Chapter XLVI Indian Police E-Government System: A Study of Provincial Police

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ABSTRACT

While Information Technology (IT) is being embraced by various wings of the government, the police in India have however, been slow to adopt IT. The age-old colonial image of police, lack of transparency in its operations, a general sense of 'awe' surrounding police, and so forth, all contributed to its remaining 'distant' from the main civil administration. The broad objective of this chapter is to discuss about E-Governance initiative in a Provincial Police administration in India with particular reference to local police in order to gain an insight into what it takes to deal with the most complex, socially sensitive and demanding administrative work at local level.

INTRODUCTION

E-government in India is not new but it has been evolving in different forms. Way back in 1975, National Informatics Centre (NIC) was set up by the Government of India with an avowed objec-

tive to promote Information Technology (IT) in managing the internal processes of government department. Government has since created a separate ministry of IT and approved the IT Bill in the year 2000, which has given legal recognition to electronic documents. The Government

has also approved the policy of allocation of 2 to 3 percent of budget for IT. Adoption of a 13 point agenda on e-governance for government departments, conception of India Portal (a portal of all government websites to provide information and delivery of services) etc. are other hallmark steps of the Government of India towards e-governance as stipulated in the India's Tenth Five Year Plan (2002-2007) (Gupta et al. 2004). It culminated into the announcement of a National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) was announced in May 2006 by the Minister with an outlay INR 33000 crores with

aim to create the right governance and institutional mechanisms, set up the core infrastructure and policies and implement a number of Mission Mode Projects (Table 1) at the center, state and integrated service levels to create a citizen-centric and business-centric environment for governance. Apart from mission mode projects, other three major components of NeGP include creation of State Wide Area Network; State Data Centre (SDC) and 100000 Community Service Centers (CSC) to serve among a cluster of 6 villages in the country and provide a range (more than eighty)

Table 1. E-government mission mode projects of India (Source: mit.gov.in)

SN	MISSION MODE PROJECTS	LINE MINISTRIES/ DEPARTMENTS RESPONSIBLE
CENTR	AL GOVERNMENT	
01	Income Tax	Ministry of Finance/Central Board of Direct Tax
02	Passport Visa & Immigration Project	Ministry of External Affairs/Ministry of Home Affairs
03	DCA21	Department of Company Affairs
04	Insurance	Deptt. Of Banking
05	National Citizen Database	Ministry of Home Affairs/Registrar General of India (RGI)
06	Central Excise	Department of Revenue/Central Board of Excise & Custom
07	Pensions	Deptt. Of Pensions & Pensioners welfare & Deptt. Of Expenditure
08	Banking	Deptt. of Banking
State G	overnment (tentative, to be finalized in	consultation with the States)
01	Land Records	Ministry of Rural Development
02	Road Transport	Ministry of Road Transport & Highway
03	Property Registration	Department of Land Resources
04	Agriculture	Department of Agriculture & Cooperation
05	Treasuries	Ministry of Finance
06	Municipalities	Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation
07	Gram Panchayats	Ministry of Rural Development
08	Commercial Taxes	Ministry of Finance
09	Police (UTs initially)	Ministry of Home affairs
Integra	ted Services	
01	EDI (E-Commerce)	Ministry of Commerce and Industry
02	E-Biz	Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion / Department of Information Technology
03	Common Service Centres	Department of Information Technology
04	India Portal	Department of Information Technology and Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
05	EG Gateway	Department of Information Technology
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