

CSI Nihilent eGovernance Awards 2015-16

24th January 2017, Coimbatore

A Brief Report

The Special Interest Group on eGovernance of Computer Society of India (CSI-SIGeGov), successfully conducted the 14th edition of CSI Nihilent eGovernance Awards (CNEA) ceremony on 24th Jan 2017 in Coimbatore. The awards ceremony is a culmination of an elaborate awards process spread over 9 months starting with nominations and ending with awards presentation to the successful entries. Sponsored by Nihilent Technologies Ltd, since the year 2002, the awards ceremony has become integral part of the CSI Annual Convention. This year's event took place at Hotel Le Meridien, Coimbatore.

To make the event rewarding, an eGovernance track has been included as part of the CSI 2016 program. This session was inaugurated by Sri Sanjay Mohaptra, VP CSI, in the presence of Sri Rangaswami, OC Chair CSI 2016, Prof M N Hoda, Chairman Division I-CSI, Sri Lalit Sawhney, Ex President-CSI and Sri Surendra Kapoor, Convener, CSI-SIGeGov. The first panel discussion was on 'Digital Transformation – Issues and Challenges' and the second session was on 'eGovernance Initiatives – Emerging Drivers'. The panel sessions were well attended by the award winners and accompanying teams. Shri Lalit Sawhney and Sri Satish Babu, past Presidents of CSI chaired the sessions. Panelists for both the sessions were Award winners from State and Projects category.

The much awaited, Awards ceremony took place in the convention hall. Well attended with over 100 participants consisting of 40+ awardees teams and other invitees, the entire program has been well received and appreciated for the ambience and the professional way it got conducted. The highlight of this year's ceremony was the august presence of **Dr Ajay Kumar, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Govt of India**, as Chief Guest, who distributed the awards.

While presenting 'Convener Report' Shri GSN Prabhu, Convener CNEA 2016 stated that the Selection Committee has received over 180 nominations and that identifying the best from the list has been very tough task but for the able support and participation of the Selection Committee.

The Chief Guest, **Dr Ajay Kumar, IAS** illustrated the importance of Digital India-Skill India-Make in India-Clean India (Di-Si-Mi-Ci) and dwelled on the important role the e-Governance practioners need to play in sustaining and bringing innovation in whatever they are doing which will drive and bring success to the eGovernance initiatives. He even recalled his association with the CSI Nihilent eGovernance Awards as one of the recipients of the award earlier and complimented the CSI-Nihilent team for ably sustaining the recognition efforts for 14 long years.

Shri Surendra Kapoor, Convener, CSI-SIGeGov welcomed the Chief Guest, awardees and the invitees and thanked the CSI 2016 Organization team for excellent support, He also thanked all the nominees for continued patronage and participation in the CSI Nihilent eGovernance awards process and complemented the award winners.

Shri Shohel Noor, General Manager at Nihilent Technologies had this to say, "In its 14th year since inception, the Awards assume more significance than ever before, with the intensive focus by the Government on Digital India, we anticipate a manifold increase in these initiatives in the country in the days to come, which makes the CSI Nihilent eGovernance Awards, all the more relevant to our growth story. We are indeed proud to be associated with the awards program". Mr Anoop Bharadwaj who is coordinating CNEA from Nihilent for the past four years also attended the event.

Dr Anirban Basu, President-CSI opined that the foot print of participation is from all the States and Central Government departments. He hoped that CSI would be able to play constructive and complimentary role in bringing ‘Digital Transformation’ in the country.

A compendium in the form of a book titled “Leveraging Technology Towards Digital Transformation - Selected eGovernance Initiatives” was released along with a ‘Souvenir’ by the Chief Guest on the occasion. The book edited by Prof G P Sahu of MNNIT, Allahabad; Dr K S Vijaya Sekhar of IIT Hyderabad and Shri Prabhu Gollamudi of CSI-SIGeGov and it consists of 500 pages of selected nominations showcasing projects across the country.

The awards were presented by the Chief Guest, assisted by Dr Anirban Basu, Shri P R Rangaswami, Chair OC, CSI-2016 and others on the dais.

State Category Award Winners	Project Category Award winners
Award of Excellence: Rajasthan and Telangana	Award of Excellence 13 Projects
Award of Recognition [Progressive State]: Odisha	Award of Appreciation 11 Projects
Award of Recognition (NE States): Nagaland	Award of Recognition 10 Projects
	Award of Recognition (Sustenance) 2 Projects
More Details are available at www.csinihilent-egovernanceawards.org	

Dr K S Vijaya Sekhar, presented vote of thanks and profusely thanked the award winners for their participation and also thanked the CSI-2016 OC team for immense assistance to make the event memorable. Prof Harish P Iyer played an important role in the awards ceremony and added a special touch as an anchor.

GSN Prabhu & K S Vijaya Sekhar
[Convener’s Team CNEA 2015-16]



Chief Guest of the Awards Ceremony - Dr Ajay Kumar, IAS, Additional Secretary, MeitY, GoI.

Dr Anirban Basu, President – CSI



Releasing Book ‘Leveraging Technology Towards Digital Transformation’ by Chief Guest. CSI-SIGeGov team with Chief Guest and OC Chair, CSI-2016.



CSI Nihilent eGovernance Awardees 2015-16 and their teams.