INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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With diversification of the ICT landscape and Digital India initiative, it has become absolutely imperative for the Government to bring in qualitative and quantitative transformations in wake of changing user expectations. In the year 2017-18, Ministry of Coal, along with NIC has strived hard and taken lead towards standardization and improvement in IT working environment and service delivery.

➢ NIC COAL Computer Centre in Ministry of Coal is well equipped with latest computer systems for delivering and implementing secure multi-platform computer based applications/solutions, database support, Internet, Email, network and video conferencing facilities. Ministry of Coal has adopted **Cloud services** of NIC - Meghraj. This aims to ensure optimum utilization of the infrastructure and speed up the development and deployment of eGovernance applications of Ministry of Coal.

➢ The official website of Ministry of Coal – **http://coal.gov.in** is bilingual, user-friendly and provides an easy navigation and quick access to important and latest up-to-date information. A clutter-free responsive design helps the end user to access the site on all handheld devices. The site provides rich updated content such as details of senior officers, organizational setup of the Ministry, subordinate offices links, policies, annual reports, publications, acts, rules, notifications, policies, RTI disclosures, latest announcements and letters.

The website is GIGW compliant and certified by STQC.

Besides, a website for Minister's office – http://ujwalbharat.gov.in is hosted and maintained by Ministry. The site highlights the initiatives and achievements of Ministry of Coal and Ministry of Railways looked after by office of Hon'ble Minister.

➢ **Coal Projects Monitoring Portal** has been successfully implemented in the Ministry. This comprehensive MIS links all stake holders of Coal sector – Industry, Coal Companies, CIL, NLC, State Governments, Ministries/Departments and Ministry of Coal. Coal Projects with their pending issues with various States and / or departments are submitted into the system. These issues are closely monitored, discussed and resolved on this platform, thereby eliminating cumulative information seeking and decision making delays.

➢ **eFile** is fully functional in Ministry of Coal. There is no physical file or physical movement of file in the Ministry now. Digital Signature Certificates (DSC) are also being used to sign and issue official letters. Coal **eOffice modules – eLeaves, eTour, KMS** are operational in the Ministry to support e-governance by ushering in more effective and transparent inter and intra-government processes. VPN support for senior officials has been extended for non NICNET nodes / laptops to ensure nonstop working in eFile and eOffice.

➢ Ministry of Coal has developed a workflow based **Online Coal Clearances Portal** to provide a **single window access** to its investors to submit online applications for **all the permissions / clearances and approvals granted by Ministry of Coal.** The portal has been made ready for launch. This will act as a dashboard for all stakeholders who are involved and interested to obtain clearances for - Coal Mine Lease, Prospecting License, Coal Mine Plan, Land Acquisition under CBA Act, and Mine Opening Permission. Coal Clearances portal of Ministry of Coal has been integrated with e-Nivesh Portal of Cabinet Secretariat as well.

➢ NIC has conducted a detailed study to develop a comprehensive integrated MIS to **monitor Coal Blocks**. The study has covered analysis of workflow and flow of information among stakeholders for coal blocks. All requirements have been assessed and the Functional Requirement Study undertaken. Steps have been initiated to design and develop comprehensive system in a phased manner as per the satisfaction of all the stakeholders.

➢ **Coal Allocation Monitoring System (CAS)** is implemented to monitor the allocation of coal by Coal India Limited (CIL) to States, States to State Nominated

Agencies (SNA) and SNA to consumers in a transparent manner. The system is designed to cater to the consumers through SNA in small and medium sector (erstwhile non-core sector). This web application is developed and designed by NIC and hosted on NIC Cloud with various rich features to usher in faster decisions, establish transparency and to connect all distant stakeholders together.

➢ Ministry is extensively using Video Conferencing facility set up in the Ministry to facilitate senior officers to hold important meetings with various Coal PSUs and board meetings. About 86 VC sessions have been conducted successfully for conference duration of about 245.30 hours.

➢ Some of the main **office automation** software being used in the Ministry for day to day working are: **Biometric Attendance system**, **SPARROW for senior officials, E-Visitors**, **PFMS for payroll.**

➢ **E-governance applications** that have been implemented in the Ministry are- RTIMIS to manage RTI cases, AVMS for monitoring ACC vacancies, CPGRAMS for public grievances and Parliament Questions and Supplementary MIS.