KERALA IT NEWS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF IT PARKS KERALA

KERALA INDIA TECHNOPARK HARMONY@WORK   TECHNOCITY THE FUTURE LIVES HERE   infopark smart space KOCHI   cyberpark kozhikode india creating opportunities

SASI P M TAKES THE HELM OF IT PARKS KERALA

Sasi P M has taken charge as CEO of IT Parks Kerala. He was previously the head of C-DAC Trivandrum and is currently the Director of ICFOSS. He was also the Member of Board of Directors of KEL-TRON, Member of the Technical Advisory Committee of AICTE; Member of Research Advisory of C-DIT and Member, Technology Development and Adaptation Committee – KSCSTE. The IT department issued a Government Order in this regard. He succeeds Hrishikesh Nair, who was serving this role for the past 3 years.

Hrishikesh Nair is moving on to pursue his career back in core IT industry. He was selected during the last Government's rule and in the three-year tenure, he has successfully completed multiple IT projects, which brought laurels to the IT industry of State. He was instrumental in developing the Phase 2 expansion of 125 acres in Infopark Kochi with this first IT building and bringing in the State's first World Trade Center to the campus. His efforts were well recognised, and when the present Government took a decision to consolidate all IT parks under one CEO, he was chosen and given additional responsibility of all IT parks in the State. He completed the first IT building as well as the Mobile Applications incubator at Cyberpark Kozhikode. Under his leadership, Technopark developed its 4th Phase

'Technocity' and expanded its IT space by inviting investments to the State like Nissan, H&R Block, Teranet, Taurus Investments etc. In three years, he could turn around Technopark to a financially stable CRISIL-A rated position, which was truly a defining moment for Kerala IT.

Currently the IT parks are back in a growth phase – with over 1 lakh direct employment and 700+ companies in the three IT parks together contributing towards software exports worth Rs. 14,000 crore. Also 55 lakh sq. ft. of built up IT space of the total one crore sq. ft. target of built up space is already achieved, and the remaining work is in fast progress.

KERALA IT COS WIDEN GLOBAL CONNECT AT GITEX 2019

Companies from the three IT Parks in Kerala represented the State's IT industry at the GITEX Technology Week, the biggest IT expo in Middle East market. The Kerala IT Pavilion was inaugurated by Chief Minister's IT Fellow Arun Balachandran who led the delegation from Kerala to GITEX. Fifteen IT companies from Kerala participated in the event.

Kerala IT, under its 'Global IT Connect' initiative for over the last decade has provided a platform for the IT companies in the State to showcase their products, services, get international exposure, build business network and interact on the changing technology trends.

Kerala was the only State that represented India at GITEX and prominently displayed the services and products by the participant companies in the main exhibition hall. The participation in GITEX helped Kerala to promote its IT ecosystem as a brand in the Middle East region. Ac-

cording to an official release from IT Parks Kerala, the interactions with the global IT community at the conclave have encouraged many investors to set up their IT startup companies in Kerala.

"With wider reach of e-Governance and m-Governance, growing Smart Cities, faster deployment of IoT, UAE is already moving from an oil-based economy to being a digital capital of the world. Kerala is fast progressing as a knowledge economy, leveraging the wealth of its skilled human capital. As

partners, the two regions can leverage each other's strength and thus look forward to GITEX as an enhanced collaboration platform in the field of IT," Arun said.

The companies from various IT parks which participated at the event were Zoondia, Ospyn, Neoito Technologies, Webandcrafts, Toobler, OGES Infotech, Weft Technologies, Bassam Infotech, Office KIT HR, Capio Interactive, Mentor Performance Rating, Cybrosys, Syssol, Beacon Infotech and Sigosoft.

TWO-DAY WORKSHOP ON CYBERSECURITY HELD

A two-day cyber security workshop – RedTeam Security Summit 2019 organised by RedTeam Hacker Academy at Cyberpark Kozhikode recently discussed the emerging challenges and solutions.

Cybersecurity enthusiasts and experts from across the country shared their skills and knowledge in the fields of IoT, Machine Learning (ML), Artificial Intelligence (AI) and quantum computing.

Ashok Yadav, Inspector General of Police and Sasi P M, CEO of IT Parks Kerala inaugurated the event which was co-organised by Calicut Forum for IT (CafIT).

Speaking at the event, the newly appointed CEO of IT Parks Kerala said that mobile phones which have become an integral part of our lives were also posing security threats to society. He added that women and children are increasingly falling victims to cybersecurity threats which manifest in various forms.

"By next year, over 500 IoT products are expected to be launched, especially in the healthcare sector. The future is going to witness rising challenges in cybersecurity with the advancement of technology," he added.

The event comprised of workshops and talk sessions. Vaibhav Bedi, Cybersecurity Expert held a session on Firmware Reverse Engineering. Dinesh O Bareja, Cybersecurity Consultant spoke on cybersecurity

compliance to inform about tactics and strategies involved in cyber-security compliance. Gokul Alex, Associate Director, PwC India, held a session on Quantum Computing, elaborating on the next breakthrough in computing technology.

To add spice to the mix the event consisted of a CTF Challenge in which the contestants had to gain complete access of a system to win, and the winning team was rewarded with a bounty of Rs. 10,000.

UST GLOBAL HONOURED BY 'GREAT PLACE TO WORK'

UST Global recently announced, that it has been certified as the 'The Great Place to Work' among the other reputed workplaces in India for 2019-20. The company has been honoured with the recognition for its positive work environment and employee experience by 'Great Place to Work' ® (GPTW), a global authority on workplace culture assessment. The company has been recognized across key countries of US and India this year.

The certification process took place through the Trust Index© Survey and culture assessment among company's employees by Great Place to Work®. This certification further demonstrates UST Global's commitment to growth in India and its investment in its employees' professional development, personal wellbeing, benefits and more. The company is growing rapidly since its inception in 1999 and has over 23,000 associates across the globe, with a headcount of over 15,000 employees in India and offices spread across Bengaluru, Thiruvananthapuram, Chennai, Hyderabad, Kochi, Gurgaon, Bhopal and Pune.

With a mission of 'Transforming Lives', UST Global has set a benchmark among companies with more women inclusive policies to attract and retain valuable women talent. Over the last many years, targeted leadership and mentoring programs for women in the middle and senior levels have been designed specifically to counter gender-specific leadership challenges. Earlier this month, the company also got into the top 100 list for Best Companies for Women in India (BCWI) and Most Inclusive Companies Index (MICI) by Working Mother & Avtar100. These awards are a testament to UST Global's unwavering focus and executive sponsorship on Diversity and Inclusion.

Commenting on the achievement, Manu Gopinath, Chief Operating Officer, UST Global said, "We are deeply humbled by this honour and consider it a great achievement to receive this recognition from region to region. The certification is truly a strong testament to our core values of Humanity, Humility and Integrity. It's a moment of pride for UST Global to be recognized as 'The Great Place to Work' in India and the Best Workplaces for Women in the country. We constantly endeavour to create best-in-class talent practices and policies that provide a healthy and vibrant work environment for our employees that meet their professional and personal aspirations. We believe that a positive work experience inspires every individual to achieve their full potential."

GTECH BUSINESS FOCUS GROUP ORGANISED AN INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH SANTHOSH KURUP, CEO, ICT ACADEMY OF KERALA AND SPECIAL OFFICER, SPACE PARK. THE SESSION DETAILED ON THE NITTY-GRITTIES OF THE UPCOMING SPACE TECHNOLOGY PARK IN THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, OFFERING INSIGHTS INTO EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES IN SPACE DOMAIN.

OBSERVING THE NATIONAL VOLUNTARY BLOOD DONATION DAY ON OCTOBER 1, TECHIES AT CYBERPARK KOZHIKODE DONATED BLOOD

FIRST IT BUILDING (2 LAKH SQ. FT) AT TECHNOCITY IS NEARING COMPLETION AND EXPECTED TO GET COMMISSIONED BY DECEMBER 2019. THE THREE STORIED BUILDING IS LOCATED IN NON-SEZ AREA. GROUND FLOOR IS DEDICATED FOR PLUG & PLAY FACILITIES WHICH RANGE FROM 10 TO 25 SEATERS. FIRST AND SECOND FLOOR WILL BE LEASED AS 'WARM SHELL' SPACE. EoI HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM AROUND 30 COMPANIES FROM THE EXISTING REQUEST QUEUE TO OCCUPY THE NEW SPACES. UPON COMPLETION, THE BUILDING IS EXPECTED TO HOUSE ABOUT 35 IT/ITES COMPANIES.

Kerala IT Overview

TECHNOPARK - THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
• India's largest, fastest growing IT Park
• 760 acres with 9.33 million sq.ft. of IT built-up space
• 'One of the world's greenest IT Parks' - Rediff.com
• Technopark Phase 3 - India's largest LEED Gold-rated building
• Over 390 companies with 53,000 IT professionals
• Technocity Phase 4 - an upcoming IT integrated township
• Rural IT Park in Kollam - for startups

TECHNOCITY - THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
• 300 acres of IT integrated township
• Knowledge City, 100 acres for knowledge-based township
• 2 lakh sq. ft. IT building coming up
• Mix of SEZ / DTZ area • 7 km from Technopark campus
• Upcoming cost-effective IT space for startups & SMEs

INFOPARK - KOCHI
• 323 acres of IT development
• 6 million sq.ft. of IT built-up space
• Mix of SEZ & DTZ areas • Cost-effective IT space
• Rural IT parks @ Cherthala & Koratty for startups

CYBERPARK - KOZHIKODE
• Emerging IT hub for Malabar region
• 45-acre campus with a mix of SEZ & DTZ
• Cost-effective IT space for startups, SMEs & MNCs
• Ready-to-occupy 3 lakh sq. ft. IT SEZ building
• Smart business centres & warm shell options
• Long-term land lease option

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