

PRESS RELEASE

Electronic Payments and Receipts in Government

State & Regional Level Awareness and Consultative Workshop

Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

March 17, 2017

Fourth day long regional workshop on Electronic Payments and Receipts in Government was organised by the National e-Governance Division (NeGD), under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology on March 17, 2017 in Trivandrum. The event was organised in collaboration with Centre for Digital Financial Inclusion (CDFI) and National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) as Knowledge Partner.

States of Tamil Nadu, Kerala along with Union Territories of Puducherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands participated in the workshop. The event was inaugurated by Smt. Sheela Thomas, IAS Additional Chief Secretary, Govt of Kerala. She pointed to the need of making sustained efforts by the Govt to enable an environment conducive for the behaviour change to ensure adoption of digital payments.

A delegate mix of over 150 officials included the mid to senior level officials from the State Governments, PSUs, industry leaders, Banks, Government Payment Solution Owners, RBI and NPCI among others.

Sri Seeram Sambasiva Rao, IAS, Director KSITM shared that the state of Kerala is geared to adopt the electronic channel in the coming time across all Govt payments and receipts. Mr Rajesh Sharma, Director, CB, NEGD said that since the requirements of the Govt differ from the citizens with respect to the digital payment system design thus there was a need to have separate set of workshop to cater the Govt officials.

Mr Krishnan Dharmarajan, Executive Director CDFI participated in the workshop and share the Dias with other dignitaries of the state. During his speech on context setting he said that EPR workshops are a small effort in the direction of enabling an environment conducive to the EPR ecosystem. He presented a two-phased approach for adoption whereby the departments have to identify and enable the digital payment modes and encourage the usage and tracking of electronic payments.

Three panel discussion happen during the workshop whereby covering the regulator and central perspectives, Initiatives from Payment Service Providers and State Level Initiatives for Electronic Payments and Receipts. This helped the participants to have an understanding of the regulatory requirements, banking products developed by NPCI, Digital payment solutions developed by various banks, receipt solutions developed by NIC and some of the state level best practices in the adoption of electronic payments and receipts.

Participants also got an opportunity to interact with the officials of RBI, NPCI, Banks etc. to seek response to their queries with respect to the usage of the digital transactions.