

## Research and Development

### Motivation:

Mistakes witnessed in issuing the Electoral cards, which are much less in number or the over 60 million Ration Cards, NREGA 80 million, PAN 60 million, PDS 110 million, LPG 110 million, then definitely there is a need to 'Brain Storm on the 'Model' that needs to be designed to make this task fool proof. Creating 1150 million correct identities and a continuous process to ensure that no mistakes happened is a challenging task. The 113,000 Common Service Centres can be utilized effectively in this task as roughly one CSC has to cater to 10,000/ people only and you have 75 million people in this country who are homeless. Mention government projects and the first reaction is great deal of scepticism about feasibility, executive skills, quality of the end product and timely completion. While this may sound extremely cynical and even unjustified, unfortunately interactions with the government authority have given ample reason to become sceptical, recognising this regrettable state of affairs and with the objective of taking the country forward in the right direction to meet its needs of becoming a global economic leader by the year 2035.

Report of the Working Group on financing urban infrastructure HPEC High Powered Expert Committee-Government of India, 12th Five-year plan, Steering committee on Urban Development & Management, October 2011. The estimates for urban infrastructure in the core 8 services of water supply, sewerage, solid waste management, storm water drains, urban roads, urban transport, street lighting and traffic support infrastructure amount to Rs. 31 lakh crore over the 20-year period. In addition to the above, the HPEC had also estimated capacity building costs of Rs. 1 lakh crore, renewal and redevelopment costs of Rs. 4.1 lakh crore and other sector expenditure of Rs 3.1 lakh crore over the 20-year period. The total expenditure of urban infrastructure is thus estimated to be Rs. 39.2 lakh crore over 20 years.. (for the period 2012-2031)

Though the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) has issued a set of guidelines for implementing the project to the various state governments, it did not specify the solution to be applied in rolling out the project. Other factors apart, lack of standardised application to roll out this massive plan has been widely felt in all such projects being undertaken by different municipal bodies across the country.

**A real change in the strategy was the need of the hour:** We started to think locally but act globally. Ideally one common cloud computing solution for all the 5000 ULBs should be integrated, customized and developed keeping in mind the law across different states and the 22 official languages will come has as hurdle, but this too has to be overcome by integrating the Indian language Unicodes. Also, it must be kept in mind that in every state, ULBs are typically of three types - city corporation (nagar nigam), city councils (nagar palikas), and town councils (nagar panchayats) - which are governed by a State Municipal Act and this Act devolves different levels of autonomy to different category of ULBs.

**Integrated Cloud Computing Solutions was Needed:** Indian Centre for Social Transformation a public charitable Trust (Regd.) (Indian CST) [www.indiancst.in](http://www.indiancst.in) was formed to improve e-governance by providing technology to Bring Efficiency, Transparency and Accountability into Publically funded projects through the Integrated GPMS for e-governance cloud computing solutions. Indian CST truly believes in information technology for social change.