

## **Gp-One Initiative at Chamarajanagara District, Karnataka State**

### **I. Preamble**

Gp-One is basically an idea that grew out of the urge to serve rural people better. It is modelled on civic service facilities in urban centres of Karnataka like Bangaloreone. Various services like paying the electricity bill, water bills, property tax, applying for various jobs online and so on are provided under one roof for a nominal fee. This eases the life of common man and also aids the revenue collection for the departments. The fast pace of urban life requires such centres for better facilitation.

Unlike urban centres, rural areas pose another challenge for the common man. It is the space, a villager is required to travel longer distances to designated centres or offices to avail various services like paying property tax, clearing electricity bills etc. Due to time required to travel and constraints of day to day work at the field, a villager misses deadline of paying taxes and clearing dues. This in turn affects the revenue of various departments and the government.

Gp-One is a win-win situation. It employs all the available infrastructure present in Gram Panchayat offices like computers, printers and broadband internet. With no additional cost to the government, Gp-One provides various internet enabled services to the rural people. This in turn facilitates better revenue collection for the various governmental agencies. It can also be used as a means of generating additional revenue by collecting a nominal fee on the services provided. The available human resource at the Gram Panchayat are sufficient to run the various services of Gp-One.

Gp-One is an initiative to bridge the digital divide. The common man living in cities can avail better civic facilities with the help of internet driven facilities. Now the internet connectivity has reached rural areas. After the

successful completion of the pilot project at Hangala Gram Panchayath, more Gp-Ones are being opened in Chamarajanagar district. Gp-One is getting positive response from the public now. This is an idea worth replicating in other parts of the country. This programme has the spirit of 'Digital India' in it. It is an initiative that can go a long way in serving the rural people by employing internet enabled facilities.

## **II. Establishment of Gp-One service centre:**

This initiative is established at Hangala Gram Panchayath at first stage. It is envisioned that the service is open for any person who wants to have access at nominal charges. For services like mobile currency recharges, electricity bill payments, DTH recharges are free.

The following are the list of services available at Gp-One:

- 1) Payment of asset tax – house and site of the home panchayat.
- 2) Payment of Water tax – general and special of the home panchayat.
- 3) Payment of insurance premium – vehicle and life.
- 4) Payment of Electricity bill.
- 5) Payment of land line phone bill.
- 6) Availing / purchase of all mobile currencies/DTH currencies.
- 7) Payment of various license fee of the home panchayat.
- 8) Applying for Adhar and EPIC card corrections/modifications.
- 9) Online booking of bus/railway/air tickets.
- 10) Availing ration card.
- 11) Availing Sakala Services.
- 12) Facility to apply for various government posts online.
- 13) Fund transferring facilities to all nationalized/prominent private banks.
- 14) Online services of student scholarship facilities of the Karnataka State government departments.

**III. Purpose and Priorities of the initiative:**

- 1) Electricity problem in Rural areas is bridged by adopting solar energy at Gram Panchayath.
- 2) To provide internet enabled services to a common man in rural areas that are commonly available in urban centres.
- 3) To enable a common man in a village to have barrier free access to various internet enabled services like payment of utility services like phone bill, electricity bill etc.,
- 4) To cut down the cost and time of a rural common man by providing this service at his door step.
- 5) To enable a common man to have access to various facilities like online bus, rail and flight ticket booking.
- 6) To create spaces for accessing important services like processing Adhar Card corrections, EPIC card corrections enabling speedy service.
- 7) To provide multiple services under one roof, thus cutting the time and cost invested by common man.
- 8) To allow rural people to enjoy the fruits of internet enabled services thus improving their quality of life.

**IV. Regarding Gp-One service Centre:**

- 1) Creating awareness about the availability of the Gp-One services at platforms like Gram Sabhas, various fairs etc.,
- 2) Wide publication in media – print, electronic etc.,
- 3) Wide publication about the service at Bandipur Wildlife Sanctuary, which is visited by thousands of tourists round the year.
- 4) Wide publicity by utilizing traditional facilities like TOM TOM etc.,
- 5) Keeping the Gp-One open from 8AM to 7PM on all working days, from 8AM to 11AM on all holidays.

6) The following is the list of services availed at Gp-One in the last 6 months (October 2015 to March 31 2016)

Sl.No	Name of the service	Numbered availed
1	Mobile/ DTH currency recharge	51
2	Aadhar modification/correction application	42
3	EPIC card modification/correction application	10
4	Online booking of bus/railway/air tickets	04
5	Online fund transfer	01
6	Payment of asset tax	140
7	Payment of water tax	98

**V. Extension of Gp-One Services to other Grama panchayaths**

1. Terakanambi
2. Shindanapura
3. Beguru
4. Heggotara
5. Chandakavadi
6. Venkataiahnachathra

**VI. Conclusion:**

1. By Extending the IT Based Services to Rural people fulfils the aim of "DIGITAL INDIA".
2. This concept is going to become very popular among the Rural People.
3. This facility is very helpful for the rural people by saving their precious time and money.
4. Even illiterate rural people can avail this facility at their door step through their elected member of the local body.

