

Judgement Days

Maharashtra's
Economy has
grown
substantially since
Prithviraj Chavan
took over as
Maharashtra
Chief Minister

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We are
one of
the
Fastest
Growing
Economies
In the
World

PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN
Chief Minister, Maharashtra

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Maharashtra has been a leader in e-Governance implementation in the country, and has been consistently ranked as a “Leader” in e-Readiness Surveys conducted by Govt. of India. The State Government has many firsts to its credit in terms of e-Governance: first State Government to publish a dedicated e-Governance Policy, first State to have a Data Center with Government cloud, first State to introduce an online training and certification program and so on. Two of the recent notable achievements of the State Government are around implementation of UID and e-Office program in the State.

The UID program was launched in Nandurbar district of the State in Sept. 2009 and full-fledged enrolment of residents started in 2010. The State Government is the leading Registrar in the country and in quick time more than 6.4 Cr. residents in the State have been enrolled and UIDs generated for more than 5.84 Cr. residents.

The success of the UID program in the State has been possible due to numerous forward looking decisions taken by the State Government including allowing various Non-State Registrars like Public Sector Banks to conduct UID enrolment in the State, allowing all UID empanelled enrolment agencies to work at L1 rates in the State, allowing local agencies to take up UID enrolment in the districts, allowing enrolment in housing societies in Mumbai and setting up mega enrolment centers with more than 10 machines at a single location. The State Government has envisaged universalization of UID enrolment by March 2014, and is well on course to meet the target. With nearly 4000 UID enrolment kits are operational in the State and 2000 more are being pressed into service shortly, which in turn would ensure accelerated enrolment across the State.

The State Government has setup a State of the Art 'Aadhaar Innovation Center' in Mumbai to facilitate innovations, research and UID linkage of various databases, being the first State in the country to do the same. We were also the first State to establish State Resident Data Hub (SRDH), which is a repository of UID data of the State and further fine-tuned it to establish a usable and updated SRDH. UID linkage with various Government databases and authentication has also commenced in the State.

The State Government has recently taken a forward looking decision to implement e-Office in the State to facilitate paperless office administration. E-Office is an electronic file and office automation system that aims to bring in greater efficiency and effectiveness in functioning of the State Government. Pilot project has successfully been implemented in Sindhudurg district and is being initiated at Mantralaya (State HQ) on a large scale. More than 5000 users are presently using e-Office and signing files with the help of digital signatures, which is one of the largest implementation of paperless office automation system anywhere in the country.

The State Government would continue in its journey as a leader in e-Governance, as we look at making more and more citizen services available electronically in a simple manner at a place near their home and bring in greater innovations and effectiveness in project implementations.

● **Rajesh Aggarwal, (IAS)**
Secretary IT,
Govt. of Maharashtra