statements presently covered are quarterly financial report for banking and non-banking companies, shareholding pattern and segment report. In addition to these statements submitted through web forms, some other documents such as action taken against company, annual report, balance sheet, cash flow statement, corporate governance report and profit and loss account etc. can be submitted and retrieved in pdf format. After stabilisation of the system, it is proposed to discontinue the physical filing of the documents.

In order to facilitate the companies to enter the data with accuracy, the system uses a two step approach. As a first step data is entered by them using the forms and becomes a part of the database. However, it is not available for public dissemination at this stage. The user verifies the accuracy of the data on-line and then as the second step, confirms it to make it publicly viewable.

### Facilitating Action against non-complying companies

System also provides a number of administrative reports for SEBI and SEBI authorised agencies. These include the list of registered/unregistered companies, filings confirmed, non-complying companies etc. These reports enable them to initiate action against companies for non-compliance.

### Handling Users' problems

As the system is expected to handle a large number of companies, it is imperative that their queries and problems are attended to quickly. To facilitate this, a problem reporting/query module is provided in the system. Using this module

they can report their problems. After the problem is rectified by the administrator, the company is notified by e-mail. They can also check the status of the reported problem through this module. This not only enables faster redressal of the problems but also in creating an archive to enable further analysis and improvement of the system.

### Information retrieval by non-members

Apart from facilitating companies to file the documents, the system enables other users to query the database to extract the desired information. Information can be retrieved company and document-wise for a specified period. Thus it also serves as a large repository of data for investors, researchers etc.

The Media Says....

The Financial Express, New Delhi dated Saturday, July 6, 2002 Investor Friendly SEBI formally launches EDIFAR In a major progressive move the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), formally launched its Electronic Data Information Filing And Retrieval (EDIFAR) system on Friday in Mumbai. The intention to launch this system is to facilitate electronic filing of all the information by companies which are currently being filed in the physical form with the stock exchanges country wide, keeping the broader interest of the investors in mind.



### Business Pioneer dated Saturday, July 6, 2002 : SEBI launches Electronic Data Filing And Retrieval System

SEBI on Friday launched its Electronic Data Filing And Retrieval (EDIFAR) system that would initially disclose important financial information on 200 companies included in Sensex, BSE-200 and nifty index.

*"The investors, market participants and regulatory organisations would get all information including results and shareholding pattern at one location", SEBI Chairman G.N.Bajpai said.*

*"The EDIFAR is better than EDGAR system of Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) of the US and it would be extended to 2000 companies by March 2003", Mr. Bajpai added.*

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Introduction to some of the new websites launched on NIC's servers in the past quarter.....

## Una & Chamba Districts, H.P.

<http://hpuna.nic.in>,

<http://hpchamba.nic.in>

**From** Ajay Chahal, Himachal Pradesh Correspondent

The Una and Chamba districts of Himachal Pradesh went online with the formal launch of their official websites by Prof. Prem Kumar Dhumal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, in two separate functions held at the respective district headquarters. The websites cover history, facts at a glance, tourism, access, maps, fairs, administration, IT, citizen interfaces, downloadable forms, searchable telephone directories and photo galleries containing beautiful photographs of natural scenery and pilgrimage points. The websites have been designed and developed by NIC District Centres, Una and Chamba.



## Himachal Pradesh High Court

<http://himachal.nic.in/highcourt>

**From** Ajay Chahal, Himachal Pradesh Correspondent

The High Court of Himachal Pradesh went online recently with the launch of its official website by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of HP High Court, Mr. W.A. Shishak. The website contains information about history of HP High Court,

Administrative set-up, Legal Aid, District Courts, Judges profile (sitting and previous), telephone directory, rules, yearly calendar etc. The Monthly and Daily Cause List is also available. The website has been designed & developed by NIC Cell at HP High Court.

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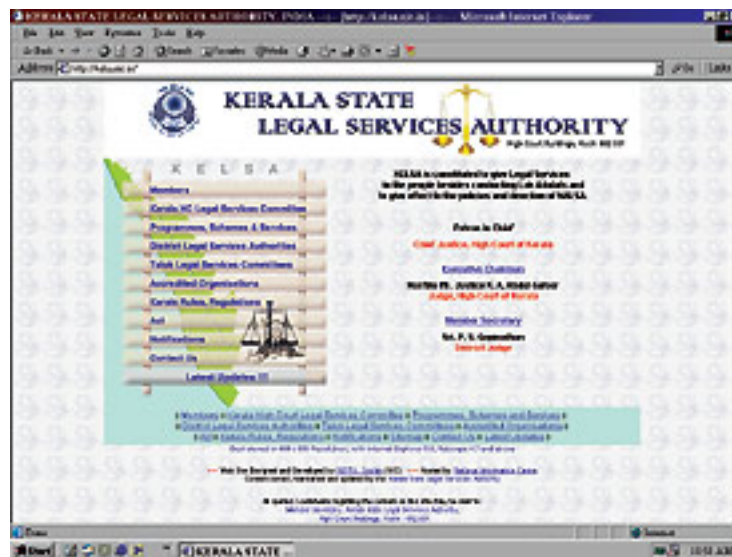
## **Kerala State Legal Services Authority (KELSA)**

<http://kelsa.nic.in>

**From** Julie Zacharia, NITPU Cochin

KELSA (Kerala State Legal State Authority) has been constituted to give Legal Services to the people besides conducting Lok Adalats and to give effect to the policies and direction of the National Authority. The Web Site details the structure of the Authority, its aims, objectives and updates. This venture is basically aimed at grooming the future generations as law abiding and responsible citizens and making them capable of properly discharging their duties to the country. The main modules incorporated are about the Members; the Kerala High Court Legal Services Committee; the Programmes, Schemes and Services; the District Legal Services Authorities; the Taluk Legal Services Committees; the Accredited Organisations; Act; Kerala Rules, Regulations and Notifications.

The Minister for Information Technology Sh. P.K.Kunhalikutty recently inaugurated the KELSA Web Site designed and developed by NITPU, Cochin in the presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. N. Kirpal, Chief Justice of Kerala Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. N. Srikrishna, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Kerala Mr. A. K. Antony, High Court Judges and Ministers besides NIC officials at Town Hall Parur, Kerala State.



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## **District Administration, North Sikkim**

<http://sikkim.nic.in/north>

**From** L.P Sharma, NIC Sikkim

The website of the North Sikkim District presents useful information about the District's administration, its flora and fauna, people and tradition, places of interest, government plans and projects etc. The website also provides block level statistical data about the district. Designed by the NIC North Sikkim Unit, the website was recently nominated for

the CSI E-Governance Awards-2002 and was one of the three websites selected for final presentation.

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## **Haryana – Forms and Procedures**

<http://haryanaforms.nic.in>

**From** Sunil Kumar, Haryana Correspondent

This website is a true example of how e-governance can make life easy for the common man. It is a one point source for downloading the information, procedures and applications forms used in the various citizen services being provided by the different Departments/Boards and Corporations of the Haryana Government to its residents. The site has been designed and hosted by NIC Haryana State Unit and is proving immensely popular with the citizens who no longer need to queue up at the government offices for information.

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## **Haryana Land Records**

<http://jamabandi.nic.in>

**From** Sunil Kumar, Haryana Correspondent

In its quest for getting ahead in the race of e-governance, Haryana Government has recently launched an exclusive website to provide online land records to the people. In the first phase, data of Panchkula Tehsil has been placed on Web. Soon more districts will be added to this database. Public can see their Records of Right through this web site in Hindi. For the first time ever, Land Records Data has been placed on web using UNICODE for Hindi solutions. This project is expected to bring transparency in the function of Revenue Offices. Apart from this, knowledge base has been placed on web so that people can know about complex terminology and documents. The website was recently demonstrated to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Haryana Sh O.P Chautala.

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## **Chatra and Palamu Districts, Jharkhand**

<http://chatra.nic.in>,

<http://palamu.nic.in>

**From** Amar Kumar Sinha, Jharkhand Correspondent

The State of Jharkhand is actively pursuing the cause of ICT and has launched websites for a number of districts in the State. Recently the districts of Chatra and Palamu established a web presence by launching their websites. The graphically enriched websites have an extensive coverage on District profile, History, Tourism, Education, Development Schemes and many other relevant informations about the districts. The Chatra District's website was launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Jharkhand Sh. Babu Lal Marandi and the website of Palamu District was launched by Sh. Subodh Nath Thakur, DC, Palamu.





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## **Nabarangpur District, Orissa**

<http://nabarangpur.nic.in>

**From** P.K.Mohanty, DIO Nabarangpur and A.K. Hota, Orissa Correspondent

Nabarangpur District, the home to Orissa's vast tribal population, put its signature on cyber world with the recent launch of its official website by Hon'ble Minister of State, Water Resources, Sh. Rabi Narayan Nanda in the presence of several dignitaries. The Website, through various modules, presents comprehensive information on different aspects of the district and the people, departments, social security, revenue administration, Map & Photo gallery, tourist spots etc. The Website has been developed by NIC Nabarangpur Unit, in association with the District Authorities.



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## **Kasargod District, Kerala**

<http://kasargod.nic.in>

**From** Berkwins CW, DIO Kasargod

Kasargod, the northern most district of Kerala went online with the launch of its website on NIC's web server recently. The website is very comprehensive in terms of information and provides details on a wide range of subjects including district profile (demography, geography, access, maps etc), historical background, administration, infrastructure and economy , culture, festivals, tourism, IT etc. Highlights include downloadable forms for the public and the availability of local news in Malayalam. The website was inaugurated at a special function by Sh. Cherkalam Abdulla, Hon'ble Minister of Local Self Government, Kerala.

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## **Jalandhar District**

<http://jalandhar.nic.in>

**From** Vikram Jeet Grover, Punjab Correspondent

The official website of Jalandhar District Administration was formally inaugurated by Sh. R. S. Sandhu, IAS, Commissioner, Jalandhar Division, Jalandhar recently. The website has been developed by NIC Punjab State Unit in collaboration with the Jalandhar Distt Administration and NIC Jalandhar District unit. The website gives information about historical and geographical details of the District and information on Jalandhar Division and District Administration. It has digitized maps of State, Jalandhar District and Tehsils, Blocks & Towns/Cities falling in the district. It also gives information on District Abstracts, Census figures and Last Vidhan Sabha Elections results , Prominent personalities in Sports and Music, Key Contacts, Information on Educational Institutes etc.

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## **National Conference on E-Readiness Expectations of Rural Masses**

A three day conference on "E-Readiness of Rural Masses" was organized by NIC Bihar State Unit during 21-23 December, 2002 at Patna. The aim of the conference was to

- Gain the knowledge and experience to understand the potential of information technology for rural application.
- Learn how to deploy the modern technology for maximum returns and to meet rural expectations.
- Apply techniques that improve efficiencies in development and enriches the mass at the grass root level.

The event was attended by IT Experts and delegates from various Indian States and also included technical presentations on topics related to IT Applications in rural areas.

The conference was addressed by important dignitaries including Dr.Sanjay Paswan, Hon'ble Minister of State for Communications and IT, Sh. Chandrika Rai, Hon'ble Minister of Science & Technology and Dr. N.Vijayaditya, Director General, NIC.

Dr. Paswan, in his address, stressed on the fact that technology has played a vital role in defining the socio-economic structure and called upon everyone to work towards "Digital Integration" rather than Digital Divide.

The role and contribution of NIC in promoting the IT culture among rural masses was highlighted, during the conference, by Dr.Saurabh Gupta, SIO Bihar.

## 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...*

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### **Welfare Pension MIS**

From Mukesh K Ralli,  
Himachal Pradesh Correspondent

■ Government has been providing the subsistence amount to old aged who have no body to look after or are dependent, orphans, handicapped, destitute women, widow women etc. in the form of a monthly pension which is disbursed after every quarter in four quarters in a year. There are around 1,60,000 pensioners of all categories in Himachal Pradesh to whom pension is disbursed in each quarter. In order to help Department Of Social, Women & Schedule Caste, Himachal Pradesh, NIC Himachal Pradesh State Unit has prepared a software known as Welfare Pension Management Information System (WELPMIS) which is under implementation in all the districts of Himachal Pradesh. The software not only helps to lighten the work of preparation and disbursement of pensions through money orders and preparation of ledgers, updating the record of dead/non-traced persons etc. but also helps to enforce the system of Pension Disbursement as per government guidelines right from the receipt of application stage to disbursement of the pension. A unique feature of the software is that the software generated MOs are being accepted by Department of Post, Government Of India. Recently, the data related to active pensioners in Himachal Pradesh has also been hosted at department's own site [www.himachal.nic.in/welfare](http://www.himachal.nic.in/welfare). The district wise data is also available in hindi.

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### **Drought Information System at Almora**

From Arvind K Dadhichi, Uttaranchal Correspondent

■ A Drought Information System providing detailed information on the drought situation in a particular region along with analysis of the present resources to combat the problem has been developed by the Almora District Unit of NIC. The software was recently demonstrated to Sh. Narayan Dutt Tiwari, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttaranchal who was able to get complete stock of the ground realities of the drought situation from Naikna Paisia, the remotest place in the District. The Chief Minister applauded NIC's efforts in bringing the IT culture into the difficult and unapproachable hilly terrains of the State.

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### **Accolades for "Bhoomi" Project**

From B.V.Sarma, NIC Bangalore

■ The Land Records Computerisation in the State of Karnataka under the name of "Bhoomi" Project recently won International recognition when it was awarded the silver medal at CAPAM International Innovations Awards instituted by Commonwealth Association for Public Administration and Management for the year 2002 held at Glasgow, Scotland. It was indeed a great achievement for the Bhoomi Project as the competition included over 150 entries from 45 member countries. In the words of Sh Rajeev Chawla, Additional Secretary to Government, Revenue Department

(Land Reforms), “ It would not have been possible for the State Government to get this award without the active participation and involvement of NIC by providing such a wonderful and user-friendly software and by giving us technical support at State level and at field.”

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## **Multi-point VC Inaugurated at Orissa**

From R.C. Patra, NITPU Bhubaneswar

- For promotion of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) applications in state government departments, multipoint Video Conferencing facility in the Office of the Hon’ble Chief Minister, Orissa was inaugurated jointly by the Hon’ble Minister, CIT and Hon’ble Chief Minister, Orissa. The facility has been provided initially at six district headquarters viz. Cuttack, Berahampur (RDC), Sambalpur, Koraput, Balangir, and Kalahandi by NIC, Bhubaneswar using its satellite-based computer-communication network and the latest technology and software allow multiple users to participate simultaneously in a Video Conferencing Session from different district headquarters. The facility will be of enormous help to state government during the elections, budget or in times of natural calamities. Gradually all other districts will be linked to state secretariat by Video Conferencing.

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## **Computerisation of Salary Accounts (COSA) in West Bengal**

From Motiur Rahaman, West Bengal Correspondent

- NIC Writers Building Node in West Bengal has undertaken the project Computerisation of Salary Accounts for the Finance Department, Govt of West Bengal In the process of Perspective Analysis of the system, NIC had put forward the idea of modifying some of its earlier Statutory forms like T.R. Form 26 to make it content compatible with the State Budget and Treasury Application Software which had already been implemented. A new Computerised paybill proforma including both inner and outer sheet has now been devised by NIC in consultation with Finance Department. The Application Software (COSA) developed for this purpose has been customised and made executable so that it requires minimum resources to be operational. Neither any System Software such as Front end/Reporting tools nor a backend database server is required to be procured and loaded on the user’s Computer for the execution of COSA. This software has been made very User’s Friendly, Menu Driven through which all the salary related reports like regular monthly Paybill sheet, various schedules, Supplementary Bill, Arrear Bills, Payslip, Form-16 etc. for the employees can be generated besides other reports required time to time by the respective Department/Directorate from the DDOs.

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## **AGMARKNET Workshop in Bihar**

From N.K Prasad, Bihar Correspondent

- Agriculture Marketing Information System’ is a national level project aiming for the benefits to the farmers by

providing them with useful agriculture marketing information. The Directorate of marketing and Inspection (DMI), Ministry of Agriculture has formulated a Central Sector Scheme (AGMARK-NET) for linking all regulated markets spread all over the country, State Marketing Boards, Directorates and DMI HQs by providing them computing facilities as well as Internet services through NIC. For the success of this programme it is highly essential that Workshops and Training Programmes are carried out by NIC from time to time for the officials of the Agriculture Marketing Board. NIC Bihar State Unit recently organised a Workshop-cum-Training Programme at NITPU Centre, Patna for the personnel of Marketing Board to update their knowledge and skills. The participants found the training to be extremely useful for the smooth functioning of the Agmarknet project.

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## **E-Governance Seminar at Lakshadweep**

From Ajith Brahmanandan, SIO Lakshadweep

■ A one day seminar on E-Governance was organized by NIC Lakshadweep U.T. Unit at Kavaratti on 20th October 2002. The Seminar was inaugurated by Lakshadweep Administrator Sh. K. S. Mehra, IAS, in the Secretariat Conference hall. The Secretary (Information Technology), Lakshadweep Sri. Sandeep Kumar, IAS delivered the Key Note Address.



The topics discussed at the seminar ranged from the significance of e-governance in Lakshadweep to the usage and application of latest technologies such as SMART Card and digital signatures. The seminar also included a demonstration of NIC Video-Conferencing facility and various useful software developed by NIC Lakshadweep Unit.

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## **E-Governance Projects inaugurated at Distt Fatehgarh Sahib,Punjab**

From Navneet Kukreja, SIO Punjab

■ Under the on-going pilot eGovernance drive, first of its kind in the country, sponsored by Department of Information Technology, MCIT, the projects of SUWIDHA (Single User-Friendly Window Disposal & Help-Line for Applicants), DialCITI and WebCITI , developed and implemented by NIC were inaugurated at District Fatehgarh Sahib by Capt. Amarinder Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Punjab.





The district is successfully marching towards exploiting the opportunities offered by ICT using all the modes of automated information delivery/dissemination viz Web (WebCITI i.e. Web-based Citizen IT Interface), Kiosks and even through Dialup Lines (DialCITI i.e Dialup- based Citizen IT Interface) and has got the distinction as the first district in the country to utilize complementing modes and IT technologies to reach on the doorsteps of the poor and downtrodden people particularly and of the society at large.

SUWIDHA has been designed and developed by NIC Punjab in collaboration with the district administration, Fatehgarh Sahib to facilitate the citizens in getting easy and convenient access to government services. Now the citizens will not be required to visit different government departments and all the services will be made available from a single window counter named SUWIDHA. After filing the application for the requisite service at the SUWIDHA counter, they will be issued a Receipt Slip bearing token number and a specific date of delivery of service(s). The Chief Minister also inaugurated DialCITI, which will bring the benefits of IT to the doorsteps of the public by providing a telephone based Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System. The CM also inaugurated the first touch screen Kiosk in the district which provides Web-based information about various schemes and procedures.

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## **NIC Supports J&K Elections**

From Jit Raj, J & K Correspondent

■ Strategically located Jammu and Kashmir State constitutes the northern most extremity of India. The state has 87 Assembly segments, for which polling was held, in four phases, in Sept-Oct. 2002. 7025 polling stations were established in all the 14 districts for 59,53,255 voters. Electronic Voting Machines(EVMs) were used for the first time in the State. NIC J&K State Unit was entrusted with the task of providing informatics support to Chief Electoral Officer and District Election Officers.

NIC developed a website (<http://jk.nic.in/election>) exclusively to host the election related information such as the contesting candidates, polling stations, maps of constituencies, e-mail & telephone directory, voter turnout, press notifications, results etc. Internet and E-mail facility were provided to the Election observers and other important officials of election office. For data compilation and transmission , NIC officials were deputed to Chief



Electoral Office at Srinagar and Media Centres at Jammu and Srinagar.

NIC District Centres provided NICNET and computing support to District Election Officers. They had created database of polling officials, transport plan, magistrate duty plan etc. Assignment of polling station to polling officials was done using software which used the randomization procedure. Individual duty orders of polling staff and ballot papers were also generated. Voter turnout was compiled and transmitted to Chief Electoral Office at Srinagar using NICNET from all the District Election Offices.

As in earlier elections, Doordarshan had tied-up with NIC, for collection and transmission of election results to Doordarshan studio. As soon as the counting had begun, DIOs started sending data to NIC H.Q. where it was further processed and sent to Doordarshan Centre at Delhi. NIC was the first to flash trends, trend reversals and final outcomes. The performance was remarkable not just for speed but also for efficiency and a very high degree of accuracy.

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## **Inauguration through VC at Ranchi**

From Amar Sinha, Jharkhand Correspondent

■ On the auspicious occasion of the 2nd Anniversary of Jharkhand State on 15th November, 2002, Hon'ble Deputy Prime Minister, Sh. L. K. Advani inaugurated three proposed sites namely Greater Ranchi at Sukurhutu, Ranchi University at Jamuari, Pithoria and Sports Complex at Kolhia Kanadu, Pithoria all located in Kanke Block at Ranchi. These locations are about 25 Kms from the main town. In order to enable the ceremony of foundation stone laying on-line NIC - Jharkhand State Unit was entrusted with the task of establishing Video Conferencing facilities using SCPC DAMA VSATS at the above three remote sites. The main function was organized at Morhabadi Ground located in the main town of Ranchi. This place was provided with NIC Video Conferencing facility using ISDN line. The Hon'ble Deputy Prime Minister addressed the three sites from the Morhabadi ground using the VC service.

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## **Technology Seminar on E-Governance at Orissa**

From A.K.Hota, Orissa Correspondent

■ NIC Orissa State Unit, in coordination with Information Technology Department, Govt. of Orissa recently conducted a Technology Seminar on Issues of E-Governance & E-Commerce at State Secretariat Centre, Orissa. Senior Administrators from different departments at the gathering shared this particular opportunity to imbibe ideas, which will help them in planning out E-Governance models in their own respective departments.



The main recommendations made to the State Government during the seminar included a) Development of facilitation centers at District, Sub-Division or Block level as “One Stop Shop” giving “One Click Link” to all information required by the citizens through convergent use of linking, b) Setting up of exploration of Government & Public Sector information Kiosks, c) incorporation of e-mail into normal range of contact methods and d) training of government officials and e) conducting awareness programmes for the General Public on the use of computers and its benefits over the conventional system.

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## **VC Link inaugurated at Chandigarh**

From Vivek Verma, Chandigarh Correspondent

■ Lt. Gen. J.F.R. Jacob, PVSM, (retd.), Hon'ble Governor Punjab and Administrator, UT Chandigarh, recently inaugurated the Optic Fiber Cable (OFC) link between the UT Secretariat and the D.C. Office . The technical expertise for the link-up has been provided by the NIC Chandigarh UT Unit.



The Routers and other end-user equipment at both the buildings have also been provided by the NIC. With the setting

up of the OFC link, data voice and video exchange would be possible between the two buildings,. The OFC link is a part of the Wired City Network which has been set up as a part of the IT Policy and e-governance initiatives of the Chandigarh Administration.

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## **Web Based System for SSI Provisional Certificate**

From R.Gayatri, Tamil Nadu Correspondent

■ NIC Tamil Nadu State Unit has developed and implemented a web based system for the Small Industries Department of Government of Tamil Nadu for issuing Provisional SSI Registration Certificate.

Provisional Registration Certificate is required for the entrepreneurs while approaching the financial institutions for sanction of loans and to get various clearances on priority basis from statutory agencies such as Pollution Control Board, Electricity Board and others.

The web based system enables the entrepreneurs to apply online for the Certificate from any of the approved Browsing Centres in Tamil Nadu and get the certificate immediately, at any time and on any day. Details of the system can be seen at <http://indcom.tn.nic.in/ssi> and in NIC Offerings site (<http://offerings.nic.in>).

The system was formally launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.



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## **World Computer Literacy Day celebrated in Haryana**

From Sunil Kumar, Former Haryana Correspondent

■ A State level function to mark World Computer Literacy Day was observed at Panchkula on 2nd December. A number of Officers from District Administration, Sarpanches, Panches, Patwaris and students of Government Schools attended the function.

Sh M K Miglani, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister, Haryana, the Chief Guest at the occasion, said that the State has made remarkable progress in the field of IT and Computer Literacy has to play a vital role to make this progress more effective. Sh. Dharam Vir, Principal Secretary, Information Technology, Haryana stressed on use of Information Technology & Computers in day-to-day life to keep an individual updated. Sh. G S Bansal, SIO, NIC-Haryana made

an effective presentation on Online Jamabandies (Records-of-right) & other applications being implemented jointly by Secretariat for Information Technology & NIC-Haryana.

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## **Info Kiosk at Goa High Court**

From C.Chandran, SIO Goa

■ An Information Kiosk has been set up at the Goa High Court with the assistance of NIC Goa State Unit. The kiosk has been designed to provide direct access to the useful information required by the lawyers and litigants such as weekly cause list, case status, daily orders, judgements, rules and regulations etc. The touch screen interface has been provided to make the accessing of information very easy. The Kiosk was recently inaugurated by Hon'ble Justice Sh G.D Patil, Mumbai High Court.



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## **NIC's Support during President's Thiruvananthapuram visit**

From Asha Varma, DIO Thiruvananthapuram

■ His Excellency the President of India Dr.A.P.J Abdul Kalam visited Trivandrum on 17th & 18th of November. NIC Thiruvananthapuram District Unit was entrusted with the job of providing Computer and Communication facilities at Raj Bhavan, Trivandrum, the place of stay of the President. For fast internet access ISDN link was set up. Similar facilities were provided for two of his Personal Officers at different locations during the visit. The NIC District Informatics Officer , Ms.Asha Varma and DIA, Ms.Neha Waikar were posted at the Raj Bhavan for duty during this period.



The computer facilities were extensively used and appreciated by the President who quoted “Computer facilities provided by NIC were good”. NIC District Unit provided similar facilities for the Prime Minister and the Vice Presidential visits in the past.

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### **Papers/Articles Published by NIC Officers**

Many of the NIC Scientists/Officers regularly publish papers on topics related to several areas of Information and Communication Technology. Such papers are published in Events, Journals, Magazines etc of repute. This section highlights some of the recently published papers by NIC Officers

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#### **Title: Title : Design and Development of Web- Enabled Databases in Libraries With Special Reference to RDBMS: Selection of Tools and Technologies**

Authors: Ram Kumar Matoria , P K Upadhayay, NIC HQ

Publication: DESIDOC Bulletin of Information Technology. Vol. 22, No. 4 & 5, July & September 2002, pp. 9-15

**Abstract:** There are a number of ready-made library automation software packages in the market. However, many of these packages lack web interface and, thus, do not provide library database access (OPAC, etc.) through web. Moreover, these commercial packages provide less flexibility to librarians to make desired changes to the existing databases and to publish the same on the web. Therefore, designing in-house databases in libraries by using common relational database tools (RDBMS) like MS Access, SQL, DB2, etc., as back-end solutions is an area of deep concern. This paper discusses the merits and demerits of the currently available RDBMS software for library applications as back-end solutions. The paper also discusses the various tools/technologies required/available for publishing the library databases over web. It has also been emphasized to use the technology that is more user friendly, easy to design, requires simple programming skill thus, suitable for librarians to setup web-enabled solutions in the libraries.

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## **Title: Internet**

Author: Ashis Kumar Mahapatra, NIC Orissa

Publication: Journal "Orissa Review" Volume : LIX No. 4, November – 2002

**Abstract:** Internet is a vast network that connects many independent networks all over the world. It links computers of many types, sizes & operating systems. Internet is so large and complex that it is beyond the comprehension of an individual. The article describes the history of Internet, types of internet addresses, Electronic mail, the web, Web search engines, Use Net, Gopher, Veronica and Jug head, Anonymous ftp, Archie, Mailing list, Remote Connection using Telnet, Talk facilities, Internet Relay Chart, Mud's and other imaginary places.

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" I simply asked my son to  
hook the net for me ...  
he is confused how I would  
Chat or Surf using this !! "





## From the Editor's Desk

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We often talk about the “IT Climate” in the Country in a symbolic sense but recently “IT” got integrated with “Climate” in the literal sense when NIC successfully provided complete Information and Communication Technology support to the Eighth session of the Conference of the parties (COP-8) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), held at New Delhi in October. All the sessions of the event, attended by delegates of several countries were also Webcast by NIC. Our lead story of this issue talks about the ways in which NIC supported the cause of the conference aimed at identifying solutions, generating awareness and enhancing action at all levels to respond to the significant global problem of environment protection.

Here's wishing a very Happy New Year to all our readers from the team of Informatics...

**Sonal Kalra**

## From You to Us

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Readers are invited to send their comments/suggestions to the Editor through this column. Your letters may be sent through

email at

[inform@hub.nic.in](mailto:inform@hub.nic.in)

or by post at the following address :

Room No. 379, 3rd Floor, NIC Headquarters, A-Block, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, N.Delhi 110003

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■ **Dear Editor,**

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the latest issue of Informatics, the E-Governance Bulletin. It contains extremely useful and important information, which I personally found very interesting

**Alenjandro A Garrido. A**  
Ambassador of Panama  
Embassy of Panama, New Delhi

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■ **Dear Editor,**

I read Informatics with a lot of interest. Your effort to disseminate achievements of our country in E Governance is praise-worthy. The publication is very useful and I am sure it will go a long way in carrying forward the E-Governance culture.

**A.K. Srivastava, IAS**  
Joint Secretary, MHA

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■ **Dear Editor,**

It is my privilege to read the last two issues of Informatics. I am pleased to know about the nation-wide activities of National Informatics Centre (NIC) through such an extensive e-governance bulletin. Please accept my congratulations and best wishes for all your efforts.

**Manoj Kumar, IAS**  
Commissioner, Varanasi Division

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■ **Dear Editor,**

I am a regular reader of Informatics which provides latest updates on all the happenings in and around NIC with detailed information and useful contents. I feel very happy to write this message with a heartfelt thanks to the Informatics Team which devotedly brings up the pages with useful information and updates of happenings.

**Vinod Gurung**  
DIO, NIC, South District Unit,  
Namchi-737126