

PM-KISAN Utsav Diwas celebrated across the country

Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India released the 20th instalment of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) scheme during a nationwide live-streamed event from Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh on 2nd August, 2025. On this occasion, over ₹20,500 crore was directly transferred to the bank accounts of nearly 9.7 crore eligible farmers through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT).

The PM-KISAN Utsav Diwas was celebrated at State and District levels across the country through Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), Agriculture Mandis, and Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS). In Bhubaneswar, the programme was organised at the ICAR-Central Institute of Freshwater Aquaculture, and was graced by Shri Mohan Charan Majhi, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha. NIC officials at both State and District levels provided crucial ICT support for VC connectivity and webcasting, ensuring the smooth conduct and success of the event.



Unmasking the Digital Threats: A Deep Dive into Cyber Security

A session on Cyber Security was organised on 6th August, 2025 at Aryan Institute of Engineering and Technology, Bhubaneswar. Shri Niladri B. Mohanty, Joint Director (IT), NIC, addressing on the occasion explored key facets of cybersecurity, including trust versus security, hacker psychology, blockchain, onion protocol, and the dark web. His detailed insights into various types of kill switches served as an eye-opener for both students and faculty.

Shri Mohanty also highlighted the rapidly evolving cybersecurity landscape shaped by Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, and Generative AI. The session left the audience informed, inspired, and better prepared to navigate emerging digital risks.



Capacity Building Programme on Gramsewa Nidhi Web Application for pilot rollout

The Gramsewa Nidhi Web Application, developed for SIRD & PR under the Panchayati Raj & Drinking Water Department, is a major initiative to strengthen Own Source of Revenue Collection and Management at the Gram Panchayat level. To ensure smooth rollout, six GPs of Khordha and Puri districts were selected for pilot testing.

On 11th August, 2025 a training programme was conducted on the Asset Module of the application for PEOs, Accountant-cum-DEOs, and GPDOs of the identified GPs. Shri Surendra Kumar Meena, IAS, Director, SIRD & PR highlighted the objectives, while NIC officials demonstrated features and clarified technical queries, ensuring effective implementation and capacity building at the grassroots level.



From High Altitudes to High Impact: A Visionary Talk on Drone Technology

A technical session was delivered on 2nd August, 2025 by Shri Abinash Sahoo, a young entrepreneur and Chief Technology Officer of BonV Aero Drone Manufacturing Company. Blending stories of innovation with real-world impact, he shared his experiences of working with the Indian Army to deploy radar-based drones for locating victims during landslides. He also revealed how logistic drones successfully navigate through thin air at high altitudes to deliver vital supplies such as vegetables and ammunition.

Highlighting the importance of secure communication protocols and cryptography, Shri Sahoo emphasized how advanced technology can serve humanity. His session left participants motivated to explore the boundless potential of innovation for societal good.



State Level Awareness & Sensitization Workshop on "User Experience & Design System"

On 13th August 2025, a State Level Awareness & Sensitization Workshop on "User Experience and Design System" was held at the State Convention Centre, Bhubaneswar, jointly organized by NeGD, the Department of Electronics & IT, Government of Odisha, and OCAC. Shri Vishal Kumar Deu, IAS, Principal Secretary, E & IT Dept. Govt. of Odisha delivered the keynote address, emphasizing the importance of integrating UX in e-Governance services.

The event featured expert sessions on the UX4G Project, design thinking, UX audits, and emerging trends like Zero UI. A brochure on UI/UX in e-Governance was released, and hands-on demonstrations showcased case studies, reinforcing commitment to citizen-centric digital services of Odisha.





Photo Story



Dr. Ajoy Ketan Sarangi, Training Coordinator, NIC, Odisha joined National workshop for State Training Coordinators during 6 - 7 August, 2025 at NIC, New Delhi



Inspire Talk was organized featuring Shri Ashrumochan Mohanty, renowned Odia cinema, TV and theatre actor and Director. He emphasized that, irrespective of the paths we choose, passion ultimately guides us to our true calling.



Presentation by Shri Bikash Ranjan Naik, DIO, Keonjhar on SUVAS (SUpreme Court Vidik Anuvaad Software), an AI based translation software at Legal Awareness Camp in the presence of Hon'ble District Judge, Vigilance Judge and other Judicial Officials at District court campus organised by DLSA, Keonjhar.



Celebration of Raksha Bandhan 2025 at NIC Odisha State Centre by the Members from Prajapita Brahma Kumari Iswariya Viswavidyalay



The Skill Test for recruitment of Data Assistant-cum-Accountant for UPHCs of Kendrapara District was successfully conducted in two phases



On the auspicious occasion of the 79th Independence Day, Shri Surendra Nath Behera, ASIO (State), unfurled the National Flag joined by all officers of NIC, Odisha



Comprehensive walkthrough of the end-to-end workflow of the eProsecution system was organised virtually for all stakeholders in the presence of Shri Ajit Kumar Pattnaik, OSPS, Director (I/C), Directorate of Prosecution, Odisha.



Shri Surendra Baskey, DIO Boudh imparted training to BLO (Booth Level Officers) supervisors on SIR (Special Intensive Revision) feature of BLO app.

Farewell



Our sincere tribute and honour to

- Ms. Namita Senapati, Scientist- F, Senior Director (IT)
- Ms. Ambika Mohanty, Scientist- E, Director (IT)

on the eve of their attaining superannuation for the years of dedicated & exemplary service at NIC, Odisha.

Implementation of e-Office in Rayagada District: Accelerating Digital Governance

A Landmark Step in Digital Transformation:

On 26th January 2025, coinciding with the Republic Day occasion, the e-Office Project for Rayagada District was inaugurated by Dr. Mukesh Mahaling, Hon'ble Minister of Electronics & Information Technology, Health & Family Welfare, and Parliamentary Affairs, Odisha. The event was graced by Sri Nilamadhab Hikaka, Hon'ble MLA, Bissamcuttack, Sri Satyajeeet Gomango, Hon'ble MLA, Gunupur, Smt. Parul Patwari, IAS, Collector & DM, Rayagada, ADM Rayagada, DIO, NIC Rayagada, and other dignitaries.

This initiative reflects the strong commitment to transparency, accountability, and efficiency in governance, aligning with the Digital India vision of Government of Odisha.

Key Milestone for Odisha:

Rayagada has become the second district in Odisha to implement e-Office across all government offices – down to the Panchayat level – an achievement made possible through the visionary leadership of Smt. Parul Patwari, IAS, Collector & DM, Rayagada, and Sri Guna Sekhar Netheti, Jt. Director (IT) & DIO, NIC, Rayagada.

Sri Naveen, ADIO, NIC Rayagada, and Sri Narendra Sasmal, District Coordinator, CMGI Rayagada, have been instrumental in the smooth execution and rollout process.

Training & Capacity Building:

A robust capacity building plan ensured that government staff across the district were well-prepared:

1. Master Trainers' Programme – On 11th September 2024, 3 master trainers from each of the 11 blocks underwent intensive training at the Sadhabana Conference Hall, Collectorate, Rayagada.
2. Offline Trainings – 23 sessions were conducted across various offices in Rayagada.
3. Hybrid Mode Trainings – 7 sessions were held at NIC, Rayagada, Sub-Collector Office, Gunupur, and Block Office, Rayagada.
4. Onsite Guidance – Regular follow-up visits by DIO and CMGI District Coordinator ensured smooth adoption.

Networking & Infrastructure Support:

- Around 120 LAN nodes were connected under NICNET across all three floors of the Collectorate, Rayagada.
- SentinelOne antivirus installed on all nodes.
- Hardware provisioning: On the basis of an assessment report by the DIO, Rayagada, the Collector & DM arranged computers, printers, and scanners for different sections of Collectorate, Rayagada lacking essential equipment.
- Reliable connectivity ensured through NICNET with support from Field Support Engineers (FSEs).

List of major Offices working on e-Office and Statistics:

S.No.	Department	eFile Created	eFile Moved	eReceipt Created	eReceipt Moved
1	RAYAGADA COLLECTORATE	1656	18979	4204	67669
2	SUB COLLECTOR(GUNUPUR)	265	2114	1051	6002
3	ZILLA PARISHAD OFFICE(RAYAGADA)	201	2028	854	10114
4	DISTRICT SOCIAL SECURITY OFFICE	148	970	651	10610
5	DISTRICT SOCIAL WELFARE OFFICE	129	741	857	3709
6	DISTRICT WELFARE OFFICE	113	865	169	1295
7	DISTRICT EXCISE OFFICE	51	358	230	1707
8	DLC-RAYAGADA	49	195	49	191
9	DISTRICT CHILD PROTECTION UNIT	25	220	135	821
10	DISTRICT PLANNING & MONITORING UNIT	22	160	42	331
11	FACTORIES & BOILERS-RAYAGADA DIV	7	8	8	8
12	DISTRICT EDUCATION OFFICE	6	28	14	86
	Total	2672	26666	8264	102543

Offices in the Pipeline:

- 25 District level offices are ready to start working on e-Office after refresher training
- All 11 Block Offices
- All 11 Tahasil Offices including RI offices
- Gram Panchayat level rollout in progress
- Focus on ensuring regular use of the system and complete transition from manual to e-Office.



Language & Authentication Features:

- Odia font already integrated for local language file processing
- DSC/e-Sign integration is in process

Leadership Commitment:

The present Collector & DM Sri Kulkarni Ashutosh C, IAS, is regularly reviewing e-Office progress and taking proactive measures to ensure implementation reaches the grassroots level. His vision is to convert all manual files into e-Office to minimize paper usage and increase workflow efficiency.

Vision Ahead:

Rayagada District aims to be a model for e-Governance in Odisha by:

- Achieving 100% digital file movement
- Ensuring real-time monitoring of file disposal
- Providing citizen-centric services with speed and transparency
- Reducing environmental footprint through paperless administration



“Your relentless efforts, especially in the successful implementation of e-Office across the entire district, have significantly improved the efficiency of administrative operations. The seamless coordination with the NIC State Team has further strengthened our technological capabilities, enabling timely and effective service delivery to the citizens.”

I am personally impressed by the professionalism, technical acumen, and problem-solving approach demonstrated by your team. The leadership shown by Shri Guna Sekhar Netheti, DIO and the proactive support provided by Shri Naveen, ADIO are particularly commendable. Despite facing several challenges, your team has consistently remained focused, motivated, and results-oriented.

Ms. Parul Patwari, IAS
Former Collector & District Magistrate
Rayagada, Odisha



Cloudflare Wall of Entropy

The **Cloudflare Wall** of Entropy is a system developed by Cloudflare to generate high-quality, cryptographically secure random numbers. It provides the unpredictability required for critical security functions such as encryption keys, session tokens, and other cryptographic operations that depend on true randomness.

Randomness is extremely important for secure encryption. Each new key that a computer uses to encrypt data must be truly random, so that an attacker won't be able to figure out the key and decrypt the data. However, computers are designed to provide predictable, logical outputs based on a given input. They aren't designed to produce the random data needed for creating unpredictable encryption keys.

To produce the unpredictable, chaotic data necessary for strong encryption, a computer must have a source of random data. The "real world" turns out to be a great source for randomness, because events in the physical world are unpredictable.

Lava lamps are unpredictable by nature. The random motion of the blobs inside them makes it physically impossible to predict what image will be captured at any given instant — making it an excellent entropy source.



At Cloudflare's primary data centers, to collect this data, Cloudflare has arranged about 100 lava lamps (constantly moving, producing chaotic, unpredictable visual patterns) on one of the walls in the lobby of the Cloudflare headquarters and mounted a camera pointing at the lamps.

- Cameras continuously capture the movements of the lava lamps.
- The captured images are then digitized and processed into random data (entropy).
- This entropy is mixed with other randomness sources (like hardware random number generators) and used by Cloudflare's infrastructure.

This unpredictable visual data ensures that the random numbers they generate are truly random and not mathematically predictable.

Contributed by: Shri Rahul Kumar Sinha, Scientist-B

TOONIC



NIC Odisha celebrated the 11th National Handloom Week

NIC Odisha State and District Centres observed the 11th National Handloom week with great enthusiasm, honouring India's rich handloom heritage and expressing solidarity with the state's traditional weavers.

On 12th August 2025, all officers and employees of NIC Odisha adorned themselves in graceful handloom attires, symbolizing respect and commitment towards supporting this age-old craft. The celebrations concluded with a Handloom Expo, showcasing elegant designs and patterns for appreciation and purchase.



महीने के हिन्दी शब्द

- | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| • Action plan | : कार्य योजना | • Gradation list | : पदक्रम सूची |
| • Additional charge | : अतिरिक्त प्रभार | • Buffer stock | : सुरक्षित भंडार |
| • Gazette notification | : राजपत्र अधिसूचना | • Data Analysis | : डेटा विश्लेषण |
| • Good governance | : सुशासन | • Dispatch register | : प्रेषण रजिस्टर |

IT by Tea



AI thrives on smart parameter tuning

Engineering training parameters are crucial to guide AI models towards balanced learning and reliable outputs. Well-tuned parameters like learning rate, batch size, and epochs directly impact accuracy, speed, and stability.

Myth:

Increasing the volume of training data directly enhances the intelligence of an AI system. This belief is often reinforced by large-scale projects, such as OpenAI's GPT-4, where vast datasets are associated with improved model performance, leading to the assumption that "more data equates to greater intelligence."

Truth:

While larger datasets can improve model accuracy and generalization, the benefits diminish beyond a certain threshold. Excessive or low-quality data may introduce redundancy, inconsistencies, and noise, increasing computational cost and the risk of overfitting, where the model memorizes data rather than learning meaningful patterns. Importantly, recognizing statistical regularities at scale should not be mistaken for true intelligence, which requires reasoning, abstraction, and contextual understanding—achieved through advanced learning methods and optimized architectures rather than sheer data volume.

*Contributed by: Ms Hemalata Sah
Scientific Officer/Engineer SB*