

Ladakh IT Department Hosts Digital Innovation Summit in Leh under ‘Digital India - Powering Progress with Purpose’

Leh, Sep 19, 2025: The Information Technology Department of the Union Territory of Ladakh successfully hosted the Digital Innovation Summit in Leh, under the national initiative “Digital India – Powering Progress with Purpose.”

The conclave brought together senior policymakers, administrators, technology experts, and industry leaders to deliberate on how digital transformation can strengthen governance, connectivity, and inclusive development in the unique context of Ladakh.

The summit opened with remarks from Dr. Ravi Gupta, CEO and Editor-in-Chief of Elets Technomedia, who emphasized the transformative impact of artificial intelligence and digital technologies on governance and development.

Shashanka Ala, IAS, Administrative Secretary of the IT Department, UT Ladakh, underscored the need for vision and collaboration, stressing that digital governance in Ladakh must grow authentically from the realities of Himalayan life.

During the Digital Innovation Summit 2025 in Leh, Hon’ble Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, Shri Kavinder Gupta highlighted Ladakh’s emergence as a digital innovation leader despite its challenging terrain, emphasizing its role in advancing the Hon’ble Prime Minister’s vision of a digitally empowered Bharat and a trillion-dollar digital economy. He stated that Ladakh’s proactive digital initiatives—including the launch of online public services, digitisation of land records under DILRMP, vehicle tracking for transport safety, and being the first UT to introduce the MedLEaPR medico-legal system—stand as a model for remote regions. He underscored the UT’s commitment to last-mile connectivity across its vast 59,146 sq. km area, with efforts like e-Office, online scholarships, digital certificates, and cashless payments.

Highlighting connectivity milestones, he informed that all 193 Gram Panchayats are connected under BharatNet, ₹125 crore has been sanctioned for OFC expansion, 234 of 243 villages have mobile connectivity, and 4G has reached 169 villages, with 175 new towers sanctioned, including solar-powered ones in strategic border areas. On renewable energy, he cited major infrastructure projects such as the 220 kV Drass–Zanskar line, a 200 MW solar project with storage, and a 280 MW solar park, which will improve power reliability and create employment.

Calling on youth to embrace digital skills, innovation, and entrepreneurship, he assured support from the UT Administration to realise the Prime Minister’s vision of a digitally empowered Bharat. He concluded by affirming that Ladakh’s digital and sustainable growth journey reflects the spirit of New India and will significantly contribute to India’s emergence as a global digital leader and Vishwaguru.

In his keynote address, Dr. Pawan Kotwal, IAS, Chief Secretary of Ladakh, highlighted the region’s geographical challenges and stressed the importance of leveraging technology to reach Ladakh’s dispersed population. He emphasized recent infrastructure projects, including new power initiatives and the drive to ensure 4G saturation across border villages.

Dr. S. D. Singh Jamwal, DGP Ladakh, also highlighted Ladakh’s major transformation over the years and the initiatives taken by the UT Administration to connect all parts of Ladakh.

Shri Stanzin Chosphe, Executive Councillor for IT, reaffirmed the government’s commitment to digitizing villages and ensuring universal connectivity by year’s end.

Principal Secretary, Vocational Education, Skill Development, and Entrepreneurship Department of the Government of Uttar Pradesh, Dr Hari Om and Administrative Secretary, IT Department, UT Ladakh, Shashanka Ala, also spoke on the occasion.

The summit also witnessed industry presentations from Cloudera and Airtel Business, showcasing the role of AI, data, cloud platforms, and cybersecurity in shaping Ladakh’s digital future and contributing to the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.

A series of thematic sessions and panel discussions featuring senior IAS officers and experts explored the Digital Public Infrastructure for Inclusive Development, highlighting BharatNet, satellite internet, open-source platforms, and their role in agriculture and farmers' welfare. It moved to Reinventing Public Service Delivery in the Digital Era, focusing on tech-driven governance, transparency, and health-sector reforms. The next session, Unlocking New Possibilities in Governance Through AI, IoT, and Cloud, explored citizen-centric solutions in health, education, and infrastructure.

Building a Globally Competitive, Digitally Smart & Cyber-Resilient Public Sector followed, discussing digital transformation, research, and cybersecurity. The final session, Tech for Good, Using Innovation to Address Governance Challenges, showcased practical applications of digital innovation in health, education, renewable energy, agriculture, and transport.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks from Shri Krishna C. Mishra of Elets Technomedia, who acknowledged the contributions of all dignitaries, speakers, and partners in shaping Ladakh's digital roadmap.

The summit was supported by Cloudera as Platinum Partner, Airtel Business and ONGC as Gold Partners, NTPC and Powergrid as Silver Partners, along with Inspira and Aman Technologies as exhibitors and branding partners.



