7ᵗʰ National e-Governance Knowledge Sharing Summit (KSS-2015)

held at Hotel Hilton Garden Inn, Thiruvananthapuram on 10ᵗʰ and 11ᵗʰ December 2015

Brief report

Kerala State IT Mission (KSITM), organized 7ᵗʰ National eGovernance Knowledge Sharing Summit (KSS-2015) in association with CSI's Special Interest Group on e-Governance (CSI-SIGeGov) at Thiruvananthapuram on 10ᵗʰ and 11ᵗʰ December 2015. The event had **Digital Kerala** as its theme.

Mr Mohammed Y Safirulla, IAS, Director – KSITM in his Welcome Address shared with the Dignitaries and participants from Government departments, HODs and eGov community the importance of the Summit.

Mr P H Kurian, IAS, Principal Secretary (Industries & IT Govt of Kerala) gave the presidential Address and described the preeminent position of the State in the implementation of ICT initiatives. The Inaugural address was given by Mr Jiji Thomson, IAS Chief Secretary to the Government of Kerala. He laid out the historic background of ICT implementation challenges in the Govt of Kerala in his Address. He highlighted the high volume of transactions relating to e- Gov services recorded on the eTaal portal and emanating from the state and described how – from a pan-India perspective – the number was next only the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.



**Pic 1**. Mr Jiji Thomson, IAS (Chief Secretary to Govt of Kerala) & Prof Bipin V Mehta (President – CSI) during the Inaugural function

Prof Bipin V Mehta, Pressident, CSI gave the Keynote Address on **Digital India** in which he highlighted Jeevan Pramaan and MyGov portal as the benchmark examples of electronic participation. Mr Surendra Kapoor, Chairman CSI SIGeGOV described the objectives of KSS and applauded the Kerala State's various achievements in the eGov sphere. Mr Ajith S, Head, eGovernance – KSITM gave the Vote of Thanks.

Three technical sessions were held on the first day [10ᵗʰ December]

- The first session **New Age Financial Inclusion** was moderated by Prof Harish P Iyer, Research Center for eGovernance (RCeG), IIIT Hyderabad. The panelists included Shri V K Baby, IAS, (Secretary FR, GoK). The panel concluded that the financial inclusion was as much a business model as it was a goal of public policy. The panelists acknowledged the importance of the role of Banking Correspondents (BC) in the overall scheme of financial inclusion. Shri A Babu,

IAS, Collector & District Magistrate from Krishna District of Andhra Pradesh highlighted the JAM model [Jhan Dhan yojana / Aadhaar / Mobile] and explained how it had helped improve the finances of disadvantaged families in the district. The other panelists Shri John Philip, DGM [New India Assurance] and General Manager (BB & SR), State Bank of Travancore also shared their views.

- The second session was on **Technological Perspective** and was moderated by Dr Piyush Gupta, Sr VP, NISG New Delhi. The panelists were Dr.Ratan Khelkar IAS (CEO, CeG, GoK), Shri A K Balani, Sr. Director, DeitY, GoI; Shri Khobragade IAS and Shri Vakul Sharma (Supreme Court Advocate). The panel discussed Enterprise Architecture, Cyber Laws, and how the Hand-helds had become the devices of choice and how the Cloud should be the de-facto option. The panel also discussed various myths and realites surrounding cyber laws.

- The third session had **Vibrancy** as its Perspective and was moderated by Shri B Ramani, ED, CDAC-Trivandrum. He and his panelists deliberated on promoting entrepreneurship in ICT in order to add vibrancy to the domain of eGovernance. A key point highlighted was that while the Government should do everything within its means to support entrepreneurship, start-ups should not build a business model which primarily depended on government patronage. The panel members were Dr.Jayasankar Prasad, CeO, Kerala Startup Mission; Shri M Sivasankar, IAS (Secreatary Power and KSEB Chairman) and Shri W R Reddy IAS (Principal Secretary, Taxes, Govt. of Kerala).

- The second day of the summit commenced with the fourth session of the event and dealt with **Cyber Security.** The session was chaired by Mr V K Bhadran, Associate Director, CDAC and the panelists included Shri Sachin Burman, Director (NCIIPC), Shri B J Srinath (DG-ICERT – Addl In-charge); Shri Manoj Abraham, IPS (IG-TVM Range) and Dr K Rama Subramaniam, CEO (Valient Technologies, UAE). The Cyber dome – an initiative of Kerala involving the Police, the ICT industry, the trade bodies and the citizens was described in detail. Among the topics discussed were security issues relating to IPV6 and the Internet of things. The panel stressed that the government should learn from the manner in which the private sector manages security related tasks through a professionally constructed support structure.

- The fifth session **Health Perspective** Chaired by Mr G S N Prabhu, Convener – CSI Nihilent eGov Awards – along with his panelists shared the experiences on eHealth and Tele-medicine. The panel discussed the current Government Hospital Systems and compared the practices and processes of Corporate Hospitals with Government run ones. The panel drew attention to how big data and the mobiles are likely to transform various practices in the health sector. The members of the panel were Shri S Ramakrishnan, Former DG, C-DAC; Dr Jayan, Asst Professor, Medical College, Trivandrum; Shri Sasi P M, Associate Director, C-DAC, Trivandrum.

- The sixth and the final session of the summit was on **Openness Perspective**. The panel chair was Mr Satish Babu, Former President of CSI along and the members of the panel were Dr K S Rajan from IIIT Hyderabad, and Shri R Srinivasan, Former Chairman, IEE Kerala and Dr Achuthsankar S Nair, Director, Internal QA Cell, University of Kerala discussed how open standards, open software and open data were all related and yet were quite different. The panel deliberated on why it was important to understand the different types of licenses and how a vibrant Open Source developer and user community could help empower the e-Governance community.



**Pic 2**: Kerala State IT Mission Team and CSI-SIGeGov members during Valedictory function

In the valedictory session – Dr Ratan U Kelkar, IAS [CEO, Centre for eGovernance – Govt. of Karnataka] summarized the key observations from each of the six sessions. In his remarks, Shri S Adikeshavan, CGM (Commercial banking) of State Bank of Travancore – a sponsor of the event – expressed the bank's readiness to work with KSITM on several of the actionable points which emerged from the summit.

Congratulations to the Kerala State IT Mission and the Govt of Kerala for organizing an excellent Knowledge Sharing Summit for the eGov fraternity!

Surendra Kapoor
Chairman, CSI-SIGeGov