

Department of Information Technology
Government of Punjab

Press Note

The Punjab Government has signed today an agreement with HCL Infosystem to establish Punjab State Wide Area Network (PAWAN). The agreement was signed in the function presided over by Shri Adesh Partap Singh Kairon, Cabinet Minister for Food & Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs & Information Technology. Mr. Narinderjit Singh, Secretary Information Technology & Mr. Ajay Chaudhry Chairman HCL Infosystem were also present on the occasion. Director Information Technology Mr. Rakesh Verma, signed the agreement on behalf of the Government of Punjab while Shri S.K. Sharma, Associate Vice President signed on behalf of HCL Infosystem.

Punjab State Wide Area Network has been identified as one of the Mission Mode Projects under National e-Governance Plan (NeGP) by Ministry of IT, Government of India with the main objective to make all Government services accessible to the common man in his locality, through common service delivery outlets and ensure efficiency, transparency & reliability of such services at affordable costs to realise the basic needs of the common man. The project shall be an element of core infrastructure for supporting the e-Governance initiatives. The Central Government is funding the establishment of vertical backbone of the project up to block level. The project shall be implemented at a total cost of Rs. 41.45 crores. The vertical backbone up to block level from state Network center shall be implemented in 26 weeks time.

The State Wide Area Network shall act as "Information Super Highway" for data transfer between offices at State, District, Sub-Divisions and Block levels. This project shall establish the backbone network for data, voice and video communications throughout the state. The Network would be set up on Build, Own, Operate and Transfer (BOOT) model for five years, PAWAN would follow a 3 Tier structure through Point of Presence (POP) across the various levels. The minimum bandwidth for PAWAN at each tier shall be of 2Mbps. 50 horizontal offices shall be connected to State Head Quarter (Tier I), 20 Horizontal offices shall be connected to District Head Quarter (Tier II) and 10 Horizontal offices shall be connected to Sub Divisional Head Quarters and block Head Quarters (Tier III).

Departments of Treasury & Accounts, Excise and Taxation, Land Records, Transport, Police, Municipal Corporations and DC Offices shall use this network immediately. This network shall provide seamless end-to-end connectivity for all Government offices across the state. Boards and Corporations will also use the connectivity and it will also allow horizontal connectivity to various offices across the state from each POP of PAWAN.

Network Operating Center (NOC) of this PAWAN shall be connected to the State Data Centre (SDC) to provide dedicated access to applications hosted at State and Central Departments. Internet access will also be provided to PAWAN users through Internet Gateway at State Network Center. Point to Point and point to multipoint video conferencing through High Quality video equipments & Multimedia PC is also provisioned in the network. The SWAN shall be connected to the Common Service Centers (CSCs) for providing access to major e-governance services/applications at the village level.