Project Details: NAeG/14-15/00061

Project id -	NAeG/14-15/00061
Name of The Project	Mobile based Procurement monitoring System
Category of Award Applying for	Innovative use of mobile technology in eGovernance
Date of Launch	26-06-2013

Summary/Objective of the project

Project using Mobile Technology in procurement of paddy in the State of West Bengal Background: The State of West Bengal is the largest producer of paddy in the country, producing annually about 205 LMT. Production of this huge amount of paddy quite often depresses the market price resulting in distress sale by the farmers and adversely affecting the small and marginal farmers. Although the Government is bound to purchase paddy at the declared minimum support price, the actual reach of the Government to the farmers to procure is severely constrained for lack of quick information and deployment of necessary resources. A solution to overcome this constraint and with a view to benefit large number of farmers, by use of mobile technology, has been developed and tested by the Department of Food & Supplies, Government of West Bengal during 2013-14 which has been a huge success. The project: This is a project using mobile technology to receive real time information on procurement of paddy by the State procuring agencies and rice mills throughout the year, particularly during the harvesting season. The prime motive is that the real time information on government procurement of paddy is needed to prevent any distress sale by the farmers and in the process eliminating middlemen who take undue advantage of crisis situation. Use of mobile technology: A mobile application software was developed by the Department which is run on Android platform wherein using this application the agencies involved in procurement fill in the relevant details such as the location and time of procurement, quantity procured, payment made to farmers structured with the preloaded database which is used to send information through mobile application after triggering SMS to central server using dedicated SMS gateway. The information is captured with date and time stamping at the time of generation of SMS, the latitude and longitude of the place from which the SMS is generated, captured through the in-built GPS of the mobile device. The Operational procedure: This mobile based application can be downloaded from the website www.wbpds.gov.in and can be activated from registered mobile phone. After registration, the registered agency has to put procurement related data like quantity of paddy procured, number of farmers involved etc. The information is captured with date and time stamping and at the time of generation of the SMS, the latitude and longitude of the place from which the SMS is generated is captured through the in-built GPS of the mobile device. The Benefits: This is basically G2G and G2B services. The benefit to the administration is that we can monitor live and real-time and procurement data on the net-based computer pictorially on the State map depicting the geographical disperse of the procurement process being undertaken. At a glance, and in real time, we are able to assess as to how many number of farmers have benefitted, including the assessment of the geographical areas where the intensity of procurement is strong or weak. Upfront, this helps in relocating the resources and manpower in the areas which are likely to be distressed and improve our deployment of resources at the instant. On the other hand, by way of similar information the purchase by individual rice millers is monitored to ensure that the farmers are getting the correct price and millers are not involved in purchase through distress sale. The information regarding purchase of paddy by rice millers also helps in assessing the quantity of levy which will be due to the rice millers in favour of the government. The application of this technology has helped in preventing distress sale of paddy in the State last year.

Beneficiary of the project

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Details of Project Head

Name	Anil Verma
Designation	Principal Secretary. Food & Supplies Dept. W.B
Gender	Male
Address	Khadya Bhawan11-A/Mirza Galib Street. Kolkata
Pincode	700087
State	West Bengal
Phone Number	03322522800
Mobile Number	9434060001
Email-ID	dmbunglow@gmail.com

Details of team members, if any, other than Project Head:-

Name(1st team member)	Subhra Chakrabarti
Designation(1st team member)	Joint Secretary. Food & Supplies Dept. W.B
Name(2nd team member)	Dibakar Ray
Designation(2nd team member)	Senior Technical Director. NIC
Name(3rd team member)	Shubhranshu Das
Designation(3rd team member)	Assistant Director.DDP&S.Food & Supplies Dept. W.B
Name(4th team member)	
Designation(4th team member)	
Name(5th team member)	
Designation(5th team member)	
Name(6th team member)	
Designation(6th team member)	

Supporting documents:-	Award Specific Form
	Self Certification by the Project Head