

Chapter- III
Reforms Measures and Policy Initiatives

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1. **Simplification, Transparency**

- Bilingual Website for Department of Information Technology is operational to disseminate information to public. It provides information about the Department, its activities, its organizations, policies etc. Revision of DIT's web-site structure has been initiated by the Deptt.
- DGS&D and Department of Information Technology (through National Informatics Centre) have initiated steps for introduction of E-Procurement System.
- An Intra-DIT-Portal for G to G and G to E services is already operational in DIT. It provides services like on-line File tracking, Project monitoring, Expenditure monitoring, Parliament questions/answers, Knowledge management (Library, E-Magazine, Newspaper/News), etc.
- Personnel information like Pay slips, GPF details, Income tax statement, Leave account, Personal details, Educational details, etc., are available on DIT Intra-net. E-mail and Internet facility including Instant Messaging, SMS, Document sharing, Calendar and Scheduler, etc., have been provided to all officers in DIT. The Notice Board on Internet provides Circulars, Notifications, Up-coming events, Birthday wishes, etc. Various reports/orders are generated from the data base.
- The Department of Information Technology has taken the initiative and invited the proposals from State Governments and UTs for consideration for provision of funds to projects which have focus on capacity building / development for women and / or SC/ST using ICT. DIT funds will cater to only infrastructure creation, training in ICT and not for manpower requirements.

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2. **Monitoring Mechanism of the Projects/ Schemes**

The Department of Information Technology (DIT) is a Scientific Deptt. mandated for Development and Promotion of Information Technology through out the country. It undertakes a large number of R&D projects and provides financial support to various implementing agencies viz. autonomous societies/R&D institutions/universities etc. for implementation of the projects. To ensure that the projects/programmes become “outcome oriented” the EFC/SFC formats have been revised incorporating the “outcome para” in the memorandum.

Budgetary position in figures i.e. total budget outlay under the scheme, expenditure incurred and the balance provision are clearly indicated while submitting the proposal for approval/release of funds. The funds are released in installments. A checklist in this regard is also submitted with the project proposal.

For proper implementation of the schemes and for obtaining “meaningful outcome” from different programmes/schemes it has been emphasized that the project proposals of various institutions/organizations must be specifically moved through Head of the Institution concerned. The projects which are funded by this department are first considered in terms of its relevance by the Working Group which is composed of the national level experts in the different areas. Once it is recommended by the Working Group the same is considered for sanction through the Standing Finance Committee (SFC)/Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) route.

To ensure that the programmes are implemented in right direction Project Review Steering Group (PRSG) is constituted for each of the project which consists national experts including JS&FA or its representative who review the utilization of funds released. This PRSG is constituted while the project is approved or within seven days of the approval and the first meeting is convened within thirty days of the sanction of the project. The PRSG hold minimum three meetings in a year so that the project is not only close in time but also is enabled to achieve its objectives/outcome. The PRSG examines the utilization of funds released for the intended purpose with the desired outcomes to the project, utilization of physical assets and manpower and suggests to improve project management and programme implementation. On reviewing the progress/achievements of the project the PRSG recommends for the next installment of grant. The second and the subsequent installments of grant is released by the Department only after obtaining the utilization certificate of earlier release. This mechanism is working well and is putting emphasis on “outcome”. All most all the projects are completed within the approved duration of the Projects.

3. **Accountability**

- Outlays and outcomes for each programme are being fixed and monitored.
- Time frame and intermediate milestone have been fixed and are being monitored.