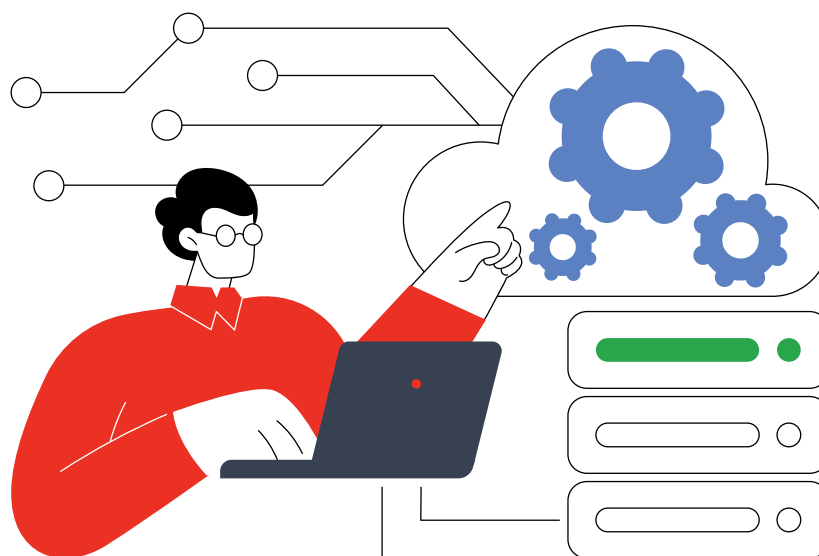**Business**   **Google** Cloud

Exclusive Roundtable Discussion

Beyond the Grid: Addressing the imperative for a Next - Generation Sovereign Cloud

Date: 18th December, 2024 | Location: New Delhi

KEY METRICS	1 Session	1.5+ Hours of Session	15+ PSU Leaders

Airtel Business is a provider of secure connectivity and technology communication solutions, offering services to businesses of various sizes across India and globally, including regions such as the US, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia-Pacific, and SAARC. The company is recognized for its strong network and is a leading name in connectivity, cellular IoT, CPaaS, and data centers in India. It focuses on supporting businesses in their digital transformation efforts to meet changing objectives.

Google Cloud provides a comprehensive suite of cloud computing services, including infrastructure as a service, platform as a service, and serverless computing, designed to support developers and AI applications. It offers tools like Vertex AI for AI and machine learning, Compute Engine for customizable virtual machines, object storage for data management, and advanced security features such as the Security Command Center and Sensitive Data Protection. Web applications can also benefit from vulnerability scanning through the Web Security Scanner. Google Cloud runs on the same robust infrastructure that supports Google services like Gmail, YouTube, and Google Search.

ObserveNow Media is a premier B2B Media Marketing Organisation, committed to driving industry leadership & innovation across key sectors. We specialise in curating high-impact content & hosting bespoke IP Events that enable businesses & professionals to connect & network with each other. By connecting decision-makers, thought leaders, & industry influencers, we foster meaningful dialogue & create opportunities for growth & collaboration

Session Overview

ObserveNow Media organised an exclusive roundtable discussion themed " Beyond the Grid: Addressing the imperative for a Next - Generation Sovereign Cloud" in collaboration with Airtel Business & Google Cloud.

The discussion, featuring numerous PSU leaders, focused on the urgent need for sovereign cloud solutions in the face of evolving data security threats and regulatory challenges. Experts explored how AI, blockchain, and zero-trust architectures enhance security for government and citizen data, addressed migration barriers, and shared best practices for building a secure, self-reliant digital ecosystem.

Key participants

1. Abhishek Vashisth, Director (Technology), EY Centre of Excellence

2. Prashant Kumar Mittal, Deputy Director General, National Informatics Centre (NIC)

3. Anand Pande, Senior Vice President & CISO, GSTN

4. Anil Kumar Chaudhary, Chief General Manager Energy Efficiency Services Limited

5. Amal Krishna, Chief Digital Officer (CDO) & CISO, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd

6. Alok Shankar Pandey, Group General Manager - IT & CISO, Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India Ltd

7. Rajan Arora, CISO, Government of E marketplace

8. Akshaya Kumar Patel, GM -IT & Chief Information Security Officer, NTPC Ltd

9. Nagendra Pratap Singh, General Manager, SIS Indian Oil Corporation Limited

10. Sandeep Kumar Singh, General Manager, IHB Ltd

11. Sandeep Sood, CISO, Housing Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO)

12. B. Arun Prasad, Deputy General Manager - IT, Engineering Project India Limited

13. Vijay Anand, Deputy General Manager, KRIBHCO

14. Aishwarya Tiwari, CISO, CRIS

15. Chetan Jadhav, Chief System Engineer & Engineering Head, Harris Communication

16. Atul Mishra, SVP-IT, GSTN - AI Cloud

17.v Jagan Mohan Katta, Deputy Director, MHA- IB

"Key Dialogues:

Aishwarya Tiwari, CISO, CRIS

The approach is clear: public data can be moved to the cloud. For organizations lacking scalable infrastructure, the cloud is an option. However, sensitive and critical data should remain on-premises. In cases where workflows are unpredictable, the cloud becomes viable. These are some use cases where the government adopts public cloud solutions.

Sandeep Kumar Singh, General Manager, IHB Ltd

Cloud migration in a joint venture involving Indian Oil, HPCL, and BPCL. While cloud services bring benefits, there are challenges like economies of scale not being passed to customers. Moving from CapEx to OpEx makes organizations captive customers, relying heavily on cloud providers. Trust is crucial in this model.

For smaller companies, managed services are practical due to the difficulty of hiring experts. However, in operational technology (OT) setups, significant work is required to integrate cloud solutions, especially for older infrastructure and IoT-enabled systems.

Anand Pande, Senior Vice President & CISO,GSTN

Situation while there is also a process to go on cloud. So right now barring the critical data for the non critical workload we already have on cloud and there are certain initiatives whereby the some part of the we are exploring options if we can take it to the cloud and have the benefit of the provision and so and so and I will not and the cost of commercial power but I think how would be a future like even for the government still that such thatThe discussions at the technology level, we know what technology is, how to use India always, trading for your hands on the problem, right?

But the decision makers, at that level, some policy. For example, there are certain keywords, India, .These are the two things which and for us propelling anything the mechanism is RFP right. So, RFP has to tell PQTQ all those criteria and all these mathematics fit into that PQTQ.

Pankaj Shukla, Head of Customer Engineering, Public Sector & Education, Google Cloud

So there are two aspects of The first aspect is actually migrating to public cloud and not doing APTG.That is a question which has been solved in most of the because their job has been their business is actually to migrate and it has been solved with with tools, with technologies, with people to kind of basically SRE processes which can build and all that is I would say to an extent a lot of and that that is something which is more or less solved with lot of processes.That is the realization which has come to the last two to four years. As you said, a lot of people are moving back, I still say that 70 to 80% of the critical workloads are still running on that and they will continue to run on that.

Chetan Jadhav, Chief System Engineer & Engineering Head, Harris Communication

Managing mission-critical networks, about cloud adoption challenges in government sectors. Cultural aspects, security, and operational independence are key concerns. While cloud adoption is growing, certain applications and hardware may eventually become unsustainable on-premises due to cost and scale.

For mission-critical operations, evolving towards customizable, scalable cloud solutions that ensure operational sovereignty is essential. Products designed for sovereign reasons, like those built by Google using open-source software and standard hardware, illustrate a potential direction. Partnerships, such as Google's collaboration with Airtel, highlight the possibilities for achieving both flexibility and sovereignty in cloud solutions.

Event Glimpses