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

KERALA AIMS TO PRODUCE 20,000 BLOCKCHAIN EXPERTS: IT SECRETARY

Kerala will produce 20,000 professionals in Blockchain in the next two years, in what could be a major revolution in this emerging technology field in India.

"The coming two years are crucial for us as we plan to produce 20,000 Blockchain experts. The emphasis is on enhancing the quality of manpower. This is a great opportunity for us to build expertise in next-generation technology and knowledge-sharing," said M Sivasankar IAS, Secretary, IT and Electronics, Govt. of Kerala while addressing the inaugural event of 'BlockHash Live 2019'.

Organised by the Kerala Blockchain Academy (KBA) in association with Allianz Technology, India, the event saw industry leaders making a strong case for leveraging the potential of Blockchain technology through capacity building and by promoting research, development and entrepreneurship.

"BlockHash Live has been a great learning platform for us. We use this platform to check what we have achieved, our learnings and future footprint," said Sivasankar.

Described as the most promising cutting-edge technological innovation after the advent of Internet, Blockchain technology provides a tamper-proof and immutable data storage system and transparency in digital applications. It has the poten-

tial to disrupt business domains such as cyber security, banking services, insurance, trade finance and retail by performing quicker, secure and transparent transactions, he said.

In his welcome address, Dr. Saji Gopinath, Director, Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management – Kerala (IIITM-K) & CEO, Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM), emphasized the importance of bringing together Blockchain experts from across the world to discuss the business potential of this new-age technology.

The inaugural session was followed by a presentation by Marta Piekarska-Geater, Director of Ecosystem, Hyperledger, on the topic 'Will Blockchain become real?' Focusing on the importance of Blockchain and its use in various organisational structures, she said, "It is the right time for

organisations to focus on the role of Blockchain. In the last four years, we have observed how enterprises are looking at real-life solutions using Blockchain."

She also dwelt upon the potential of Blockchain and how it can be used in various industries utilising the easy availability of open source collaboration like Hyperledger. "It is never pay-to-play at Hyperledger. Anyone can participate whether your company is a member or not. The collaborative software development approach ensures transparency in the process."

Cyber law expert Nappinai N S spoke about the importance of Blockchain laws and regulations in enabling innovation. There were also other panel discussions on topics like Blockchain Governance and Redefining Human value with Blockchain.

BLOCKCHAIN CAN BRING EFFICIENCY, TRANSPARENCY FOR ENTERPRISES, SAY EXPERTS

The Blockchain technology, if deployed and scaled carefully, can bring efficiency and transparency at the highest level for any enterprise, industry leaders opined at the two-day BlockHash Live 2019 conclave.

Organised by the Kerala Blockchain Academy (KBA) in association with Allianz Technology, India at the Grand Hyatt, Bolgatty, the event saw industry leaders making a strong case for creating an ecosystem that would bring together various industries and Blockchain, which employs the distributed ledger technology (DLT), as a possible solution.

Danny Wong, Lead Blockchain Architect, Allianz Technology, gave his insights on the topic 'Enterprise Blockchain Frameworks: Adoption Consideration'. "One should ensure careful and clear positioning of Blockchain with other technologies along with corporate strategy and business capacity for enterprise-wide Blockchain adoption," he said.

There are certain critical factors for a successful Blockchain implementation journey for enterprises and governments that are looking to adopt

DANNY WONG

DR. JANE THOMASON

this technology, said Sreeram Ananthansayanam, Partner – Govt. and Public Services at PwC, India. "Don't go for the Big Bang approach; rather go with an incremental approach that helps in many ways than one. It helps understand the technology, tests out the ways of working with the network, and ensures that past investments are protected, and use Blockchain only where it absolutely adds significant value," he pointed out.

Speaking on the topic 'Blockchain Technology for Global Social Change', Dr. Jane Thomason, CEO, Fintech Worldwide and Industry Associate, Centre for Blockchain

Technology, University College of London, observed that Blockchain is a versatile technology that is now being increasingly used for numerous non-fintech applications as well like maintaining medical records and land registry.

The two-day conclave concluded with the felicitation of hackathon winners. A three-member team from IBS Software won the prestigious BlockHack 2019 hackathon. While the contestants from Phaethon Technologies cornered the second slot in the hard-to-crack hackathon, the team from Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) came third.

TECHNOPARK BAGS AWARD FOR HARNESSING GREEN ENERGY

The Kerala Government recently recognised Technopark for its efforts to harness green energy. Installation of a 40,000-sq. ft. solar power panel on the rooftops of Ganga and Yamuna buildings helped Technopark bag the prestigious Kerala State Renewable Energy Award instituted by Agency for Non-conventional Energy and Rural Technology (ANERT).

The shade-free grid-connected solar panels can generate 200 Kilo Watt (kWh) power a year. The project, which was completed by Keltron with technical guidance from ANERT, has so far generated 2,21,026 KWh power. According to Technopark officials, the plant which has
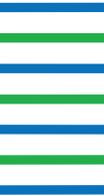

a life span of 25 years can help stop emission of 187 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year. The project has helped reduce the purchase of electricity from the Kerala State Electricity Board (KSEB). Technopark is one of the major bulk buyers of electricity from KSEB.

"We implemented the project as

part of the green initiative. It was intended to bring down the use of conventional energy resources. The project has also helped the Park in lowering carbon dioxide emissions. This is a huge step in turning the Park self-sufficient in green energy production," said Madhavan Praveen, Deputy General Manager-Projects, Technopark.

Pinarayi Vijayan, State Chief Minister, presented the award to Madhavan Praveen at an official function held in November.

SMARTCITY KOCHI COMMISSIONS
564-KWP SOLAR POWER PLANT

SmartCity Kochi recently commissioned a 564-kWp rooftop solar power plant that can generate on an average 8,20,000 units of electricity annually. The plant, which will help reduce 670 tonnes of carbon emission every year, was inaugurated by Preman Dinaraj, Chairman, Kerala State Electricity Regulatory Commission (KSERC). Present on the occasion were Manoj Nair, CEO, SmartCity Kochi; Rahul Dasari, CEO, Sunshot Technologies; senior representatives of IT firms and co-developers of projects inside the IT township.

Built by Berkeley Energy, the green solution was installed and commissioned by Sunshot Technologies. Berkeley, which delivers clean energy projects in emerging markets globally, has built the SmartCity plant under the OPEX model where the supplier invests, operates and maintains it.

The KSERC Chairman hailed SmartCity Kochi for implementing the solar power project under the BOO model.

OPEN HOUSE MEETING ORGANISED BY GTECH WITH IT COMPANIES IN KOZHIKODE AND CSEZ OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS SEZ COMPLIANCES PROCESS. AROUND 50 COMPANIES FROM CYBERPARK AND UL CYBERPARK PARTICIPATED IN THE SESSION.

V K MATHEWS, EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, IBS GROUP ALONG WITH SAMMY ARAMAKI, PRESIDENT & CEO, ANA SYSTEMS WATERING A PLANT FOLLOWING THE INAUGURATION OF BUTTERFLY GARDEN AT IBS SOFTWARE HEADQUARTERS AT TECHNOPARK.

INERG SOFTWARE INNOVATIONS, A SOFTWARE ENGINEERING AND CUSTOMER SUPPORT WING OF INERG INC., USA, COMMENCES OPERATIONS AT THE WORLD TRADE CENTER AT INFOPARK KOCHI. INERG INC. IS A FINANCIAL AND ENERGY TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM AND DIGITAL TOOLS COMPANY.

AMBASSADORS OF THE GLOBAL COOPERATIVE ENTREPRENEURS PROGRAM (GCE) FROM INDIA AND INDONESIA VISITED KERALA STARTUP MISSION'S KOZHIKODE INCUBATOR AT UL CYBERPARK. FOLLOWING A MEETING WITH KSUM OFFICIALS, THE DELEGATION ALSO INTERACTED WITH SELECT STARTUPS.