

Chapter-20

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY INITIATIVES / e-GOVERNANCE

20.1 The Ministry has taken steps for implementing e-Governance with the aim of bringing transparency and improved efficiency in its working. The following aims and objectives have been identified for the scheme:-

- Strengthening and upgrading the present infrastructure of IT.
- Extension of Ethernet LAN covering all the divisions/sections of Main Ministry (for about 350 nodes).
- Procurement of servers and software to equip computer center with state-of-the-art-technology.
- Procurement of software to run & manage the network and create & manage the database.
- Procurement of clients and software to make front end functional for the user.
- Upgrading the technical skills of the users.
- Bring transparency in the functioning by placing the information to the extent possible on Internet in public domain.
- Creation of comprehensive database on the subjects dealt by the Ministry and making accessible also to the field offices at remote locations out of Delhi, at all hours of the day.
- Interlinking the functioning of the different offices to bring about decision-making.
- To free officials of the Ministry from routine and repetitive functions to increase their usefulness and effectiveness.
- Development of Public Grievance & Complaint System.
- Availability of forms and information on the net and facility of filling of application from remote locations at all hours.

- Development of web enabled applications to achieve the essential goals of the e-Governance.
- Developing management information data base for personnel working in the Ministry.

20.2 The outlay for this scheme is of Rs.800 lakh for the 10th Plan. The allocation will remain within 2% to 3% limit of the Ministry's funds as mandated by the Government for expenditure on IT implementation.

20.3 The IT Scheme is being implemented at the offices of the Ministry at Delhi. In the 10th Plan, it is to be extended to the subordinate/attached offices at Delhi and other field offices outside Delhi. This would require development of web-enabled applications, which would also enable the officers of the Ministry on overseas assignment/conferences to access the information from Internet enabled laptops so as to make interventions effective.

20.3 The progress of the scheme is being regularly monitored by the IT Committee and Project Review Sub Committee headed by Joint Secretary and IT Manager, Dir (IFD), representative of NIC as members. IT Manager assists and manages the planning, execution and review of the Plan scheme. The Project Review Sub Committee periodically reviews progress of the implementation of the Scheme in the Ministry, overseas resource allocation, identifies the problem arises and suggests remedial/alternative action plan for the development and implementation of the application software modules as per the set targets.

20.5 Some of the current initiatives of the Ministry of Labour & Employment in the area of e-Governance are as follows:-

Physical Targets/Achievements during 10th Plan upto September, 2004:

LAN Connectivity:

LAN has been extended to almost all the computers in the Ministry & Jaisalmer House. Leased line connection for Internet is available to provide problem free access to Internet.

Ministry's Website and public interaction:

Efforts are on to revamp the Ministry's website with the help of NIC so as to make it more dynamic and interactive. A separate window has already been opened on the website for receiving grievances & feedback from public directly.

Computerization of Industrial Relations Division:

Computerization of Industrial Relations Division is already in advanced stage and software is being given final touches to make it more integrated & comprehensive.

Computerization of Child Labour Section:

Software is also being developed for the Child Labour Section so as to capture reports directly from the Project Societies,

which would not only help in speedy updation of data but help in more effective monitoring.

Employeeaware Software:

'Employeeaware' Software package is being implemented to put up all the service records including GPF accounts on the Ministry's internet so as to make it accessible to all the officers & staff of the Ministry directly and automate the functioning of Administration & Accounts Section. By January, we intend to complete requisite data loading and computerize this area fully.

Training:

Officers as well as staff are being provided regular training in appropriate computer skills with the help of NIC. We plan to cover all officers at the level of Director/DS for developing Power Point presentation skills and Assistant level staff in basic computer skills within this financial year.

Procurement of Computer Hardware/ Software:

Computer hardware/software are being procured for the use in the offices of officers/sections for the smooth & speedy disposal of official work as and when required.

Upgrading presentation infrastructure:

Plasma screens have been installed in the Ministry's Conference/Committee rooms for a more effective presentation.
