Bhubaneswar holds conference on Smart Bhubaneswar

Post demonetisation and on the backdrop of the crisis faced by the country, the 9th Odisha Information Technology Fair – 2017 (OITF) holds much more importance to understand the actual groundwork going on the smart city front. The Department of IT, Odisha, STPI, UCCI and C-Dot supported the conference. The conference chose "Digital Transformation" as its theme and the focus of the meet was to popularize digital transaction, Digital India and to understand the investment opportunities in Odisha as Bhubaneswar has been declared as the first Smart City in India.

Around 250 delegates including top executives from across verticals comprising of government, academics, corporate world, IT services companies and VARs attended the event. Organized by VARINDIA (India's Frontline IT Magazine), the event was held at Hotel Mayfair, Bhubaneswar on 24th January, 2017, which served as a unique platform to discuss under one roof the vital issues concerning the IT landscape in the state.

The delegates exchanged their views on the next-generation technology which is going to disrupt the industry with the introduction of IoT devices in the Smart City projects for the future. C-Dot spoke on how Indian products are most suitable with their state-of-the-art digital innovations for transforming India to come up with Smart Cities.

Shri Priyadarshi Mishra, MLA, Bhubaneswar, who graced the occasion as a Special Guest, marked the beginning of the event by lighting the ceremonial lamp. He was joined by other distinguished guests – Shri R. N. Palai, ITS, Special Secretary to the Government, IT Department, GoO; Shri Vipin Tyagi, Executive Director, C-Dot, Government of India; Dr Gopal Krishna Nayak, Director, IIIT, Bhubaneswar; Shri Damodar Sahu, Partner & Industry Advisor, WIPRO Limited; Shri Nihar

Dr Gopal Krishna Nayak, Director, IIIT, Bhubaneswar

"Deglobalization is happening, across the world. Firstly, the countries which were promoting free trading now are slowly becoming insular. It is stated with Britain and Now President Trump's announcement on the barrier on imports and outsourcing is a dangerous thing for the Indian IT industry and hope globalization will not stop. Secondly, with the rise of robots, in the manufacturing industry, it is expected to replace the skilled workers. With the rise of robots, many jobs are at stake. Lastly, with the introduction of Artificial Intelligence, blue and white collar jobs are also going to vanish and some newer form of jobs will get introduced. This year, it has started with a gloomy note like demonetization unlike other years. What we see VARINDIA is changing this time for better, and brings a great platform like this with the industry and the stakeholders for business networking."

Shri R. N. Palai, ITS, Special Secretary to the Government, IT Department, GoO

"We have a friendly ICT policy for promoting this sector. IT exports from Odisha increased to Rs.3, 000 crore during 2015-16 and are increasing at the rate of 15% per year. The Government of Odisha welcomes IT companies to invest in the state. With a stable Government in Odisha and the appointment of Dr Sam Pitroda as the Technology Advisor, we are expecting a positive growth of IT in Odisha. Going forward, initiatives made by VARINDIA for organizing Cricket tournament is really commendable and rejuvenates the minds of the young generation working in the SME and corporate sectors in Odisha, in the present demonetization saga."

Chakraborty, Sr Vice-President.& COO – East & SAARC, Sify Technologies; Shri Sameer Bhatia, Country Manager – India & SAARC, Seagate Technology; Shri Nilanjan Mukherjee, Sr Vice-President, Fourth Dimension Solutions; Shri Suvrendu Mitra, IMS Div. East India, Canon India; Shri Soubhagya Routray, President, ITAO; and Shri Deepak Kumar Sahu, Chief Editor, VARINDIA.

Shri Deepak Sahu, Chief Editor, VARINDIA,

while addressing the guests, remarked at the fabulous digital story that India is seeing. He spoke on how VARINDIA continues with this spirit to provide a real-time update on the industry – be it Digital India, Start-up India, Stand Up India, Make in India, and now one of the important subjects which is Digital Payment (the recent matter be it demonetization), and the most important – Securing India. "The assets are being created either by you or the state, but they

Shri Vipin Tyagi, Executive Director, C-Dot, Government of India

"C-DOT is ready to give any manufacturer in Odisha to manufacturing technology products to get manufactured, since technology will work shoulder to shoulder with any partner and will come forward. Networking has to be on priority. Without right networking, nothing will work including any sensors and for this we would require integrated core-based IP network to get success of the smart city objective in the country. C-DOT has built the entire model which has four objectives for the smart city, that include Physical (energy, water, transport, connectivity and waste), Social (Education, health, building homes, city – inclusive development, entertainment and economy. We can give this model to the manufacturers which is end-to-end well fit for the smart city. Just build it and deploy it. We have also developed a solution like WhatsApp, in the name of SAMVAD. With this, your information will not go to US. This is being deployed in the security and sensitivity agencies for doing their normal communications. The Government has planned for 25,000 connectivity through Wi-Fi for creating the hotspot, through our GPON networks."

Shri Priyadarshi Mishra
MLA, Bhubaneswar, North

"The Govt. of Odisha is committed to development of IT- ITeS and electronic manufacturing units in the state. We have made the enabling provisions in the form of policy, guidelines to promote the sector as a whole. The IT export from Noida has also increased to around 3000 crores in the year 2015 – 16 and it is increasing at the pace of nearly 18%. This indicates that the sector is growing and the government is consistently trying to get the new footprints of the IT companies to the state. Bhubaneswar has achieved yet another milestone in its journey towards becoming a Smart City. Odisha's capital Bhubaneswar has bagged a prestigious second runners-up position at the Barcelona Smart City Expo World Congress organized in Spain. The ranking was based on the proposals submitted on various developmental projects in the cities. Bhubaneswar was competing in the innovative global south category."

Shri Sameer Bhatia, Country Manager – India & SAARC, Seagate Technology

"Seagate is the company that will hold all your data generated by you all and we are the brand behind the brand. Seagate holds the data of the world and pioneer in the storage industry by offering you storage and live streaming experience both. Talking about future data generation, in the coming two years there will be very challenging in terms of Data generation, and in the coming four years the data generation will be on the higher side, which had generated worldwide in the past 35 years. Our association with Skyarch worldwide to store all heritage places promises to bring exciting opportunity in the storage space. Storage is a growth area and will transform to the range from petabyte to hexabyte."

Nihar Chakraborty
Sr Vice-President & COO – East & SAARC, Sify Technologies

"Today we are talking about digital transformation. And yes there is a lot of transformation happening, be it in digital space, smart city, ICT or IoT. Talking of sectors, whether it is healthcare, Financial services, manufacturing, a lot of digital transformation is happening. And we have to keep pace with these advancements. But what will happen to the large magnitude of data that this transformation will give rise to? These have to be stored in a datacenter. As a technology services company, we offer the entire range of unified services to the customers (end to end) through our state-of-the-art data centers. Uniqueness about Sify is seamless cloud infrastructure. It is always advised to have one service provider to get various seamless services."

are under threat by cybercriminals. Businesses have to yet wake up to the grave risks posed by social media. Unless companies come to realize that their security perimeters must grow beyond the corporate firewall to encompass social media networks, then the global cost of cybercrime will continue to reach US$2.1 trillion by 2019," he said.

Shri R. N. Palai, ITS, Special Secretary to the Government, IT Department, GoO, spoke on the Government's commitment for the growth of IT, ITeS and electronics manufacturing in Odisha. He also spoke on the electronics manufacturing cluster, about manufacturing which is to start in Odisha in Info valley – II.

Dr Gopal Krishna Nayak, Director, IIIT, Bhubaneswar, addressed the audience on the importance of economy. Shri Vipin Tyagi, Executive Director, C-Dot, Government of India, spoke on the presence of good education in Odisha and about the manufacturing cluster. He further spoke about reliable communication which is a must.

Shri Priyadarshi Mishra, MLA, Bhubaneswar, North, spoke on his regular interaction with the IT companies in Bhubaneswar, where most of the IT corporates are present in his area.

In the corporate presentations section, Shri Nihar Chakraborty, Sr Vice-President & COO –East & SAARC, Sify Technologies, spoke about digital transformation and connectivity. Shri Sameer Bhatia, Country Manager – India & SAARC, Seagate Technology, spoke on how to save data which are going to generate from many sources – be it individual, SME or enterprise. Shri Suvrendu Mitra, IMS Div. East India, Canon India, shared his experience about the importance of digitization and documentation which Canon expertise's as an enabler with various range of scanner products.

The event recognized the technology enablers in Odisha. The winners are Nigama Computech, Tristar Software and Solutions, Tatwa Technologies, E Square Systems & Technologies, Printlink Computer and Communication, Info Care Solutions and CSM Technologies, which won the awards, respectively in the segments of Best VAR – Odisha, Best Software Services – Odisha, Best Technology Services, Best System Integrator, Best Distributor, Best Reseller –Odisha and Best IT Consulting Services – Odisha, respectively.

Solution Display Kiosks

Suvrendu Mitra
IMS Div. East India, Canon India

"Canon is associated with imaging – image capture, delivery & print and display. We can make data secure at various levels, which is growing at the rate of 15% annually. Documents are the lifeline of any business. There are certain documents that are issued externally like medical reports, mark sheets, invoices etc. while there are also internal documents like audit reports, minutes of a meeting etc. But it is becoming important to digitally back-up these documents. After incidents of loss of data have been reported, most of the organizations including PSUs, corporates have started digitally backing up and storing the information and data available. The good news is that they have come to understand the importance of storing these data. Likewise, scanning is another component that is most important in the Smart City sector."

"Smart City: Smart Bhubaneswar"

[Mr. Deepak Kumar sahu, Chief editor- VARINDIA moderating the Panel Discussion(From L to R): Panel members Mr. Nilanjan Mukherjee, Sr. Vice President- Fourth Dimension Solutions , Mr. Damodar Sahu, Partner & Industry Advisor – WIPRO LIMITED, Mr. Nihar Chakraborty, Sr. V.P.& COO-East & SAARC- Sify Technologies , Mr. Vipin Tyagi, E.D. – C Dot, Government of India, Mr. Sameer Bhatia, Country Manager- India & SAARC- Seagate Technology, Mr. Ayashkant Mohanty, M.D.- Tatwa Technologies]

The panelists at the discourse discussed on the unique nature of the Indian cities, that one has to understand the dynamics of the city before designing smart city architecture for the city.

Shri Nihar Chakraborty, Sr Vice-President & COO – East & SAARC, Sify Technologies spoke on how IT services companies have to fine-tune their requirements with respect to the city before coming with the architecture once the uniqueness of Bhubaneswar is finalized. "Bhubaneswar has all the ingredients to become the best smart city. The very fact that 5 top companies have made their investments here speaks volume of the talent pool that is here. While improving infrastructure is one side of making a city smarter, but empowering the people living here is another aspect that should be looked at in order for a city to emerge smarter."

Shri Vipin Tyagi, Executive Director, C-Dot, Government of India spoke on how Smart City should have an integrated approach and it cannot be a piecemeal approach. "Better cyber connectivity and local creativity & resources are a better way of looking at this issue. Also local manufacturing should also spring up in order to meet up rise in local consumption."

Shri Damodar Sahu, Partner & Industry Advisor, WIPRO Limited spoke on how the automobile sector is moving towards transformation and about the 4th industry revolution that is about to come to India. "India is going through a lot of transformation in terms of connected services that is coming to India, which means that India is now going to produce smart devices from a smart plan and which eventually will give you smart services."

Shri Nilanjan Mukherjee, Sr Vice-President, Fourth Dimension Solutions spoke about how the city needs to use its existing ICT infrastructure if it wants to leapfrog and wants to save time as all technologies have its life cycle. "The Smart city as a concept has to live to everyone's expectations to make a city liveable and is a mean to make the city sustainable. A Smart city does not just mean IoT or connecting sensors but it is much beyond that."

Shri Sameer Bhatia, Country Manager – India & SAARC, Seagate Technology spoke about how citizens need to be smart and awareness needs to be created to use smart technology. "Smart cities are made smarter by smart citizens. We might keep talking about datacenters and infrastructure, but the only way to make it smart is through its citizens who need to be made smarter first."

Shri Ayashkant Mohanty, Managing Director, Tatwa Technologies spoke about how Bhubaneswar can become the best smart city in the country and how to tap new innovations back into Bhubaneswar Smart City. "With little effort, no doubt Bhubaneswar can be converted into a smarter city as it is well positioned to do that. But the only thing lagging in us is that we do not market our city well."

Key take away: The panel agreed that the people have to be smart to make the city smarter and discussed on the role of corporates/ institutions in Bhubaneswar to come up with their vision and contribute their ideas to make Bhubaneswar a smart and liveable City.

1. The Best VAR, Odisha - NigamaComptech
2. The Best Software Distributor, Odisha-Tristar Software and Solutions Pvt. Ltd
3. Best System Integrator - E Square Systems & Technologies Pvt. Ltd.
4. Best Distributor - Printlink Computer and Communication Pvt. Ltd
5. Best Technology Services - Tatwa Technologies Ltd.
6. Best Reseller, Odisha - Info care Solutions Pvt. Ltd.
7. Best Software services, Odisha - CSM Technologies

Customer Insights

Sanjib Patra
Founder & CEO – Credence Redefined Services

"This digitization and smart city concepts have come up in a big way. We are into background verification process which happens through mobile applications; our main thing is data & data security and how to maintain data security. Digitization plays a very important role for us and we are ready to be a part of this digital transformation."

Dhirendra Khandelwal
CEO – Esquare Systems & Technologies

"There has been a lot of disruption happening due to cloud coming in and technology moving ahead. This realization is soon dawning on all of us that we will have to be a part of this digital transformation. We being an IT services company would surely benefit from this as we will be a catalyst to this transformation."

Ayaskanta Mohanty
MD - Tatwa Technologies

"Thanks to VARINDIA as they have been doing this for a couple of years and they have created a platform for all the SMEs and channel partners to know more about what is happening all around. The focus has lately been on smart cities but yes, digital transformation is important for any organization and has become a part of life."

Nimay C Sahu
Deputy General Manager, NALCO

"Digital transformation is proving to be a very crucial progress for a lot many organizations and they can benefit from that. NALCO is working in many directions to make this transformation happen. And I think this is going to play a very important contribution in the development of a smart city and Digital India."

Nilanjan Mukherjee
Senior VP Sales & Marketing – Fourth Dimension Solutions

"Digital Transformation is a key to growth. The PM's mission critical Digital India project gives a big momentum to SMEs like us to grow forward. We are completely aligned to Digital India. The entire process of digitization is getting in and we are ready to participate in it tools like decision support system, which helps the decision makers to have a smart governance. So digital transformation is taking the industry to leapfrog to the next level. Digital India is a perspective to make the lives of citizens smarter by giving a resilient society."

Damodar Sahu, Partner & Industry Advisor – Digital, Manufacturing & Technology SBU, Wipro

"I focus on IoT, IIoT, Smart Services, Digital Transformation for Manufacturing clients. It is really a proud moment for Bhubaneswar for having being enlisted as a Smart City. Being from Wipro, we are working on a lot of initiatives in the Smart City initiative. Of course Bhubaneswar is also our focus area and Wipro is already doing a lot of work in this regard. I am sure with a lot of government initiatives in Digital India and 100 smart cities; the future ahead looks very bright. 4-5 IT companies have already set up base in Bhubaneswar after being named in the 100 smart cities, which also includes Wipro."

Shri Vipin Tyagi
Executive Director, C-Dot, Government of India

"It is a great experience to be in Bhubaneswar. We need to have the involvement of the technologists in brainstorming about what should be the smart city, of how it can help youngsters, budding technologists & large corporates and most importantly what it means to the public. Digital transformation today has caught the fancy of all Indians. In a democracy like India, collective consciousness drives the national agenda. The transformation we are looking at today will go through multiple changes."

Sameer Bhatia, Country Manager – India & SAARC, Seagate Technology

"As far as the topic of Smart City is concerned, it is a great initiative by the government of India. Bhubaneswar has grown tremendously in the last 3-4 years and it is ahead of many other cities in India. If you do not change with time, you will be left behind and so it becomes important to move with the tide and become a part of this digital transformation. Technology is one aspect which can transform people's lives tremendously and in future too it is going to play an important role in the transformation of the smart cities and for making people smart. In smart cities, surveillance is one key area that every city, government and individual has to take care of for a safer society and safer people."

Lucky Draw

Mr. P Acharya, Addl. D.G. Police- Govt. of Odisha, Mr. Sameer Bhatia - Seagate and Mr. Nihar Chakraborty - Sify Technologies- participated in the lucky dip

Audience at OITF 2017

During the Q & A session

During the Panel Discussion session

VARINDIA Organizes its Annual Cricketing Event

There is no doubt that good sports also make the city smart. Sports recognize the place, state and the organization they work for and it helps in brand building and brand recall. It also brings out the hidden talent of every hard working employee who spends maximum hours sitting in 4 x 4 cubicles and 24x7.

To realise this objective, VARINDIA organized its annual cricketing events - the 7th VARINDIA IT Cup 2017 and VARINDIA ICT CUP 2017 in two different cricket grounds for the IT and ICT companies, Biju Pattnaik Stadium, Utkal University and KIIT Stadium respectively. Altogether 26 IT and telecom companies participated in both the tournaments and it was supported by STPI (GOI) and OCAC (GOO).

The Tournament drew an overwhelming response from the IT majors in Odisha. The objective of the tournament was to bring all the corporate together on a single platform, where they get to know each other and experience the real spirit of the game.

VARINDIA ICT CUP 2017 which is in its first edition was played among six corporates in the KIIT Stadium, Bhubaneswar. Airtel came out as the runners-up team and the winner of the Champion Trophy was Infosys. Shri Rajanikanta Swain from Tatwa Technologies emerged as The Man of the Series for the IT Cup.

VARINDIA IT Cup 2017 which is in its 7th edition was held at the Biju Pattnaik Stadium (Utkal University) and was played among 20 IT corporates. The runners-up team was Infosys and the winner of the Champion Trophy was awarded to TATWA Technologies.

Runners-up trophy for the 1st VARINDIA ICT cup – AIRTEL(Bhubaneswar)

Champion Trophy of 1stVARINDIA ICT Cup INFOSYS- Bhubaneswar

Runners-up trophy for the 7th VARINDIA IT cup – INFOSYS- Bhubaneswar

Champion Trophy of 7th VARINDIA IT Cup TATWA TECHNOLOGIES

Winner of Man of the Series - 7th VAR INDIA IT Cup 2017- Mr.Rajanikanta Swain, Tatwa Technologies