

## **PRESS NOTE**

### **WORKSHOP ON INTERNET OF THINGS (IoT)**

Government of West Bengal is committed to make the State a leader in emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, Fintech, Blockchain, Cyber Security, Embedded Technology and Electronics hardware manufacturing. Internet of Things or IoT is a vital part of this suite. IoT basically refers to a paradigm of multiple devices communicating with each other over the internet to take automated decisions that are constantly self-improving to produce the most optimized outcome. This way IoT is a blend of industrial engineering, web technologies and machine learning techniques with design and usability aspects playing significant role.

Workshop on IoT would be conducted at Biswa Bangla Convention Center, New Town, Rajarhat. The day-long knowledge workshop provides a platform for various stakeholders including senior Government Officers, subject matter experts, eminent researchers and leaders from academia and industries. The workshop is open for students, young and experienced professionals, academicians, entrepreneurs, and industry representatives to attend and benefit from.

Attending the event would be Additional Chief Secretary, DIT&E Govt. of West Bengal, senior representatives from Govt of India, senior officials of Weibel, eminent professors from IIT-KGP, and industry leaders from companies such as Robert Bosch, CISCO, Oracle, HPE Aruba, TCS, IBM etc. Audience would get a chance to learn from experts on a wide variety of topics ranging from cross domain convergence and innovation to smart homes and smart automobiles.

IoT is branded as next big wave in IT. Utilities and manufacturing companies have already taken the lead in modernizing their operations leveraging IoT, a trend that experts term as Industry 4.0. Indian IT companies own about 40% of global IoT market share. Major players in IoT include Intel, Texas Instruments, CISCO, Infosys, TCS, IBM, Wipro etc. Besides, India is home to about 120 IoT startups and more than 60 MM USD has been invested in IoT startups since 2014.

The event is organized by Department of Information Technology & Electronics, Government of West Bengal, in collaboration with West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation (WBEIDC) and NASSCOM. The overall project management support is provided by the Project Management Unit team from PricewaterhouseCoopers Pvt. Ltd, attached to the Department of IT & E, Government of West Bengal.

IoT Workshop is part of a series of workshops that have been planned for the entire year of 2018. In May a similar knowledge exchange workshop was conducted on Artificial Intelligence and in June a day long workshop on Embedded Technology was organized, both in the same venue of Biswa Bangla Convention Center. Besides organizing these events, Department of IT & E, Government of West Bengal, has been taking multiple initiatives such as setting up a Cyber Security CoE, setting up IT Parks and electronic manufacturing clusters across the state, capacity building in IT, and other initiatives all with the intention of giving a boost to the technology industry in the state. Details of such initiatives can be easily found in <https://itewb.weibel-india.com>. In parallel with the IoT Workshop, 27<sup>th</sup> July also marks the launch of Bengalathon, a pioneering state level hackathon. In this iteration we are going national with 11 problem areas identified. This will build up on past successes and enhance the innovation capital of the state.

#### **SKOCH Smart Governance Awards 2018:**

SKOCH Smart Governance Award is an initiative towards recognizing top performing government Organisations, operating at local, state and national level. Since 2003, when these were instituted, the Skoch Awards have become the independent benchmark of best practices in India in the field of governance and inclusive growth. These salute projects and institutions that go the extra mile to make India a better nation.

5 projects under the Department of IT and Electronics have won 7 SKOCH awards in 2018. These are -

#### **1. Project Name: - Implementation of ICT @ School Scheme in West Bengal**

##### **Award:**

1. SKOCH in the year Gold Award – 2018
2. SKOCH Order – of – Merit-2018

**Executed by:** Weibel Informatics Limited (WIL), 100% subsidiary of West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation Limited (WBEIDCL)

**2. Project Name: - Matir Katha**

**Award:**

1. SKOCH Gold Award – 2018
2. SKOCH Order-of-Merit- Gold-2018

**Executed by:** West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation Limited (WBEIDCL)

**3. Project Name: - Digital Archive of Bengali Literature**

**Award:** SKOCH Order-of-Merit –Gold- 2018

**Executed by:** The Society for Natural Language Technology Research (SNLTR)

**4. Project Name: - Cyber Security Centre of Excellence (CSCoE)**

**Award:** SKOCH Order-of-Merit- 2018

**Executed by:** West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation Limited (WBEIDCL)

**5. Project Name: -Electronic Braille Reading System**

**Award:** SKOCH Order-of-Merit -2018

**Executed by:** Webel Mediatronics Limited (WML), 100% subsidiary of West Bengal Electronics Industry Development Corporation Limited (WBEIDCL)

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