PRESS RELEASE

In an unique event, the Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency organised NUNNARANGU '21 – Tamil Nadu AI & Data Analytics Conclave: A Hybrid Conclave featuring experts from the Government, Academia and Industry at Chennai on Friday, December 10, 2021.

Thiru T.Mano Thangaraj, Honourable Minister for Information Technology, inaugurated NUNNARANGU '21 and delivered the inaugural address. In his address, the Honourable Minister said that under the visionary leadership of Honourable Chief Minister Thiru M.K.Stalin, Tamil Nadu is the premier State in India for adopting IT tools to delivery quick and efficient online services to people of the State.

He said the Information Technology Department was committed to contribute to the Honourable Chief Minister's Vision of the State becoming a \$ 1 Trillion Economy by 2030 and provide a transparent and efficient governance.

NUNNARANGU '21 is a common platform for experts and leaders from the Government, CEOs from IT/ITeS and domain experts, researchers to come together and evangelize under the theme: Role of AI and Data Science in the future growth of Tamil Nadu. The Conclave is also a forum for knowledge sharing, exchanging strategies for implementing AI for Social Impact.

Dr. Neeraj Mittal, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu, Department of Information Technology; Thiru P.W.C. Davidar, IAS (retired), Advisor, TNeGA (Digital and Simplified Governance), Thiru K.Vijayendra Pandian, IAS, CEO, TNeGA and Director of e-Governance, Thiru C.Samayamoorthy, IAS, Agriculture Production Commissioner and Secretary to Government, Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Government of Tamil Nadu and Thiru S.Balachander, IAS, Joint CEO, TNeGA and Joint Director of e-Governance represented the Government of Tamil Nadu.

They outlined various concepts and projects the State Government had executed and other projects that are in the anvil and in various stages of development. These include projects using IT tools and solutions to provide efficient Government to Government (G2G) and Government to Citizens (G2C) services.

Awareness & Innovation

NUNNARANGU '21, while contributing to creating an awareness about the use of emerging technologies in providing e-Governance services to people, is also a forum to encourage young minds to come up with innovative solutions for problems using AI and Data Analytics.

Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency, is spearheading the revolution of harnessing the power of Information and Communication Technology, has several notable projects to its credits, including e-Sevai – that provides over 130 online services to people through more than 10,800 centres spread across the State. For the convenience of people and to encourage cash less transactions, an Aadhaar Enable Payment Service (AEPS) has now been introduced. People visiting e-Sevai centres can now record their details on a bio-metric system and the charges for the service would be debited from their Aadhaar linked bank account to the e-Sevai centre.

Its other significant projects include e-Office – that aims at paperless offices and better governance and administration; State Family Database – centralized, secure and a single source of resident data and TN Geographical Information System.

In addition to the above, TNeGA has successfully rolled out Safe and Ethical AI Policy, "Nambikkai Inaiyam" – Tamil Nadu Blockchain Policy – a pointer to its ability to handle new, emerging and sophisticated technologies.

TNeGA's "impactful projects":

TNeGA, through its Centre of Excellence in Emerging Technologies has successfully implemented Face Recognition Attendance System (FRAS) in government schools and offices. Further, TNeGA's e-Paarvai – an AI based android mobile application system that help detect cataract has been successfully tested and implemented in 14 districts of the State. e-Paarvai recently won the NASSCOM's AI Gamechanger Awards under the "Exemplar Category." <u>FRAS, e-Paarvai,</u> and AI based pest disease detection have been selected by Ministry of Electronics and Information <u>Technology, on 75 impactful projects of the year 2021.</u>

As part of its Vision to build infrastructure for smart governance, improving competitiveness of the State economy, TNeGA recently designed and developed two new portals – e-Munnetram and IT Nanban – both of which were launched by none other than the Honourable Chief Minister. The portals will contribute in paving the way for increasing the ease of doing business rankings and greater interaction between stakeholders – government, IT/ITeS, MSMEs, research organizations, educational institutions and domain experts.

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