SKOCH CHALLENGER AWARDS 2012

Technology: Mr Ravi S Saxena, Additional Chief Secretary, Govt of Gujarat

His efforts have resulted in making Gujarat the most e-connected state in the country having end-to-end IP based connectivity, covering all 26 districts, 226 Talukas and 18,000 villages of Gujarat via e-Gram. He took the challenge of upgrading the ICT infrastructure in the state and created the Gujarat State Wide Area Network (GSWAN). He has been relentlessly campaigning for consolidation of government IT infrastructure for the entire country, which should result in a Unified Government Cloud Structure. He is Ravi S Saxena, presently Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Gujarat leading the technology initiatives in the state.

He has initiated a unique experiment of integrating GIS applications with other IT applications to have an accurate planning of civil infrastructure. He has also conceptualized a "Unified Communication System" carrying voice, video and data on IP backbone, thereby ensuring complete telepresence of every officer of the state government.

Given away in presence of Mr P Chidambaram, Hon'ble Home Minister; Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Hon'ble Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission; and, Dr C Rangarajan, Hon'ble Chairman, Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister on 27th Day of March 2012 at New Delhi.

