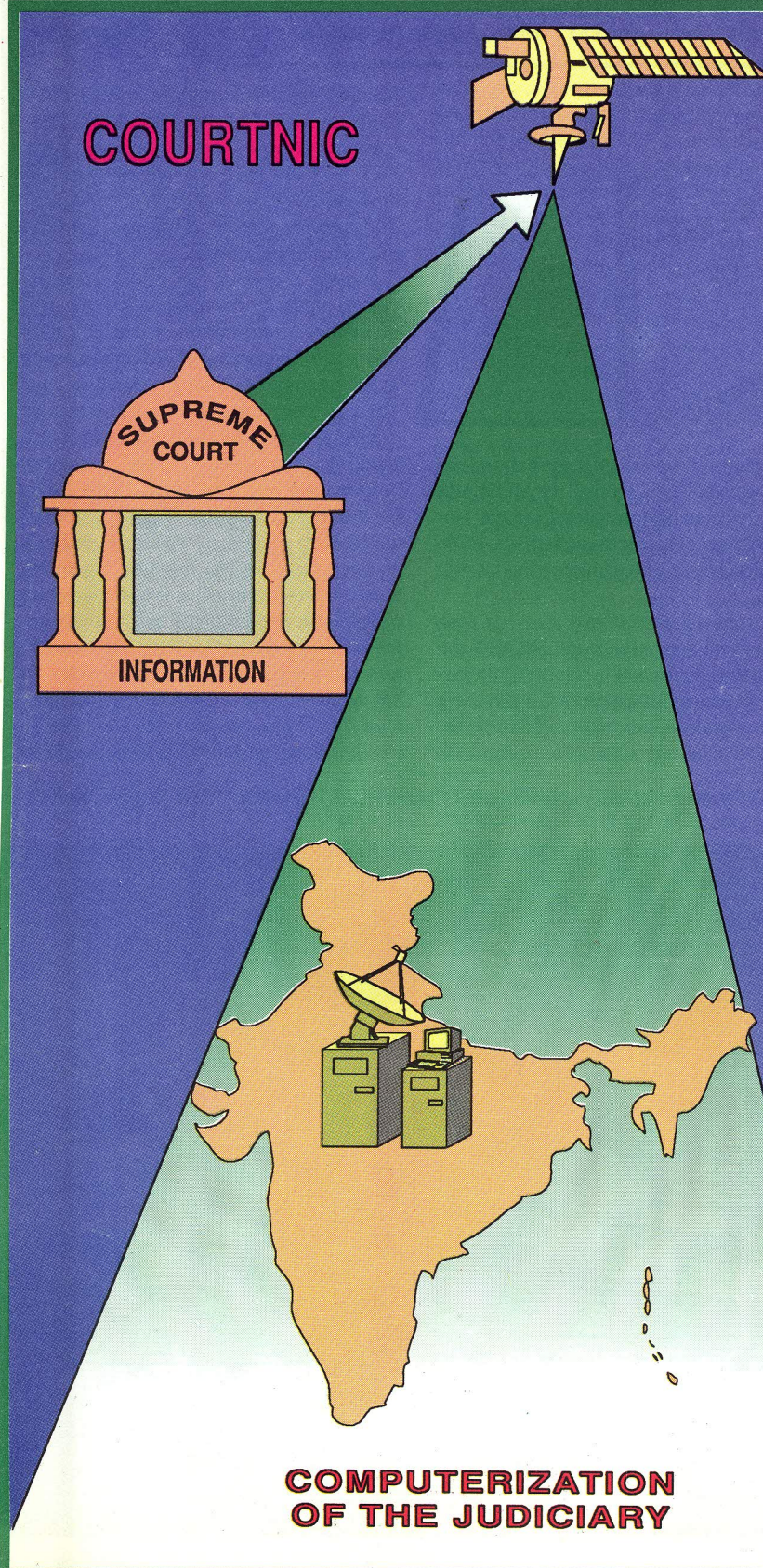


Informatics



THIS ISSUE BRINGS TO YOU

A LEAF OF NICPLAN Page - 2

The Biblio-Informatics Programme

AROUND THE NIC WORLD Page - 3

The news section

FEATURE Page - 4

The COURTNIC Project

PRODUCTS Page - 6

How they are being utilized

PROJECTS Page - 7

A glimpse of some of NIC's projects

IN THE LIMELIGHT Page - 8

A profile of the Pali District Centre

••• *and all our regular columns.*

EDITORIAL BOARD

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. N Vijayaditya

Dr. B K Gairola

Dr. Y K Sharma

Dr. K K Bajaj

Shri M Moni

Mrs Neeta Verma
(CO-ORDINATOR & CONVENER)

EDITOR

Rubaiyat Ali

GRAPHICS & DESIGN

Subhash Kapoor

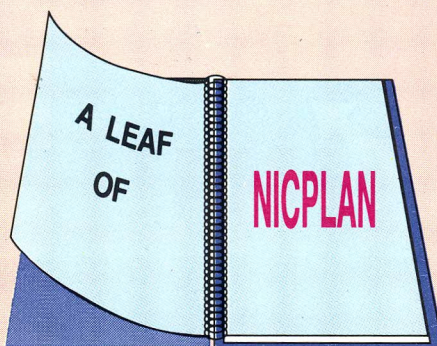
Biblio-Informatics Service Programme

The Eighth Five Year Plan (1990 to 1995) of the National Informatics Centre is a blue print of action for the Organization. Each 'Leaf of NICPLAN' presents an extract from the Plan to provide the Reader with an insight into just how the Organization visualizes the future. Today, three years since the plan was formulated, Readers will also be able to judge for themselves whether NIC is maintaining its course on time. In this issue we present the Biblio-Informatics Service Programme.

The demand for textual information from books and journals and the bibliographic information retrieval associated with it, is increasing on NICNET. The NIC-ICMR Bio-medical Information Centre, set up two years ago (in 1988) is servicing 1,000 queries coming from all parts of the Country every month. In addition, NIC subscribes to a number of bibliographic services on CDROM. This is being connected to NICNET for queries to be put on any of the nodes and automatic retrieval of bibliographic information from the CDROM. At the background of these accomplishments, which have proved highly useful, the following four projects are taken up on a much larger scale on NICNET:

- ▶ Bio-Medical Information Service Programme
- ▶ Internal BIBLIONIC Service Programme
- ▶ External BIBLIONIC Service Programme
- ▶ Telebase Programme

The present NIC-ICMR Bio-medical Information Centre will be enhanced into a



much larger Bio-medical Information Programme on NICNET with all the MEDLARS tapes procured and updated from the National Library of Medicine at Bethesda, USA, for which NIC is already receiving USAID grants.

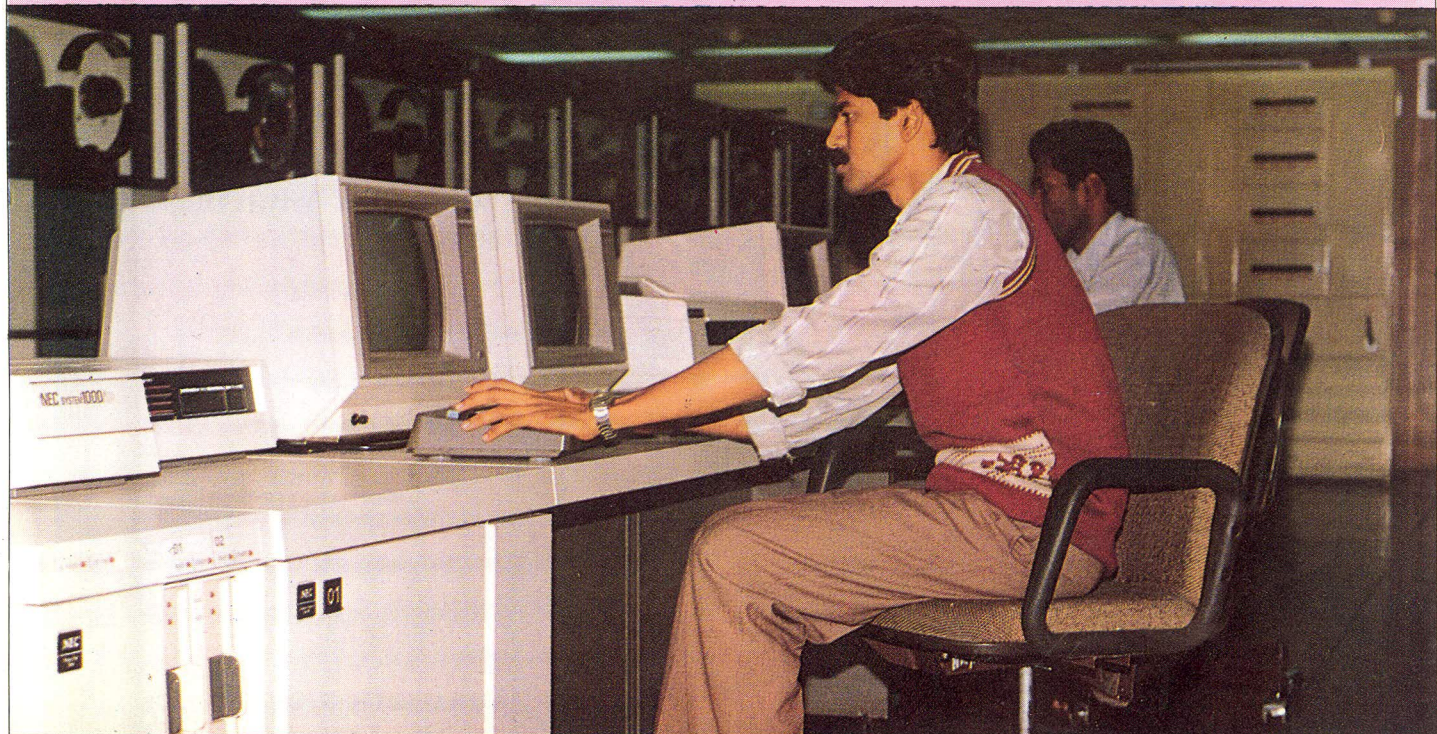
The Internal BIBLIONIC Service Programme will service through NICNET the information contained in the 96 CDROM-based databases for which NIC is incurring an annual subscription charge of Rs 80 lakh. A number of bibliographic information serv-

ices are available through EASINET via VSN Gateway. The External BIBLIONIC Services will provide a bridge between EASINET and NICNET so that queries can emanate from any of the nodes of NICNET and serviced from databases abroad through VSN Gateway.

Though at present NIC is providing access to international databases in the area of medical information, there is a high demand for accessing other databases such as Bio-technology, dialogue databases etc. There is also demand for information on developments in India. It is therefore proposed to a general access system to support "Information Services" database in India. For broad-basing the facility, it is proposed to establish a gateway system in India in co-operation with the Telebase Organization in USA so as to act as the gateway hub of Telebase and EASINET to all the Countries in Asia and the Pacific. This is a revenue-earning proposition for NIC which with an investment of Rs 4 crore during the Eighth Five Year Plan can earn Rs 15 crore in foreign exchange during the same period. ☛

PHOTOTALK

A view of the NEC Hall in the National Informatics Centre Headquarters at CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi.





COURT NIC INAUGURATION

Bangalore, Sept: The COURT NIC Information system of the National Informatics Centre was inaugurated by the Chief Justice of India Mr Justice MN Venkatachalaiah on September 25, 1993. COURT NIC was simultaneously inaugurated in the Supreme Court, New Delhi, by Mr Justice SR Pandian.

In his inaugural speech Mr Justice Venkatachalaiah said COURT NIC marked the commencement of a series of computerization schemes in the Judiciary. The Country had entered an age of technology in the administration of justice.

He also suggested that the High Courts use computers for classification of cases which would facilitate speedy disposal of the cases. ☞

(For further details on COURT NIC, please refer cover story on Page-4)

BPL TO MARKET NIC MULTI MEDIA CARD

NEW DELHI, Sept: National Informatics Centre and BPL Systems and Projects Limited, Bangalore (BPL) signed an agreement for transfer of technology of a PC-VCR controller card developed by NIC, on September 28, 1993. Under this agreement, BPL acquires the rights to manufacture and market the card.

The technology of the PC-VCR controller card was developed by NIC with the objective of bringing Multi Media (MM) technology within the reach of a large number of Users. The card provides the capability to integrate interactive video on personal computers. The commonly available VHS-VCR can be used as a video source for developing interactive video applications with the help of this card.

The software associated with this card can be used to program the video material from a normal video cassette under DOS and Windows environment. The software also enables the User to use all the video control functions of a VCR from a graphic-based user interface.

The product can be used in developing a wide range of multimedia applications in various areas such as corporate presenta-

NICNET SERVICES FOR QUAKE RELIEF

FROM THE DIRECTOR, NIC WESTERN REGIONAL CENTRE, PUNE

Pune, Oct : The computer-based satellite-communication network, NICNET, of the National Informatics Centre is being extensively used for relief work co-ordination in the earthquake affected Districts of Sholapur, Latur and Osmanabad in Maharashtra. A killer earthquake, measuring about 6.4 in the Richter Scale, struck all the villages of these Districts in the early hours of September 30, 1993, causing heavy damage to life and property.

In the wake of the earthquake, as the Government of Maharashtra and several voluntary organizations embarked on a massive relief and rehabilitation programme, the immediate need was to establish communication links between the different nodes of the Administration. NICNET was extensively used to establish communication links with all senior officials in the Mantralaya up to the level of the Chief Secretary and the Chief Minister, and to contact the District Collectors for proper organization of the relief work. NICNET Centres in the affected Districts and in the Mantralaya and other locations in the State were put on full alert and operated round the clock. Message communication was established immediately between the affected Districts and the Mantralaya.

The overall relief co-ordination through NICNET was carried out from the District of Sholapur. A communication centre was established by the Government at the centrally located Omerga Taluk in Sholapur. The National Informatics Centre pressed into service a mobile earth station (a truck fitted with a micro earth station set and a diesel generator power pack) to establish on-the-spot communication links with the Mantralaya and other nearby districts. Computing facilities, powered by an Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) system were also set up in a nearby rest house. Backup computer and communication equipments along with additional technical manpower were also rushed in from the Western Regional Centre of NIC to the affected District Centres.

These measures made it possible for the Mantralaya to keep in touch with all senior Officials who were co-ordinating various relief operations and also to cater to the urgent requests for help from the affected Districts.

Considering the massive quantity and variety of relief and rehabilitation-related material pouring in, it is proposed to provide information processing services to all the Collectorates concerned. ☞

WORKSHOP

A ONE-DAY WORKSHOP ON DISNIC GEO-MINE was jointly organized by the Eastern Regional Centre of the National Informatics Centre, NIC(ER), Bhubaneswar and the Directorate of Mining and Geology of the Government of Orissa on July 31, 1993 at NIC(ER).

Officers of different functional backgrounds such as Geoscientists, Mining Administrators, Information Technology Professionals and Statistical Officers participated in the workshop to deliberate on the theme of **Computerization of Mineral Information in Orissa.** ☞

ACHIEVEMENT

MR SUBBU THANGAVEL, working as a Systems Analyst in the Health Informatics Division of NIC, was recently selected by the Centre of International Co-operation for Computerization (CICC), Japan, to undergo a CICC-sponsored **two-month specialized course on UNIX-LAN System Design and Development.**

Mr Thangavel was one of the only two Indians selected for this much-coveted scholarship through a worldwide competitive examination held by CICC, Japan. ☞

COURTNIC: Verdict for Computerization



History has been divided into ages based on the tools that man has used during a particular period. The Paleolithic Age got its name from the crude stone tools used, the Neolithic Age from the tools of more polished stone; and from the age of metals we are now on the threshold of what can justifiably be termed the Computer Age. No walk of life is today without the use of computers; and in India, the combined efforts of the Indian Judiciary and the National Informatics Centre has introduced computers into yet another field of activity --- the Judiciary.

The National Informatics Centre has been intimately associated with the Indian Judiciary for the last four years. The successful implementation of an Information System (IS) to aid the Registry of the Supreme Court of India in decision making marked NIC's first step towards computerization of Courts. When the Chief Justices' Conference, held in 1991, took an unanimous decision to request NIC to take up the project of computerization of all High Courts and interconnect them through NICNET (NIC's computer-based satellite-communication network), it was but a judicious expression of the Indian Judiciary's confidence in NIC. Thus COURTNIC --- Supreme Court Pending Cases Information --- was conceptualized.

COURTNIC was formally inaugurated by the Chief Justice of India, Mr

Justice MN Venkatachaliah on September 25, 1993 at Bangalore.

Courts Information on NICNET

COURTNIC is an IS designed to provide information on the status of cases in the Apex Court to a wide range of Users. The utilization of NICNET ensures speed and easy accessibility. COURTNIC will cater to the information requirements of Judges of the Lower Courts, Advocates, the Litigant Public and still others who are interested in the going-ons in the highest Court of the Country. COURTNIC gives litigants in the Supreme Court access to information regarding the status of their cases, from anywhere in the Country.

Packaged Information for Users

Though the information requirements of different groups of Users is varied in nature, it was found that information of common interest to the Legal Community can be derived from the large databases which were created in the Supreme Court of India to aid the Registry of the Supreme Court in decision making. COURTNIC makes this information available to Users.

The information available on COURTNIC is included in the following options :

- Case Status Report
- Through Lower Court Case Details
- Eliminated Matters
- Daily Cause List
- Help

CASE STATUS REPORT:

This option gives the latest information with respect to the status of a case.

If a matter is already disposed of, it shows the date of disposal. If a matter is adjourned to a specific date, and the list is not yet out; it gives information as to when the matter is going to be listed. If a matter is adjourned, and the list is already out at the time of query, it gives the date of listing.

If a matter is freshly filed and is not yet listed automatically, it gives its waiting position number

OBJECTIVES OF COURTNIC

- To provide on-line Apex Court information to the litigant community across the Country within the shortest possible time
- To help the Registry of the Apex Court in the execution of its functions by providing easy flow of information.
- To inculcate informatics culture among the litigant public.

knowing which the User can roughly estimate when it is going to be listed.

If the matter is in the Regular Hearing (Final Hearing) category, or if at all, it is in the weekly list, its position in the course of the week is indicated.

Whenever no listing date is available, it simply says it does not have any information with respect to listing.

For every matter, the following set of information is available:

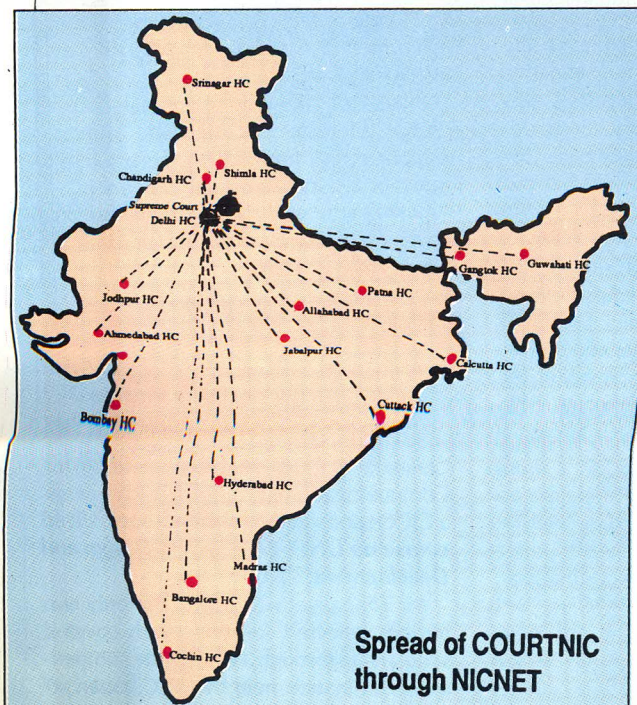
- Case Number
- Title
- Names of the Advocates
- Subject Category of the Matter
- Information connected with the Matter
- How many times it has been listed
- Listing Details
- Lower Court Details

This information can be retrieved on the basis of the Case Number, the Cause Title or the Name of an Advocate concerned.

THROUGH LOWER COURT DETAILS: Appeals arising out of Lower Courts and Tribunals and pending in the Supreme Court, can be retrieved on the basis of Lower Court case details such as Lower Court impinged judgement number, date of judgement and name of the Lower Court.

ELIMINATED MATTERS: If the Court has already adjourned a matter to a later date but, due to some reason, the matter has failed to appear in the day's Cause List, it will appear in the Eliminated Matters List.

THE DAILY LIST: This option provides the User with a complete daily list for a given date. However, if the User knows in which Court his matter is appearing, he can also query for and get a Daily List for any Specific Court. ☞





"QUOTABLE QUOTES"

Efforts are currently underway to provide the much-needed infrastructural requirements (to promote Indian software exports), in particular high-speed international data communication lines, which have proved to be bottlenecks in the past.

— Prime Minister Mr PV Narashimha Rao, in his inaugural speech at the Information Technology - Asia 1993, on September 16, 1993.

The use of computers (in the Government) should become intensive right down to every level; otherwise the end results will not be achieved.

— Prime Minister Mr PV Narashimha Rao, in his inaugural speech at the Information Technology - Asia 1993, on September 16, 1993.

The right to information can be included as a Fundamental Right along with the Right to Speech and Expression in Article 19 of the Constitution.

— Justice KN Singh, Law Commission Chairman, at an international conference on Access to Information.

We might even force the banks to computerize.

— Mr DR Mehta, Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on RBI's decision to insist on computerization of nationalized banks.

Small Scale Industries Database

The development of a post-Census database for the Small Scale Industries Sector of Uttar Pradesh is the result of the joint efforts of the SISI, Kanpur, Directorate of Industries, Uttar Pradesh and the National Informatics Centre. NIC gratefully acknowledges the help and co-operation extended by all concerned. Words of gratitude and encouragement have also come NIC's way. *Informatics* presents a foreword to a report by Dr PK Choudhury, Director, SISI, Kanpur.

Although the Second All India Census of Registered Small Scale Industries, 1988, met a long-felt need of scientifically built-up database in the Country, yet, it left much to be desired with respect to the developments in the SSI sector in the post-census years 1988-89, 1989-90, 1990-91 and 1991-92. The increased dosage of Government help and higher enthusiasm of the entrepreneurs to benefit from the Government help had created, all round, a thirst for up-to-date knowledge about the sector in the post-census days through computerized data.

Giving due credit to this fact, the SISI, Kanpur, in collaboration with National Informatics Centre, UP State Unit, Lucknow, launched the project of computerization of post census data by drawing a team of officers of the SISIs in UP and Nucleus Cell of the Directorate of Industries, UP. The project is now heading towards conclusion and it is hoped that on completion of the project, a computerized database of 1992 will be available. This computerized data, it is hoped, will be of immense use for the entrepreneurs as well as planners of industrialization in Uttar Pradesh.

In this effort, the contribution of Shri S Sahu, Deputy Director (EI), SISI, Kanpur, Shri Bipul Sharma, Systems Analyst of the State Unit of NIC, Lucknow and their team has been highly commendable. The co-operation of the Nucleus Cell of the Directorate of Industries, UP, is also worth appreciation.-

PRODUCTS

DSRS : To keep your Documents well-organized

The National Informatics Centre (NIC) has come out with the Document Storage and Retrieval System (DSRS), Version 2.0., which is a package developed to provide flexible, reliable and economic solutions to the problems of manual archival and retrieval of images of a large volume of documents.

DSRS can be typically used for:

- Documents archival
- Electronic Filing
- Signature Verification
- Personal Records
- Medical Records and
- Engineering Documentation

DSRS supports optical cartridge as a reliable media for storing scanned document images.

With DSRS, each document and page can be uniquely identified by Name. A document can also have other attributes such as date, subject, and unlimited number of keywords.

All query interaction sessions are stored and are available for reprocessing or continuing the query later on.

In DSRS, documents requiring additional security can be stored in encrypted form, and applications having a very large number of pages of information can be handled using a library of optical cartridges.

Images can be scanned at 75, 150 and 300 DPI resolutions and a wide variety of

DSRS FEATURES

- Menu-driven user interface
- Search based on Name, Date, Keyword expressions etc.
- Encryption of confidential documents
- Compressed image to save space
- Supports up to legal-sized documents

contrast and brightness level is available.

The scanned images are compressed before storing them on optical cartridge to reduce storage space.

The images stored on optical cartridges in compressed form are retrieved, decompressed and displayed using an efficient algorithm resulting in fast response. ↵

(For further information, please contact: IDSE Division, National Informatics Centre, A-Block, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110 003. Phone: 4360324.)

GISNIC : PUTTING THE GLOBE INSIDE YOUR COMPUTER

The Geographical Information System of the National Informatics Centre (GISNIC), Version 1.0, is a software package which provides the User with a set of tools for retrieval and transformation of both spatial and non-spatial data.

GISNIC is a microcomputer-based modular Geographic Information System (GIS) which operates on the PC/AT-386 family of micros under SCO XENIX/UNIX. It has been designed specifically for microcomputers using state-of-the-art GIS concepts.

GISNIC provides general graphic display for a variety of graphic devices. It designs and generates graphics and reports in both interactive and batch modes and plots multiple classes or database layers over one another. In GISNIC, the interface with the existing Management Information System is supported by Map Composition Macros. The Package provides feedbacks to queries on geographic information on the basis of requested attributes, spatial location or specific feature names.

The variety of sources for geographic information reflects the vastly divergent needs of GIS Users. Building a GIS database can be one of the most labour-intensive and time-consuming aspect of System Implementation. GISNIC understands that efficient tools for building and maintaining geographic data reduce the overall cost of

GIS and provides integrated easy-to-use tools for feature-based digitizing, attribute

GISNIC DATA MODEL

- Phenomenological structuring and feature hierarchies for modelling complex phenomena
- State-of-the-art Arc-Node Topological data structure
- Embedded SQL tools to work directly with tabular data stored in ORACLE, FoxBASE+ and other Database Management Systems
- Dynamic binding between features and attributes
- Capable of handling descriptive as well as temporal data
- Allows use of Raster, Vector, CAD, DBMS and image data in a single integrated environment.
- Database can be established by digitizing, loading files from foreign sources, or entering data from the terminal.

data entry, editing, validation and cleanup.

GISNIC accepts the following formats:

ARC/INFO	Data Coverages
DXF	CAD Drawings
TIFF	Raster Images
IMG	Still Video

[For further information, please contact: GIS Division, National Informatics Centre, A-Block, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi - 110003. Phone: 4361133-4388 (Ext)] ↵

Health Bulletin through NICNET

FROM OUR MADHYA PRADESH CORRESPONDENT

NICNET services are being used by the Directorate of Health in Madhya Pradesh to prepare and transmit health bulletins on Family Welfare and Mother and Child Health (MCH).

Monthly progress reports on 15 Programmes related to Family Welfare and Mother and Child Health are prepared in the NIC District Centres and transmitted over NICNET to the NIC Madhya Pradesh State Centre in Bhopal. The progress reports are then analysed for performance ranking of Divisions and Districts with respect to the Programmes and the Health Bulletin generated. This Health Bulletin is then transmitted to all the districts through NICNET.

The whole process of preparation and

transmission of the monthly progress reports from the Districts, and generation and compilation of the Health Bulletin, is run by a suitable software developed by the NIC Madhya Pradesh State Unit.

NIC has also helped the administration in the development of a database on health institutions viz. Sub-health centres, Primary Health Centres and District Hospitals in Madhya Pradesh. An integrated Computerized Health Information System (COHIS) was developed by NIC and implemented in all the Districts of Madhya Pradesh. ↵

For Contributors

Please do not pin up photographs. Send them wrapped with paper to avoid scratches

CAPES is "Not only good, but easy and interesting"

The Computer Aided Paperless Examination System (CAPES) developed by the National Informatics Centre proved its worth in two national level examinations. Earlier, CAPES was inaugurated by the Minister for Personnel and Public Grievances, Ms Margaret Alva on July 5, 1993.

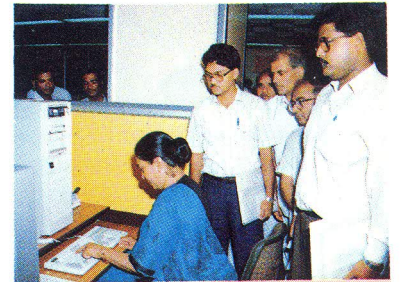
In its first practical implementation, CAPES was used to conduct the nationwide recruitment test for the posts of Scientific Officers 'SB' of NIC. The recruitment test stretched from July 5, 1993 to July 27, 1993, and was simultaneously conducted in 18 Centres located in different State Capitals of the Country. Out of the 10,000 candidates called, 4,494 appeared for the examination. The examination of one-hour duration, was held for four batches of ten candidates each, every day, in all the 18 centres.

CAPES is a CD ROM-based system and all data related to the examination was stored and transferred through CD ROMS. A total of 35 UNIX-based 486-Systems were put into operation to run CAPES. Daily results from each of the centres were transmitted to NIC Headquarters at New Delhi for consolidation and the final results were handed over to NIC Administration

within three days of the completion of the examination.

The overwhelming success of CAPES in its first venture, fortified NIC to take on the challenge of conducting the all-India recruitment test for the post of Assistant Provident Fund Commissioners under the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). This computer-aided paperless examination was held from September 2, 1993 to September 24, 1993.

However, before commencing with the examinations, NIC had already taken into account the basic difference between examinees of the first and the forthcoming examination and prepared accordingly. While the previous candidates who were computer-acquainted used the standard computer keyboard, an easy-to-use keypad, with only the controls specifically required, was specially designed for the candidates of the UPSC examination who could be completely unfamiliar with computers. For the same reason, it was also decided to conduct hands-on demonstrations for the candidates before the start of each session, and a suitable demonstration package was developed for the purpose. The user-interface of CAPES was enhanced and made more user-friendly. Otherwise the basic *modus operandi* was



Ms Margaret Alva inaugurating CAPES

very similar to the one used in the first case. Out of the 9,777 candidates who were called, 6,871 took the examination. Final results were handed over to the UPSC on September 28, 1993.

NIC requested the candidates to give their feedback at the end of the experience. While candidates have pointed out ways to further improve CAPES, the general sentiment is echoed in this quoted feedback:

"Paperless examinations on computers are not only good but also easy and interesting. This was my first experience for appearing in such an examination, and I would like it if all competitive exams are held in such a manner in the future i.e. on computers. My overall comments on such examinations are that it is an excellent method for conducting examinations."

NICTRAN boosts Bihar Road Transport System

FROM OUR BIHAR CORRESPONDENT

NICTRAN, a truly versatile computer-based software package, was designed as a Road Transport Information Management System and initially installed at the District Transport Office of Patna. With the highly profitable run of NICTRAN for more than a year-and-a-half since, the Bihar State Unit of the National Informatics Centre has once again proved that a well-researched and elegantly designed software solution can really work wonders for the End-Users.

NICTRAN is the product of a joint venture between the Transport Department of Bihar and the Bihar State Unit of NIC. Developed by the members of the DISNIC cell after hundreds of man-hours of work, coupled with close attention to details, NICTRAN successfully achieved a stable state within a remarkably short span of time.

Being a true on-line and real-time system, NICTRAN has reduced the time a vehicle owner needs to spend at any one of the tax collection counters to well under five minutes! Its other features help the Department in managing other crucial activities such as detection of tax defaulters, false permits, issue of demand notices and reminders, automatic maintenance of cash-books etc.

Available both on MSDOS/PCDOS as well as UNIX/XENIX-based platforms, NICTRAN can easily be installed and brought to an up and running state in no time at all. Its memory requirements are on the leaner side,

and a tight coding system produces quick responses even when the package is run from terminals. A highly structured and modular construction lends it the flexibility of easy customization for tailoring it to meet the local requirements.

Within months of its implementation in the District Transport Office of Patna, NICTRAN quickly spread to five other important Cities of Bihar. Almost all the District Transport Offices utilizing NICTRAN have reported that their revenues have doubled since its installation. A sharp decline in the various kinds of commonly practised irregularities also proved the value of NICTRAN. Encouraged by the success, plans are afoot to computerize other District Transport Offices as well. Very soon, an inter-district computer link will also be established for easy access to the state-wide vehicle databases.

In NIC however, a group of professionals is still working on the Package to refine it further. The feedback from the field staff is constantly monitored and the suggestions minutely scrutinized to see if they can be incorporated in the Package so as to improve its utility.



A NICTRAN counter in operation



Pali : Winning Laurels in Trust and Confidence

Pali, situated in the south-western, semi-desert region of Rajasthan, is a district in which the National Informatics Centre has been able to make its services indispensable --- thanks to the co-operation accorded by the District Administration.

Dawn of Informatics in Pali

NIC activities in Pali started when the Mr Dipak Das joined as the District Informatics Officer (DIO) in January, 1992. It was his endeavour to slowly but surely initiate the Pali Administration into the modern-day-world of computers and information technology. To begin with, projects such as computerization of arms licence, old-age pension, Personnel Information System for the Ministerial Staff and development of a Village Database were taken up on priority basis. Input proforma were designed and circulated to the departments concerned for data collection. By the time the data was available, the softwares were made ready and the process of data entry could be started immediately.

The Footing grows Firm

It was at this stage that Mr Shreemat Pandey, IAS took over as the District Magistrate of Pali. He was a man of foresight and was all set to make use of NIC's systems in all walks of administrative affairs. With his strong support, the NIC Pali District Unit took up important projects for some major Departments of the District Administration.

NIC helped the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) to streamline the monthly monitoring of various schemes under it. With the help of the NIC Pali District Centre, the DRDA developed a databank which now contains information on all its works under different government schemes. This databank is updated regularly to keep it current. Works-oriented and bank-related schemes are being monitored through computers for optimal utilization of resources. NIC is providing technical support to the DRDA in carrying out its computer-related activities.

A software was developed to monitor the progress of different individual beneficiary schemes. This software, named the **Individual Beneficiary Schemes Monitoring Software (IBSMS)** prints out a list of schemes, the achievement of which is found to be below the required norm.

The **Revenue Officers Review System (RORS)** was developed to review the performance of Revenue Officers (SDOs and

Tehsildars). Monthly achievements of Revenue Officers are now monitored according to the norms set for them.

The NIC Pali District Centre then took up the job of monitoring the Gram Vikas Shivir - 92, and a software was developed for the purpose. The software, designed to provide outputs in Hindi through General Information Systems Terminals (GIST) was the first of its kind in Rajasthan. Weekly data is compiled in the NIC systems, and reviewed by the District Magistrate. This weekly data is made available to the Divisional Commissioner and Revenue Secretary through NICNET.

A **Famine Information System** was developed to monitor the sanction of work on the basis of the villages affected. Another software package was developed to monitor the 20-point Programme of the Government.

NIC gets a Bonus

NIC's success in all these major projects convinced the District Magistrate. NIC had proved its worth. Meanwhile, the NIC Pali District Centre was facing problems due to lack of proper space to function in. This was brought to the notice of the District Administration. In a gesture of appreciation, the District Administration decided to allot a new site of about 550 sq ft for the Centre. Site preparation started in August 1992 and completed in November 1992. The new computer centre of NIC with a separate terminal room and a counter with a terminal for use by the public is now a proud possession of the District Administration.

Computerization catches on

Gradually, all the Government De-

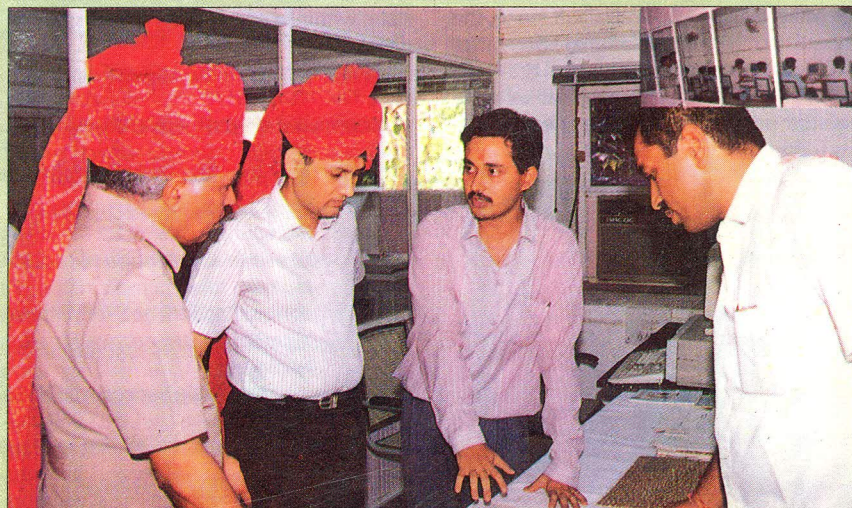
partments of Pali realized the benefits of computerization and approached the NIC Pali District Centre for computerization of different processes in their routine work. The District Centre took up the following projects to help the Departments:

- Preparation of Annual Credit Plan for the Lead Bank of Pali
- Recruitment of teachers by the Zila Parishad
- Computerization of the process of recruitment of constables
- Preparation of micro-plan for Sterilization and Immunization Programmes
- Preparation of Contingency plan for the district of Pali involving compilation of data from different Departments such as PWD, PHED, Irrigation and Soil Conservation.

Data for various national-level projects such as the 20-point Programme, Family Welfare Programme, Small Savings Scheme, Integrated Child Development Scheme etc. are being transferred through NICNET.

The NIC Pali District Centre has now come of its own. It has reached a stage where no new scheme at the district level is taken up without first considering how NIC services can be availed of. The confidence and trust gained are the most measurable indicators of success for an organization such as NIC.

When the District Administration awarded Mr Dipak Das, DIO, NIC, and Mr Brijesh Kumar Sharma, DIA, NIC, for their distinguished service, on the occasions of the Republic Day and the Independence Day, it was but an expression of the total faith of the District of Pali in the Informatics Centre.



Inauguration of the NIC District Computer Centre at the new site. INSET: The terminal room on a typical working day.