

Proceedings of National MIS Workshop at Hyderabad for the implementation of NREGA MIS.

A two-day National Workshop was held at Dr MCR HRD Institute, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad on MIS of NREGA on 28th and 29th December, 2007. The workshop was chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India. DG of NIC, New Delhi and DG of NIRD and participants from all the States (except Manipur, Himachal Pradesh) attended the Workshop. Altogether 137 participants attended the workshop. The State delegation consisted of the State and District MIS Teams. A few DPCs also attended the Workshops. Discussions were held on the development of the next version of MIS for NREGA and arrangements for operationalizing MIS in all Blocks. Feedback was received from the participants on the following matters:-

- i. Status of ICT infrastructure in the State at State, District and Block levels.
- ii. Status of operationalisation of NREGA MIS.
- iii. Difficulties encountered in operationalizing the MIS and problems in software.
- iv. Details of any additional modules/programme features added in the national MIS and current status.

- v. Suggestions for improvement of existing MIS.
- vi. Proposals for inclusion of additional features in MIS.

Copies of the presentation made by each State have been kept in the record. Secretary made several key observations after hearing the status of MIS and problems in the implementation of MIS in the States. He clarified the arrangements for the operationalisation of MIS for NREGA. The important observations of the Secretary(RD) are given below :-

1. The main deliverable is that all the NREGA related information should be made available in a computer data base and also be made available to the public.
2. At every block of the country, by 31st March, 2008 the following *minimum* facilities should be available :
 - i. Computer in working condition
 - ii. Telephone line
 - iii. Modem
 - iv. Trained MIS personnel
3. The second version of the Software should come in June-July, 2008 and the guidelines should be revised before that preferably before end of March 2008. The new version should

be updated by September, 2008. Documentation of the new version should be of high quality and translated in State languages.

4. The Core Team of users of MIS in the Districts should be called at least 3-4 times in a year at the State level and provided training in the use of MIS. At least 12,000 persons will be required to be trained considering that there are 6000 blocks in the country, and at least 2 persons per block may be required to be trained.
5. There should be a bare minimum database. Some of the items such as names of villages, blocks and job card holders are relatively non-volatile data. For such data master tables should be prepared. These data should be entered only once and there should be no re-entry of such data. This is required for optimizing data entry. To simplify data entry in the Muster Rolls data entry for absent workers should only be done. Other workers should automatically be marked present. Data entry should be done not above the block level. If necessary, data entry activity may be outsourced. However, the documents should not be taken outside the block. There should be a system of authentication of data to clearly identify

the person who prepares and scrutinises the data and the date on which such data is prepared and scrutinized.

6. Adequate care should be taken to ensure control of the software version. User interface should not be changed very often. The Data Architecture of the MIS software is sacrosanct and at no level (block, district or state) should the Data Architecture be modified by adding new fields or tables in MIS software without the clearance of the Central Government. NREGASoft prepared by NIC and the Ministry of Rural Development will be used across the country.
7. At the District and State levels there should be a daily check as to how many blocks have become operational and have trained personnel. (Red lights should glow against blocks where there are problems. Uptime monitoring should be done.)
8. For operationalisation of MIS in the blocks adequate testing of blocks should be done and pass marks be given to blocks. Responsible persons should certify that the system is running properly in the block.
9. The basic components of Shelf of Project should be entered in the MIS. A coding system for projects should be developed in advance. For every Gram Panchayat 2 or 3 projects should

be ready. There should be a work code also indicating State/category/Intermediate Panchayat/....., etc.

10. Data should be sent through RAS in a staggered manner at the end of the day and at beginning of the day (District and State RAS may be installed) till such time when SWAN or other alternative mode of data transmission is available. Odd and even number blocks can be allotted times for sending data so that there is no choking of the server at the District level. The data entry should take place in an off-line manner.
11. MPR has to be sent through computer based MIS. MPR must be generated regularly in the computer. If necessary an error report should be generated. The details of persons submitting the MPR along with his name, designation and date and the person verifying the MPR should be also indicated. A machine to capture the thumb impression of the person sending the MPR should also be installed in the block.
12. A small LAN should be set up in each block with 5-10 nodes depending upon the size of the block.
13. The District Team should be strengthened. The Additional Project Officer at District level should put people in charge of data. Names of such officers should be collected and training

should be provided to them (1200 to 1400 people) to regularly monitor the progress.

14. The NIC Team should work with this team in the management of Data Centre. The NIC Team should consist of 2-3 persons to be appointed from the market. This will be funded separately by Central Government. This small Data Centre should come up in the State by 31st March, 2008.
15. State should confirm that a room is available for the State LAN where 5 to 10 nodes (depending upon the size of the State) should be provided. At the State level a helpline number should be provided preferably on out-sourcing mode having a voice activated response system to give solution to the problems faced by the blocks and the DPC in operationalizing of the MIS.
16. Every evening a review meeting should be held at the district level to review the data flow problems.
17. Training of trainers should be organized. List of trainees should be prepared for providing training at the GP, Block and district levels. The training should aim at ensuring that the basic record and key registers are maintained at the levels of the GPs and block offices properly and the NREGA software is

used optimally. It is also important to provide training to the Gram Rozgar Sevak and the Mates so that they understand the connection between the maintenance of records and the working of the computerized MIS.

18. It may be considered to make use of CICs in J&K and North Eastern States to operationalise the MIS of NREGA.
19. Chat Groups may be set up at the State level, the Central level, and District level. There should be facilities for daily chat sessions to discuss the progress of the work.
20. The ICT and Domain Team must work together as an integrated team as the success in the implementation of MIS critically depends on their coordinated functioning.
21. A Core Team should be constituted at the State level for operationalisation of MIS in the State wherein IT Secretary, Energy Secretary and the BSNL representative should be members to review the progress of operationalization of MIS in the Blocks and Districts. They should sit for at least half an hour together, make assessment of the situation in the State and send the report to the Centre for any kind of assistance that may be provided by the Centre for solving their problems.

List of Participants

Sl.No.	Name of the State	No. of Participants
1.	Andhra Pradesh	25
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	01
3.	Assam	05
4.	Bihar	03
5.	Chhattisgarh	04
6.	Delhi	03
7.	Gujarat	02
8.	Goa	01
9.	Haryana	05
10.	Himachal Pradesh	Nil
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	03
12.	Jharkhand	03
13.	Karnataka	05
14.	Kerala	04
15.	Madhya Pradesh	03
16.	Maharashtra	14
17.	Manipur	Nil
18.	Meghalaya	02
19.	Mizoram	02
20.	Nagaland	03
21.	Orissa	06
22.	Puducherry	03
23.	Punjab	06
24.	Rajasthan	06
25.	Sikkim	01
26.	Tamil Nadu	03
27.	Tripura	Nil
28.	Uttar Pradesh	03
29.	Uttrakhand	06
30.	West Bengal	02
31.	Central team and NIC	13
	Total	137