

## **Digital India Orientation Programme for Hon'ble MPs on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

National Institute for Smart Government in association with the National e-Governance Division (NeGD) has conducted a half day orientation on Digital India for the Hon'ble MPs of both Houses of Parliament from 13:00 - 18:00 hours on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July. The programme was hosted by BPST (Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training) and the venue was BPST Main Lecture Hall, Parliament House, New Delhi. The programme was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha, Smt. Sumitra Mahajan. Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Hon'ble Union Minister for Law & Justice and Electronics & Information Technology, Shri P. P. Chaudhary, Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Law & Justice and Electronics & Information Technology graced the occasion. Shri Raghunandan Sharma, Honorary Adviser BPST and Shri Anoop Mishra Secretary General of Lok Sabha Secretariat were among the Hon'ble dignitaries present on the dais.



There was an overwhelming response from the Hon'ble MPs who were keen to know about the Digital India programme, a flagship programme of Government of India. Despite the busiest time of their schedule, due to the ongoing Parliament Monsoon Sessions, 129 Hon'ble MPs (Lok Sabha & Rajya Sabha) participated in this programme. Apart from the Hon'ble MPs, about 30 officials from Lok Sabha and BPST have also joined the orientation programme. Smt. Radha Chauhan IAS, President & CEO and 8 officers/consultants from NeGD participated in this programme. Shri Sanjiv Mital, CEO, NISG, Shri Veerraju Naidu, General Manager, NISG and 4 CB team members participated in this programme. A total of about 190 people gathered on the occasion of Digital India orientation programme.

The programme commenced at 13:00 hours with the welcome address of Shri Anoop Mishra, followed by a brief programme detail by Shri Raghunandan Sharma. Shri P. P. Chaudhary spoke about the

objectives of Digital India and the expectations of the vision of the Government of India in transforming India into a Knowledge society and a developed economy.

At the beginning of his speech, Shri Ravi Shankar said that “I have participated in several programmes for Hon’ble MPs in the BPST, but I have never seen this kind of response from Hon’ble MPs”. This is a clear indication of their interest in the Digital India Mission of the Government of India. Shri Ravi Shankar has categorically mentioned that India couldn’t gain any significant benefit from the Industrial revolution and the economic growth, and now India has to fully utilize the potential of the Digital revolution and ensure citizen centric service delivery in both rural and urban sectors. The perception of Digital India should change. The Digital India Mission can be considered successful only if an ordinary citizen accesses all possible Government services through his/her mobile phone, without making any trips to offices. Hon’ble Prime Minister has given a direction to Digital India by linking Digital India to JAM (Jan Dhan, Aadhaar, and Mobile).

Smt. Sumitra Mahajan said that there is increase in interest among all citizens about the digital awareness and would like to use social media and internet to communicate with each other. Similarly, Hon’ble MPs also exhibited a keen interest in Digital India as they wished to connect with their people from their constituencies through social media, and to reap the benefits of various Government programmes to the masses. She has opined that Parliament is also required to become paperless and virtual meetings should take place, to cut down the transaction time and effort in such a way that the Hon’ble Speaker, Ministers and MPs can connect from anywhere at any time.

At 14:00 hours, Shri D.Bhalla, Secretary of Lok Sabha Secretariat has given vote of thanks to dignitaries on the dais and the Hon’ble MPs and the organizers of the programme. Lunch break was from 14:10 to 14:40 hours.



Post Lunch, Digital India videos were presented to the participants for a span of 10 minutes. The first session, post-lunch, was on Digital India vision and its framework, and extended from 14:40 to 15:30. Dr.Ajay Kumar, AS, DeitY conducted this session and 20 minutes were spent for question and answers after his presentation. The second session was on MyGov from 15:50 to 16:20 hours followed by 20

minutes question and answers. MyGov session was delivered by Shri Gaurav Dwivedi, CEO of MyGov and COO of NeGD. Third session was on Common Service Centres taken up by Dr.Dinesh Tyagi from 16:40-17:20 hours followed by 15 minutes question and answers session. By 17:45 the programme concluded with vote of thanks from BPST & NISG officials. All Hon'ble MPs were requested to join for High tea and disperse from the banquet hall.



**Programme achievements/ Highlights:**

1. All MPs have expressed their interest to directly deal with public through live discussions, have a mechanism for grievance redressal and would like to utilize MyGov portal to receive feedback. They requested for a website to serve these purposes. A need for legislation to allow and facilitate Telemedicine, e-Hospital etc and to bring about ease in business processes was expressed
2. Digital India allows political leadership to help steer public awareness and also obtain public support from time to time on how technology can help in programme implementation which in turn can help in better policy formulation. The CLM training programme has successfully emphasized this through an extensive participation of 129 MPs.
3. MPs have shown keen interest in CSC as a rural growth engine for creating employment and last mile connectivity
4. Potential of JAM (Jandhan, Aadhar and Mobile) as an effective means for delivery of public services in a transparent manner was identified