

MAJOR IT APPLICATIONS IN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT RELEVANT TO MASSES

Agriculture

Department of Agriculture and Cooperation has accepted the IT-PLAN submitted by NIC and formulated (i) Central Sector Scheme to strengthen IT both in the Department and its Attached/Sub-ordinate offices at a Project Cost of Rs.25 Crores, (ii) a centrally Sponsored Scheme for establishing "NICNET based Agricultural Informatics & Communication (AGRISNET)" in 25 states and 520 districts, one NCT and 6 U.Ts during Ninth Plan **with the Project Cost estimate (both Non-recurring and Recurring) of Rs.155.74 Crores**. Revised project proposals for the both schemes were submitted for getting EFC approval. As suggested by the Department of Expenditure, establishment of AGRISNET Nodes in 6000 Block Agriculture offices, as stipulated in the IT-PLAN with **the cost estimate (Non-recurring) of about Rs.255 Crores and Recurring Cost of Rs.44 Crores**, is to be taken up during Tenth Plan.

Project review of the National Project on "**Computerization of Agricultural Census (1995-96) and Input Survey (1996-97)**" on turn-key basis with a cost estimate of Rs.9.40 Crores was undertaken. A project Proposal for establishing "**NICNET based Agricultural Marketing Informatics Network (AGMARK-NET)**" in 710 Agricultural Produces Marketing Committees (APMCs), on a turn-key basis with the project cost estimate of Rs.10 Crores was submitted and an EFC Note to this effect was on circulation for approval. Computerization and Networking projects in APEDA, NHB, TMOP, Crops Directorates, Trade Division and CDB were completed. Computerization and Networking project in MPEDA was taken up as a paid project. Project study Report on "**GIS for Watershed Management**" of the Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, in 5 Pilot districts were submitted. LAN with 450 Nodes was established in Krishi Bhawan and Shastri Bhawan Wings of the Department.

As the Member-Secretary of the Core-Group (V) "**Agricultural Resources Information System**" of the NNRMS Standing Committee on Agriculture and Soils of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, the draft report was prepared and submitted to the Principal Advisor (Agriculture), Planning Commission and Chairman of the Core Group (V). As desired in the meeting of Core-Group (V), the draft report has been sent to ICAR Institutes, State Agricultural Universities, NABARD, and Department of Land Resources, for their suggestions. Review meetings of ICAR Task Force on "**Digitization of Databases**" under NATP were undertaken twice under the chairmanship of the Director General (NIC).

Animal Husbandry and Dairying

IT-PLAN for the Animal Husbandry Sector was presented in a seminar "IT for Dairy Research" organized by National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI). This IT-PLAN envisages establishment of a **NICNET based Animal Production and Health Informatics Network (APHNET)** in the country. Project proposal to strengthen IT component of National Rinderpest Eradication Programme was submitted to the Department. NICNET based Animal Disease Surveillance Information System (ADSIS) was continuing. NICNET services were continued to NDDB Regional Offices. Presentation of the IT-Plan on Fisheries Sector (**Fisheries Informatics Network**) was presented in a seminar organized by the Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE), Mumbai.

Agricultural Research and Education

NICNET based Agricultural Research Information System (ARISNET) of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is equipped with about 80 NICNET VSATs installed at ICAR Institutes and

State Agricultural Universities, to strengthen Agricultural Research and Education in the Country. About 100 ARIS Nodes have been connected to NICNET via dial-up lines for Internet services. **ARISNET envisages to link 4 Deemed Universities (IARI, IVRI, NDRI & CIFE), one Central Agricultural University, 85 ICAR Institutes/Directorates, 28 State Agricultural Universities, 107 Agricultural University Colleges, 261 Krishi Vigyan Kendras, and about 850 Agricultural Research Stations** located through out the country.

NIC executed an order worth of Rs.1.5 Crores to provide computer systems to further intense computerization in ICAR Hqrs. Under a Consultancy Service contract, about 2000 Computer systems procured under the World Bank aided National Agricultural Technology Project (NATP) and Agricultural Human Resources Development (AHRD) Program of ICAR, were tested and handed over to ICAR. Value-added services were provided to ARIS centres with respect to SUN Solaris System for using it as an Intranet server which was made operational and integrated with NICNET VSATs for internet services in the State Agricultural Universities at Akola, Hissar, Jabalpur Ludhiana, Palampur, Samastipur and Solan, and ICAR Institutes (CIAE, CIFE, CIFT, CRIDA, CSWRTI, DRR, IASRI, IVRI, NBAGR, NBPGR, NBSS&LUP and NDRI). Proposals for establishing LAN under paid projects were submitted to Indian Veterinary Research Institute (Izatnagar & Mukteshwar), Krishi Anusandhan Bhawan (I &II) and ICAR Hqrs, Jawaharlal Nehru Agricultural University (Jabalpur), Birsra Agricultural University (Ranchi). A web-enabled applications on library system for ICAR were made operational.

Arts and Culture

Feasibility report on the development of computerized documentation of art objects and antiquities preserved in Museums viz., Allahabad Museum (Allahabad), Indian Museum (Calcutta), National Museum (New Delhi), Salar Jung Museum (Hyderabad), and Victoria Memorial Hall (Calcutta), was submitted for approval.

Audit

Implementation of AGNET over NICNET, linking the offices of the Accountant Generals & Auditor Generals, Principal Directorates of Accounts of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department, was on-going. NICNET services were continued for the office of CAG and its filed offices. NIC has **deputed** one Officer at the level of Deputy Director General to the office of the CAG, as Advisor(IT). An intranet web site was created with the audit reports of the Year 1996-97 and 1997-98.

Central Vigilance Commission

NICNET services were provided to Central Vigilance Commission at Satarkta Bhavan. **Databases on vigilance cases and Chief Vigilance officers (CVO)** related to more than 600 organizations of the Central Government Ministries and Departments, Public Sector Units and Public Sector Banks, were updated. CVC Web Site (<http://www.nic.in/cvc>) was launched and instructions were issued by the CVC to lodge **vigilance complaint** through the web site. This web site has **details on instructions, circulars, and notes issued by the CVC**, for access. Project consultations to establish “**CVCNET - An Intranet over NICNET**”, linking Chief Vigilance Officers of the Central Government, were held.

Civil Aviation

A comprehensive computerization plan was prepared in consultation with the Bureau Of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS) for automation of photo identity cards being used for entry to various airports. The system has been implemented at four regional offices of BCAS in Calcutta, Chennai, Delhi, and Mumbai. It is proposed to develop web enabled applications for DGCA MIS applications.

Commerce and Supply

Web enabled application for license processing and its electronic interface with trade and industry was made operational. The Export - Import Policy, procedure, ITC(HS) database and Rate Contract information were hosted on Internet. An **Electronic Data Interchange based system** for the benefit of Small and Medium enterprises were developed for interaction with Regional offices of Directorate General of Foreign Trade. The major Regional offices of Directorate General of Supply and Disposal have also been networked through NICNET. Structuring trade related documents under EDI was on-going.

Communications

NICNET services were provided to the Department of Posts and Department of Telecommunication, including Wireless Planning Cell.. . NIC implemented software packages for Telecom Accounting in 20 Circles and 4 Metros and demonstrated MIS software for installation at Telecom Hqs, 4 metros, 20 Circles, and 321 Secondary Switching Areas (SSAs) of DOT. Computerization of Postal Life Insurance (for government employees) in 20 Postal Circles and Rural Postal Life Insurance in 20 Postal Circles and 25 out of 45 Regional Offices, sponsored by the Department of Posts, were completed. Computerization of preparation of PLI schedules in 200 out of 865 Head Post Offices (HPOs) was completed so far and is on-going in the remaining HPOs, as per the schedule of the Department of Posts. Development of Software in NT Platform is on-going with respect to Savings Bank Accounting which was earlier implemented in Delhi (7 HPOs), Mumbai (2 HPOs), Punjab (1 HPO), and Army Postal Service (1CBPO and 99CBPO), under Oracle/Unix environment. Implementation of Postal Accounting Computerization in 20 Postal Circles was completed. Pilot Project was undertaken to computerize "cash certificate" vi. Indira Vikas Patra, National savings Certificate, Kisan Vikas Patra, in Tamilnadu Circle Establishment of "POSTALNET" – an Intranet over NICNET – has been initiated.

Cooperatives

Ministry of Agriculture has decided to implement NICNET based Information system on Cooperatives throughout the country. Project on "Total-IT" solution for National Cooperatives Development Council (NCDC) and NICNET connectivity to its 15 Regional Offices, was implemented as a turn-key project. Project on " Cooperative Informatics" was under implementation in the state of Himachal Pradesh. Project Proposal on a countrywide network for IFFCO was submitted. **An EFC Note has been circulated for computerization of Cooperative Statistics, as a turn-key project, with the project cost of about Rs.10 Crores.**

Courts Information System (COURTIS)

Interactive Voice Response System (IVR) for providing Supreme Court's pending/disposed cases information on telephone to the litigant/advocates has been implemented.

The second version of JUDIS-CD using Folio text based retrieval software has been brought out.

Delhi High Court and Madhya Pradesh Cause List has been made available on Internet on daily basis. Supreme Court Cause List has also been made available on Internet for the benefit of advocates and litigants.

The District Court Information System (DCIS) has been implemented in the District Courts of Haryana, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh.

The District Court Staff has been fully trained in the usage of the DCIS in almost all the District Courts. DCIS software has been implemented in most of the District Courts and these District Courts are taking out Daily Cause List from the computer system provided by NIC.

NIC conducted computer awareness courses for the District Judges of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Bihar, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Orissa.

Economic Affairs

NIC has provided computerization support for the Budget 1999-2000 preparation. NIC has designed and developed the software for monitoring of Externally Assisted Projects (EAMIS) and made operational in the Ministries of Finance, Power, Agriculture, Surface Transport, Health and Family Welfare, and Urban Affairs and Employment, and also in 9 States. EAMIS software supports on-line monitoring of projects. Internet access has been provided 450 nodes with radio frequency link for internet services in the North Block Wing of the Ministry of Finance. Budget Documents (1999-2000), Budget Speech (1999-2000) of the Hon'ble Finance Minister and Economic Survey (1998-1999) Report were available through its "NICNET web site" to the Public. Project activities related to computerization of National Savings Organization (NSOs) were initiated in 6 states.

Education

An Internet web services (<http://www.education.nic.in>) and also an Intranet web server ("**webedu**") was developed over the NICNET LAN established in the Department. These sites were visited extensively by Indian Parents & Students, NRIs, and Foreign Students. "**webedu**" links to central Universities, CD-ROM Series -I (Vol.I & II) and CD-ROM Series-II(Vol.I to XI) containing reports of the All India Educational Survey were released. NICNET services were continued to Copyright Office, Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangatan, Directorate of Adult Education, Navodhya Viadyala Sangatan, and NCERT. Web enabled applications were developed for various centrally sponsored schemes (Mid-day Meal schemes, Non-Formal education, Operational Black Board, etc) of the Department. Technical report on **creation of CD-ROM on Hindi Encyclopedia** was submitted. The Department has formulated **Central Sector Scheme on Information Technology** viz. Induction of Information Technology in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangatan (KVS) & Nayodhya Vidyalaya Sangatan (NVS), and Revised CLASS Scheme (CLASS-2000), **with an outlay of Rs.200 Crores during Ninth and Tenth Plan.**

Energy

NICNET services and MIS support were provided to Central Electricity Authority(CEA), Ministry of Power(MOP), Ministry of Coal(MOC), Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MOP&NG), Department of Chemical & Petrochemicals (DC&PC) and Ministry of Non conventional Energy Sources(MNES). IT-Plan report has been prepared and submitted to MOP, MOC, MOP&NG, DC&PC and MNES. Implementation of **POWERNET** - An Intranet over NICNET - was taken up and VSATs were installed at 12 State Electricity Boards (SEBs). POWERNET is a sponsored project of Power Finance Corporation of India, funded by USAID. Implementation of Central Power Public Sector Units Network (CPSU-NET) with 64 KBPS SCPC VSAT was undertaken. NIC provided all necessary support services to the Power sector with respect to Y2K-Preparedness. Special training on "**Rollover Test in Power sector**" was conducted. NICNET support services for **Y2K Rollover** were made available to the Energy Sector.

Project proposal for establishment of COALNET linking Public Sector Units of the Ministry was under preparation. Project activities related to bring 80 C-200 VSATs installed by VSNL for Coal India Limited (CIL) under NICNET were initiated. Establishment of **NICNET based Renewable Energy Informatics Network (RE-NET)** to link state nodal agencies, regional offices of the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources, State Electricity Boards, Manufactures and R&D institutions in the area of renewable energy, was on-going. MNES has allocated about **Rs. 6.0 Crores for the Information Technology Programme** in the Ministry during Ninth Plan.

Environment & Forests

An Internet Server has been established in the Ministry. Environment and Forest Clearance for Development projects are being provided on-line in the web site of this Ministry. A decision support

system for resource management and setting up research priorities related to Forest has been developed for the Indian Council of Forest Research and Education. Species Recognition System has been developed for Forest Research Institute for identifying the wood samples being provided by different organizations.

External Affairs

NIC has provided operational support for fully computerised Passport Offices at *Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bareilly, Bhopal, Calcutta, Chandigarh, Chennai, Delhi, Goa, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jalandhar, Kochi, Kozhikode, Lucknow, Mumbai, Thiruvanthapuram, Tiruchirapalli, and Vishakapatnam*, and other Ministry Divisions at Akbar Bhavan, South Block, Patiala House, ICCR, and ISIL Building etc. **Passport Computerization Project was made Y2K compliant.** New version of Tele-enquiry system has been installed to handle multilingual queries by the public. Web site (<http://passport.nic.in>) related to public services in the area of Passport, Visa and PIO card was launched. Database on NRIs was developed and installed in about 160 Missions abroad.

Expenditure

NIC has been actively working for the development and implementation of computer based information systems in the office of the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), Department of Expenditure. Enhancement of packages (IMPROVE, CONTACT, and GAINS) was undertaken. All accounting packages were made Y2K O.K. Office of the Controller General of Accounts has taken up **development of PAO (PAO-2000) software on VB6/SQL server**, for implementation in 272 PAOs. Under this project, NIC will undertake installation and training of officials in 272 PAOs. Design and Development of **Computer based Financial Advisory System** for decision support in various offices of Financial Advisors (FAs) of the Department of Expenditure, located in various Central Government Ministries/Departments was initiated.

Fertilizer

The sponsored project of the Department of Fertilizers titled "**Integrated Fertilizer MIS [IFMIS]**" with the cost estimate Rs. 1.99 Crores was nearing completion. With the installation of LAN with UTP cabling, development of web enabled applications was initiated. An Intranet over NICNET for divisions of the Department located in various buildings was established. "**Y2K Compliance in the Fertilizers Sector**" seminar was organized in collaboration with the Department and the Fertilizers Sector participated. User manuals on various modules, based on IEEE standards, have been prepared and submitted to the Department. IT Plan for the Department was approved with an outlay of Rs. 3.85 Crores during Ninth Plan. **Fertiliser Informatics Network (FERTNET)**, which is an Intranet over NICNET, has been established by installing FTDMA VSATs at Department of Fertilizers and different sites of IFFCO, NFL, MFL, GNFC, alongwith dial-up connectivity to FCI and HFCL. FTDMA VSATs with voice to 8 NFL Plants/Zonal offices and dial-up connectivity to 30 NFL Area offices have been established to strengthen their decision support system. Project initiatives were undertaken to extend NICNET connectivity to other companies of fertilizer sector to strengthen FERTNET.

Food, Public Distribution & Consumer Affairs

FCI Intranet over NICNET was established linking FCI offices at districts, regions and zones. Business Information Management at central warehousing Corporation (CWC) was computerized. Web enabled programs were developed for data access related to prices data, food-grain bulletins, directory of sugar factories, and directory of consumer forums. IT-PLANS submitted by NIC have been approved by the respective ministries and Budget outlay was earmarked for 1999-2000 and 2000-01.

GISTNIC Informatics Programme

Design and development of the following information products was carried out

- World Wide Web Based services
- Telne Services

- FTP Services
- GISTNIC Sandesh
- Lekha-G
- NICNET based Services
- Other Media based Services

The information contained include the demographic information, economic information, social information, business and industrial statistics, foreign trade information, banking and finance related information, agriculture statistics, universities information, the tourism information, agricultural commodities, prices information prevailing at 95 market centres in A.P (which is being updated daily),etc. The URL for availing the service is <http://gist.ap.nic.in/>

Design and development of Computer Telephony Integration (CIT) Technology based system for capturing price related information from remote markets, to update computerised data through an ordinary telephone instrument.

Health and Family Welfare

NICNET services were provided to Department of Health, Department of Family Welfare and Department of Indian System of Medicines & Homeopathy. NICNET website for the Ministry has been created for internet access. NICNET services were provided to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) for **allotment of Medical/ Dental seats** under the Central Quota of Under Graduate and Post-Graduate Courses in India, as directed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. Software programs were implemented to computerize activities related to "Community Needs Assessment Approach in Family Welfare Program", in project districts. Development of Web database on "**traditional medicinal plants in India & their uses**", to **eliminate foreign patent on traditional knowledge resources of India**, was on-going.

Home Affairs

NICNET services were provided to the **Department of Internal Security, Department of States, Department of Jammu & Kashmir Affairs, Department of Home, and Department of Official Language**. NIC has provided advisory support for execution of IT projects in various **Central Police Organizations** viz., Assam Rifles, BSF, CISF, CRPF, DCPW, ITBP, NCRB, and NSG. NIC has computerized and networked NSCBIA (Calcutta) & Land Check Post (Haridaspur) on Indo-Bangla Border on NICNET facilitating interchangeability of Port of Entry & Exit, as a part of **Computerization of Visa Control Project for Bangladesh Nationals**. Project activities related to the implementation of Visa Control System Project at High Commission of India (Dhaka) including NICNET connectivity to facilitate data interchange between HCI (Dhaka), NSCBIA (Calcutta) & Land Check Post (Haridaspur) on Indo-Bangla Border were undertaken.

Decision Support System, with input from "**COURTIS**" Project, was designed and implemented in the Department of Justice. An **internet site** for the Ministry of Home Affairs (<http://mha.nic.in>) over NICNET is on-going. Software for Computerizing MHA Identity Cards for Government officials, was developed and tested and handed over to MHA for implementation. A NICNET Training Centre was established in MHA for IT training. All systems including Immigration Control System were made Y2K Compliant ensuring smooth roll over on 01-01-2000. A Bilingual web site was designed and put into use over the LAN in the Department of Official Language. Promotion of bilingual computerization was undertaken in pilot departments.

Industry

NICNET services were provided to **the Departments of Company Affairs, Heavy Industries, Industrial Development, Industrial Policy & Promotion, Mines, Public Enterprises, Food processing Industries, Small Scale Industries & Rural Industries, and Steel, and BIFR, MRTTP Commission and Tariff**

Commission. NIC has undertaken major turn-key projects which include computerization and networking of Registrar of Company Affairs (ROC) offices and computerization of District Industries Centre (DIC). As a result of success of Phase – I of the ROC Project, **Phase – II dealing with process of registration was approved with the project cost of Rs.19.97 Crores (non-recurring) and Rs.1.94 Crores (Recurring).** Under the DIC Computerization Project NICNET based Information System for smooth flow of SSI related data from DICs to State Directorates of Industries and DCSSI Headquarters and dissemination of information from States Directorates of Industries to DICs, was made operational. DCSSI has received monthly production data from about 20,000 Units manufacturing about 500 items, over NICNET. Y2K Compliance reports on NIC Services and Systems were submitted and these reports were sent to other ministries as "model document".

Information & Broadcasting

NICNET services were provided to Press Information Bureau (PIB) and Doordarshan for the **"Parliament Election-99"** results analysis, under the sponsored project of Doordarshan. To facilitate **the 24-hour News Channel Broadcast** by Doordarshan, NIC has executed a paid project **"News Room Automation"**, which facilitates both English and Hindi Bulletins broadcast through the System. An Intranet for linking All India Radio stations and Doordarshan stations over NICNET was suggested. Networking of 22 Regional offices of the Directorate of Field Publicity and 4 Regional Offices of Registrar of Newspapers of India (RNI) was completed as a turn-key project. "Election-99" web site had more than one million hits on Internet. PIBNET was established as an Intranet over NICNET linking Press Information Bureau Hqs., and Regional / Branch offices as part of 9th plan scheme of computerization. Project report on Digitization of PIB's archive material (newspapers, photos) since 1947, was submitted to PIB for their approval.

Information and Facilitation Counter (IFC) and web site for citizen charters

On the recommendation of Chief Minister's Conference, NIC was asked to establish IFCs in various Government Departments with a view to provide information to the citizens. More than 50 IFCs have been established in various Central Government Departments. Review on the functioning of IFCs in various Bhawans was conducted, in association with the Department of Administrative Reforms. Web site on "Citizen Charter" of about 38 Central Government Departments is already under development. IFCs were established at Staff Selection Commission, Ministry of Environment & Forests, District Headquarters in the states of Kerala and Goa, and the District Headquarters at Ghaziabad, during 1999-2000.

Justice and Legal Affairs

NIC continued to provide support services to computerization of Supreme Court, High Courts, and 430 Districts Courts. Interactive Voice Response (IVR) System was installed at Supreme Court for on-line inquiry of pending cases. Daily Cause List of Supreme Court, Delhi High Court, Madhya Pradesh High Court and Karnataka High Court are extensively accessed through NICNET. *An average of 20,000 users access this Daily Cause List everyday.* District Court Information System (DCIS) was implemented in 430 District Courts of the country. JUDIS-CD Version 2.0 using text based retrieval software was released. Computer courses were conducted for the benefit of District Judges of Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Bihar, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, and Orissa.

Labour

NIC has continued to provide Informatics support to the Ministry of Labour and its associated organizations such as Employee's Provident Fund Organization (EPFO), Office of the Chief Labour Commissioner, Directorate General of Employment & Training, Directorate General of Labour Welfare, Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) and Labour Bureau. Implementation of **NICNET based Integrated Labour Informatics project** was on-going. Web enabled DSSs in the areas of (i) Industrial

Relations, (ii) Social Security, (iii) Employees Provident Fund, (iv) Employees State Insurance Corporation, and (v) Employment & Training, were undertaken.

LAND RECORDS INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Land Records computerisation programme is being implemented as joint effort of Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment, NIC and respective State Governments with specific responsibilities to each of them. NIC is to strengthen its district centers to enable State Governments to implement the project using these facilities and develop application software for the project and also train the revenue functionaries.

Project has been implemented in 534 districts so far since the starting of this project. Further, the application software is already standardized at state level . Training to about 6000 persons of revenue departments of State Government have been completed. NIC is now undertaking the work relating to implementing this project on client/server environment using Windows NT/ACCESS/Visual Basic/ISM. The windows based prototype s/w has been developed and is being standardized for each state. This will enable porting of earlier entered data to new platform and analyzing this data through better user interface. This includes mutation module to effect any changes in the data by way of inheritance, sale, gift etc. It is planned to implement this window based s/w in selected states for further testing before implementing in all the states.

Parliamentary Affairs

NIC has created an **Intranet Web site** on Parliament proceedings. In order to reduce time delay, Web enabled software has been developed and implemented for receiving answers on Parliament Questions from various Ministries through email and immediate processing for making them available on the web for access. Web enabled software has also been developed and implemented for Table Office, Bio-data of MPs, Parliamentary Publications, Committee meetings, tours & reports, Verbatim reporting of the House Proceedings, editorial and synopsis branches. Local Area network has been established in the Rajya Sabha linking all the branches of the Rajya Sabha Secretariat. Computer Training and Computer Clinics were conducted for the benefit of Members of both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. Members of Parliament were also provided with Email/Internet facility at their residences.

Pension and Pensioner's Welfare

Computerized Central Pension Accounting Office (CPAO) has been set up as a joint venture project between NIC and Ministry of Finance. All the functions of this office such as receipt/diarying, verification, validation up-to the state of dispatch have been computerized. This has eliminated manual registers and implemented the concept of less-paper office. INTERNET E-mail service over NICNET has been established facilitating the departments and pensioners to exchange e-mails with CPAO. Efforts were on to install a **Web Server as well as an Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS)** at CPAO which will facilitate the pensioners to inquire about status of their pension from other NICNET/INTERNET sites. Pensioners Grievances Database system was continued to facilitate quick redress of grievances of Pensioners. Pension rules, Pension Acts, and circulars are made available in the form of web document in the web site <http://persmin.nic.in> .

Personnel and Administrative Reforms

NIC provided support services to computerization activities in the Departments of Personnel & Training, Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, and Pensioners & Pensioners' Welfare. An Intranet web site (<http://persmin.nic.in>) has been created for all institutions of the Ministry Viz. Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB), Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Staff Selection Commission (SSC), and Institute for Staff Training and Management (ISTM). **DSS for Central Staffing Scheme** was developed and made operational. **Web-enabled on-line maintenance software** of Indian Civil Services Officers database was developed and made available to all cadre controlling authorities, to update the database.

Planning Commission

The existing LAN has been upgraded with about 470 nodes. Network Centric Applications on data available with various Divisions of the Planning Commission were developed and made operational over the LAN. NICNET services were utilised for information exchange between the Planning Commission between State/Central Government departments. Information and Facilitation Counter (“**Soochna Dwar**”) was established. Web based applications such as Bulletin Board Alert Services (<http://planning/bulletin>) was implemented. Input-Output Table for the Year 1993-94 for the Indian Economy was under preparation. Minimum Data Record (MDR) database was updated and made available for access to various divisions of the Planning Commission.

Railways

An Intranet for Northern Railways was established with linkages to all of its Divisions. MIS programs using web technology were implemented for (a) monitoring rakes & wagon position, (b) movement of essential commodities, (c) monitoring passenger complaints & deficiency, and (d) movement of trains. Project on **NICNET based Public Grievance Monitoring for Railways** has been taken and initially 100 railways stations are being provided with a grievance redress counter and appropriate grievance monitoring software. Grievance Redress counters at the railway stations are connected to their Divisional Headquarters for sending e-mails via NICNET for redress of the grievances. NIC has developed a prototype “**Wireless Tag & Base Station**” for the “**Freight Operations Information System (FIOS)**” Project of the Indian Railways. This “**Wireless Tag & Base Station**” has potential applications in vehicles monitoring for traffic control as well as verification in various State Government Check-Posts located through out the country.

Revenue

Indian Customs EDI System (ICES) software was made **Y2K compliant and operational** at all the Customs Houses throughout the country, except a few land stations. Customs linkage with DGFT, Ports, Airports, Banks and AEPC was operational through ICES software and documents were exchanged routinely. A detailed proposal on re-engineering of procedures of various agencies involved in international trade to create “Customs EDI Community System” was submitted and accepted by the Government of India. Detailed message formats between Customs and other Agencies were finalised and submitted. EDI Services among Importers, Exporters, Customs House (New Delhi), and Customs House Agents were switched over to the Electronic Server on NICNET, giving the users greater flexibility in using any Internet Service Provider (ISP) to submit their documents electronically. Customs linkages with Plant Quarantine and Fumigation Stations (PQFS) and Animal Quarantine Stations of the Ministry of Agriculture would be taken very shortly.

Review of the “System for Excise Revenue and Monitoring (SERMON)” package was undertaken with respect to completeness and accuracy of the database and necessary modification was incorporated. A pilot project for electronic submission of documents by the Central Excise Assesses over NICNET, in the Central Excise Commissionerate (Delhi-I) was started. The Software package “Revenue Accounting Package – REVACT” operational in all the PAOs of the Central Excise Commissionerates was modified for changes required by the principal Chief Controller of Accounts of CBEC. Database on “**economic offenders**” at the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau and Enforcement Directorate was made more complete with respect to timely data capture and increased accuracy.

Rural Development

Intranet Web Site for the Ministry of Rural Development was made operational. NICNET based Monitoring Information System on Integrated Wastelands Development Programme was implemented in about 200 districts. Sponsored Project on “**GIS based Watershed Management Informatics Model**” in 5 identified sites was progressing well. Project coordination for nationwide land Records Computerisation project was done. Project sanction was given to NIC for establishing VSAT based Internet services in 15

District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs). Re-engineered Version of CRISP Software ("ruralsoft"), using the state-of-the-art software technology, was under testing in pilot districts. NIC has negotiated "**a-buy-back**" arrangement with M/S Gilat to replace the existing C-band VSATs by KU-band VSATs facilitating better internet services in the existing C-band VSAT sites of the Ministry. CAPART and its regional centres are networked through KU-band VSATs. NIC provided consultancy services for vendor selection to purchase computer systems for installation at about 1800 implementing agencies of the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission Project in the country. SRS document was finalised and submitted.

Science and Technology, Bio-Technology & Ocean Development

Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has established Bio-Informatics Network linking its Bio-Informatics centres located at 32 premier institutions throughout the country, using NICNET facilities. In order to provide INTERNET access to these centres, installation of NICNET Ku-band VSATs was ongoing. As and when new centres are established, NIC would consider developing linkages of these centres with NICNET. INTRANET in the Department of Biotechnology was developed through the joint efforts of NIC and DBT. A state-of-the-art Local Area Network with full access to INTERNET has been established enabling all scientific officers to have access to scientific databases on the INTERNET. NICNET facilities were also established with LAN Nodes for Internet services in the Department of Science and Technology, and Department of Ocean Development. Database activities on "**Patent Monitoring**" were initiated.

Statistics & Programme Implementation

NIC continued to support the Department through its NICNET based project monitoring for (a) MPLAD scheme, (b) Twenty Point Programme, (c) Flash Reporting of monthly monitoring of projects costing Rs. 100 crores and above, and quarterly monitoring of projects costing Rs. 20 crores and above. An INTRANET server (<http://www.nic.in/dpi>) for access by all the concerned departments/ministries/PSUs over NICNET, was made operational. As desired by the Cabinet Secretariat, database system on private & joint sector projects in sectors of Civil Aviation, Mines, Petroleum & Natural Gas, Ports, Power, Roads, and Telecommunications, was taken up.

Social Justice and Empowerment

IT-Plan was submitted to the Ministry and approved subsequently for implementation. An amount of **Rs.5.41 Crores** has been earmarked as IT Budget outlay for 1999-2004. Feasibility report on computerization and networking of District Rehabilitation Centres and Central Wakf Council was submitted. Design and development of an integrated MIS for decision support in the Ministry, using Internet/ Intranet technology tools was underway.

Surface Transport

To strengthen **PORTNET** (a NICNET based Port Informatics Network), VSAT nodes were established at major ports viz, Mumbai, Calcutta, Tuticorin, Kandla, Vishakapatnam, Kochi, Mormugoa, Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Mangalore, and Indian ports Association, facilitating both Internet and EDI connectivity. **Computerised ShipCard System** was implemented at Mumbai, Calcutta, Tuticorin, Vishakapatnam, Jawaharlal Port, Mangalore, Paradip. and Indian Ports Association. Offices of Inland Waterways Authority of India at NOIDA, Calcutta, Patna, Guahati, Bhagalpur and Kochi were connected to NICNET. Development of Intranet over NICNET to strengthen **Indian Maritime Informatics** was on-going. It is proposed to develop MARINET web pages based on the templates developed by UN-ESCAP, Bangkok. Databases on Road Statistics, Motor Transport Statistics and Performance of State Road Transport Undertakings (STUs) were updated and made available over NICNET for access. NIC jointly with Indian Road Congress, conducted training workshops on "Computerized MIS for Roads Sector using NICNET" for the officials of State Public Works Departments. LAN facilities were set up with 35 Nodes for internet/Intranet access. NIC has undertaken computerization of Road Transport vehicles registration in many states as sponsored projects. NIC has also developed a "**Wireless Tag & Base Station**" which can be used for checking vehicles passing **through check posts** and also **for traffic management**.

Textiles

NICNET centric applications were developed to strengthen the Decision support System in the Ministry of Textiles. Project for establishment of Information Technology driven Economic Research and Market Intelligence units for Ministry of Textiles, Textiles Commissioner and Textile Committee to provide necessary information base on the Textile Sector was on-going. NICNET services were provided for the IT-Task Force of the Ministry. An Intranet on various attached offices (office of the Textile Commissioner, office of the Development Commissioner etc.) of the Ministry was established over NICNET. Technical Report on EDI implementation for Apparel Export promotion Council was submitted

Tourism

Project discussions were held with the Ministry of Tourism to **establish "National Tourism Information network (NTIN) over NICNET"**, to provide easy access to tourism information and also on-line booking/reservation of tourism products and services in the country. Network centric application on (i) tourists arrival information, (ii) hotel projects, and (iii) hotel & travel trade awards were made operational.

Water Resources

NICNET BASED **Reservoir Level Monitoring system** was continued to be used by the Ministry of Water Resources. **Flood Forecasting & Warning Network Appraisal System** is being continuously supported. Design and Development of INTRANET for the Water Resources sector was on-going. Project activities of Computerization of Minor Irrigation Census (1993-94) with 12 Million records was completed. NICNET connectivity has been provided to Central Ground Water Board, Jamnagar House, Command Area Development, Minor Irrigation Wing at Krishi Bhavan, Indus/ER at CGO Complex, CSMRS and National Water Development Agency. Internet/Email services have been provided to all the organizations of Ministry of Water Resources in Delhi. Support was extended to **National Hydrology Project** funded by World Bank. IT Plan submitted by NIC has been accepted and an SFC Note has been approved by the Ministry.

Women and Child development

NICNET services were continued to the Department of Women and Child Development. **NICNET based Integrated Child Development Services Project Monitoring System** has been made operational. Project discussion on the establishment of **an Intranet over NICNET** linking ICDS State node, District node, Block node and Anganwadi was held. An Intranet web site has been created in the Department for access over LAN. Technical report for establishing LAN and NICNET facilities was submitted to Rashtriya Mahila Kosh for project sanction.