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Kerala Police wins three Skoch Awards

Three projects of the Kerala Police have received the Skoch Award this year. The awards were given to Virtual Q, E-VIP and WhatsApp system that was developed in partnership with banks to prevent OTP fraud. The Skoch Award is the highest civilian honor in the country given by an independent body. S Sreejith, IG, Crime Branch Trivandrum Range received the award at a function held in New Delhi.

Last year, the Kerala Police received the Skoch Gold Award for their rescue efforts during the Flood 2018. Kerala Police was also awarded the Skoch Honor of Merit Award last year for the Student Police Cadet, Pink Police Patrol and for the Project HOPE, which encourages drop out students to continue their studies.

Sabarimala Virtual Q System is a web-enabled software where the pilgrims arriving at Sabarimala could reserve their place at a pre-fixed time of day on the queue. This system has been used by millions during the past pilgrimage seasons.

Earlier, verification of passport applications demanded lot of time span even upto many months. In order to avoid this delay, Kerala Police implemented E-VIP sytem (E-VIP 1.0 version) developed by software experts of Thrissur Rural Police, on Pilot basis at Malappuram District in 2017. Implementation of the system in Malappuram, the largest passport issuing district in the country, was a big success. It has since been

expanded to all other police districts. This has reduced the police clearance period for Passport verification to 120 hours. E-VIP version 2.0 is being developed with the help of block chain technology with emphasis on enhancing security and avoiding human interference. Under the new system, the time limit for police clearance will be reduced to 72 hours.

The Kerala Police has formed a WhatsApp system with various banks to prevent fraud by taking one-time passwords to avail online banking services. The system, which includes police officers and representatives of the banks, allows the bank to quickly report the fraudulent complaints and get the money back.

Photo Caption: IG S Sreejith accepts Skoch Order of Merit Award at a function in New Delhi.
