

E-Panchayat **(Electronic Knowledge Based *Panchayat*)**

INTRODUCTION

E-Panchayat is a software product conceptualized, designed and developed by National Informatics Centre, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, as a part of its E-governance initiatives. E-Panchayat has been designed taking into consideration all the information and knowledge management requirements in a Gram Panchayat. The 1992 Panchayathraj Act of Government of India, and the success stories of the Gram Panchayats in various states in the country have been taken into consideration while developing e-Panchayat. The Government Orders issued by the Government of Andhra Pradesh regarding the village secretariats and the functions of the village secretary besides the elected representatives of the gram panchayat are all considered in this package. Thus e-Panchayat fits well into the information systems at gram panchayat level. The software is web enabled, and citizen-centric. Therefore, even with less overheads the village level functionaries and the citizens are envisaged to benefit by e-Panchayat.

THE MODULES

E-Panchayat comprises nearly 30 main modules, and nearly 150 sub-modules, in line with the 30 sectoral functions of the gram panchayats. Ramachandra-puram Gram Panchayat (Medak District, near Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh) was taken as a pilot panchayat for e-Panchayat.

(1) Gram Panchayat Administration

This module facilitates provision of following information services:

- Minutes of meetings.
- Schedules of Gram Sabhas.
- Agenda update.
- Certificates, Licences.
- Bill payments.
- Attendance monitoring of the Panchayat functionaries.
- Gram Panchayat Meetings Management.
- Gram Panchayat Cleanliness Monitoring.
- Registration of Births/Deaths/Marriage, etc.
- SGSY works monitoring, issue of trade licences.
- Pension schemes management system.
- Self-help groups and other villagers welfare schemes management system.
- Assets management, property tax assessment and management
- Property lost/found reporting system
- Law and order management system
- Encroachments checking and monitoring module
- Government orders searching and retrieval system
- Village statistics maintenance and reporting system
- Intensive sanitation management information system.



(2) Agriculture

This module enables the elected representatives of the gram panchayats to manage the farmers' grievances.

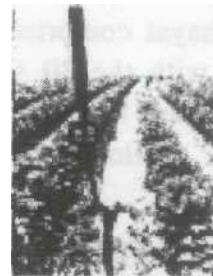
It facilitates rendering educational services on the best agricultural practices to enhance the yield and reduce expenditure and enhance the quality of produce for the farmers. Also it facilitates its agriculture and related departments to provide season-specific, region-specific information services to the farmers, apart from offering of counselling services to the farmers by agriculture experts.

This module also enables the gram panchayat secretariat to report the agriculture production details of the village.

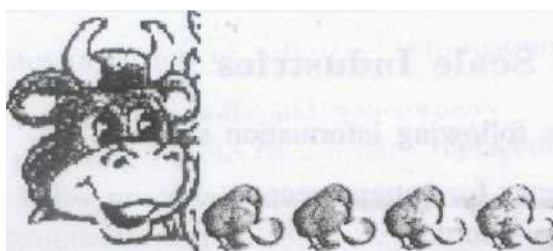


(3) Irrigation and Water Conservation

This module provides information on irrigation canals to the Public. It facilitates education on various water harvesting and conservation schemes. The module enables reporting of problems on pipelines, canals, etc. and subsequent review of problems by Sarpanch (or the head of Panchayat or Village Council). Besides these, the module facilitates the appraisal of the status of water cess payments and reportings on the dues.



(4) Dairy and Animal Husbandry



This module facilitates provision of the following information services:

- Veterinary counselling services.
- Information on animal diseases.
- Information on milk procurement and quality management.
- Veterinary hospitals directory.
- Reporting on breed improvement programmes.
- Livestock data collection and reporting.

(5) Fisheries

The fisheries module facilitates provision of the following information services:

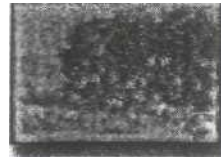
- Fisheries counseling
- Provision of information on potential fishing zones
- Provision of fishermen welfare schemes related information
- Rendering market related information services.
- Weather forecasts.



(6) Social Forestry

This module facilitates provision of the following information services:

- Mobilization of volunteers by secretary
- Submitting reports on illegal felling of trees
- Procurement and management of information on
- the vegetative resources of the gram panchayat.



(7) Elections

This module provides the following information services:

- Registration of voters.
- Objection to voters list.
- Elected representative information.
- Publication of electoral role.
- Dissemination of electoral roles.



(8) Small Scale Industries

This module extends following information services:

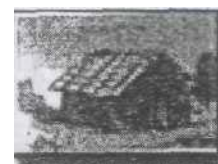
- Loans/schemes for entrepreneurs
- Raw material sources
- Market information
- Marketing services
- Loan repayment
- Information on income generating projects.



(9) Housing

This module provides information services such as:

- Low cost housing techniques information
- Apply for housing scheme
- Loan recovery status information
- Information on housing.



(10) Water

Information services provided under this module are:

- Information on water cleaning technologies
- Approved vendors information for water treatment
- Water sources information
- Problems reporting and counseling
- Water cess billing and payment details.



(11) Fodder and Fuel

This module provides information services on:

- Smokeless chullas
- Bio-gas plants
- Application for sanction subsidised loans for selling Bio-gas plants
- Problems reporting in maintaining the plants
Request for samplings
- Energy saving techniques.



(12) Roads, Bridges and Culverts

Under this module the information services available are:

- Submission of proposals by people
- Authentication of cost estimates
- Maintenance problems reporting
- Monitoring the repair activities.



(17) Technical Education

Information made available under the module are as follows:

- Inventory of ITI and Polytechnic Institutes
- Details of courses offered
- Apply for admissions
- Schedule of training programme
- Problems reporting and counselling by technicians
- Results and other information.

(18) Adult Education

This module provides information on:

- Enrolment of adults
- Schedule of education programming
- Training kits for adult education
- Feedback on education programme
- Status monitoring.

(19) Library

This module facilitates provision of information services such as:



- Directory of libraries
- Information on library tax collected
- Details on expenditure on books procurement in village library
- Requests for new books information by Public
- Preservation of books.

(20) Cultural Programmes

This module provides information on

- Enrolment of artists
- Training the artist
- Schedule of programme
- Information on opportunities



(21) Markets

This module facilitates information scrtico on

- Prices information on IIMHI stains
- Vegetable prices
- Marketing services
- Schemes information
- Marketing.



(22) Health

This module provided following information:

- Diseases information
- Communicable disease
- Attendance of doctors in PHC
- States of medicines consumables
- Medical demography updation
- Prevention care
- Experts information



(23) Family Welfare

This module makes available the following information services:

- Benefits of welfare
- Eligible couples information
- Status of implementation of family welfare schemes.



(24) Women and Child Welfare

This module extends information services such as:

- Immunization schedules
- Nutrition programme, (CDS schemes information
- Eligible children and nursing mothers information updation
- Schedule of camps
- Counselling by health workers.



(25) Social Welfare

Under this module information services available are:

- Atrocities reporting
- Welfare scheme information
- Inventory handicapped persons
- Donors information
- Counselling

- Apply for schemes.

(26) Cottage Industries

This module provides information services on:

- Inventory
- Counselling
- Loans application
- Marketing services
- Raw material sources information.



(27) Weaker Sections Welfare

This module offers information services on:

- Atrocities,-reporting
- Welfare schemes
- Inventory and weaker artisans
- Marketing service
- Produce of weaker sections.



(28) Public Distribution

Information services available in this module are:

- FP shops
- Stock status
- Card holder information
- Problems report
- Grihamitra.



(29) Protection of Property

This module facilitates information services such as:

- Encroachment complex
- Status of encroachment



- Maintenance
- Tax collection bills.

Land Records module of e-Panchayat enables Land Records Maintenance by Village Secretary and rendering verification and certification services to the citizens. This also facilitates land revenue management, with appropriate reports to the revenue/gram panchayat officials and the citizens.

(30) Pillage Accounting System (VAS)

Following are the features of VAS:

- Cash transactions
- Bill receipts
- ODs and cheque receipts
- Automatic challan submission
- Treasury payments
- Classified accounts
- All kinds of taxes, fee collections (Online/Online)
- Cheques/DDs reconciliation
- Reports (Daily collection report)

Ersatnama

China

Monthly classifications

Challan receipts Demand and collection reports.

OTHER VILLAGE SERVICES (OVS)

(1) Births and Deaths Registrations

- Capturing of event details
- Name **inclusion**
- Non-availability certificates
- Registration of events
- Issuance of certificates
- Statistics.

(2) Property Tax and Vacant Land Tax

- Assessment as per monthly rental values

- Warrants and distrains
- Title transfers
- Demand collections
- Write-off and temporary remissions
- Vacancy remissions
- Exemptions
- Special notices/endorsements/demand notices
- Registers/Field books/Defaulters.

(3) Dangerous and Offensive Trades

- Issue of licences
- Cancellations
- Renewal certificates
- Demand notices
- Fee collection.

(4) Water Tap Connections and Water Tax Collections

- Sanction of metered/Non-metered connections
- Disconnections/Reconnections
- Regularization
- Work orders/Endorsements
- Demand notices
- Collection of water charges

(5) Advertisement Tax

- Advertiser registrations
- Unauthorized advertisements
- Regularizations
- Renewals

- Tendered advertisements
- Demand notices
- Collection of rents/Lease amounts.

(6) Building Permissions

- Building approvals for residential/group housing/row
- Housing /commercial/educational institution industries
- Planning fee .
- Technical scrutiny
- Proceedings
- Issue of occupancy certificates
- Unauthorized buildings
- Encroachments.

(7) Projects and Works Monitoring

- Contractor registrations
- Standard scheduled rates
- Estimate cost value
- Fund allocation
- Tendered notices
- Tender schedules
- Tender evaluation
- Work order
- Execution of work orders
- Monitoring of works

(8) Grievance Redressal

- Grievance registrations
- Pendency monitoring seat/section wise.

(9) Assets and Inventory

- Asset/Inventory registrations
- Maintenance of assets
- Inventory management
- Rental/Lease of assets.

(10) Court Cases

- Filing suits
- Monitoring of cases at different stages such as admission, interim order, hearing, judgment, appeal, disposal of suits.

(11) Financial Accounting

- Head of accounts
- Payments
- Receipts
- *Chitta* and cash book
- Demand collection balance.

(12) Disbursement of Old Age/Widow and Disabled Pensions

- Accepting applications for old age/widow/disabled pensions from anywhere on the Internet under NOAP Scheme of Government of India
- Generation of acknowledgement slip for the same
- Reporting the sanction status of the applications accepted
- Online disbursement of old age pension along with generation of acquittance roll

- Generation of due lists and summary reports and disbursement and funds details for monitoring the scheme progress
- Reporting the disbursement status of the Beneficiaries
- Linkage to MPHS data and SSIDs for verifying beneficiaries data.

(13) SGRY and Other Works Monitoring

- Accepting work requests from anywhere on the Internet
- Capturing work details related to all the works as accepted by the Grama-Sabha resolutions along with work estimates and technical details
- Capturing tender details of works funded by gram Panchayat
- Capturing work stages and sanction details of works
- Capturing funds details on allocation and releases with respect to cash and food grains as part of SQKYH 1th Finance Commission Schemes
- Allotment of laborers/beneficiaries to works
- Payment of wages in cash and food grains to beneficiaries along with generation of acquittance and maintenance of muster rolls
- Generation of work agreement and work orders to agencies/contractors in case of works funded by gram panchayat
- Capturing voucher-wise works expenditure details
- Reporting of physical and financial progress of works
- Reporting on man-days generated with respect to SGRY stream I & II schemes
- Generation of cash books related to SGRY, EFC and GP funds.
- Reporting to MDO and DPO on Government of India formats
- Generation of beneficiary lists and work stage details on all works
- Reporting of work status.

Conclusion

E-Panchayat aims to cover all information requirements of the Village Panchayat, both from the staff angle and the citizens angle.

E-Panchayat is already operationalized (by National Information Centre, Hyderabad) in several pilot villages in Andhra Pradesh. A rollout plan for implementation at the national level is being taken up. This case study summarizes the main features of e-Panchayat.

