## The Ascender



### Transforming Odisha Conclave-2023 on the theme 'Transformation of Odisha into a Technology Hub'



ETGovernment - The Economic Times, in association with the Dept. of Electronics & IT, Odisha, organised the Transforming Odisha Conclave on 11th May 2023, in Bhubaneswar. Hon'ble Chief Minister, Odisha Sri Naveen Patnaik inaugurated the conclave. Sri Ashok Chandra Panda, Hon'ble Minister for Science & Technology, Sri Tusharkanti Behera, Hon'ble Minister for Electronics & IT, Sports & Youth Services and Home, Govt. of Odisha, Sri Pradeep Kumar Jena, Chief Secretary and Chief Development Officer addressed on the occasion. Programme was chaired by Sri Manoj Kumar Mishra, Principal Secretary, Electronics & IT Department.

Joining the Panel Dr. A. K. Hota, DDG & SIO discussed about most promising emerging technologies that the NIC is currently exploring for use in the eGovernance sector. Dr. R. K. Das, DDG & ASIO highlighted how NIC is enabling digital transformation solutions easily accessible to citizens. Ms. Sigdha Acharya, DDG & HoD (CoE-AS) focused on initiatives being taken to enhance the security and privacy of government data and information systems. More than 400 government officials, technology leaders, and luminaries from academia and other institutions participated to deliberate upon the paradigm shift in the state's governance systems due to the adoption of digital technologies.



## Immigration Check Post resumed operation at Biju Patnaik International Airport, Bhubaneswar



Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha Shri Naveen Patnaik inaugurated the newly established International Terminal on 15th May 2023 and flag off flight operations to Dubai.

The Immigration Check Post (ICP) at Biju Patnaik International Airport, Bhubaneswar was not functional since last two years due to massive renovation in progress. On 1st May Govt. decided to start international flight operation to Dubai from 15th May. It was very challenging for NIC to establish the ICP with six Departure and seven Arrival Counters within 13 days in hand. Identifying the counter setup, laying optical fibres from Server room to switch rooms and the CAT6 cabling from the switch rooms to departure and arrival counters, provisioning of necessary electrical points, making both PGCIL and BSNL links up etc. were executed in war foot basis. ICP PAX clearance apps were installed in all the desktops and testing was done to ensure 100% functionality.

NIC Odisha State Centre with the help of BOI, IVFRT Delhi team, BSNL and PGCIL was able to successfully set up departure and arrival counters in time.

## Launching of eOffice at Subordinate offices of Labour & ESI Department, Odisha



Shri R. S. Gopalan, IAS, Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Labour & ESI launched e-Office in all the Subordinate offices of Labour & ESI Department, Odisha including Factories & Boilers & ESI Directorate on 23rd May 2023. Sri Gopalan told that eOffice being a very effective tool for Transparency, Efficiency & Accountability, the Labour & ESI Department, Odisha can achieve a new height.

On the occasion one eFile was processed by Dr. N. Thirumala Naik, IAS, Labour Commissioner; whereas one eFile of Factories & Boilers was processed by Sri Rajesh Kumar Agarwalla, Director, ESI.

Dr.A. K. Hota, DDG & SIO, NIC, Sri Samarendra Sarangi, Programme Coordinator, CMGI, Shri Niti Ranjan Sen, Additional Secretary, L&ESI Department were present among other dignitaries. Technical Director, NIC Sri B. P. Satpathy and Sri Pinaki Mohanty, Project Coordinator, CMGI coordinated the implementation process of eOffice. Prior to this a week long capacity building programme was organized for all officials of the implementing offices.

# IT Conclave on "Emerging Technologies in Digital Transformation"



The IT Conclave in "Emerging Technologies in Digital Transformation" was held on 27th May, 2023 at Hotel Suryansh, Bhubaneswar. There was a significant gathering of industry leaders, IT professionals, technology enthusiasts and entrepreneurs from across the region. Its aim was to create a platform for knowledge sharing, networking and collaborative discussions on the latest trends, innovations and challenges in the field of information technology which provided valuable insights into the rapidly evolving IT landscape and served as a catalyst for growth and development in the industry. The topics discussed in the conclave were as follows:

- Cyber Security and Data Privacy
- Block Chain Technology
- Cloud Technology
- Al and Machine Learning
- Quantum Computing
- Data Governance in e-Gov Appl
- Business Analytics
- Geographic Information System (GIS)
- Digital Marketing & its scope in future
- Current trends of Robotics & its future

Three officers from Odisha State Centre, NIC, Bhubaneswar were invited as speakers in the above conclave. Dr. Pabitrananda Patnaik, Scientist-F delivered his speech on e-Governance while Shri Jayanta Kumar Mishra, Scientist-F elaborated on Geo-Spatial Technology for Digital Transformation and Shri Niladri Bihari Mohanty, Scientist-D explained the nuances of Quantum Computing.

### Hon'ble CM, Odisha distributed appointment Letters to newly recruited Doctors



Hon'ble CM distributed "Letter of Appointment" to a record breaking 1205 doctors at one go in a special program "Nijukti Parva" on 6th June 2023 at Kalinga stadium, Bhubaneswar. The Online counselling solution developed by NIC Odisha was used for deciding the first place of posting of newly recruited doctors in the state.

The allotment was done as per the counselling ranking derived using the principle laid down by GA Department. The option for choice filling and locking was open from 19.04.2023 to 25.04.2023. During which, 1205 doctors exercised their preferences in the online counselling for vacant posts distributed across 30 districts, Capital Hospital and RGH Rourkela. In the First round, 1138 doctors were allotted and 67 doctors were allotted in Random round. The online application was instrumental in successfully conducting the counselling in a transparent way.



# e-Detection of tax evasion, unfit vehicles replicated in Chhattisgarh



In Collaboration with NIC, Odisha, Transport Department of Chhattisgarh has implemented e-Detection system on 2nd May 2023 to detect unfit vehicles plying on National Highways in Chhattisgarh. Within first month of its implementation total 7032 numbers of eChallans have been issued by Chhattisgarh Transport Department.

Initially it is integrated with 20 Toll Gates of Chhattisgarh. Later on it would be extended to other departments such as Mining, GST, e-Waybill, Port etc. Transport Secretary Sri S. Prakash has appealed to the vehicle owners to get all the necessary documents of the vehicle up-to-date in order to avoid penalties of fitness, tax, insurance and PUC.

Taking a review, Sri Amit Agrawal, IAS, Addl. Secretary, MeiTY, wished that in next phase the application would be used for enforcement by stopping vehicles that have unpaid challans, road-tax etc. at the toll gates. The integration of e-Detection with the databases of the highway authorities NHAI / State / Smart City etc. would be planned. Prashant Kumar Nayak, Senior Director (Technical), NIC Odisha, Y.V Srinivasa Rao, Senior Director (Technical), NIC Chhattisgarh and Scientist Amit Dewangan have played an important role in implementation of this e-detection portal.





## Orientation-cum-Workshop on Preparation of Online Disaster Management Plan



The Web-GIS Application is being developed for Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) for preparing the Online Disaster Management Plans at all levels. The application has two components. The first component is MIS i.e. collection of data related to infrastructure, equipment and human resources and the second part is GIS i.e. presenting the data in location form for required analysis, query and decision making for proper mitigation and management during and after any type of disaster.

The data collection for six coastal districts (Ganjam, Puri, Jagatsinghpur, Kendrapara, Bhadrak and Balasore) is planned on the pilot basis. Later it will be rolled out for the entire state. An orientation-cum-workshop was conducted on 20.05.2023 for the District Officers at Gopabandhu Academy of Administration, Bhubaneswar to sensitize them about the data entry module for smooth data collection at field level. About sixty officers from OSDMA and different districts attended the program. The workshop was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Gyana Das, IAS and MD, OSDMA. Shri Jayanta Kumar Mishra, Scientist-F and Shri Rabindra Kumar Moharana, Scientist-E from NIC, OSC explained the scopes, objectives and other details of the project along with the process of data entry through an online module.



Two-day National workshop on National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA)



National e-Vidhan Application aims to make the functioning of all the State Legislatures paperless by transforming them into 'Digital House'.

The two-day National Workshop held at New Delhi had deliberations for making NeVA more accessible, discoverable and insightful by use of Generative Artificial Intelligence models. Shri Gudey Srinivas, IAS, Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs urged to those states who are already on-boarded NeVA, to take endeavours to convert texts to voice in all recognized Languages for maximum outreach and connect to the public at large.

The workshop highlighted the initiatives of Odisha for being the first state to present paperless budget through NeVA platform. The team from NIC led by Sri Dasrathi Satpathy, OSD-cum-Secretary, Odisha Legislative Assembly actively participated in the workshop.

## e-Panchayat Sabha



#### A digital workplace for Gram-Panchayat Meeting (https://panchayatsabha.odisha.gov.in/)

With sizable population residing in villages, the ethos of State administration has always been centered in village self-governance and Panchayati Raj system. Democratic decentralization aims at making democracy real by bringing millions into the functioning of their representative government at the lowest level. With this objective to augment local participative governance more effective, e-Panchayat Sabha project has been introduced by Govt. of Odisha. The e-Panchayat Sabha Web Application is a digital workflow-based meeting process at the Gram Panchayat level. The functionalities cover all meeting-related end-to-end activities starting from system-generated scheduling of meetings to despatch of minutes of the meet (MoM) as

detailed below. ମହାନ କନନାୟକ ପ୍ରବାଦ ପୁରୁଷ ବିକୁ ପଟ୍ଟନାୟକଙ୍କ ରାଜ୍ୟଞ୍ଚରୀୟ ଜୟନ୍ତୀ

The Admin user is at GP, Block, District and State level, who has the role in creating user, editing user profile, activating / deactivating user, Pushing Special Agenda from higher level to GP Level Meeting etc. The Assistant / GRS / DEO has the functional role for entering data in the context of agenda, capturing agenda-wise data, despatching notice of meeting with agenda, uploading signed attendance and photo of the meeting, entering Minutes of Meeting(MoM) and Despatching MoM.

Panchayat Executive Officer has the responsibility of initiating meeting schedule, selecting participants of the meeting, preparing agenda, verification / vetting of agenda-wise data, Sending the schedule and agenda to Sarapanch for approval, sending meeting schedule with agenda for despatch, verification of draft MoM prepared, sending the MoM to Sarapanch for approval and finally sending approved MoM for despatch. Sarapanch (Presiding Officer) has the role of approval of meeting schedule, agenda and MoM.

#### A Digital Workplace for Gram Panchayat Meeting



Strengthening of Process of Conduct of Meetings of Gram Panchayats



Panchayat Administration

Ensures better governance through effective

schemes and social welfare measures.

monitoring and implementation of development

Improved efficiency and transparency of



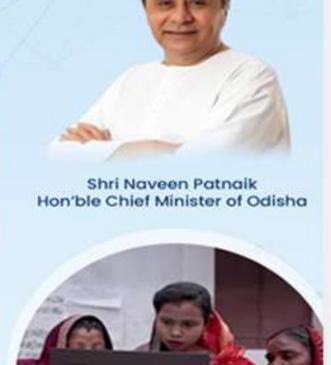
Members empowerment through availability of information

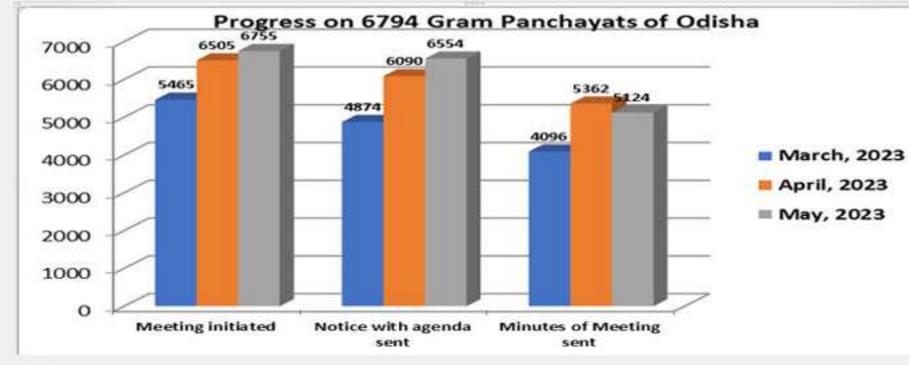


Create digital records of all meeting held



System generated Notice with agenda and Minutes of the Meeting delivered through Sandes App





#### Salient Features

- NIC Chart Interface (NICCI) chatbot has been integrated.
- SMS integrated at strategic processes
- OTP based authentication system
- Sandes (Government Instant Messaging System) mobile app integrated to receive notice with agenda and MoMs by the Participants of the meeting
- Bilingual: Application available in both English and Odia to facilitate the ease of operation in Gram Panchayat level.

#### Implementation and Impact:

Since the launch of e-Panchayat Sabha web application on 5th March, 2023, almost all Gram Panchayats have adopted e-Panchayat Sabha for conducting meeting at GP level. It has enhanced the performance of governance by effective monitoring and implementation of different development schemes and social welfare measures. It has strengthened the process of conduct of regular meetings of gram panchayats, improved efficiency and transparency of panchayat administration. Members' empowerment has been achieved through availability of information. It creates digital records of all meetings held at GP.

#### The Road Ahead:

The end to end application is being envisioned with similar functionalities to be made available at Block Panchayat and Zilla Panchayat level and even downward at village level to capture the real issues at the grassroot level and thus disseminating the development process with bottom to top approach.

## Elets Future ready Bharat Digital Gov Summit



Elets Technomedia along-with Microsoft India (Presenting Partner) organized "Future Ready Bharat-Digital Governance Summit" on 18th May 2023 at one of the most happening smart cities of India i.e. Bhubaneswar, Odisha. In this knowledge sharing platform many Government Leaders, Policymakers leaders joined to explore next generation innovations for providing transformational governance.

Participating in summit Dr. Ramakrushna Das, DDG & ASIO(State) and Shri Niladri B. Mohanty, Scientist-D & Jt. Dir (IT), shared their thoughts about the futuristic use of AI/ML and Block chain technology. Dr. Das pointed out different aspects of use of AI/ML in the education sector whereas Shri. Niladri explained how NIC is very aggressively shifting its microscopic focus (system development) to telescopic focus (eco-system development) through the example of national seed traceability project - SATHI, that is envisioned to leverage the power of AI/ML to ensure food security for not only India but in the perceptive of world. Both the officers were felicitated by the organizer for their knowledge contribution and idea sharing.

### **Publications**

**■**Government....



**SCANME** 

NIC is deploying emerging technologies in number of domains: AK Hota SIO Odisha NIC

"The process of using blockchain in the land records system is currently going on. We have a Centre of Excellence for Artificial Intelligence. There are several sectors in the government where improvements can be made by inserting AI and ML."



Resonance of Seed Chain & formation of a National Seed Grid





With the growing demand for food, the use of technology has become more prevalent in improving crop yields, reducing waste, and enhancing supply chain management. One such technology is the SATHI system, developed by NIC Bhubaneswar, which provides farmers with a powerful tool to track the origin and authenticity of their seeds, and to manage their inventory in a more efficient and sustainable manner, write Ashok Kumar Hota, Deputy Director General and Niladri Mohanty, Jt Director (IT), NIC Bhubaneswar



## Tech Talk - Non-Fungible Token

NFT is the acronym for Non-Fungible Token. It can be described as a cryptographic asset on a blockchain with unique identification codes and metadata that distinguish them from each other.

Physical and digital currencies are "fungible". This means if A has a 100 Rupee note and B has also a 100 Rupee note, then both have the same value. They can be traded, exchanged/interchanged for one another. So also Bitcoin, Ethereum, Ripple, Stellar, Dogecoin, E-Gold and all other digital currencies. This makes them fungible. But, Non-Fungible, as in case of NFT can neither be replaced nor inter changed because of its unique properties.

For example say a digital art of Konark Temple. If artists X and Y both have done digital arts of Konark temple, then each one is unique and different. NFT can be applied on these items with a digital signature to make them unique, tradable and securing from fraud. Digital currencies or cryptocurrencies also use tokens, but two cryptocurrencies say two bitcoins / ethereums from the same block chain are interchangeable, while two NFTs from the same blockchain looking identical but not interchangeable.

#### Creating NFTs:

- Select the asset for NFT. The asset may be art, music, song, video, game or real estate etc.
- Choose blockchain for that NFT. One may choose anyone such as Ethereum, Solana, Binance Smart Chain, Flow, Aglorand, Avalanche etc.
- Select an NFT Wallet like Meta Mask, Math Wallet, AplhaWallet, Trust Wallet, Coinbase Wallet and so on.
- Choose an NFT Platform/ market place namely Open Sea, Axie Marketplace, Larva Labs, CryptoPunks, Rarible, Super Rare, Nifty Gateway any such platform.
- Create and Upload NFT token into NFT Market Place.
- List the NFT for Sale/ Auction.

NFTs can be applied on Media & Entertainment, Art, Fashion, Licenses, Certificates, Sports, Gaming, Real Estate etc. The benefits of using NFT are many and day to day its use in real life applications are rising. The popular category of such NFTs is Metaverse, the virtual world powered by Blockchain, where users can create and trade digital assets, play games, display art in galleries or even buy landed properties.

### NEARS 'Jalseva' was a HIT in this Heat of Summer



## NIC PANAROMA

Source: GAO analysis (data). BeNeDak/stock.adobe.com (images) | GAO-22-105990

Educational

Records

Property

Ownership

Supply Chain

Health Records

Tracking

## अद्भिः सर्वाणि भूतानि जीबन्ति प्रभवन्ति च । तस्मात् सर्वेषु दानेषु तयोदानं विशिष्यते ॥

( All living beings arise from water and survive. Therefore water donation is the best of all donations. )

Collectibles

Gaming

NIC Employees Association for Recreation and Sports (NEARS), an Association of present and superannuated employees of NIC at Bhubaneswar, came up with a Drinking Water Outlet Point: "Jalseva", in front of the office of NIC State Centre, Odisha at Bhubaneswar. Started from 20th April, for almost two months at a stretch, in this peak summer, through this small social activity, NEARS distributed, daily, approximately 250 Liters of curd-water to hundreds of commuters and passersby to bring them relief from the scorching heat-wave. NEARS feels obliged towards the Society for accepting its lovely gesture. Jalseva of NEARS was actively managed mostly by the superannuated employees of NIC.

## IT by Tea

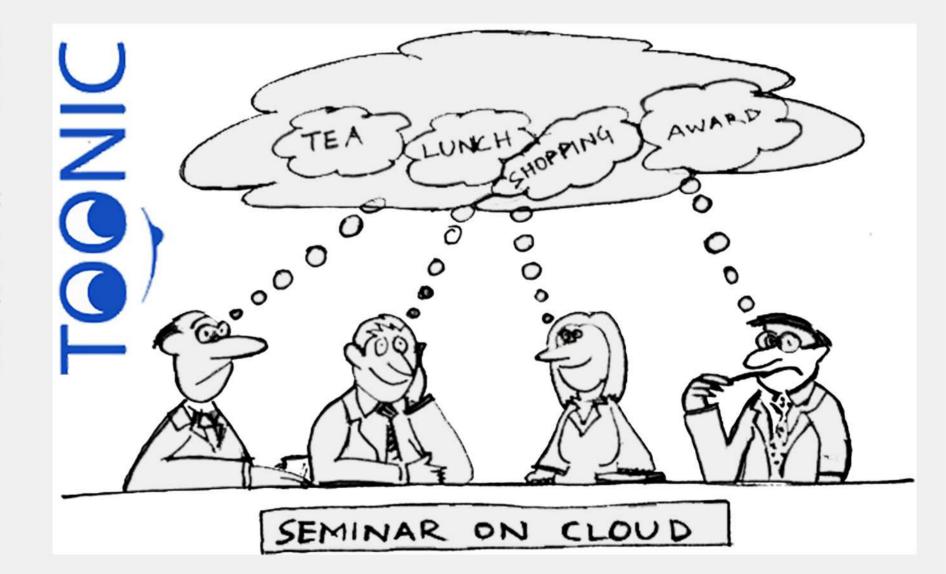
Myth: We are using a TLS certificate from the most popular certification authorities of the world. The HTTPS with a green lock symbol on our web site means it is secured and data communication between the browser and the server are protected inside an encrypted tunnel.

Truth: Default TLS (Previously known as SSL) configuration may come with different security vulnerabilities due to activation of older version in parallel to newer version, weaker protocol configuration leading to many modern day SSL Attacks like Heartbleed, POODLE, BEAST, SSL Striper attacks etc. So mere HTTPS and green lock symbol doesn't mean you are secure, so scan your website using tools like <a href="https://www.ssllabs.com/">https://www.ssllabs.com/</a> so that associated vulnerabilities can be detected early and remedial action can be taken before being exploited

## Happy Retirement Wishes



On 31st of May 2023, a void was created as two senior officials of NIC, Odisha reached their superannuation. Shri Sushil Kumar Dora, Scientist- F & Senior Director (IT) and Shri Kamala Kanta Barik, Scientist-E & Director (IT) were relieved from Central Government duties.



"If you can Dream it you can Do it"











The Ascender: National Informatics Centre, Odisha State Centre, Unit-IV, Sachivalaya Marg, Bhubaneswar –751001.

Tel: +91-674-2508438, E-mail: sio-ori@nic.in, Web: https://odisha.nic.in/