PM-KISAN Utsav Divas: NIC facilitated VC and Webcast

The Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi released the 18th instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme in Washim, Maharashtra, on 5th October, 2024. This significant event provided direct financial benefits to over 9.4 crore farmers nationwide, totalling more than Rs 20,000 crore through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

Around 2.5 crore farmers joined the event virtually including those at 732 Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), over 1 lakh Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies, and 5 lakh CSC across the country.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri Mohan Charan Majhi, Hon'ble Dy. C.M. Shri Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo, Hon'ble Dy. C.M. Smt. Pravati Parida attended the meeting from Lok Seva Bhawan in the State Level Function through video conference. Hon'ble Ministers, State & District Administrations and PM-KISAN beneficiaries also participated in this program through VC from different parts of the state. DIOs of all districts of Odisha facilitated test runs and ensured smooth execution of the event.

National PM Vishwakarma Program – facilitated by NIC

On 20th September, 2024, the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the National PM Vishwakarma Program in Wardha, Maharashtra, a significant place for Shri Vinoba Bhave and Mahatma Gandhi. The Hon'ble PM distributed certificates and loans to the beneficiaries and released a commemorative stamp to celebrate the first year progress of the program.

A total of 500 Training Centres (TCs) across the country were virtually connected to this event. In Odisha, 13 centres from 12 districts had the opportunity to participate. Dignitaries including Hon'ble MPs, MLAs graced the event at different venues and handed over the certificates and loan sanction letters to the beneficiaries.

DIOs coordinated with the respective district TCs, conducted test runs, and ensured smooth execution of the event. The program featured inspiring speeches, celebrated achievements, and reinforced the commitment to enhancing the skilled workforce of the state. Attendees visited stalls showcasing various trades under PM Vishwakarma and interacted with the skilled artisans.

Hon'ble CM, Odisha launched DAMPS - Pranisampad

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha, Shri Mohan Charan Majhi, inaugurated the Disaster Assistance Monitoring & Payment System (DAMPS) – Pranisampad on 29th October, 2024, at Rabindra Mandap, Bhubaneswar, on the occasion of Odisha Disaster Preparedness Day and the National Day for Disaster Reduction.

Designed and developed by the NIC Odisha State Centre, Bhubaneswar, DAMPS - Pranisampad is a workflow-based, web-enabled platform that facilitates direct ex-gratia payments to beneficiaries for animal losses due to natural calamities. Through integration with the iFMS, the system enables seamless transfer of financial aid to the bank accounts of owners of the affected animal.

This web enabled system is for collecting initial information from fields (starting from Revenue Circles) on animals (milch, draught and poultry) died in disasters which helps the Competent Authority in monitoring, verifying, approving, analyzing at each stage of administrative levels and accordingly the estimated financial assistance as applicable disburses directly to the bank accounts of the owner of the animals ensuring prompt support for replacement of the dead animals.

Launching of PM Janjatiya Gram Unnat Abhiyan

On 2nd October, 2024 on the occasion of birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India launched the "PM Janjatiya Gram Unnat Abhiyan" from Hazaribagh, Jharkhand. As part of the initiative, the PM also inaugurated 40 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS) and laid the foundation stones for 25 new EMRSs across the country.

Several districts from Odisha, including Deogarh, Gajapati, Kalahandi, Keonjhar, Koraput, Malkangiri, Mayurbhanj, and Rayagada, were virtually connected to witness the event. Hon'ble MPs and MLAs graced the event at different venues.

The successful execution of the event was ensured by District Informatics Officers (DIOs), who coordinated with line departments and service providers like BSNL. They monitored internet connectivity, OFC bandwidth, and ICT equipment availability. The DIOs conducted a test run and coordinated with NIC HQ in New Delhi and NIC, Bhubaneswar for the smooth execution of the event.

Sensitisation on e-Governance Initiatives in Revenue Domain

Revenue Officers' Training Institute (ROTI) organised a comprehensive Orientation session on e-Governance initiatives in Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Government of Odisha for the Odisha Revenue Service (ORS) officers of SR/PR batch, 2022 and the DR batch, 2021. The session was focused on the transformative potential of digital tools to enhance operational efficiency, promote transparency, and improve service delivery in the revenue domain.

Shri Jageswar Sahu, Scientist-F and Senior Director (IT) of NIC, joining as a resource person elaborated on essential e-Governance frameworks, including the management of Land Records through online platforms and the integration of Land Records with Property Registration. He briefed detailed insights into various applications such as Bhulekh, BhuNaksha, Bhu-Arjan, and ePauti, which streamline processes and facilitate better access to land-related information for citizens.

The session not only highlighted the latest advancements in e-Governance but also emphasized the importance of embracing these innovations to foster better governance practices. The interactive format encouraged participants to engage actively, sharing their experiences and insights, which enriched the learning environment.

NVIDIA AI Summit 2024

The NVIDIA AI Summit, 2024, held from 23-25 October, 2024 in Mumbai, features a keynote address by NVIDIA CEO Jensen Huang, spotlighting groundbreaking advancements in AI technology. The summit offered a unique opportunity for networking and collaboration in shaping the future of AI.

A panel discussion titled "Sovereign AI and the Need for Indigenous Platforms, Datasets, and Models for India" at the summit focused on developing AI technologies tailored to India's unique cultural and societal contexts. In this panel discussion Ms. Sharmistha Dasgupta, DDG, NIC from CoE-AI from NIC HQ, New Delhi joined as a panelist along with other industry leaders like Shilpa Kolhatkar, Global Head of AI Nations Business Development of NVIDIA, Sunil Gupta, CoFounder & MD of Yotta Data Services, Mayank Vatsa, Professor of CSE of IIT Jodhpur, Pramod Varma, CTO of EkStep Foundation and Tanusree Barma, DDG of UIDAI.

Officers from NIC, Odisha Shri Rama Krishna Sahoo, Scientist-E, Shri Niladri B. Mohanty, Scientist-D and Shri. Dipak Ku. Sharma, STA participated in various sessions "Lessons on Transformation", "From IRCTC to NPCI: Enabling Population Scale AI Agents Across 22 Indic Languages", "Generative AI in Enterprises, From PoC to Production", "IndiaAI Mission—Making AI in India for India", "Building Factory Scale Digital Twins to Transform India's Energy Sector" & "Building Trinity Models That Are Task-Domain-Language Specialized LLM Systems" etc. during the event.

The NVIDIA AI Summit 2024, provided NIC, Odisha officers with valuable insights and best practices from industry leaders, enhancing their capabilities in developing and implementing AI solutions tailored to India's specific needs.

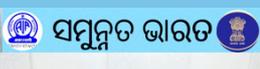## Ministry of Agriculture Hosts National Workshop on SATHI

On 21st October, 2024 the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (DAFW), Government of India, convened a national workshop on Seed Authentication Traceability and Holistic Inventory (SATHI). The event, chaired by Shri Devesh Chaturvedi, I.A.S., Secretary, DAFW in the presence of Smt. Subha Thakur, I.A.S., Additional Secretary, DAFW, Shri Prashant Kumar Mittal, DDG NIC; and Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Director IISS-MAU. The workshop welcomed representatives from multiple states, fostering a collaborative environment focused on improving seed quality and management practices.

In the opening of the event, a seven-minute video showcased SATHI's state-level activities and key milestones, which received high appreciation. Shri Prashant Kumar Mittal, DDG NIC, emphasized NIC's commitment to engage District Informatics Officers (DIOs) at the local level to provide grass-root level support and troubleshooting for SATHI users.
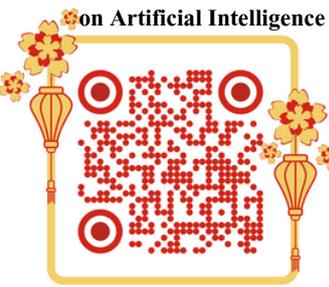
During the workshop, Shri Niladri Bihari Mohanty, Scientist-D from NIC presented updates on the progress of SATHI implementation in states. He introduced several newly developed SATHI functionalities, including geo-fencing capabilities, digital microscope integration, and an AI/ML-based predictive analysis proof-of-concept for agriculture. These advanced features were met with enthusiasm, highlighting SATHI's potential to revolutionize seed management.

Broadcasting

All India Radio-Cuttack on Cyber Security

All India Radio-Puri on Artificial Intelligence

Cybersecurity 🔍

Promoting Cybersecurity Awareness

As a precursor to Vigilance Awareness Week 2024, PGMTD, Bhubaneswar of the Odisha Telecom Circle organized a seminar on "Cybersecurity Awareness - Secure Our World" on 18th October, 2024.

The seminar featured a talk by Ms. Sasmeeta Sabat, Scientist-E and Director (IT) of NIC, Bhubaneswar. It was organized by the DGM (Vigilance) of the Circle Vigilance Cell in coordination with NIC, with Mr. I.G. Soren, PGMTD, Bhubaneswar, chairing the event. In his address, Mr. Soren emphasized the importance of cybersecurity awareness for protecting both personal and departmental devices.

Ms. Jayanti Panda, DGM (City), delivered the welcome speech, followed by Shri K. C. Pati, DGM (Vigilance), who spoke about the critical role of cybersecurity in capacity building among the executives. Ms. Sabat discussed on Cybersecurity Awareness, Cyber Threats and Cybercrime through various case studies, Cyber Hygiene in Workspace, online Safety and best practices to be adopted. The seminar concluded with a vote of thanks by Shri Sanjib K. Acharya, AGM. About 50 executives attended the seminar.

Seminar on "Cyber Security Awareness-Secure Our World "

On October 8, 2024, the Cuttack Business Area of BSNL, Odisha Circle, organized a seminar titled "Cybersecurity Awareness – Secure Our World." Ms. Anita Bhagat, IFA, welcoming all emphasized the significance of cyber security awareness in enhancing the staff's capacity to protect against digital threats.

Shri Rahul Kumar Sihna, Scientist-B of Centre of Excellence (Application Security), NIC, Bhubaneswar, provided an insightful presentation on the various tactics employed by Cyber Criminals. His talk covered a range of topics, including the Cyber Attack Cycle (Kill Chain), Phishing, Cyber-attack surfaces and vectors, social engineering attacks, Homograph and TOAD attacks, ransomware, SIM swapping frauds, and other cyber threats in the telecom sector.

Dr. M.K. Patel, I.T.S., PGM, BSNL Cuttack Business Area, chaired the event. More than 50 officers from the PGMTD office, Telephone Bhawan, and other units within the Cuttack Business Area attended the seminar. The session was coordinated by Shri K. C. Pati, DGM (Vigilance) from the Circle Office in Bhubaneswar.

राजभाषा 🔍

जनगणना निदेशालय में हिन्दी पखवाड़ा के तहत एन. आई. सी. के योगदान

दिनांक 23.09.2024 को जनगणना निदेशालय के सम्मेलन कक्ष में एक अंतर- विभागीय वाद-विवाद प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन किया गया, जिसमें एन आई सी, भुवनेश्वर के कई अधिकारी भाग लिए। अधिकारियों ने ''कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता - हमारे लिए लाभदायक है'' विषय के पक्ष / विपक्ष पर अपनी विचार रखे। प्रतियोगिता में श्री जयंत कुमार मिश्र – वरिष्ठ निदेशक (आई टी), प्रथम, एवं श्री दीपक कुमार अमात – संयुक्त सचिव (आई टी), द्वितीय पुरस्कार पाने का सौभाग्य प्राप्त किया ।

एन आई सी राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति की उपाध्यक्षा श्रीमती सुजाता दास ने जनगणना निदेशालय के समापन समारोह में बतौर अतिथि शामिल हुई और विजयी प्रतिभागियों को बधाई देते हुए सहज रूप से हिन्दी कार्य के लिए उपलब्ध ई-टूल्स (कंठस्थ 2.0, ऑनलाइन शब्दकोश) के बारे में विस्तार से जानकारी दी ।

माननीय संसदीयराजभाषा समिति द्वारा राष्ट्रीयसूचना विज्ञान केंद्र, भुवनेश्वर का राजभाषायी निरीक्षण

दिनांक 25.10.2024 को माननीय संसदीय राजभाषा समिति की दूसरी उप समिति द्वारा राष्ट्रीय सूचना - विज्ञान केंद्र, भुवनेश्वर में राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन प्रगति का निरीक्षण किया गया।

निरीक्षण बैठक में मंत्रालय से दो अधिकारी - सुश्री तूलिका पाण्डेय, वैज्ञानिक-जी एवं ग्रुप मुख्य (राजभाषा) तथा श्री जगदीश गोकलानी, संयुक्त निदेशक (राजभाषा), एनआईसी मुख्यालय से दो अधिकारी डॉ सुशील कुमार, वैज्ञानिक-जी एवं समूहाध्यक्ष (राजभाषा) एवं श्री राजेंद्र कुमार अग्रवाल, वैज्ञानिक-एफ एवं विभागाध्यक्ष (राजभाषा) तथा राष्ट्रीय सूचना विज्ञान केंद्र, भुवनेश्वर के उप महानिदेशक एवं राज्य सूचना-विज्ञान अधिकारी समेत अन्य पांच अधिकारी उपस्थित थे।

निरीक्षण बैठक में लगाई गई प्रदर्शनी में हिन्दी कार्य से संबंधित सारे दस्तावेजों के साथ साथ सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी सर्विसेस को भी डिजिटली प्रदर्शित किया गया। कई परियोजनाओं के द्विभाषी ब्रोशर तथा एनआईसी ओडिशा की मासिक हिन्दी पत्रिका **'द आसेंडर'** को भी प्रदर्शनी में शामिल किया गया था ।

निरीक्षण में माननीय संसदीय समिति की तरफ से राजभाषा के अमल पर कुछ महत्वपूर्ण सुझाव दिए गए। निरीक्षण के उपरांत राष्ट्रीय सूचना विज्ञान केंद्र, ओडिशा की हिंदी गृहपत्रिका **'जागृति'** का माननीय समिति सदस्यों के कर कमलों से विमोचन हुआ ।

Publication

पुस्तक पढ़ने के लिए **QR कोड** को स्कैन करें

Vision Language Models (VLMs):

Vision Language Models (VLMs) are an innovative advancement in the field of artificial intelligence that combine visual and textual information to enhance understanding and generation tasks. These models leverage large datasets containing images paired with descriptive text to learn intricate relationships between visual content and language. As a result, VLMs can perform a variety of tasks, including image captioning, visual question answering, and even generating images from textual descriptions.

One of the primary applications of VLMs is accessibility, where they can assist visually impaired users by providing detailed descriptions of images or scenes.

The architecture of VLMs typically integrates convolutional neural networks (CNNs) for image processing with transformer-based models for text processing. The CNN extracts features from images, encoding visual information, while the transformer processes textual input, capturing contextual relationships between words. These two components are then fused to create a unified representation that enables the model to understand and generate multimodal outputs.

Most five notable vision-language models include CLIP, developed by OpenAI, which connects images and text through contrastive learning; BLIP, created by Salesforce, focusing on image captioning and visual question answering; and ViLT, developed by NAVER AI Lab, which integrates vision and language modalities for various multimodal tasks. Additionally, MAVIS, from Google Research, specializes in vision-language tasks with efficient training, while OpenVINO, developed by Intel, is an open-source toolkit designed to optimize deep learning models for various hardware platforms.

Virtual Events happened on 29th October 2024

Hon'ble PM inaugurated the Central Drugs Testing Laboratory (CDTL) at Gothapatna attended by Hon'ble CM, Odisha

On the occasion of Ayurveda Diwas Hon'ble PM dedicated Critical Care Hospital Block at DHH, Bargarh

IT by Tea 🔍

Redefining the boundaries of AI

Myth:

AI presents a threat by producing inaccurate results and disclosing information not meant for public access, which can lead to misunderstandings and misinformation.

Truth:

AI guardrails are mechanisms and frameworks designed to ensure that AI systems operate within ethical, legal, and technical boundaries. It establishes an ethical foundation that promotes fairness and respect for privacy, ensuring technology aligns with societal values. Guardrails encourage collaboration with diverse voices, ensuring that AI systems consider the needs and concerns of all affected parties.

Hon'ble PM laid the foundation stone for the Central Research Institute in Yoga and Naturopathy at Jatni

TOONIC

"...Frankly...we had no hopes...thanks to the Technician in our IT Lab who tried turning you ON and OFF again and again..."

FAREWELL

Our sincere tribute and honour to
Shri Subash Chandra Misra, Scientist-F (Senior Director(IT)),
on the eve of his attaining superannuation and
Sri Amresh Kumar, STA-B, Sri Prabhat Kumar, STA-B,
Sri Anupam Roy, STA-B, Sri Mukesh K. Mandal, STA-B, Sri Ajeet
Kumar, STA-B on the eve of transfer to their native states.