IFRIS at a Glance

**Stage I**
Conceptualization
(07th June 2006 to 31st January 2007)

**Stage II**
Project Development including Business Process Re-engineering
(15th March 2007 to 31st August 2007)

**Stage III**
Software Development and Implementation (January 2008)
Pilot Rollout: October 2008
System Go: Live: March 2009
About e-parivartan

This newsletter *ICFRE e-parivartan* aims to cover the e-governance developments leading to transformation of ICFRE from manual to the electronic environment at ICFRE, its institute / research centers located in different geographical region across the country. The newsletter is a monthly publication for limited circulation (intra-ICFRE and its stakeholders) to increase the awareness of the IFRIS Project. *e-parivartan* will be a forum for sharing the views of the Management, the e-champions, users and the developers of the system. Your valuable feedback and inputs on the subject are solicited!

Dedicated Server Farm for ICFRE - gains momentum

The process of establishment of Server Farm (Data Centre) being one of the key activities under the IFRIS project has been initiated. It was envisaged that a centralized IT Infrastructure like a Data Center consisting of cluster of servers along with other associated hardware/ software and network components referred as Server Farm would be essential as a core infrastructure support for hosting of IFRIS application. Server Farm would be maintaining a central repository of data, providing mailing services, providing Information/ Services portal, Intranet portal, data backup, recovery, remote management and system integration.

As per the Manual of Policies and Procedures of Employment of Consultant issued by the Ministry of Finance on 31.08.2006 a draft of Expression of Interest (EOI) for procurement of Hardware and related service for ICFRE was prepared for the shortlisting of the vendor for Design, Development and implementation of IFRIS. The EOI was vetted by IT experts from DIT, Ministry of Communications and IT and subsequently approved by the DG, ICFRE. The technical committee of IT Experts comprising of IT domain experts from Department of Information Technology, Ministry of Communication and Information Technology, New Delhi and coordinated by the Project Manager (e-Governance) at ICFRE met on 02.08.2008 to mitigate the issues of establishment of dedicated Server Farm for ICFRE. This was the second meeting regarding the Server Farm, the first one held in July 2008. The committee deliberated on various technical aspects of EOI of Server Farm and made recommendations as per the requirement of ICFRE.

ICFRE shares e-Governance learning with WII

The Director of WII, Mr. P.R. Sinha, while endorsing the presentation on ICT Initiatives made by ICFRE during the XXXVIII meeting of the ICFRE BOG on 21st May, 2008, had requested ICFRE to share its experiences and learning to help it establish a National Wildlife Information System (NWIS) very similar to the IFRIS application being developed at ICFRE. WII is also willing to explore the possibility of Video Conferencing, facilities existing at ICFRE.

A Presentation was made on “e-Governance experience @ICFRE” to the faculty and officers of Wild Life Institute of India (WII) on 13th August 2008, highlighting the ICT initiatives taken by ICFRE and shared ‘Long Term Information Technology Vision of ICFRE’ by Dr. Harish Kumar, Project Manager (e-Governance), ICFRE. WII looks forward for ICFRE’s help in preparing an e-Governance vision document and road map for its implementation.

Launch of ‘e-Governance @ ICFRE’ Video

A short 10 minutes video documentary ‘e-Governance @ICFRE’, has been screened during the ICFRE Apex Committee Chaired by Shri Jagdish Kishwan, DG, ICFRE on 28.07.2008. It highlights the various stages of evolution of e-Governance at ICFRE from conceptualization
of IFRIS to Project development including BPR and Software development of IFRIS. The video briefly described the activities undertaken by ICFRE and institutes since the conceptualization of IFRIS (July 2006).

The video also traces the establishment of MPLS VPN / Video Conferencing and other allied aspects under the e-Governance Initiatives of ICFRE. This video serves as a documented case study for promoting and spreading awareness about the e-Governance initiatives taken up successfully by ICFRE and will serve as an example for other institutes / organizations for taking up similar endeavor.

e-Champions endeavor in Masterdata collection keeps Pilot rollout on track

One of the major lessons learnt from previous IFRIS implementation is that lack of master data could prove to be a major bottle neck during the implementation phase. It was in that context, Project Manager (e-Governance) took initiatives to start the data collection efforts early in the implementation.

During the e-Champion training conducted in the month of June 08 at IWST Bangalore, the e-Champions put commendable effort in understanding the master data templates. Subsequently, e-Champions explained the master data templates to the pertinent members in their institutes. As and when it was required, SRIT functional consultants conducted Video Conferencing sessions and con-calls to make sure that, e-Champions are comfortable in their understanding of master data templates and are able to compile the data in time. The efforts put in by Sh. Ganesh Ram, Shri S.S.L. Gupta and Sh. Rakesh K. Verma for generation of core chart of accounts of ICFRE for the Financial Accounting System of the upcoming IFRIS application has been appreciated by the Project Management Team.

It was due to the enthusiasm shown by the e-Champions, we could collect 70% of the data - that would enable us to start with pilot roll-out by end of August 2008. Sh. M.S. Garbyal, Project Director (e-Governance) ensured that management is committed towards the data collection efforts of e-Champion by providing them support and through regular follow-ups. The data collected is subsequently synchronized and uploaded to the IFRIS system by SRIT consultants.

ICFRE contributes in e-Governance : Opportunities and Challenges for the Public Service

ICFRE got a privileged opportunity to participate in a consultative National Workshop on e-Governance : Opportunities and Challenges for the Public Services held at the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi on 18th August 2008, wherein the agenda was reinforcing and contributing to the capacity building initiatives for e-Governance at the central and state levels. The Chief Guest of the function was the former Secretary, IT, Sh. Brijesh Kumar and other dignitaries who attended the workshop were Sh. S.R. Das and Sh. Ashis Sanyal from DIT, New Delhi, Sh. Piyush Gupta, NISG, Sh. B.S. Baswan, Director IIPA, New Delhi, Sh. B.K. Gairola, DG, NIC, New Delhi and others e-Governance Experts recognized nationally. Dr. Harish Kumar, Project Manager (e-Governance) represented the ICFRE in the workshop.
From the e-Champions

The e-Governance Tree
ICFRE has planted a seed
started egovernance and taken a lead
for e-governance goal’s realization
started IFRIS with due conceptualization
e-parivartan is taking place steadily
all services will be available readily
initiatives will increase efficiency
designed for more transparency
it has removed institutional fencing
by opening up Video Conferencing
no body can even guess
in 2010 ICFRE is going paperless
it’s not a rosy bed
still miles to go ahead
Wipro and SRIT together
helping ICFRE to climb the ladder
Rakesh K Verma
e-Champion

Media Section - The Sentinel, Dibrugarh (28.08.2008)

The next edition of ICFRE e-parivartan solicits your views on the process of change envisaged by the institution.

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