WITSA News

WITSA Applauds the Successful Conclusion of the 2018 World Congress on IT!

On February 19-21, 2018, NASSCOM hosted the first ever WCIT in India, which featured over 150 renowned speakers as well as 2,500 delegates from 30 countries. As stated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the conference, India was a great location for for this 'Olympics of the ICT industry' as a "hotspot of digital innovation across a wide range of sectors on the cusp of the fourth industrial revolution with new-age technologies, which are disruptive in nature, and poised to have a deep impact on the way we live and work".

The three-day program covered a wide range of hot topics impacting the industry as well as society as a whole, including globalization, artificial intelligence, automation and the future of work, data security, privacy, regulation and cross-border data flows, connecting the next billion and tech-women power! IT Ministers gathered to rethink governance in a digital economy and panelists and delegates envisioned the future connected society, and the role of innovation and digital transformation.

WCIT 2018 also provided an opportunity to showcase Hyderabad and the State of Telangana and their strengths, especially the growing prominence of Hyderabad in IT, the ecosystem it offers for tech innovation and new-age industries.

The WCIT, which served as a forum for networking and forging alliances, also saw the Telangana State government and NASSCOM signing an MoU for a centre of excellence in data science and artificial intelligence, a technology partnership agreement between Telangana and a Taiwanese city and Adobe announcing plans to set up an AI lab in the city.

Furthermore, the Telangana State government initiated discussion with Tom Moore, Lead-Alphabet, Google X, to explore the possibility of using technology to improve broadband connectivity. The State would be the first user of Google X as it is looking to use the technology to address the leftover connectivity issue in the T-Fiber project.

In the words of Telangana IT Minister KT Rama Rao, "The WCIT has been held on a grand scale. The event proved to be a great platform for knowledge sharing and networking. This event has also reinforced the position of Hyderabad on the global IT map".

A compilation of session videos and presentations are available here.

[The Estafeta of the World IT Forum 2019 was passed to Armenia](#)

[itel Feb. 26, 2018] The Armenian delegation has returned from the World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) being held in Hyderabad, India, by according a number of official and business meetings, success, and most importantly, receiving the Estafeta to host the WCIT in Yerevan, in 2019.

Speaking about the success, Aleksandr Yesayan, the UITE President, has stressed the importance of the memorandum of cooperation with India, according to which the experience of "Armath" engineering laboratories would be then implemented in India.

The next victory has been the WITSA Chairman's Award to Tumo Creative Center. Mr. Aleksandr Yesayan has also mentioned: "High state officials from both India and other countries have attended the Congress. The founders and presidents of the globally recognized Adobe, Honeywell, Coursera and many other companies have also been presented. By hosting such delegates in Yerevan in 2019, we can introduce them to Armenia's IT potential and attract investments".

See the full article here!

WITSA Recognizes 2018 Global ICT World Award Winners

[February 20, 2018, Hyderabad, India]: On the second day of the 2018 World Congress on Information Technology, the World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA) announced that ten private and public sector organizations from seven different countries were selected to receive the 2018 WITSA Global ICT Excellence Awards, including two special WITSA Chairman's Awards:

- 2018 Chairman's Award: Electronics Service Delivery (ESD) - MeeSeva, Government of Telangana
- 2018 Chairman's Award: TUMO center for Creative Technologies
- 2018 Public Sector Excellence Award: Ministry of Science and ICT & Korea Institute of Science and Technology Information (for the "National Science & Technology Information Service")
- 2018 Private Sector Excellence Award: Acer ITS Inc. for Acer Smart Parking Meter
- 2018 Sustainable Growth Award: National Hydraulic Research Institute of Malaysia (NAHRIM): "Malaysia Climate Change Knowledge Portal (N-HyDAA)"
- 2018 Mobile Excellence Award: SSI of Institute for Information Industry (III)- for XParking
- 2018 Digital Opportunity Award: Digital Education Institute (DEI), Institute for Information Industry (III) for Learning Beyond School Alliance
- 2018 Digital Opportunity Award: Information Society S.A.: "Broadband Network Development in White Rural Areas of Greece"
- 2018 Innovative e-Health Solutions: Electronic Health Record Sharing System (eHRSS), Electronic Health Record Office of Food and Health Bureau of The Government of the HKSAR/ Hospital Authority
- 2018 Emerging Digital Solutions Award (WEDS): Nesplora: For analyzing human behavior using immersive technologies

Finally, WITSA issued fourteen merit awards. While not being selected as winners of one of the award categories, these merit winners nevertheless displayed first-rate use of ICT.
See the full press release here.

WITSA's Global Public Policy Corner

WITSA attends ICANN 61, Prepare to Re-Join Business Constituency
WITSA VP for Global Policy, Anders Halvorsen, reconnected with the technical Internet community at ICANN 61, which took place in San Juan, Puerto Rico on March 10-15, 2018.

ICANN 61, the first of three global meetings that will take place in 2018, was framed as a community forum meeting. The San Juan meeting featured a robust schedule of sessions for the GNSO Council (the body that develops global domain name policy) and the Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC), the body of over 175 country and territory representatives that advises the ICANN Board. The meeting also offered sessions covering a number of specific policy development initiatives, updates on and working sessions for cross- community work streams, stakeholder and constituency organizational and outreach activities, and opportunities for a wide variety of community-wide discussions on key topics of broad interest.

The GAC met extensively during ICANN 61, including attending meetings with the ICANN Board, GNSO, and other stakeholder groups; conducting various working group sessions; and participating in assorted cross-community discussions, often focusing on the European General Data Protection Regulation GDPR and ultimately issuing its ICANN 61 San Juan Communique on

Thursday, March 15, 2018.

AT ICANN 61, Mr. Halvorsen also attended the Business Constituency (BC) meeting and expressed WITSA's plan to rejoin the group as a member. The BC is the voice of commercial Internet users within ICANN.

WITSA was an early supporter of ICANN and the multi-stakeholder approach to Internet governance, supporting the strengthening of current collaborative, multistakeholder Internet governance ecosystems, which combined provide a light touch and effective regulatory environment. In it's 2016 "Statement of Policy on Internet Governance", WITSA reiterated its support of governance arrangements that ensure continued growth of the Internet, enabling access for all, anywhere, and which maintain incentives for technological innovation and service quality improvements.

World Congress on IT

Handover to Armenia for WCIT 2019, October 6-9, Yerevan! at #WCITIndia2018 #NASSCOM_ILF.

Yerevan to host more than 2000 IT leaders at WCIT 2019
[ARMENPRESS Feb. 15, 2018] The World Congress on Information Technology will become the next most significant event for Armenia after the 2018 La Francophonie summit. Yerevan will become a technopark capital for more than 2000 global IT leaders, which will create a wonderful opportunity in terms of the country's image, positioning on the world IT map, attracting investments and tourism

WCIT 2019 will take place in the most beautiful buildings of Yerevan, Sport and Concert Complex after K. Demirchyan.

[WCIT-2019 is opportunity for Armenia to attract new investments](#)
[NEWS.am Feb. 24, 2018] World Congress in Information Technology (WCIT), to be held in Armenia, will be an opportunity to attract investments, president of the Union of the Information Technology Enterprises (UITE) Alexander Yesayan told reporters on Saturday

[WCIT2019 @WCIT2019](#)
Throwback to March 9th 2015, when an agreement on organisation and hosting of #WCIT2019 in #Armenia was signed between #WITSA and @UITE_ . #TBT#WCITArmenia2019#ITCongressYerevan

[WCIT2019 @WCIT2019](#)
Throwback to the launch of #WCITArmenia2019 official website and Congresa branding introduction. #Tbt #Armenia #ITCongress2019

[Tech Olympics sets the tone for industry 4.0](#)
[The Hans India Feb. 22, 2018] Hyderabad: With the baton of the next Congress, WCIT-2019, passing to Yerevan in Armenia, WCIT-2018, the 22nd edition of the World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) has turned out to be a different one as this time whole focus was around technology changes and their impact on society. With blurring industrial barriers, the digital revolution is transforming the industry into software-industry paving the way for fourth generation industrial revolution, said captains of the industry.

[WCIT concludes, but the show continues for Hyderabad](#)
[The Hindu, February 22, 2018] WCIT and NILF saw over 1,800 participants from over 30 countries.

[WCIT 2018 ends on a cheerful note](#)
[Telangana Today, February 22, 2018] Telangana IT Minister KT Rama Rao said the WCIT, which was conducted in India for the first time, was a grand success with about2,500 delegates attending it

[WITSA awards presented at WCIT in Hyderabad](#)
Hyderabad (Telangana) [India] Feb 21 (ANI): The World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA) awards were presented at the World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) in Hyderabad.

NASSCOM®
community

[WCIT 2018 Videos Now Available!](#)
See the complete library of session videos here! Presentations will be posted shortly.

[Sophia Robot Full Inerview at wcit 2018 Hyderabad](#)
Special Interview With Humanoid Robot Sophia in HICC HYD, Telangana, India

[Armenian Tumo center awarded "fulfilling the promise of the digital age" prize at WCIT congress](#)
YEREVAN, February 20, /ARKA/. The Yerevan-based Tumo Center for Creative Technologies has received the Chairman's award for contributing to the mission of "Fulfilling the Promise of the Digital Age" at the 2018 Global World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) in Hyderabad, India.

[Armenia's TUMO Wins Chairman's Award at World Congress on IT](#)
[TheArmeniaWeekly Feb. 23, 2018]] HYDERABAD, India-The Tumo Center for Creative Technologies (TUMO) recently announced that it has received an award for "Fulfilling the Promise of the Digital Age" from Chairman of the Commission Yvonne Chiu at the World Congress on IT (WCIT), which took place in Hyderabad, India this week.

[TUMO- Fulfilling the Promise of the Digital Age](#)
[Repat Armenia Feb. 23, 2018] The Yerevan-based Tumo Center for Creative Technologies has received the Chairman's award for contributing to the mission of "Fulfilling the Promise of the Digital Age" at the 2018 Global World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) in Hyderabad, India.

[NASSCOM's MoU with BRI - a Catalytic Approach to Blockchain Adoption in India](#)
[Feb. 23, 2018] Don Tapscott - the great Blockchain evangelizer and a speaker at WCIT-NILF - classifies awareness levels rather interestingly.

[With new technology, India on cusp of 4th industrial revolution: Narendra Modi](#)
[February 20, 2018] India is the hotspot of digital innovation across sectors and stands on the cusp of the fourth industrial revolution with new-age technologies, which are disruptive in nature, and poised to have a deep impact on the way we live and work, said Prime Minister Narendra Modion Monday while flagging off 22nd edition of World Congress on Information Technology(WCIT) 2018.

[No Indian City Like Hyderabad: KTR](#)
[Feb. 21, 2018] KTR said the aforementioned words in the background of ongoing WCIT-NILF 2018.

[Nasscom WCIT in Hyderabad](#) [Feb. 20, 2018]

Member News

[NASSCOM To Host C Summit. Digital Innovation: Unlocking Growth](#)
[May 24, 2018, New York City] Learn from the leaders who have embraced digital business models to transform their organizations. Understand how new technologies such as Artificial Intelligence

(AI), Blockchain, IoT, and Augmented Reality will transform work and customer experience. Hear from the leaders who have worked with the transformation partners to co-innovate and co-create their future.

[Congratulations to the new #APICTA Exco](#)
[PIKOM March 18, 2018] Congratulations to the new #APICTA Exco led by newly appointed Chair Stan Singh, who is also #PIKOM Councillor as well as new deputy chair Fulvio Inserra from Australia. The new appointments were announced at the APICTA 57th EXCO Meeting in Myanmar on Friday.

[PIKOM Academy Awards Certificates to 1,000 pupils from 20 primary schools](#)
[March 19, 2018] It was an exciting Sunday for more than 1,000 pupils from 20 primary schools when they went up stage to receive their certificates at the 2017 Dynabook Grade Exam Certificate Presentation Ceremony at the Sekolah Rendah Jenis Kebangsaan (C)Tsun Jin. This optional exam which tests the students' knowledge and skills in computers and software applications is open to 30,000 students nationwide each year. PIKOM Academy is proud to partner with Eduspec Holdings on this Dynabook project which was incepted in 1989.

[PIKOM vision and plans on how it intends to drive Malaysia's ICT industry to greater heights via its five chapters](#)
[March 8 · Petaling Jaya, Malaysia] Over a meet-the-press luncheon yesterday, Malaysian media got the chance to get to know Ganesh Kumar Bangah who became PIKOM's 18th Chairman in November 2017. Ganesh shared PIKOM's vision and plans on how it intends to drive Malaysia's ICT industry to greater heights via its five chapters. It was a great engaging session and we would like to extend our appreciation to the members of the media for joining us. We hope to see all of you again in our many events lined up this year.

[917 Days since Nizar Zakka was kidnapped and taken hostage](#)
917 Days since Nizar Zakka was kidnapped and taken hostage by the IRGC (Iran Revolutionary Guard Corps) and yet the Lebanese Government, relative ministries, and agencies haven't issued ONE SINGLE OFFICIAL PUBLIC STATEMENT. The question to be asked and probably is on the mind of every Lebanese: WHO ACTUALLY CONTROLS LEBANON...?
#FreeNizarZakka #Invited_and_kidnapped

[Authorities Ignore Potential Cancer Diagnosis For US Resident Nizar Zakka, Deny Him Medical Care](#)
[Center for Human Rights in Iran, Feb. 07, 2018] US permanent resident Nizar Zakka is being denied medical attention in Evin Prison despite being told by his doctor that he may be suffering from colon cancer, his US-based lawyer told the Center for Human Rights in Iran (CHRI).

[Fedesoft Launches #appsfedesoft](#)
Fedesoft with the support of the ministry of information and communications technologies, made the official launch of its chapter of #appsfedesoft, a new network of partners of this guild engaged in technological base business, with the aim of representing and articulating Projects to increase their competitiveness. #Infustriati#Fedesoft

[AIIA: Navigating Technology and the Jobs of the Future Summit](#)
[March 22, 2018] hether you are the optimist that looks to the future of work augmented by automation, robots and Artificial Intelligence as the panacea for opportunity, or subscribe to the more pessimistic view that automation will disrupt and displace jobs and the people in them, both require essentially the same response: the need to build the human and workforce capabilities and skills required to exist in our modern digital age.

[AIIA Paper: Skills for Today. Jobs for Tomorrow](#)
Whether you are the optimist that looks to the future of work augmented by automation, robots and AI as the panacea for opportunity or subscribe to the more pessimistic view that automation will disrupt and displace jobs and the people in them, both require essentially the same response: the need to build the human and workforce capabilities and skills required to exist in our modern digital age.

[AIIA: Growing the pie, key industry wins over the last two quarters](#)
Some of what the AIIA Policy team has been doing for you . . .

[[int@j] MENA ICT FORUM '18: THE NEW IT - INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY](#)
King Hussein Business Park, Amman - Jordan, September 10-11, 2018
The MENA ICT Forum is a premier ICT industry event of the Middle East and North Africa region,

held biennially in Jordan under the patronage of His Majesty King Abdullah II ibn Al Hussein.

[techUK Annual Dinner | Registration now open](#)
The techUK Annual Dinner is the established, must-attend business dinner in our calendar that last year attracted over 560 tech industry guests, including over 120 senior Government and civil service leaders. The 2018 Annual Dinner will take place at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, London on 11 July.

[New Institute of Coding announces appointment of techUK President Jacqueline de Rojas (techUK)](#)
Jacqueline de Rojas CBE has been appointed as the industry co-chair of the Governance Board for the new Institute of Coding, in an effort to address the UK's digital skills gap.

[Proposals to drive up cyber security in consumer IoT devices welcomed by techUK (techUK)](#) techUK's Julian David responds to the Government's Secure by Design report by calling for the new code of practice to build trust in IoT.

[NZTech Update - Digital inclusion for a digital economy](#)
The first half of Minister Curran's Digital Economy and Inclusion Advisory Group was announced on Friday. From 318 applicants, for the 15 seat advisory board, the Minister has selected a stellar line up so far

[Ethics of artificial intelligence critical to its success](#)
[NZTech March 21, 2018] The ethics of artificial intelligence will be critical to the success of AI going forward.

[NZ seen as the world's living tech lab](#)
[NZTech March 15, 2018] The announcement of the world's first self-driving electric air taxi being piloted in Christchurch is just one of the examples of New Zealand becoming a living tech laboratory, NZTech chief executive Graeme Muller said today.

[PSC Statement on Department of Defense Efforts to Accelerate Cloud Adoption](#)
Arlington, V.A .(March 9, 2018) - In response to a Department of Defense (DoD) draft solicitation for the Joint Enterprise Defense Infrastructure (JEDI) Cloud, the Professional Services Council (PSC) issued the following statement.

Global News

[Data Protection/Privacy Issues: ICANN61 Wrap-up and Next Steps](#)
I want to thank everyone from across the community who participated in discussions around the ICANN61 meeting on the European Union's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and its impact on registration directory services, as well as ICANN's contracts. Your contributions have helped advance our work to come into compliance with the law.

[WTO DG Azevedo tells ministers in India: This is the time to show our support for the trading system](#)
[WTO March 20, 2018] Director-General Roberto Azevêdo attended an informal ministerial gathering on WTO issues organised and hosted by the Indian government on 20 March in New Delhi. The Director-General outlined the challenges and opportunities facing the Organization and called on WTO members to show their political support and work together to strengthen the multilateral trading system.

[Singapore best performing 'smart city' globally: Stud](#)y
[Channel News Asia, March 13, 2018] SINGAPORE: Singapore was ranked the top performer in a global smart city ranking by Juniper Research.

[A Future Immune to Cyber Threats](#)
[Morningconsult, Feb. 26, 2018] In order to combat these malicious cyber threats as quickly as they develop, stakeholders from across sectors must effectively develop their own collective "immune system," capable of preparing for, sharing information about, and responding to a rapidly evolving cyber-virus.

[What To Do When Machines Do Everything](#)
[Forbes] interview with Malcolm Frank and Paul Roehrig, two of the three authors of What to Do When Machines Do Everything

[The future of education, according to experts at Davos](#)
[World Economic Forum] The future of work is going to look very different, as automation and Artificial Intelligence make many manual, repetitive jobs obsolete.

[A revolution in health care is coming](#): Welcome to Doctor You
[Economist Feb. 01, 2018] A fundamental problem with today's system is that patients lack knowledge and control. Access to data can bestow both.

[8 ways AI can help save the planet](#)
[ITU News] It's a historic moment for Artificial Intelligence (AI). All the pieces are coming together: big data, advances in hardware, emerging powerful AI algorithms, and an open source community for tools that reduces barriers to entry for industry and start-ups alike.

Partner News

[Applications Requested] ITU Telecom World Awards 2018: Great Solutions Deserve a Great Audience

Success is not just about what you know. It's who you know - and who knows you. Enter your innovative tech solution with social impact into the ITU Telecom World Awards - and enter a world of opportunity. The Awards are part of ITU Telecom World 2018, the leading tech event for governments, corporates and SMEs, organized by ITU, the United Nations specialized agency for ICTs.

This means the audience for your solutions will be made up of leaders from government and industry from around the world. Decision-takers, policy-makers, investors, innovators, mentors and global media - providing you and your solutions with international exposure, key contacts and a platform for success.

More information here!

[UNCTAD: eCommerce Week 2018](#)
UNCTAD's fourth E-Commerce Week will place particular emphasis on the role of digital platforms, a key feature of the evolving digital economy. Digital platforms - often accessed through mobile apps - bring together and aggregate demand and supply in ways that were not possible before (being faster, cheaper and more easily coordinated), including in geographical areas/service sectors traditionally neglected.

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