

Vice-Chancellor's address on Digital India Workshop (24.08.2016)

I on behalf of CSK HP Krishi Vishvavidalaya, its faculty and students, welcome you all to today's Digital India Workshop. We are grateful and obliged to NSS Kendriya Sadan, Chandigarh for choosing our Vishvavidalaya, the venue for holding the workshop. Digital India is a campaign launched by the Govt. of India to ensure that Govt. services are made available to citizens electronically by improving online infrastructure and by increasing Internet connectivity or making the country digitally empowered in the field of technology.

It was launched on 2nd July, 2015, by our Hon'ble Prime Minister, Sh. Narendra Modi Ji. The initiative includes plans to connect rural India with high speed Internet networks. The Digital India envisioned 3 core components: (i) To create digital infrastructure; (ii) To deliver services digitally, and (iii) To provide Digital literacy.

The Govt. of India enterprise Bharat Broadband Network Limited is the custodian of Digital India project. It planned to connect 2,50,000 villages through broadband. This is the beginning to active Digital India and expected to be completed by 2017. In addition, it aimed to connect about 550 farmer markets in the country. While Digital Literacy Mission will cover 6 crores rural households through multiple fronts like:

- (1) Broadband Highways.
- (2) Universal Access to Mobile connectivity.
- (3) Public Internet Access proforma.
- (4) e-governance.
- (5) e-Kranti (electronic delivery of services).
- (6) Information for all.
- (7) Digital or IT for jobs etc.
- (8) e-education.
- (9) e-health.
- (10) e-sign.
- (11) National Scholarship Portal (NSP).

NSP is a one stop solution for end to end scholarship process right from submission of student application, verification, sanction and disbursement to end beneficiary for all scholarships provided by Govt. of India.

The objective of the Digital India is to come out with innovative ideas and practical solutions to realise Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji's vision of Digital India. Hence, the National e-governance division of Department of Electronic & Information Technology in association with National Service Scheme, Department of Youth Affairs has been organising awareness workshop on Digital India. It has covered over 100 Universities across country.

Though these workshops it engage, educate and empower University students to build the capacity of NSS participants as Digital India volunteers and Brand Ambassadors.

I am happy to share with you that in Internet connectivity, Palampur became the first town in the state to have free Wi-Fi facility. Our Hon'ble Chief Minister Sh. Virbhadra Singh launched the Wi-Fi service on Monday, the 22nd August, 2016 from Palampur town with 51 sites. Our State Govt. is committed to provide fresh speed Internet access to all its citizens realising that digitalisation and development go hand in hand and are part and parcel of same phenomenon. I wish you all an enjoyable event and success.