East Medinipur - ICT Initiatives for Smart Governance

East Medinipur District, came into existence on 1st January'2002 after the division of the erstwhile Medinipore district, making it one of the eighteenth administrative units of the West Bengal state. The district is bestowed with natural beauty with 'Digha' being the most popular seaside resort for tourists and lies at the northern end of Bay of Bengal. It has industrial base at Haldia comprising chemical units, Dock complex and thermal power station at Kolaghat. Tamluk, Haldia, Contai & Egra are the four sub divisions with Tamluk being the district headquarter.

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NIC, Purba or East Medinipur was set up recently but the center has leapfrogged in providing ICT based services to the district administration. Basic IT infrastructure has been put in place with VSAT connection and Video conferencing facility already been installed and network services extended to the head post offices at Tamluk & Contai.
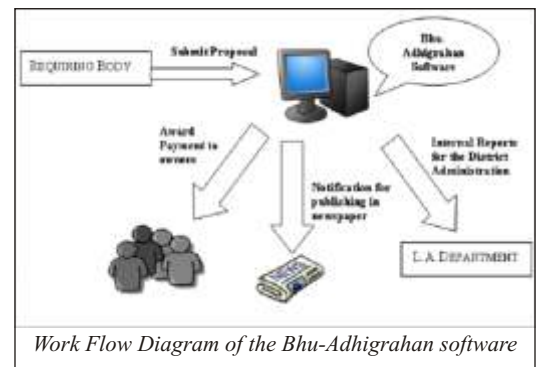
Major projects Implemented are

Bhu-Adhigrahan (Land Acquisition Information System): Government acquires land for various projects of public interest, making the process an important exercise. NIC associated itself and developed, implemented "Bhu-Adhigrahan" software, which monitored compensation and acquisition cases for the district administration thus making it an important e-governance activity. The software has been developed in VB.Net and SQL server 2000 database.

Bhu-Adhigrahan software home page

The software begins with the 'Land Requiring Party' submitting its proposal. The necessary verifications are accomplished after passing through different user levels of the software. The various notifications and declarations are generated and compensation calculations are performed through the software. Important reports are generated for the department. The software has introduced efficiency and transparency in the land acquisition process at the district level.

Work Flow Diagram of the Bhu-Adhigrahan software

The software has following important features:

- Integration of ROR Data with Land Records (BHUMI)

  - Bilingual interface with generation of reports in both English and Bengali

- Creation and Assignment of User Level permissions.

District Website: The Official Website of the district-*http://purbamedinipur.gov.in* has been hosted. The website provides necessary information on demography, administrative setup and historical background of the district. The 'Results' link

provides examination results and 'Tenders' are for uploading tender details. Facts and figures in the sectors like industry, agriculture, health, tourism, etc. are also available.

Homepage of http://purbamedinipur.gov.in

Document Registration (CORD): Registration of documents began in the district with implementation of CORD software at Registration office, Tamluk. The software has been implemented at all the Registration Offices of the district, except one. CORD provides features such as auto-valuation of property, calculation of stamp duty and fees, capture of photo & fingerprint, printing of all endorsements, scanning of deed, delivery of certified copy etc. Around 88075 Deeds have been registered in the financial year 2007-08 through this software.

Land Records (BHUMI): Certified copy of Record of Rights (ROR) is can be obtained in all the 25 Blocks of the district using BHUMI software. The other important module of the software such as Mutation, Conversion, Barga & Patta Enrollment etc. have been automated. Till date, 11,02,247 certified copy and 60,79,130 plot information has been delivered to the citizens through the computerized system.

Vehicle registration (VAHAN): The VAHAN software has been implemented at RTO Tamluk. Computerization of the Motor Vehicles Section has provided a single window solution for delivery of services like Registration of Vehicles, fitness, enforcement, Collection of Road Taxes and other miscellaneous taxes etc.

Arms License Monitoring System: Arms License Monitoring Software has been implemented at the district for the district administration. The software provides creation of database of the owners of arms licenses, monitor issue of new arms licenses and their renewal etc. This has helped the district administration in controlling & monitoring crime in the district.

CONFONET: CONFONET (Computerization & Networking of Consumer Forum) has been implemented at the District Consumer Redressal Forum. The software provides for court wise entry new case filing details, daily cause list generation, backlog entry of cases etc. The software has facility for uploading of daily orders and judgments on the website (http://confonet.nic.in). The software has proved beneficial to the consumers as well as the advocates.

Training: Regular training and software orientation programs are conducted by the district centre for computer awareness among district officials. Project based training & guidance has helped in increasing end-user understanding. This has also facilitated in promoting ICT culture in the district.

Other Projects Implemented in the District:

- COSA - used for Generation of Monthly Pay bills, pay slips, summary bills and various schedules for each DDO

- FCMS- used by the Principal Agriculture Office and Sub-Divisional Offices for entry of authorization and renewal of fertilizer manufacturers and dealers. The software can also be used for online fertilizer registration.

- E-Court -project for computerization of the District and Sub-ordinate Courts have been undertaken.

- NREGS Implementation - This project has been implemented in Purba Medinipur district in all the 223 Gram Panchayats.

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