

PC Quest in its 25th years celebration has organized Best IT Implementation Awards during the Year 2012. There were total 175 project nominations from over 30 cities of India and 25 different types of industries. Clearing 3 stages, Online SPIDER Portal developed by NIC UP State Unit, Lucknow, reached to the semi finalist stage among the top 25 projects and has been published in July 2012 issue of PC Quest magazine.

The Semi-Finalists



Planning Deptt, Govt of UP's Online SPIDER

## A Comprehensive Portal with Village Level Information for Better Planning

An Internet based data entry and retrieval system that facilitates decentralized, online data entry/updation from all districts of 4000 parameters, thereby providing the local level information in digital form for decision making and planning

- Rahul Kumar

The report of Indian Planning Commission working group highlighted the need to identify the minimum information and data required for planning and decision-making at the district level and also provided an illustrative list of data/information useful for district planning. The commission issued a format "Database on Village Level Indicators" and requested State Governments to collect data at the village, block and district levels in prescribed, pre-coded schedule covering a very wide range of items. This data was to be fed into the District Information System of National Informatics Centre (DISNIC) for storage and retrieval on a regular basis.

In 1993, according to the guidelines provided by Indian Planning Commission, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh started the implementation and database was created and data recorded in the same. But the whole system was manual leading to redundancy, inconsistency, and inaccuracy in data & formats. There was about 5 years time lag in information availability to the users. SP was analyzed and it was found that the total data available in the state was approximately 9.30 lakhs, out of which 3.20 lakhs obtained by calculation, 1.35 lakhs needed entry & checking only once (related to censuses) while 4.75 lakhs to be entered every year.

To overcome this problem, SPIDER (Sankhyikiya Patrika : Internet based Data Entry and Retrieval) System Ver-1.0 was developed in 1993-94. After continued updation, several versions of SPIDER were modified and SPIDER Ver-4.0 was developed and adapted during the year 2003-04. It is an integrated application for data entry and updation, in which Unicode compliant web based retrieval was made possible using ASP at the front-end and SQL Server at the back-end. The core objective of this application was to facilitate



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Through the SPIDER system, correct and accurate information from grass root levels to the national level is possible as and when required

decentralized online data entry/updation from all districts directly to a centralized server located at the state NIC data centre, Lucknow.

### COMPANY SCENARIO

#### Before deployment

There was a lack of consistency in data, formats, standardization, transparency, 4-5 years time lag, year variations like calendar/financial, inter and intra district table variations, repetitive calculations, typing, stenciling, erroneous data presentation etc. due to human interventions at different levels of administration/planning.

#### What was deployed

SPIDER Ver-4.0, integrated application of data entry/updation and Unicode compliant web based retrieval was made possible using ASP at the front-end and SQL Server at the back-end.

#### After deployment

Consistent, accurate, current and up-to-date information was disseminated through Online Bilingual Unicode compliant SPIDER Portal ; State Government is saving about ₹1.5 crore per year by reduction in paper, manpower, publications, data entry/typing work etc ; Productivity gain is more than 75%; SP formats were standardized; Integrated local level databases based on 4000 parameters.

#### Implementation partner:

National Informatics Center

### THE RESULT

This project is meant for identifying the inter-village panchayat, inter-block, inter-district, inter-regional and inter-state disparities so that gaps can be found and developed and under developed areas/societies. Now, The SP formats have been standardized. An integrated, local level database based on 4000 parameters has been created for the years 1995-2010 & the one for 2011 is in progress. Data compilation, validation, entry & updation etc. are being done at the local levels, hence, there is no need of these operations at higher levels. Consistent, accurate, current and up-to-date information is being disseminated through an Online Bilingual Unicode compliant SPIDER Portal to planners, policy makers, administrators, government departments, international agencies, NGOs, etc.

After the implementation of SPIDER System, State Government is saving about ₹1.5 crore per year by reduction in paper, manpower, publications, data entry/typing work, tabulation, travelling and meeting costs as well as dropping stencil cuttings, etc. Productivity gain is more than 75%.