

## Department of Food & Supplies, Punjab

The Department of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Protection Department, Government of Punjab is responsible for procurement of food grains and other essential commodities, maintenance of stocks and their storages, supply and delivery to the citizen through distribution centers at reasonable or subsidized rates, food security, license etc. The Department ensures enforcement and compliance of Public Distribution System (PDS) on the targeted citizens and the policies laid down by the Govt. of India. The Public Distribution System is operated through a system of Fair Price Shops (FPS) scattered through the State. The food and essential commodities are disbursed to the eligible citizens having Ration Cards.

The Department wishes to explore new perspectives in leveraging the best of technologies and also be redesigning/ reengineering its current processes in the envisaged environment, taking cognizance of the efforts of other States. Department has identified Information Technology (IT) as a key enabler in achieving the objective of good governance and taken this initiative to redefine and computerize the core business processes.

The objective is to improve the effectiveness and to bring in the transparency of the department operations and services, and hence it is embarking on an initiative to computerize the department activities.

This project requires a comprehensive Business Process Re-engineering (BPR) study to be undertaken to improve upon the existing workflow of the Department's operations. Subsequently, a statutory transformation from existing manual workflow system to electronic workflow system is required through proper government orders on a pilot basis. Upon successful implementation of project at pilot location on a self sustainable basis, it can be scaled both, horizontally and vertically. The State has decided to take Ludhiana as pilot district for the envisaged project.

Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, Government of India has approved the pilot project at an estimated cost of Rs. 2.32 crores. The funds would be released by the Government of India as per the following: -

<b>Release No.</b>	<b>Pre-condition state of implementation</b>	<b>Documentation to be supplied by implementation agency</b>	<b>Amount to be released</b>
I Release	Issue of	Acceptance of the terms &	Rs. 116 lakhs

	Administrative Approval	Conditions of GIA	
II Release	Recommendations of Project Review & Steering Committee	On submission of utilization certificate of 1 <sup>st</sup> installment, as also the recommendation of PRSC	Rs. 60 lakhs after three months of the release
III Release	Recommendations of Project Review & Steering Committee	On submission of utilization certificate of second release fund as well as on the recommendation of PRSC	Rs. 56 lakhs after 6 months of first release

**Scope of Work: -**

In brief, the scope of work of project is as follows:-

1. Existing System Study and Analysis of gaps
2. Designing of Proposed System
3. Development of Software Application
4. Data entry for Department digitization
5. Setting up of hard and soft infrastructure
6. Integration of FCS offices, godowns and Fair Price Shops
7. Project management and Implementation Support

**Synergy with NEGP: -**

The National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) proposed by the Government of India in year 2003 comprises functional components and Mission Mode Projects (MMPs) to be executed over a four year period. These MMPs comprise projects, which are to be implemented by the line ministries/ departments of the Central Government, State Governments and integrated projects spanning across multiple ministries, departments and agencies.

Food and Civil Supplies (FCS) Department have significant citizen interactions as they provide basic services to millions of citizens living in urban and rural areas. Implications of the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) for the NMMP flows from the fact that it is a Mission Mode Project (MMP) under the NeGP. Hence, the NMMP has to adhere to the policies and overall objectives of the NeGP. This initiative for FCS, Punjab State would ultimately be dovetailed with the overall architecture, delivery mechanism, delivery channels and guidelines of Department of Information Technology, Punjab or Department of Information Technology, Gol under NeGP.

**Current Status: -**

A kick-off meeting was held whereby it has been decided that Department of Food and Civil Supplies, Government of Punjab would send acceptance of the Terms and

Conditions of the Grant-In Aid to the Government of India. The acceptance has been sent and first release of grant is awaited.

Department of Information Technology, Punjab has forwarded a draft Request for Proposal to Department of Food and Civil Supplies, Punjab for selection of Project consultant for providing consultancy services for implementation of e-governance in the Department.