

NATIONAL INFORMATICS CENTRE

Subject: History of NIC

The National Archives of India has asked NIC to provide organisational history of NIC. Draft on the same has been prepared as enclosed.

HODs/SIOs may peruse the document and send inputs/comments, if any positively by 18th April ,2005 to email zsingh@nic.in

**Sd/-
(Zail Singh)
STD**

To

HODs/SIOs – Through Intranic

Objective of National Informatics Centre(NIC)

The long-term objective of the National Informatics Centre, as approved by the Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance and the erstwhile Electronics Commission, had been to establish the feasibility of a system for the provision of detailed information to government ministries and agencies to assist them in making decisions relating to the country's economic and social development, planning and programme implementation. NIC was set up with the fore-mentioned objective to promote economic, social, scientific and technological activities, and also for macro-economic adjustment programme of the Government, through the applications of Information Technology(I.T.).

Mandate of NIC

NIC was set up in 1975-76 with the following mandate.

- ≠≠ provide informatics services to various user agencies in Government
- ≠≠ play a promotional role in creating appropriate decision-support information systems in Government
- ≠≠ act as a focal point for developing, managing and operating information system in Government
- ≠≠ act as a focal point for development of methodologies for designing and implementing national information systems and data management techniques
- ≠≠ act as a focal point for maintaining inventories of primary data and computer-based systems for data collection and dissemination
- ≠≠ train users in information systems, data management and computing techniques

Creation of the National Informatics Centre

The Electronics Commission(earstwhile) and the Department of Electronics(now Department of Inforation Technology) put forward a proposal to UNDP for assistance to set up a National Computer Centre in Delhi for building up national data bases, developing the methodologies for utilising these, and for defining the various options and paths in decision-making at the national level. A UNDP team visited Delhi in March 1975 to study the proposal. The UNDP agreed to fund the National Informatics Centre to the extent of US \$4.4 million for the procurement of a large computer system (costing approximately US \$3.3 million), other hardware, training, the services of experts, etc.

- In view of this, actions were taken to proceed with the preliminary work relating to the setting-up of National Informatics Centre so that when UNDP financial assistance becomes available and the major hardware commissioned, the Centre can get on with its work on an expeditious basis. NIC was a plan project administered and implemented by the Information, Planning and Analysis Group (IPAG) of the earstwhile Electronics Commission in its initial stages.

- The Advisory Council set up for the NIC in 1976-1977 had the following composition:

1. Prof. M. G. K. Menon, Chairman, Electronics Commission Chairman
2. Shri M. Satyapal, Advisor (I&M), Planning Commission Member
3. Shri C.S. Swaminathan, Controller General of Accounts Member
Ministry of Finance
4. Prof. V. S. Rajamani, Professor, Indian Institute of Member
Technology, Delhi
5. Col. A. Balasubramanian, Officer on Special Duty, Member
Department of Electronics
6. Dr. N. Seshagiri, Director (IPAG) & Executive Director Member
(Protem), NIC

Evolution of NIC

Starting as a small programme under an external stimulus by an UNDP project in early 1970s, NIC started functioning in 1977 and since then it has grown incrementally and later exponentially as one of India's major S&T Organisations promoting Informatics-led Development, which has helped to usher in the required transformation to cope with the trends in the new millennium.

In 1984-85, the Government decided to extend the NIC services to State Governments, Union Territory Administrations and District Administrations in the country. It signed Memorandum of Understanding with the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. For planning and introduction of computerization, NIC State Coordination Committees and NIC District Coordination Committees were set up.

A satellite based computer communication network called NICNET was set up in C-Band and using CDMA technology. Computer and VSAT infrastructure was set up in all the State Government/UT Administrations Secretariats and District Administrations. NICNET enabled exchange of information among Central Governments, State Governments/Union Territory Administrations and District Administrations. During the year 1996-97, NIC introduced Ku-band based VSAT technology. In the ensuing years, it replaced CDMA technology VSAT with FTDMA and IPA technology VSATs to provide high speed exchange of information on NICNET and Internet services.

NIC has played an important role of an **active** catalyst and **facilitator** in informatics development programme in Governments at the national, states, district & sub-district levels, during the last 27 years which enabled Governmental-agencies to take policy decisions to create knowledge societies – societies that can exploit knowledge to derive competitive advantage using the opportunities provided by digital technology. NIC has been instrumental in

out into India i.e. by implementing IT applications in various sectors of Indian economy.

The Organisational Profile

The organizational set up of NIC encompasses its Headquarters at New Delhi, State Units in all the 28 State capitals and 7 Union Territory Headquarters and District Centres in almost all the Districts of India. In North-Eastern states and in Jammu & Kashmir, I.T. infrastructure has been strengthened by way of setting up of Community Information Centres(CICs) at sub-distinct/block levels. The Organization employs a large pool of efficient technical manpower.

There are a number of Application Divisions which provide total Informatics Support to the Ministries and Departments of the Central Government. NIC computer cells are located in almost all the Ministry Bhawans of the Central Government and Apex Offices including the Prime Minister's Office, the Rashtrapati Bhawan and the Parliament House. Apart from this, NIC has various Resource and Infrastructure Divisions at the Headquarters which specialize into different areas of IT and facilitate the Application Divisions as well as other NIC Centres in providing state-of-the-art services to the Government agencies including Public Sector Government Undertakings.

Major Technical Applications Divisions, NIC HQ

ACCOUNTS INFORMATICS DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION -I
ADMINISTRATION -II
AGRICULTURE INFORMATICS DIVISION
ALL INDIA SCHOOL EDUCATION SURVEY (AISES)
ANALYTICS & MODELING
AUDIT INFORMATICS DIVISION
BANKING & INSURANCE INFORMATION DIVISION
BIBLIOGRAPHIC INFORMATICS DIVISION
BIO-INFORMATICS CENTRE, D/O BIO-TECH.
BOARD OF INDUSTRIAL FINANCIAL RECONSTRN.
BORDER ROAD DEVELOPMENT BOARD SECTT.
BORDER ROAD ORGANISATION
BUDGET DIVISION
CABINET SECRETARIAT
CAD -CIM
CAPART
CAPIES TESTING AND EVALUATION CENTRE
CASH & ACCOUNTS
CENTRAL ELECTRICITY AUTHORITY
CENTRAL GROUND WATER BOARD
CENTRAL LICENSING OFFICE

CENTRAL PENSION ACCOUNTING OFFICE
CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT CELL
CENTRAL VIGILANCE COMMISSION
CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION
CENTRAL WATER COMMISSION
CERTIFYING AUTHORITY DIVISION
CEX COMPUTERISATION PROJECT UNIT
CHIEF CONTROLLER OF ACCOUNTS (D/O COMM.)
CHIEF CONTROLLER OF ACCOUNTS(D/O SUPPLY)
CIC PROJECT
CIVIL AVIATION
COMMERCE and INDUSTRY INFORMATICS DIVISION
CONTENT PACKGING DIVISION(CD/DVD PRODN)
CO-OPERATIVES INFORMATICS DIVISION
COURTS INFORMATICS DIVISION
CRISP
CYBER SECURITY DIVISION
D.A.V.P. CELL
D.G. OFFICE
D.G.F.T
D.G.S.& D
D/O ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS
D/O AGRI. RESEARCH & EDUCATION
D/O ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING
D/O ARTS
D/O BIO-TECHNOLOGY
D/O CHEMICALS & PETROCHEMICALS
D/O COAL
D/O COMPANY AFFAIRS,SHASTRI BHAVAN
D/O CULTURE
D/O DISINVESTMENT
D/O ECONOMIC AFFAIRS
D/O EDUCATION
D/O EXPENDITURE
D/O FERTILIZERS
D/O HEAVY INDUSTRIES
D/O INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT
D/O INDUSTRIAL POLICY and PROMOTION
D/O INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
D/O OCEAN DEVELOPMENT
D/O OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
D/O PENSION
D/O POSTS
D/O PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
D/O PUBLIC ENTERPRISES,M/O HEAVYINDUATRY
D/O SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
D/O SUPPLY
D/O TELECOMMUNICATION
D/O WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT
D/O YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS
DEPARTMENT OF LAND RESOURCES
DEPARTMENTAL CANTEEN
DEPT. OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
DEPT. OF DRINKING WATER SUPPLY (RGNDW)
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (HANDICRAFT)
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION (HANDLOOM)
DICTIONARY PROJECT NIRMAN BHAVAN

DIRECTORATE OF ESTATES
DISNIC
DOORDARSAN
DOP&T - FACILITATION COUNTER
ECONOMICS & STATISTICS DIVISION
EDI APPLICATION UNIT
EDI S/W DEVELOPMENT UNIT
ELECTRONIC GOVERNANCE DIVISION
ENERGY INFORMATICS DIVISION
ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE & CENTRAL E.I.B.
ENVIRONMENT FORESTS INFORMATICS DIVISION
ERMIU
FAMILY WELFARE & ISM&H INFORMATICS DIVN
FCA INFOSYS DIVISION
FILE TRACKING DIVISION
FINANCIAL SECTOR INFORMATICS DIVISION
FOOD CORPORATION OF INDIA
GENERAL PURCHASE SECTION
GENERAL SECTION
GENERAL SECTION (SECURITY)
GENERAL STORES
GIS and REMOTE SENSING DIVISION
GRAPHIC AND DESIGN(CAD)
HEALTH INFORMATICS DIVISION
HINDI UNIT
HUMAN RESOURCES INFORMATICS DIVISION
ICAR/IARI
ICMR -NIC Centre
IFS SECTION
INDIAN CUSTOMS EDI SYSTEM (ICES)
INDIRA GANDHI ART CENTRE
INFRASTRUCTURE(DATA & ENGG. SUPPORT)
INTEGRATED BUSINESS INFORMATION SYSTEM
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND KNOW-HOW INFRM
LAN INFRASTRUCTURE - C YBER LAWS
LAND & DEVELOPMENT OFFICE
LAND RECORDS
LEGAL INFORMATICS DIVISION
LIBRARY
LOCAL AREA NETWORK DIVISION
LOKSABHA SECRETARIAT
M/O DEFENCE
M/O EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
M/O FINANCE
M/O FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
M/O HOME AFFAIRS
M/O INFORMATION & BROADCASTING
M/O LABOUR and EMPLOYMENT
M/O MINES
M/O NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES
M/O PERSONNEL, ADM. REFORMS, PUB.GRE. and PENSION
M/O PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS
M/O POWER
M/O PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION
M/O ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS
M/O SHIPPING
M/O SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT

M/O SSI & ARI
M/O STEEL
M/O TEXTILES
M/O TRIBAL AFFAIRS, COMM. FOR SC/ST, MINORY
M/O URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT
M/O WATER RESOURCES
MARKET INFORMATICS DIVISION
MASTER EARTH STATION
MEDICAL INFORMATICS & TELE MEDICINE DIVN
MIS DIVISION
MRTP COMMISSION
MULTIMEDIA (ENGINEERING & FACILITIES)
MULTIPURPOSE NATIONAL IDENTITY CARD PROJECT
NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHT COMMISSION
NATURAL RESOURCE INFORMATION SYSTEM DIVN
NETWORK PLANNING AND AUDIT DIVISION
NHMIS DIVISION
NIC-DRD COMPUTER CENTRE
NIC-MRD PROJECT CELL
NICNET PROJECT (TERCOM)
NORTH EASTERN REGION PROJECT
O/o CHAIRMAN, 12th FINANCE COMMISSION
O/O CONTROLLER OF CERTIFYING AUTHORITY
O/O DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, PLANNING COMMISSION
O/O MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFS.
O/o MOS, CHEM. and FERTILIZERS
O/o MOS, CIT
OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADVISOR
OFFICE OF OFFICIAL LIQUIDATORS
PARLIAMENT INFORMATICS DIVISION
PASSPORT PROJECT
PAY & ACCOUNTS
PERSONNEL and LITIGATION
PLAN and MONITORING DIVISION
PLANNING COMMISSION - YOJANA BHAVAN UNIT
PM OFFICE
PRESIDENT SECRETARIAT
PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
PUBLIC GREIVANCES & PENSION
PUBLICATION
PURCHASE (TECHNICAL)
QUESTION BANK PROJECT
R&S DIVISION, D/O COMPANY AFFAIRS
RAILWAYS
RAJYASABHA SECRETARIAT
REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES-CENTRAL PROJECT
REVENUE RECEIPT and BILLING DIVISION
ROC PROJECT, DELHI & HARYANA
SACFA PROJECT
SATCOM
SERIOUS FRAUD INVESTIGATION OFFICE
SOIL & GROUND WATER INFORMATION SYSTEM
SUGAR & EDIBLE OILS
SURFACE TRANSPORT
SYSTEM MAINTENANCE & SUPPORT DIVISION
SYSTEM TESTING & EVALUATION DIVISION
SYSTEMS SOFTWARE DIVISION

TARIFF COMMISSION
TECHNICAL STORES
TELEMATICS DEVELOPMENT PROMOTION
TOURISM INFORMATICS DIVISION
TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE DIGITAL LIBRARY
TRAINING DIVISION
TRANSPORT PROJECT
UTILITY MAPPING DIVISION
VICE PRESIDENT SECRETARIATE
VIGILANCE DIVISION
WEB SERVICES AND MULTIMEDIA APPLICATIONS DIV.
WIDE AREA NETWORK DIVISION
WIRELESS TERRESTRIAL COMMUNICATION DIVN
WIRELESS,PLANNING & CO-ORDINATION

1. Accounts Informatics Division
2. Agricultural Informatics Division
3. Analytics & Modelling Division
4. Audit Information Division
5. Bibliographic Informatics Division
6. Biotechnology Informatics Division
8. Cabinet Secretariat Informatics Division
9. Computer Aided Design (CAD) Group
11. Central Pension Accounting Office Informatics Division
12. Certifying Authority
13. Civil Aviation Information Division
14. Commerce Informatics Division
15. Communication Information System Division
17. Community Information Centre Project
18. Cooperatives Informatics Division
19. Court Information System (COURTIS) Division
20. Computerised Rural Information Systems Project (CRISP) Division
21. Culture Informatics Division
22. Customs and Excise Informatics Division
23. Cyber Security Group
24. Rural Development Informatics Systems Division
25. Department of Official Language Informatics Division
26. Disinvestment Informatics System Division
27. DISNIC Programme Division
28. Department of Information Technology Informatics Division
30. Education Informatics Division
31. e-Governance Division
33. Energy Informatics Division
35. Environment & Forest Informatics Division
36. External Affairs Informatics Division
37. Finance Informatics Division
38. Financial Sector Informatics Division
39. Fiscal and Financial Resources Informatics Group
40. Food & Consumer Affairs Informatics Division
41. Food Processing Informatics Systems Division
42. Health & FW Informatics Division (HID)
43. Human Resource Development Informatics Division
44. Information & Broadcasting Informatics Division
45. Industry Informatics Systems Division

47. Infrastructure Engineering Group
48. Integrated Business Informatics Systems Division
49. Intellectual Property & Know How Informatics Division
50. Labour Informatics System Division
51. Land Records Informatics Systems Division
52. Law & Justice Informatics Division
53. Market Informatics Division
54. Defence Informatics Division
55. Home Affairs Informatics Division
56. MPI Informatics Division
57. Rural Development Informatics Division
58. Natural Hazards Management Information System Division
59. Network Customer Support Division
60. Network Infrastructure Systems Group
62. Parliament Informatics Division
63. Personnel & Public Grievances Informatics Division
64. Planning Commission Informatics Division
65. Press Informatics Bureau
66. Prime Minister's Office Informatics Division
67. Remote Sensing & GIS Division
69. Satellite Communications Division
70. Science & Technology Informatics Division
71. Cultural Informatics Division
72. Surface Transport Informatics Division
73. System Operation & Management Informatics Division
74. Systems Maintenance Division
75. Systems Software Division
76. Teleinformatics Development Promotion Programme
77. Textile Informatics Division
78. Training Division
79. Transport & Highway Informatics Division
80. Urban Development and CPWD Informatics Division
81. Utility Mapping Division
83. Vigilance Information Informatics Division
84. Water Resources Informatics Division
85. Web Services & Multimedia Applications Division
86. Wireless Terrestrial Communication Division
87. Women & Child Development Info System Division

Networks Services Group

Networks Planning & Certifying Authority

Networks Operations

Data Centre & Web Services

Network Security

Satellite Communication

Consultancy, Hardware & AMC

Networks Planning

Networks Planning Unit

Certifying Authority Unit

Networks Operations Division

Operations & Routing(INOC, Gateway etc.)

Terrestrial Lines & LAN Support

Wireless Networks

E-mail/Messaging Services

Consultancy, Hardware & AMC Division

Consultancy, Hardware

AMC

At the State level, NICs State/UTs Units provide informatics support to their respective State Governments. The informatics support at the District level is provided through respective NIC District Informatics Centres. They provide effective informatics support for the Development, Revenue, Judiciary and various domains administration of the District.

NIC's SERVICE DELIVERY SPECTRUM

NIC has been instrumental (i) in steering IT applications and services in Government at Central, State and District level, (ii) facilitating improvement in government services, (iii) wider transparency in government functions, and (iv) improvement in decentralized planning and management. NIC is the only nodal S&T organization having the infrastructure to provide services to the government sector as envisaged in the Convergence Communication bill (2001).

?? Network Infrastructure Facility Provider (NIFP)

?? Network Service Provider (NSP)

?? Application Service Provider

?? Content ASP

NIC has set up countrywide satellite based VSAT network (NICNET), first of its kind among the developing countries, linking about 600 districts, 20 State Governments, 7 NCT/UT Administrations and Central Government departments. NIC is the only Government organization in India offering network services over Ku-band (TDMA, FTDMA, DVB, DAMA and SCPC) VSATs, Video Conference Facility, Wireless MANs and Local Area Networks (LANs).

IT services provided by NIC include data warehousing and mining, Network services (Internet, Intranet, & Extranet), Geographical Information System (GIS), Application of Remote Sensing Data, Multi-media Information System, E-Governance & Government E-Commerce, Decision Technology System, Sectoral IT Plans, IT Training for government employees – IT empowerment, NICNET Video Conferencing, and Total-IT solutions.

The NIC ICT infrastructure comprises:

The satellite based Wide Area Network has over 2000 nodes as detailed below:

Network Technology	Number of VSATs
SCPC DAMA	252
SCPC PAMA	51

Direcway -CIC	243
Direcway -GRAMSAT	356
Direcway -NIC	301
Skyblaster -CIC	244
Skyblaster -NIC	158
ISBN	60
FTDMA	337
Total	2002

- ?? Disaster Recovery Centre at Hyderabad.
- ?? Integrated Network Operations Center (I-NOC) for round the clock monitoring of NICNET.
- ?? Internet Data Center at NIC Hq. With storage capacity of 25 Tera Bytes for hosting websites and databases.
- ?? Data Centres at State capitals for their local storage needs.
- ?? National long distance high speed (8 Mbps/4Mbps/2Mbps) leased data circuits connecting all state capitals.
- ?? Metropolitan Network with high speed RF and leased lines.
- ?? About 21,000 nodes of Local Area Networks in all the Central Government offices and State Government Secretariats.
- ?? Video conferencing facilities in all state capitals and a number of districts. Total number of locations is 319.
- ?? Internet Gateway bandwidth enhanced to 138 Mbps for incoming and outgoing traffic with multiple alternate paths.
- ?? Certifying Authority for Digital Signature in G2G domain.
- ?? Training facilities at NIC Hqr. and State Government Secretariats.
- ?? Network Security.

Hub based Wireless Data Network has been established to provide last-mile connectivity to NICNET in all the Metropolitan cities, States/UT capitals, district head quarters and also sub-district levels, facilitating high-speed NICNET and internet connectivity. This data network is operating at 2.4000 GHz frequency range using Spread-Spectrum (Direct Sequence) Wireless technology. This technology is highly interference resistant ensuring availability of robust wireless link all the time and providing high level of security. The network is providing speed ranging from 64 kbps to 2 Mbps connectivity within city limits.

(iv) **Training**

Training of Government officials has been given paramount importance so that they are able to use computerized systems effectively. It has also proved to be immensely beneficial for the staff of Government Departments/Ministries etc. in bringing about cultural and attitudinal change pertaining to their way of functioning. From awareness creation of senior officials, to the operational training of the staff at the working level, NIC's training facilities encompass a variety of courses for different levels of officials.

The training divisions of NIC are duly equipped with hi-tech multimedia systems and state-of-the-art teaching/lab facilities. Besides, distance learning through videoconferencing(VC) the facilities include the capacity to conduct four training programmes simultaneously with a man-machine ratio of 1:1 in practice sessions. Regular Training Programmes to update the skills of the in-house staff are also held throughout the year. Apart from these, NIC also conducts, customized training sessions for specialized groups such as Civil Servants, International teams visiting India, Armed Forces personnel etc. The training centres of NIC are located at the Head Quarters in Delhi and in every State Centres all over the country. NIC is training about 20,000 Government officials every year.

(v) **Video Conferencing**

The NIC's videoconferencing is changing the way organizations function. It is bringing decision-makers and action takers together, face-to-face, wherever they are, across the country or around the globe. Experts from remote locations can interact with each other in real time interactive mode. It is bringing education and training to various agencies including corporations and to other professional organizations nationally and internationally. By providing strong channels of visual, graphical and multimedia communication, videoconferencing opens new vistas of functioning of Government and service delivery mechanism is enabled for various sectors of Indian economy.

With nine(9) years of experience in Videoconferencing Technology, National Informatics Centre's technical expertise is unmatched in the country. NIC is currently providing videoconferencing services from 319 cities in India including all north-eastern state capitals over its high speed satellite based network called "NICNET". This is the largest videoconferencing network in India, spread across length and breadth of the country. The advantage of using satellite based communications is that it can deliver high speed data and provide videoconferencing at remote locations, which were earlier not easily accessible, irrespective of weather conditions at different locations.

NIC is also providing Videoconferencing services from many Central and State Government Ministries using ISDN lines to various other counterparts in the Government domain. On the basis of "Anytime Any Where Videoconferencing Services" of NIC, using Portable VSAT and portable Videoconferencing, is widely being availed by various NICNET users. This service can be utilized to provide temporary Videoconferencing service for conferences, exhibitions, seminars, and other important events. It is widely used for VIP inauguration programmes at remote sites.

(d) Incident Response Service

NIC's NIC-CIRT (Internal Incident Response Team) to assists and guides the victims of the cyber attack in recovering from an incident via phone, email or documentation. This could involve technical assistance in the interpretation of data collected, providing contact information or relaying guidance on mitigation and recovery strategies, irrespective of fact that it may or may not involve direct, on-site incident response actions. The NIC-CIRT provides need-based guidance remotely with the help of concerned System/network specialists.

NICNET Informatics Services to the Central and State Governments (National Information Infrastructure for e-Governance)

NIC State Units have developed and implemented (a) flagship applications, (b) workflow applications, (c) Database services, (d) GIS applications, (e) NICNET based network centric applications. A large number of "network-centric" applications have been developed and made operational in various states. Many of these applications are used to facilitate horizontal transfer of software and experience of implementation from one state to another. State Government departments utilized NICNET facilities for on-line monitoring of various sectors of economy and social development programme on a regular basis, and also for database development for administrative and development planning. Computerization of District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) and Computerisation of Land Records in 586 districts in the country are the steps towards taking advantage of IT in e-governance at the grass root level of development / administration in the country.

NIC State Units have been involved in re-engineering administrative processes, State Wide Area Network and Department-wise specific MIS, Standard Office Automation Software, Common Office Automation Software, and Citizen Services Automation Services (Lokmitra

Maharashtra). NIC State Units have taken project initiatives to develop information systems for establishing “e-Nagarpalika”, in collaboration with Municipal Corporations. Property Registration Departments of many States have been computerised with the software developed by NIC (i.e. CARD in Andhra Pradesh, STAR in Tamilnadu, PRISM in Punjab, and PEARL in Kerala). Major IT projects under implementation by NIC State Units were as follows: Comprehensive Application software for Commercial Tax offices, Computerisation of land records at Tehsil level and integration of Cadastral Maps with land records, Computerised Ship Ticketing System in all the Ports in the UT of Lakshadweep, Establishment of video Conferencing facilities in districts (i.e.U.P), LANs at State Secretariats, Information Kiosks, Citizen charters of Government Departments as a step towards e-Governance, Project Zilla Parishad – 2000, GPF computerisation, Taluk/Tehsil level computerisation, Extension of NICNET to blocks (DICNET), Collectorate-2000 Software package for workflow automation, Sub-Treasury level computerisation, Computerisation and Networking of RTOs and ARTOs in States, BPL Census Survey data computerisation , Economic Survey –2000 computerisation, District Transport Computerisation, GIS based DSS in Government Departments, Modified version “Rural Soft” Software for programme monitoring in Blocks and Panchayats, State Electricity Board Computerisation, Agricultural Census-1995-96 & Input Survey 1996-97 data computerisation, AGMARKNET facilities in Agricultural Produce Wholesale Markets, DACNET Project , education survey by NCERT, e-panchayat, e-municipal, IT for micro level planning, etc.

NIC has played its major role in the information revolution at district level, state level and national level by implementing a number of Information & Communication Technology (ICT) Projects in Central and Centrally Sponsored Sector Programmes. Major Projects are: Agricultural Census and Marketing, Budget Computerisation, Central Excise Computerisation, Commercial Tax Computerisation, Community Information, Centre, Corporate Companies Computerisation, Courts Computerisation Project – Supreme Court, High Courts and District Courts, Customs computerisation, and EDI implementation, District Information System (DISNIC), District Rural Development Agency Computerisation Project (CRISP), District Treasury Computerisation, Parliamentary Elections data transmission and analysis, Employment Exchange Computerisation , Land Records computerisation, National Drinking Water Technology Mission Project Computerisation, Passport Computerisation, Registration Department Computerisation (CARD Project), Road Transport Vehicles Registration Computerisation and Utility Mapping Project ,e-NRICH, e-panchayat, Rural Bazar, etc.

Cyber Security

Network security restructuring plan has been worked out and implemented for LANs at NIC(Hq) and State Centres . The implementation includes installation and configuration of Firewall, Antivirus server, Patch Update Server, Segmentation of the LAN into Server Farm, Management Subnet and Intranet(s), Network Address Translation etc. The network/services Security Policies have been developed and hosted on the website for implementation in order to improve the network security. Procedures for implementation of policies have been prepared and made available for implementation. Online form has been made available for the Vulnerability Assessment Service. This enables the users to request for availing the service and response is sent through the CIRT. Implementation of VPN across NICNET to enable secure access of the internal resources and for updating of critical servers.

Web-sites hosted/ to be hosted on the NICNET are audited and tested for possible penetration and exploitation such that vulnerabilities highlighted can be removed. This is done both manually and with the help of a procured tool for application penetration testing. Encryption facilities for users' with critical requirement are being provided using certificate issued by an Enterprise Certifying Authority.

National Informatics Centre Certifying Authority(NICCA)

NICCA has been licensed to function as Certifying Authority for issuing digital signature in G2G domain under section 21 of IT Act 2000. NICCA is offering three different type of certificates i.e. SMIME Signing Certificate, SSL Server Certificate, SSL Client Certificate, under two classes of Certification Services - Class 1 & Class 2.

Besides issuing Digital Signature Certificates in G2G domain (Central and State Government Departments and Public Sector undertakings) NICCA is providing Online Directory Services for DSCs and CRLs.

More than 1000 Digital Signature Certificates (individual & device) have been issued. PKI enabling of Bhoomi Project in Karnataka. has been done. 250 Certificates have been issued on site.

Biblio -Informatics Services Programme

The Programme provides information/training/user awareness services to the medical as well as S&T professionals in the country from resources available over the Internet and CDROM databases. The Indian MEDLARS Centre (IMC) web page got 2,00,000 hits since its launch. The webpage was redesigned to include a MetaMED search tool enabling search tool enabling searching of IndMED and international PubMed databases simultaneously. An online full-text database, medIND was designed and developed and its website launched. NIC is also providing global patent information (bibliographic, abstract-patent documents) to Indian Industries R&D organizations, consultants, Patent Attorney, Scientists, Researchers, etc.

Land Records Computerisation:

Computerisation of Land Records (CLR) is currently operational to a varying degree in 582 district in the country. At present there are approximately 3000 Revenue Circles where computerised copies of ROR is being distributed. NIC is a nodal agency for providing technological support for implementation of project along with Ministry of RD.

Quality certification of the application software has been acquired under ISO 9126 certification. Security provisions based on biometrics have been extended to all the states.

CAD-CIM Project

The objective of this project is to provide the Strategic Sectors and the Small Scale & Medium Scale Industries a state-of-the-art CAD/CIM Solution using open source libraries. The development of CollabCAD software has been used by BARC, VSSIL, DRDL, ADA, Nuclear Power Corporation, Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research etc. The IPR of the software is owned by NIC. Development work is going on to enhance the capabilities of software and implement in more number of organizations.

Development of Geographical Information System: Software Development and Infrastructure over NICNET :

GIS is one of the emerging technologies which provide integration of spatial and non spatial data. State of the art entered facility has been set up at NIC over the storage Area Network

administrative boundaries up to village level. The spatial data have developed also users impart from processing of satellite data. Web based GIS service to this effect has been set up using Arc/info and Oracle data base.

Focus during 2004-2005 has been on developing the natural resources information using satellite images at various resolutions. This would incorporate integrated data base across the country on parameters eg. Soil, watersheds, Forest etc. Applications are proposed to be developed around this data for different user organisations and planning needs.

Utility Mapping

NIC has been implementing various projects in the area of utility mapping. Map sheets on scale 1:1250 covering 40-sq. km. Area of four villages of Delhi City have been updated . Other projects are: Mapping and verification of sewage network for Delhi City, Reliance India Ltd. and TATA Cable network, 95% Gecoding of Delhi Address data and development of Address locating application, Compilation of 150-sq. km. Area of Namchi sub-division area of Sikkim State, Superimposition of land parcel images for 30 sq-km area on digital base map etc. The project on “Computer Aided Digital Mapping Project for six cities (Chennai, Ahmedabad, Kolkatta, Hyderabad, Mumbai, and Bangalore) has been undertaken for Planning Commission.

General Information Service Terminal of National Informatics Centre - (GISTNIC):

This is a value added service on NICNET under which NIC has been providing/disseminating open information relating to various sectors/areas e.g. Indian economy, health, education, etc. for the knowledge of research workers, Govt. officials etc. GISTNIC project has achieved the privilege of being the only web site, wherein information related to various subjects about India is made available in a unified website. EINFO (Education Information Services), BINFO (Business Information Services), TINFO (Tourism Information Services), GINFO (Government Information Services), ITINFO (Information Technology Information Services), Healthinfo (Health Information Services), CINFO (Citizen Information Services), SnTINFO (Science and Technology Information Services), Market Prices Information, State Level Public Service Examination results, FINFO (Financial Information Services) modules have been implemented.

India Image

NIC has been extending comprehensive World Wide Web (WWW) to Government Ministries, State Governments & UT Administrations, District Administrations and other Government bodies right from Consultancy, Web Design and Development, Web Hosting, Value Added Web Services to Promotion of Web Sites Enhancement of Web Sites & Training. NIC has hosted more than 2500 web sites on its WWW infrastructure. The portal has been enhanced considerably for providing Tenders portal for Online Publishing and maintenance of Government of India Tenders, Web Enabled Content Management System, XML Based Solution for Management for 481 Block Level websites under the CIC Enrich Project, published results of various examinations, live Webcast of important events including Union Budget, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Rath Jatra, Republic Day, Asia IT Summit 2004, Elitex 2004, Tirupati Balaji Brahmotsavam 2004, etc.

COURTS Computerisation

NIC has computerised Supreme Court, High Courts and District Courts. It has implemented COURT-IS applications uniformly in the High Courts and their Benches. All the important applications like Cause list of all High Courts, Judgment Information System, and Case Status Information System of several High Courts and Daily Orders of a few High Courts have been successfully implemented on the web.

In the Supreme Court digitization of Old Records has been taken up and the project is in implementation. Display boards information and its filing defects of fresh cases of Supreme Court are available on internet. NIC has implemented the city civil courts project of four metro cities. Another 29 city civil court has been undertaken. Funds are provided by the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice. The case lists, Daily Orders, and Judgments of Delhi District Courts are available on web.

NICNET International Gateway :

NIC is providing Internet connectivity to NICNET users. It has set up internet gateway with in-built redundancy. NICNET is having three categories of Internet Gateway connectivity: Terns Atlantic – For connectivity into European region, Trans Pacific – For connectivity into Asian region, and VSNL - For connectivity within India.

The total capacity of Internet Gateway at Delhi has been increased to 125 Mbps Receive and 91 Mbps transmit. The bandwidth is evenly distributed in various routes to increase the

network reliability. Due to increased incidences of Network attacks special measures have been taken at all the network entry points by implementing recommended security policies.

Information Technology for Micro -Level Planning

Micro-level Planning is progressively now gaining momentum in India, in view of the enactment of Panchayat Raj Institutions at grass-root level. In order to provide a framework and to strengthen the planning machinery in districts, it is envisaged to usher in “database based planning” by building databases, decision support systems, and internet information access for facilitating grass-root level planning in a meaningful way; to promote informatics tools in micro level planning to strengthen analytical capability in districts; to develop necessary infrastructural facilities in the District Planning Cells/Boards to handle both spatial and non-spatial information in an integrated manner; to bring in a qualitative change in manpower to provide database and analytical support to the district planning team; and to provide necessary training to narrow-down the gap between the planners and various subject specialists in districts. A proposal to implement the pilot project in 28 district has been formulated for approval by Planning Commission.

National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated (NICSI)

National Informatics Centre Services Incorporated (NICSI) was set up under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956, mainly to promote utilisation of IT, Computer Communication Network, Informatics Developments of Services, Technologies, Supplementing Developments by NIC, promote value added Computer and Computer-Communication Services etc. Many Central and State Government Departments have retained NICSI as their Total-IT-Solution Provider. Some of the major projects undertaken by NICSI are setting up of CICs in J&K, E-Governance Rollout projects, GRAMSAT-Block level networking in Orissa, Headstart project for Govt.of M.P., P.R & PHED Computerisation in various States, VC in the states of M.P, Rajasthan, Nagaland, H.P. etc., Computerisation of Schools in Orissa, Computerisation of Treasury & P.R including VSATs at Block in Chattisgarh, DC Suite project for Palakkad in Kerala, Computerisation of Deptt of Revenue ,Gujarat, Computerisation of Police HQs of Districts of U.P., Computerisation of Education Project, Bihar, Computerisation of Treasuries of U.P., Passport Scanning Project of MEA, Computerisation of FCI, Immigration Computerisation MHA, Computerisation of Health Services in Rajasthan, etc.

Government of India Initiatives

- After the war with China in 1962, the Government of India realised the importance and felt the need of a strong indigenous electronics base for security and national development and accordingly set up the Electronics Committee (also known as the Bhabha Committee) under the Chairmanship of the renowned nuclear scientist Dr. Homi J Bhabha. The Committee in its report in 1966 focused on computers as tools “to the development of a new outlook and a new scientific culture” and suggested the establishment of a National Computer Centre and five regional centres.

- The Electronics Committee convened a National Conference on Electronics in 1968 wherein Dr. Vikram Sarabhai, the then Chairman of the Committee, suggested the formation of National Informatics Organisation towards fulfilling the goal of a self-reliant electronics industry.

- Recognising the need for rapid progress in this regard, the Government of India set up a separate Department of Electronics (DOE) with effect from 26th June 1970 with Professor M.G.K. Menon as the Secretary of the Department. The department functioned directly under Prime Minister as a scientific department.

- The Government constituted the Electronics Commission in February 1971 under the Chairmanship of Professor M.G.K. Menon.

- For policy formulation and implementation through meaningful, effective and in-depth studies in the field of electronics including computer industry, an Information, Planning and Analysis Group (IPAG) of the Electronics Commission was constituted in October 1971 with Dr. N. Seshagiri as its Director.

- The Headquarters of the Department of Electronics were at Delhi and those of the Electronics Commission at Mumbai (then Bombay). The IPAG as part of the Electronics Commission was centred at Mumbai.