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Asian Innovation Award for Government of Gujarat (India)

06 November 2006

www.thehindubusinessline.com

The Government of Gujarat has won the Asian Innovation Award for the 'Chiranjeevi Yojana' scheme.

The award has been given by the Singapore Economic Development Board and The Wall Street Journal. The award was given away at the Global Entrepolis at Singapore conference by Dr Tony Tan, Chairman, National Research Foundation Board, Singapore. Global Entrepolis is a business networking conference organised by the Singapore Economic Development Board. The Chiranjeevi Yojana scheme was started in December 2005, in five of the poorest districts in Gujarat. Now 73 per cent of private gynaecologists are participating and they receive a set payment for each delivery. The State Government of Gujarat is one of the 12 awardees, of which five (including the government) are Indian. Intel Corporation is one of the Indian awardees for its 'rugged community PC' built to withstand dust, heat, humidity and power outages, under this initiative, the community PCs are placed at kiosks in villages, allowing people to take advantage of Internet services e.g. online bill payments, delivery of birth and marriage certificates and access to agricultural prices and information. Mr Prem Singh Saini of Haryana was another awardee for his invention of a switch that uses mobile phone signals to turn electricity off and on. Webaroo Technologies was another awardee which is also Indian company. Webaroo's technologies enables browses on laptops and handhelds.

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