

Status review of the projects funded under State Innovation Fund

1. **Name of the Innovation Project:** - Document Management System of Ration Card Forms
2. **Nodal Implementing Agency (s):** - Deptt. of Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs
3. **Area of Operation/Site of Implementation:** - Aapurti Bhawan, Block No: 42, SDA Complex Kasumpti Shimla-9 H.P.
4. **Financial Status:**
 - i) Amount Sanctioned (Rs) 30,75,600/-
 - ii) Date of Sanction 22.01.2015
 - iii) Amount Utilized (upto 30.11.2022) (Rs.) 21,50,348/-
 - iv) Balance Amount and its status (Rs.) 9,25,252/-
 - v) UC/CC submitted of (Rs.) 21,50,348/- (Balance fund amounting to ₹ 9,25,252/- returned vide letter No: 9876 dated: 26.07.2022 to your office).

5. **Physical Status:**

| Sr. No. | Name of the component | Completed (Yes or no) | Date of starting | If yes, date of completion | If not, likely date of completion |
|---------|--|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. | Document Management System of Ration Card Forms-solution for scanning, Indexing and retrieval of Ration Card forms | Yes | 2015 | 2018 | -- |

6. **Details of the activities carried out with the State Innovation fund (Max. 200 words)**
 With the motive to identify and weed-out duplicate/ineligible beneficiaries/ Ration Cards, and to enable rightful targeting of food subsidies, the Department of FCS&CA has digitized all the Ration Cards in the state. In order to do so, the department invited the tender for this purpose and started the process of digitization of Ration Card through L1 bidder, which included:
 - Scanning, Indexing, storing, Archiving & Retrieval of Ration Card Records in digital form in secured manner.
 - Application software & Methodology was adopted for seamless integration with existing workflow based on Software developed using Microsoft Technologies.
 - Shredding and destruction of all the Ration Cards forms after completion of the digitization.

7. **Objectives of Innovative Intervention:**

Earlier in Himachal Pradesh, Ration in FPSs used to be issued on simple paper in the form of booklet and billing procedure was manual. There were chances of pilferages, as bogus Ration Cards could have existed. Also, there was no proper tracking of commodities and no real time access to the record of FPS data i.e. stock availability, sale of Ration and number of Ration Card registered etc. Hence, in order to ensure that the ration reaches to the intended beneficiaries and

to eliminate all possibility of pilferages in the PDS, the digitization of Ration cards was necessary.

8. What are the elements of innovation that were introduced, which brought out procedural changes and increased efficiency? Please give a brief: (Max. 200 words)

During the process of the digitization of ration cards, the general public was sensitized to fill the details of all members of their ration cards and submit the same at the nearest fair price shops. The filled forms were simultaneously verified by the concerned Panchayat Secretaries and the Inspector Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs. Accordingly, more than 15 lac filled ration card forms were received from the general public through the extensive network of fair price shops. The filled forms were successfully scanned and indexed followed by assigning a Unique Ration card number. Once the scanning and indexing of the ration card records was completed for a particular block, the block wise data was ported on the server of the department and digitize data of the ration cards for the entire State was maintained.

9. How the innovation project has benefitted the public? (Max. 100 words)

- i) Ration card digitization has enabled the correct identification of beneficiaries, so that intending beneficiaries may not deprive of their entitled foodgrains.
- ii) Digitization of beneficiary database has helped in weeding out bogus ration cards and better targeting of subsidies.
- iii) There is no need to carry physical ration card to Fair Price Shops, as the details of the members of the ration card is already available in the database.

10. How the innovation project has benefitted the department? (Two or three sentences against each of the following).

i) Procedural simplification

Since, every household has been assigned a Unique ration card number, tracking of any ration card/ family member has become very easy and has put an end to the manual ways of tracing beneficiary record.

ii) Quick Disposal (compare pre and post innovation with three examples).

- After the digitization of the ration cards, there is now proper track of the beneficiaries and ration cards as it was not possible with the paper-based ration cards.
- With the help of digitized data, the time is being saved to find his/her Ration Cards in the data base.
- Actual distribution against the ration cards is available online.

iii) Convenience for clients (minimum three examples).

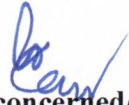
- The consumers can find their ration card online and can also take the print out of their ration card through the transparency portal of the department.
- Now, any addition deletion and modification can also be done online through the Online Application Module of Ration Cards made by the department.
- E-Rations are accepted by fair price shop holders and there is no need to carry physical ration card to the FPS.

11. Further steps taken by the department to continue with the Project activities/innovative ideas?

Department had fulfilled the requirement of the project and spent ₹ 21,50,348/- out of total sanctioned amount ₹ 30,75,600/-. The balance amounting to ₹ 9,25,252/- has already been returned on dated: 26.07.2022 through Cheque No: 000290 vide this office letter No: 9876 dated: 26.07.2022.

12. Suggestion/Comments of the department on State Innovation Fund Scheme?

The State Innovation Fund Scheme of the Govt. has helped the department to upgrade from the old manual system of ration cards to the digitized ration cards and facilitated the general public at large.

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Sign. of concerned/ Nodal Dept.
HOD
Name: DIRECTOR, FOOD, CIVIL SUPPLIES &
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, H.P. SHIMLA-8
Designation: _____
Date: 27/02 /2023