

“Kanyashree Online 3.0” selected as one of five best projects in Gem-Tech Awards 2016, organized jointly by ITU & UN WOMEN



ITU and UN Women select outstanding projects to empower women and girls through innovative technologies and recognizes them through GEM-TECH Awards. The third annual GEM-TECH Awards' 2016 received **311 nominations from 81 countries** from a wide range of organizations and entities coming from government, industry and academia, as well as civil society organizations. The **Kanyashree Online 3.0 of Dept of Child Development, Women Development & Social Welfare, Govt of West Bengal** has been selected as one of the five top projects under the category **“Apply Technology for Women's Empowerment and Digital Inclusion”**.

Other four finalists under this category are: **Women's Network Equality in Decision Making**, Albania; **Save Haven Map**, Nossas Cidades, Brazil; **Aliadas en Cadena**, Venezuela; **WikiProject Women in Red**, Wikipedia, Global.

The video of the top five projects may be seen from the following link:
<https://youtu.be/FY5qK2PUFjk>.

Nominations submitted covered a number of topics including women's safety apps, e-government solutions, e-agri projects to support women's economic empowerment and innovative digital skills training for women and girls.

“The world must become more equal,” said **Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General of ITU**. “And ICTs are an essential pathway towards gender equality and gender empowerment. The GEM-TECH Awards demonstrate the amazing work being done around the world to bridge the gender digital divide and prepare future technology leaders.”

“Information and communication technologies need the extra dimension of women's talents and expertise,” added **UN Women Executive Director Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka**. “Conversely, women can benefit enormously from empowering technological innovations. These come together through the GEM-TECH awards which help us to show individuals, organizations and governments across the world exactly how to integrate gender and technology in their work, with great practical examples and personal role models.”