

Open Source Software: A Paradigm Shift in E Governance

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ABSTRACT

E-Governance is a style of administration in which the utilization of paper is wiped out or extraordinarily decreased and work of government is done in computerized mode as opposed to through paper and documents. e-Governance is past the extent of e-Government. While e-governance is characterized as a negligible conveyance of taxpayer supported organizations and data to general society utilizing electronic means, e- Governance permits coordinate cooperation of constituents in government exercises. e- Governance isn't just about government site and email. It isn't just about administration conveyance over the Internet. It isn't just about advanced access to government data or electronic instalments. It will change how nationals identify with governments as much as it changes how natives identify with one another. It will deliver new ideas of citizenship, both as far as requirements and obligations. e-Governance will enable subjects to speak with government, take an interest in the legislatures' arrangement making and residents to impart one another. The e-Governance will really enable residents to take an interest in the administration basic leadership process, mirror their actual needs and welfare by using e- Governance as an instrument.

KEYWORDS:e – Governance, electronic data, open source software, ICT

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INTRODUCTION

Information Technology has created a boom in the lives of people. In the new world of technocrats, the information is available in our finger tips. The Key word would be *Go to Google*. Technology plays a pivotal role in shaping today's world. While advancing the technology and its services, We must ensure that these advancements can be utilized for the benefits of the Common Man as well. E – Governance is one of the strategies of effective utilization of technology upliftment. E-governance, meaning ‘electronic governance’ is using information and communication technologies (ICTs) at various levels of the government and the public sector and beyond, for the purpose of enhancing governance (*Bedi et.al. 2000*). E Governance can bring minimum government and maximum governance. It is easy, effective and economic governance. It brings Empowerment, Equity & Efficiency of the Economy. It is a very useful field that can be the greatest problem solver of the People (*NarendraModi, 2015*). The echoing words of Indian Prime Minister Clearly define the impact can make E Governance System to the Economy as well as the Society. As stated by the Prime Minister of India, Governance must be Pro- active as well as Pro – people. In a Vast and Huge Country like India E – Governance is is the only way for effective delivery of government services unto the last.

E-governance is the public sector's use of information and communication technologies with the aim of improving information and service delivery, encouraging citizen participation in the decision-making process and making government more accountable, transparent and effective. E-governance involves new styles of leadership, new ways of debating and deciding policy and investment, new ways of accessing education, new ways of listening to citizens and new ways of organizing and delivering information and services. E-governance is generally considered as a wider concept than e-government, since it can bring about a change in the way citizens relate to governments and to each other. E-governance can bring forth new concepts of citizenship, both in terms of citizen needs and responsibilities. Its objective is to engage, enable and empower the citizen. (*UNESCO, 2004*).The above definition well explained the concept of E Governance in an International perspective.

To implement E Governance effectively, the role of customized software is high in demand. It is clear that the introduction of Open Source Software speed up the introduction of E Governance in India. Open-source software (OSS) is computer software with its source code made available with a license in which the copyright holder provides the rights to study, change, and distribute the software to anyone and for any purpose. Nowadays, many government officers are utilizing the Open Source Software for the E Governance Systems. Some Entrepreneurs developed customized software

which is suitable for the public enterprise. A remarkable change has been come in Governance systems through the introduction of Open Source Software. Let's look into detail on the changes.

E GOVERNANCE

Electronic Governance (E-governance) refers to the procedures of delivering the national or local information worldwide with the help of digital medium, in short, The internet. Now-a- days, Internet is considered to be a good medium to make commons' aware of new updations on various fields, whether it is an institutions, organizations, enterprises and so on. By the birth of internet, e-commerce and e-governance become strongly and they try to think innovatively other than the traditional file system. They become smart by transforming from paper services providers to e-services delivery providers. E-governance is a one-stop internet gateway to major government services ¹. Emerged services are considered to be containers of benefits, better services delivery to citizens; empowerment of people through access to information without bureaucracy; improved productivity and cost savings with business suppliers and customers of government and participation is public policy decision making.

Economy recessions, inflations, natural disasters, unpredictable disasters and population rise are some situations where the entire local bodies of country to be in unity. Thus, increase transparency and common goal of improving betterment of environment are archived. Leading service providers plays an important role in this strategy.

E-GOVERNANCE DEFINITION

According to keohen and Nye (2000), "Governance implies the process and institutions both formal and informal, the guide and retains the collective certificates of a group, government in the subnet that acts with authority and creates formal obligations. Governance need not necessarily be conducted exclusively by governments. Private firms, association of firms, not government organization (NGO) and association of NGO's all engage in it, often is association with governmental bodies, to create governs; sometimes without governmental authority²". This definition clearly mentions the duty of government.

E-Governance is of 4 types relying upon the particular sorts of administrations.

1. Government-to-Citizen (G2C)

The Government-to-native alludes to the taxpayer driven organizations that are gotten to by the commonplace individuals. What's more, Most of the taxpayer supported organizations fall under G2C. Similarly, the essential objective of Government-to-resident is to give offices to the native. It causes the normal individuals to diminish the time and cost to direct an exchange. A native can approach the administrations whenever from anyplace.

2. Government-to-business (G2B)

The Government to business is the trading of administrations among Government and Business associations. It is effective for both government and business associations. G2B gives access to significant structures expected to go along. The G2B additionally comprises of numerous administrations traded between business segments and government.

3. Government-to-Government (G2G)

The Government-to-Government alludes to the connection between various government division, associations, and organizations. This builds the productivity of government forms. In G2G, government offices can have a similar database utilizing on the web correspondence. The administration offices can cooperate. This administration can expand worldwide strategy and relations.

4. Government-to-Employee (G2E)

The Government-to-Employee is the inner piece of G2G area. Moreover, G2E plans to unite representatives and ad lib information sharing.

E-GOVERNANCE IN KERALA

Kerala is at stage of developing in concept of e-services. Goal has initiated various schemes for the empowerment of services and to make it more advantageous for people. Kerala State Wide Area Network (KSWAN) and state Data Center are backbone of state ². 14 districts and 152 blocks of state are connected by KSWAN. Various initiatives based on this concept was introduced, most important barriers faced are published sites for providing service was not up to demand and most of the are found to be designed in an inefficient way. The reason highlighted for this is low literacy rate of commoners based on IT field. Kerala is highly strengthened by aspiring leaders' category of e-government development ranking ².

E-GOVERNANCE INITIATED IN KERALA

List of initiated projects in Kerala are as follows:

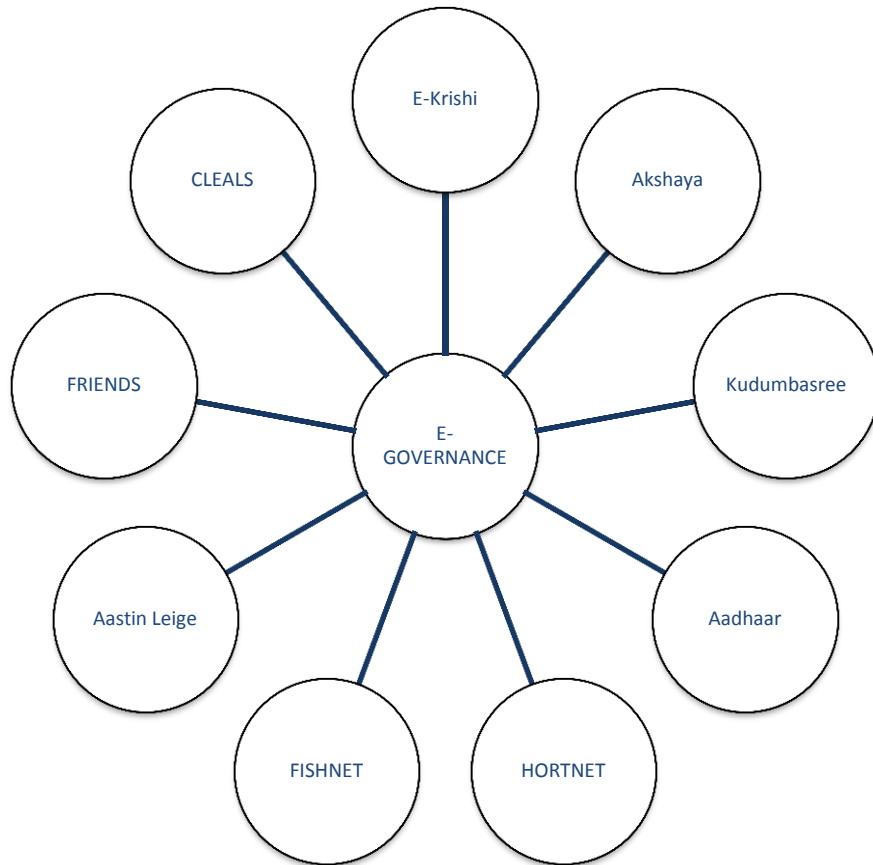


Figure1: E Governance Initiatives in Kerala

Malapuram district in Kerala has become the first e-district in India through implementation of Akshaya project. ‘Knowledge society’ or ‘samboora computer saksharatha’ which means provides training and basic computer skills for people. This scheme also includes computer connectivity for all organizations, public enterprises and others. Government has setup about 634 Akshaya Tele-centers around districts. 100 Akshaya center are related to offers ‘E-Krishi’ that promote farming. Another step for archiving goal is computer training programs which is a certificate course in Basic computer literacy. They suggest using Windows/Linux OS as a part of school syllabus for the promotion of same. Various types of projects are involved. Some dominant and highly successful project details are mentioned as follows:

1. Akshaya: Akshaya is an innovative project introduced by Kerala government. Services include awareness of e-learning, e-jaalakam, and so on. This creates a drastic change in the job opportunities for youths. Based on this, about 15000(approximately) people are appointed to various designations. ICT is one of the services providers that enable this facility. Akshaya project is the first district state e-literacy project on IP (Internet Protocol) based wireless network. This also focuses on rural empowerment ⁷.

2. Kudumbasree: This project is implemented only for the empowerment of women. Kudumbasree project is a poverty eradication program which Kerala focuses. The concept of Kudumbasree is extracted from *Swarnajayanthi Gram SwarozarYojana(SGSY)* launched by Ministry of Rural Development ⁹.
3. Sulekha: Project named Sulekha is emerged based on the monitoring systems. Sulekha include two steps is decentralization: Planning and decentralized planning. Objective of this is to increase production, establishing public features, increasing job opportunities, enhancing capacity of citizens and improving economic development. Decentralized plan is an integral component introduced by local government for participating plan process ¹⁰.
4. Aadhaar: Kerala unique identification Authority of India (UID) initiated this project in Feb 2011 at Thiruvandapuram and Alappuzha. Two Agencies under KSITM (Kerala State IT Mission) carry out enrolling process of citizen: Akshaya and Keltron. 95% of population and UID has been generated from 289 lakh citizens ⁶.

CONCLUSION

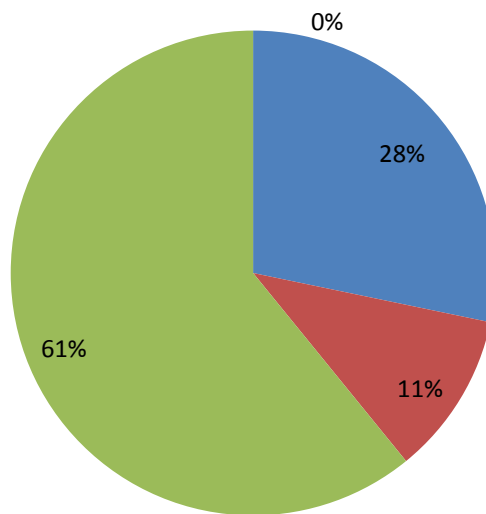


Figure 2: Usage of E Government Sites

Based on theories collected and analyzed, this comes to a conclusion that 61% of sites are not at all ready to provide services for people. But the fact is that they are already launched and projects implemented were effective only for limited. About 11% of sites are available and they are quite useful such as helpful in transactions and delivery of services. And rest of the category does not belong to both. (Statistics provided are approximate based on small quantity of information, not so accurate). E-governance still faces the troubles in implementing different services and providing

relevant information needed by people. The only solution for this is to increase the job opportunities for talented personalities in IT.

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