

E-Governance Initiatives in South Goa District

E-governance takes roots in Cotigao panchayat

TEAM HERALD

bureau@herald-goa.com

CANACONA: Collector (South) N D Agarwal inaugurated the e-governance at Cotigao Panchayat on Thursday.

"Under the new technology, certificates like caste, residence and income will be issued on priority basis at the village level itself and the applicants need not travel all the way to taluka headquarters/or visit mamlatdar's office to get these certificates anymore," said Mr Agarwal after inaugurating e-governance at Cotigao on experimental basis.

Soon after the inauguration, an income certificate was furnished to a village youth. The certificate was issued online by Canacona Mamlatdar, printed and endorsed with Talathi's signature, before handing it over



An income certificate handed over to a village youth soon after inauguration of e-governance at Cotigao Panchayat.

to the applicant.

"Normally, an applicant needs to submit an affidavit while requesting for income certificate, which may again compel the applicant to travel to the taluka headquarters. But, we will ob-

tain a declaration-cum-undertaking at the panchayat level itself based on which income certificate will be issued," said Mr Agarwal.

"With the issuance of income certificate online

within 20 minutes first time in the State, Canacona has created history and the credit goes to Deputy Collector Shiv Kumar," stated Mr Agarwal.

All the offices of Talathis in respective villages will

be equipped with a computer, scanner-printer to facilitate speedy issuance of certificates online.

Explaining the procedure, a staff of Goa Net informed that as soon as the talathi submits the applicants' requests via net to the Mamlatdar, the applicants will receive intimation on his/her mobile contact provided on the application.

Likewise, the applicant will be again alerted via SMS about a pin number, soon after Mamlatdar issues the certificate online, giving every opportunity to the applicants to keep a track status of their application.

The Talathi will then take a print of the scan copy received online, put his stamp and sign, before issuing it to the applicant.

The certificate issued in this format will be valid for the purpose it is requested for.

However, if still the applicant wants non-scanned and original copy, all he/she has to do is approached the Mamlatdar office with the pin number and obtain the certificate with Mamlatdar's signature.

Canacona Deputy Collector Shiv Kumar and other staff, newly elected Cotigao Sarpanch Meena Gaonkar, Deputy Sarpanch Datta Velip, Panchas Ratnakar Velip, Anand Dessai and Laximan Velip were present.

Mr Agrawal also informed that in view of the present tedious procedure, government is considering options to simplify the issuance of ration card in consultation with Civil

snaps

Rambolim

Two shops burgled in Vasco

South Goa District has taken initiatives to provide services to the citizens timely and at their door step. South Goa district gram panchayats have a GBBN connectivity and to make best use of network, district administration has provided network connectivity to Talathis. Talathis are provided with Note book PCs.

Talathis of Salcete & Canacona talukas are trained in basics of computer, e-mail & internet. In Salcete taluka, applications received for various certificates are scanned are e-mailed to Talathis immediately and verification reports are obtained from them. Certificates are issued to the citizens based on e-mailed verification reports.

In Canacona taluka, Khotigao Talathi office is provided one computer system, scanner & printer with a GBBN network connectivity. This village is located in remote in forest area from taluka place. Talathi receives applications for various certificates and scans necessary documents along with his verification report. He applies on behalf of citizen through Goa Govt Eservices portal launched last year. This application is processed at Taluka Mamlatdar using Taluka*Suite system and scanned copy of certificate is e-mailed to Talathi. Talathi issues a certificate by counter signing and putting his office seal on the certificate. Original copy of the certificate is given to the citizen later on. Khotigao village is taken on pilot basis and subsequently other remote village will be covered to provide services at village level.