Ensuring Dedicated ICT support During the weeklong Visit of Hon'ble President of India

The Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, visited Odisha from 2nd to 7th February, 2026, covering Bhubaneswar, Balasore, Puri, Jajpur and Mayurbhanj before proceeding to Chhattisgarh. During the tour, she attended the 12th Convocation Ceremony of Fakir Mohan University, offered prayers at Shri Jagannath Temple and Maa Biraja Temple (Jajpur), visited Rairangpur, and graced the Black Swan Summit, India at Bhubaneswar.

NIC ensured seamless technical and administrative support through camp offices at Lok Bhavan and all other venues. Coordination was led by Shri Siba Prasad Dash, Sr. Director (IT), with active support from Shri Sambit Panda, Sr. Director (IT) and concerned DIOs/ADIOs, ensuring uninterrupted IT operations throughout.

From Vision to Action: India Leading the AI Impact Movement

The India–AI Impact Summit 2026 marked a pivotal global moment, shifting the narrative from dialogue to measurable impact. Guided by the principles of People, Planet, and Progress, the summit envisioned AI as a force for inclusive growth, human advancement and environmental stewardship. The six-day event held from 16th to 21st February, 2026 drew global leaders, innovators, start-ups, academia and heads of state, with footfall of about 250,000 visitors. Distinguished participants included Sundar Pichai, Sam Altman, Dario Amodei, Mukesh Ambani, and Demis Hassabis. The summit was inaugurated by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, alongside Mr. Emmanuel Macron, The French President.

At the summit, NIC showcased cutting-edge AI solutions for e-Governance, including Computer Vision, Text Analytics, Conversational AI and Generative and Agentic AI platforms, strengthening different domains, supporting Mission Mode Projects and Central / State Govt. departments nationwide.

Capacity building for effective implementation of NCL & ICJS for Judiciary, Police and Public Prosecutors

A Two-Day Capacity Building drive was held during 7th - 8th February, 2026 to strengthen preparedness for implementing the New Criminal Laws (NCL) —Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) —through Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) integrated digital platforms.

The team from NIC Hqrs led by Shri Deepak Kumar, Sr. Director (IT), Shri Rajat Gupta, Scientist-C and Shri Rahul Jain delivered sessions on eSakshya, eSummon, Nyay Shruti, eProsecution and MedLEaPR, highlighting technology-driven justice delivery. Coordinated by Shri Siba Prasad Dash, State Coordinator (ICJS), and supported by NIC and eCourts teams, the programme enhanced stakeholders' digital readiness, promoting efficient, transparent, and citizen-centric criminal justice administration across Odisha.

AgriStack & AI in Agriculture: Now, Next & Beyond

The Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare organised a National Workshop on "AgriStack & AI in Agriculture: Now, Next & Beyond" on 28th January, 2026 at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi. As a follow-up to the 5th Conference of Chief Secretaries, the workshop was held to focus on translating agreed national action points into time-bound implementation, aimed at building a smart, data-driven and farmer-centric agricultural ecosystem.

Shri Niladri Bihari Mohanty, Scientist-D & Joint Director (IT), NIC Odisha, participated in the workshop along with officers from the Directorate of Agriculture & Food Production, Government of Odisha. The workshop was also attended by Dr. Arabinda Padhee, IAS, Principal Secretary, Government of Odisha, who joined the deliberations and discussions.

Ama Sathi: Bringing Government Services to Citizens via WhatsApp

Ama Sathi WhatsApp Bot is a unified government chatbot launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha to provide seamless access to 150+ citizen services through WhatsApp developed by CMGI in partnership with Meta. NIC Odisha played a pivotal role by enabling secure API-based backend integrations, ensuring real-time data exchange & reliable service delivery. It includes 11 services of the Revenue & Disaster Management Department, including Mutation, Conversion, and certificates such as Residence, Income, Guardianship, Caste, Income & Asset, and Legal Heir, among others—eliminating the need to visit government offices. Supporting Odia and English with voice interaction, Ama Sathi showcases commitment of NIC to secure, citizen-centric digital governance.

Photo Story

Shri T. M. Vijay Bhaskar, IAS (Retd.), former Chief Secretary, Govt. of Karnataka visited NIC, Odisha State Centre to review key e-Governance initiatives of the Revenue & Disaster Management Department, in the presence of senior officials.

Students of Dhenkanal Autonomous College visited NIC Odisha State Centre and National Data Centre Bhubaneswar for a study tour on e-Governance and emerging technologies.
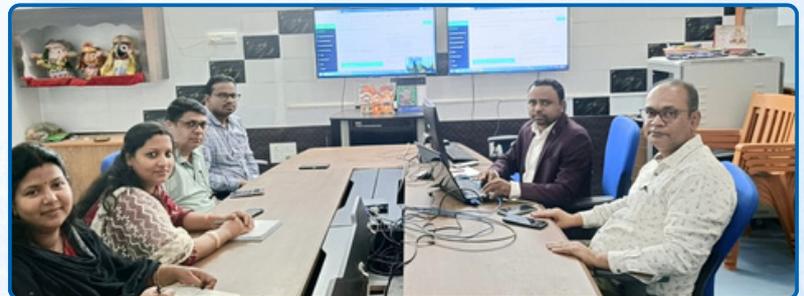

Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar invited NIC officer Shri Niladri Mohanty, Joint Director(IT) for delivery of a lecture on Artificial intelligence to Artificial Intellect in the context of AI Impact Summit.

Training Session on GeM conducted by Shri Biswaranjan Bhukta, DIO, NIC Nabarangpur, for the Principal and HODs of Nabarangpur College.

Shri Subhendu Sekhar Sahoo, DIO, Kendrapara and Shri Sumanta Garhnayak, DIO, Dhenkanal were nominated as Master Trainers and attended Training Programme for Census 2027 at Bhubaneswar.

Training Session conducted by NIC Officials under guidance of Shri Biswanath Panda, DIO, NIC Puri on implementation of AEBAS at Puri Municipal Corporation.

Presentation on IRMS to the Goa Staff Selection Commission at OSSSC, Bhubaneswar in presence of Chairman, Secretary and other officers of both the state commission and GA Dept.

Shri R. S. Mani, Ex-DDG, NIC and distinguished scientist from CSIR, visited NIC Odisha State Centre and addressed the "Inspire Talk" Series.

Awards and Accolades

NIC, Odisha Transport Unit won the Technology Sabha 2026 Award for its project e-Detection, a digital solution that strengthens regulatory compliance in motor vehicle operations & promotes safer roadways.

NIC, Odisha won the Technology Sabha 2026 Award for its innovative project Disaster Assistance Monitoring & Payment System (DAMPS - PRANISAMPAD), highlighting innovation in e-governance solutions.

State-wide awareness campaign on Safer Internet Day

NIC Odisha led a state-wide awareness campaign to mark Safer Internet Day-2026, observed on 10th February 2026. This day is observed globally on the second Tuesday of February every year. With the theme "Smart Tech, Safe Choices: Exploring the Safe and Responsible Use of AI," the initiative focused on empowering digital citizens to navigate the growing influence of artificial intelligence responsibly.

A total of 37 workshops and seminars were conducted across Odisha, reaching around 5,000 participants, including students and community leaders. A key highlight was a collective pledge promoting ethical and safe use of AI tools. The deliberations were focused on AI safety, online financial fraud, ransomware, cyber terrorism, child protection, identity theft and emerging threats like digital arrests. The programme was coordinated by senior NIC officials with support from all District Informatics Officers, emphasizing the need for continued digital awareness to build a secure and responsible cyber ecosystem.

BHUBANESWAR

ANGUL | BALANGIR

BALASORE | BHADRAK

BOUDH | CUTTACK

Letter of Appreciation for Shri Prasanta Kumar Nayak, Senior Director (IT) from Smt. Usha Padhee, IAS

The Commerce and Transport Department, Government of Odisha, places on record its sincere appreciation for Shri Prasanta Kumar Nayak for his exemplary technical leadership and significant contributions to the development and implementation of key IT-driven initiatives.

His pivotal role in implementing the One Time Settlement (OTS) Scheme for eChallan, implementing e-Detection application, EV Cell Portal, and enabling end-to-end online payments through IFMS integration has greatly enhanced operational efficiency, transparency, and citizen convenience. He has also been instrumental in delivering advanced solutions such as AI-powered New Learner's Licence Test, Vehicle Image Analysis during PUCC issuance, One MIS for all applications, One Time Chassis Module, Speed Governor Database, and the Ama RASTA WhatsApp BOT for instant accident reporting.

Further, his leadership in implementing Aadhaar-based faceless services and configuring VAHAN, SARATHI and iRAD/DAR applications has contributed significantly to the Department's digital transformation. We deeply value his dedication, innovation, and continued technical support and looks forward to his ongoing collaboration in future technology-driven initiatives.
You have taken up many innovative projects for the department which were very useful.
Best wishes

Smt. Usha Padhee, IAS
Principal Secretary, Commerce & Transport Dept.,
Additional charge of Housing & Urban Development Dept.

NIC, Odisha Observed Swachhta Pakhwada 2026

NIC, Odisha played a proactive role in observing Swachhta Pakhwada 2026 from 1st to 15th February, aligning with the Government of India's nationwide cleanliness initiative. The State Centre meticulously planned and coordinated activities across all District Centres, ensuring widespread participation. Detailed schedules, awareness materials, and web links were shared to engage officers and staff effectively.

The campaign commenced with the Swachhta Pledge and featured cleanliness drives led by designated Swachhta Leaders across offices statewide. NIC, Odisha also organized an awareness talk on "Inner Purity and Mental Peace" and conducted a "Best out of Waste" programme for 180 school students in Bhubaneswar, promoting sustainability. The initiative reflected strong commitment of NIC, Odisha to cleanliness, environmental responsibility, and community engagement.

From waste to wisdom — young students lead the message of sustainability through creativity

An innovative exhibition titled "Best out of Waste" was organised at Sai Anglo Regional Public School, Kaling Vihar, Bhubaneswar in which around 180 students from Classes II to VIII enthusiastically participated. The young participants showcased impressive creativity by developing models from discarded and reusable materials, demonstrating how waste can be transformed into useful and aesthetically appealing products.

The motivational initiative was taken by the National Informatics Centre as part of the Swachhata Pakhwada observance. The exhibition aimed to promote environmental awareness, sustainability, and responsible waste management among students at an early age.

During the programme, students also took a pledge for a Swachh Bharat and a pollution-free India. Parents visited the exhibition in large numbers and appreciated the innovative efforts of the children. Senior Scientists from NIC interacted with the students, encouraged their creative thinking, and distributed certificates of participation. A special Teachers' Corner was also set up, where teachers demonstrated their own models and ideas, adding further inspiration to the event.

NIC Panorama

Strengthening Workplace Wellness: NIC Odisha's Initiative on Mental Well-being

NIC Odisha organised a Mental Health Awareness Programme titled "Balancing Body, Mind & Spirit: A Holistic Approach to Mental Well-being" at NIC Bhubaneswar with support from experts of The Art of Living organisation. The session witnessed active participation from officers and staff, both physically and through virtual mode.

Shri Debjyoti Mohanty addressed the gathering, highlighting the importance of balancing physical, mental, and emotional well-being for a productive and stress-free life. Officers also performed mental health and relaxation exercises as demonstrated by the expert, including breathing and mindfulness techniques. During the event, February 2026 edition of the monthly newsletter of NIC Odisha, "The Ascender," was also released. The programme reflected commitment of NIC Odisha in promoting mental wellness and a positive workplace culture.

महीने के हिन्दी शब्द

- **Suggestion Book** : सुझाव पुस्तिका
- **Financial Provisions** : वित्तीय प्रावधान
- **Judicial Service** : न्यायिक सेवा
- **Forwarding Letter** : अग्रेषण-पत्र
- **Part Payment** : आंशिक भुगतान
- **Offer of Appointment** : नियुक्ति प्रस्ताव
- **Gross Negligence** : घोर लापरवाही
- **Counter Signature** : प्रतिहस्ताक्षर

Tech Talk

The Quantum Leap: Securing the Future with Post-Quantum Cryptography

The digital world currently relies on public-key infrastructure (PKI) built upon mathematical problems, specifically integer factorization and discrete logarithms, that are easy to compute in one direction but nearly impossible to reverse. However, with the recent shift toward quantum computing, the advent of large-scale quantum computers threatens to render modern encryption standards such as RSA and Elliptic Curve Cryptography (ECC) obsolete.

Through Shor's Algorithm, a sufficiently powerful quantum computer could break these codes in a matter of hours, potentially exposing everything from Govt. to private/ personal data. Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC) is the global cryptographic response developing classical algorithms that are resistant to both quantum and conventional attacks. Unlike quantum key distribution, which requires specialized hardware, PQC runs on existing internet infrastructure. Research focuses on several distinct mathematical families like Lattice-based Cryptography, Multivariate Cryptography, etc.

The transition is not just a future concern. Due to "Harvest Now, Decrypt Later" attacks, where adversaries collect encrypted data today to decrypt it once quantum hardware matures, migrating to PQC is a present-day priority.

As National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) begins standardizing these algorithms, the tech industry is racing to achieve crypto-agility, ensuring our digital foundations remain unbreakable in the quantum era.

Contributed by: Shri Siddhant Hasda
Scientific Technical Assistant- B

Farewell

Our sincere tribute and honour to
Shri Surendra Nath Behera, Scientist-F (Senior Director(IT)),
Smt. Sujata Das, Scientist-F (Senior Director(IT)),
on the eve of attaining superannuation
for their years of dedicated & exemplary service at NIC, Odisha.

TOONIC

" ...My Child !!... He is learning hard and trying his best to accumulate AI but, he is not that mature to face the Captcha test..."