

## FICCI seminar on Integrated Digital Solutions for a Smarter Karnataka

**Bengaluru, 24 July 2015:** As India undergoes a digital transformation, FICCI has decided to roll out nationwide outreach programs to engage an ever increasing number of stakeholders, in support of Government of India's digital transformation reforms. The Digital initiatives consists of multiple aspects. Key amongst those is the evolution of technology to find solutions to the emerging challenges and opportunities faced by the citizens of India. It is equally important that these solutions are meaningful, comprehensive and enable a better life for Indians.

In pursuance of this goal, FICCI in association with KBITS and the Government of Karnataka held a special seminar in Bengaluru on Friday, July 24th, titled "Integrated Digital Solutions for a Smarter Karnataka". Bangalore is already established as the software and BPO capital of the country. ICTs have been promoted and facilitated at various levels through cooperation between Government of Karnataka and the private sector.

The seminar discussed some of the digital breakthroughs, especially as it relates to improving business efficiency for the private sector and wide delivery of services through the Karnataka government's eGovernance programs. The seminar especially focused on the developing need for integrated audio-visual communications, to address the fast growing needs, not just of corporate and business, but also amongst educational institutions, hospitals, and other institutions which have the potential of delivering public services using digital platforms. Amongst those who participated in the discussions were Dr. Shalini Rajneesh, Principal Secretary to the Government of Karnataka; Dr. Rathan U Kelkar (IAS), CEO, Centre for e-Governance; Dr. Arbind Prasad, Director General FICCI Mr. R.K. Misra, Founder Director, Center for Smart Cities; Mr. Krishna Prasad, Director-Smart City Solutions, Cisco; Mr. Biren Ghose, President, ABAI - Animation, Visual Effects, Games and Comics; Mr. Richard Tan, Executive Director, InfoCommAsia Pte. Ltd; Mr Alok Gupta, Chief Operating Officer, EMBARQ India and Mr. B R Raj, Smart Cities Practice Head, Wipro.

**Speaking at the session, Dr. Arbind Prasad, Director General FICCI said,** "FICCI's Communications and Digital Economy Committee is driving the government-industry dialogue for ensuring an efficient delivery of the Digital transformation programs, in partnership with state governments at the grassroots. Through this initiative, we intend to demonstrate the technological capabilities and the need for an accompanying policy framework, to drive the benefits of a digital society deeper, faster and wider, in the State of Karnataka".

**Mr. Richard Tan, Executive Director, InfoCommAsia Pte. Ltd.,** said, "We are honored to have this opportunity to collaborate with FICCI in delivering this seminar that promotes India's digital transformation. Our efforts in developing InfoComm India, a technology and solutions exhibition for the advancement of integrated audiovisual communication systems aims to contribute to this transformation through the facilitation of more efficient and effective business-to-business communications. This year's InfoComm India 2015 will take place from 1-3 September at the Bombay Exhibition Centre in Mumbai and is expected to draw thousands of visitors, many from the public service sector, who are seeking to harness the power of technology in delivering exceptional experiences in their realm of business".

A large numbers of young entrepreneurs, techies, business men and most importantly, stakeholders involved in eGovernance initiatives attended this program at hotel ITC Gardenia.