# Hailakandi, ASSAM NIC lends helping hand in Digital India Aspirations

#### Edited by KAVITA BARKAKOTY

Since its inception, NIC Hailakandi District Centre has been pioneering in the design, development and implementation of various e-governance projects. During the General Elections to the Lok Sabha 2019, an IoT device named "NICetr" was developed by NIC Hailakandi as a helping hand to the Polling officials in polling stations to count the number of voters automatically and relay the same to the higher authorities without any human intervention during poll hours. NIC Hailakandi Centre has also developed a mobile app named Prashikshan under the District Governance through Mobile Challenge (DGMC).

# **ICT Initiatives in the District**

#### Prashikshan App

This app has been developed as a ready reckoner for the polling personnel who have undergone training for the upcoming General Election to the Legislative Assembly 2021 in the three legislative constituencies of Hailakandi, Katlicherra, and Algapur. The details of the poll process from Day 1 (one) till the end of the exercise will be available for the polling personnel in the app. In the app, there is provision to take selfassessment tests for what they have learnt during the training period. The main agenda regarding building this app is to train polling personnel digitally. Also, it ensures social distancing and makes the city less crowded during the COVID-19 pandemic. The app was selected among the top 20 mobile apps in the District Governance Mobile Challenge 2021.



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NIC Hailakandi, since its inception, has been supporting the District Administration with the stateof-the-art ICT services, and spearheaded many eGovernance projects. It has participated jointly with NIC Dibrugarh in development of Jaltarangini, for monitoring rain water and also developed Prashikshan app to train the polling personnels.

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### **General Elections**

NIC Hailakandi District Centre has provided extensive technical support and related services during Parliamentary & Legislative Assembly Elections. Activities such as Polling personnel and Counting randomisation using PPMS portal and allied activities such as looking after ENCORE, ETPBS portals of ECL, LAN infrastructure of Counting centre etc. were undertaken.

#### Jaltarangini

Jaltarangini, an automated river-water level monitoring system, was jointly developed by NIC Hailakandi and NIC Dibrugarh. This IoT device has been developed to re-establish the traditional way of collecting river water level manually through a scientific and minimally human dependent mechanism. The device has the capability to capture, transmit and present real-time accurate water-level reports without human intervention. The project is currently being implemented over the river Brahmaputra in the Dibrugarh district of Assam. The IoT lab of NIC Hailakandi has also tested the LoRA network over a 5 km range in ISM band, which will enable

#### 🔻 Fig. 5.1: Parikshan App Dashboard





▲ Fig. 5.2: Jaltarangini Device During **Development Phase** 

the IoT infrastructure to transmit data over a long range and with low power.

#### NICetr

On the poll day, the Poll officials are responsible for identifying valid voters, putting a mark with indelible ink, recording the diary along with maintaining the conformity set by ECI, and while doing so, it becomes very difficult for them to report the count of votes casted to the higher authorities on-time. To help these officials, the need for automating the process of hourly reporting of voters' activities without human intervention is always felt. Hence, as a helping hand to them, NICetr was developed. It counts the number of voters automatically and relays the same to the higher authorities without any human intervention.

#### Hailakandi District Website

#### (http://hailakandi.gov.in)

Hailakandi District Website has been designed and developed afresh using the e-Prastuti Framework. The Website provides comprehensive information on a spectrum of domains such as history, tourism, etc., along with access to utilities, government schemes and citizen services related to the Hailakandi district.

#### **E-Pass Application**

NIC Hailakandi was highly involved in designing and implementing the e-Pass System during the lockdown period. Hailakandi was one of the pilot districts where E-Pass was first implemented before it was replicated in other districts of Assam.

#### Aspirational District Program

Hailakandi is one of the 15 Aspirational Districts 115 across India. Hailakandi was ranked Delta 1 (one) for the month of February 2020. NIC Hailakandi has provided all the ICT support to the Aspirational District Program of the NITI Aayog.

# **Other Key Initiatives**

### Support for General Election to Assam Assembly 2021

NIC Played an active role and extended technical support in conducting Assembly Elections2021. Training and technical support were provided for various software of the ECI. Other activities such as polling personnel randomisation, party formation, training allocation, with various reports printing and allied activities were undertaken with the help of the NIC-developed Polling Personnel Management System (PPMS) portal.

#### **Technical Support**

• NIC Hailakandi has provided technical support for the implementation and roll-out of State-level projects such as e-Panjeeyan, e-Rupantor, Bakijai



▼ Fig. 5.4: NICetr in action during General Election 2019



NIC Hailakandi has played an im-**IN** portant role by developing and implementing various eGovernance projects of both Central & State Governments. The Centre has <u>extended</u> trict Program of the NITI Aayog. ICT infrastructure & services such as NICNET connectivity, Videoconfer-encing etc. are pivotal for the Discitizens. It has extended full support during the General Elections. Many digital initiatives taken with the help of NIC have improved the parservice delivery, re-sulting in good gov-

#### Rohan Kumar Jha, IAS Deputy Commissioner, Hailakandi

etc., and National level projects such as ALIS, e-Procurement, e-Prosecution, Vahan, Sarathi, Track the Missing Child, etc.

 Over 300 High-Definition Video Conference services covering various Central and State Government Departments annually

# **Accolades**

 Prashikshan app by NIC Hailakandi was selected among the top 20 mobile apps throughout the country in the District Governance Mobile Challenge 2021

• District Informatics Officer, Hailakandi, Shri Monsoor Akhtar Barbhuiya along with Shri Surajit Phukan, Scientist-B, NIC Dibrugarh, won the Gold Award in the TechGov 2018 Competition conducted by NIC

### Way Forward

Keeping with the latest technological advancements, NIC Hailakandi is spearheading the development of cutting-edge solutions to facilitate good governance by leveraging the potential of IoT, AI & ML, Data Analytics, Mobile applications and web-based applications.

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