



CAGS-Common People's Access To Government Schemes

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Abstract - Every month, every year, every five years, the Government of India is introducing a lot of schemes for the welfare of its people. But are these really reaching the intended person or is it that the intermediaries are taking advantage, remains a question mark even today with all kinds of development in Information Technology. This paper proposes an efficient way to make sure these schemes fulfil their real purposes, of them being launched. In this paper we have come out with a solution to create awareness among the people providing information about government schemes using a kiosk machine. The main purpose is to make sure this information reaches even the people who can barely get access to the internet at their homes. The user must login using their Aadhaar card number upon which they'll be shown all the schemes for which they are eligible and also a detailed description of schemes.

Keywords - Kiosk, Government schemes, E-Government, Aadhaar card, OTP(One time Password).

I.INTRODUCTION

It is no doubt that welfare of the people must be the primary concern of any democratic country. People as a resource is one of the major assets for a developing nation like India which can enormously benefit from developing technological solutions to different problems. The problem addressed here is that not every resident/citizen is benefitted from different government schemes because of certain problems like:

- Undetermined on which scheme to choose.
- Lack of knowledge about the schemes.
- Lots of information creating confusion.
- Uncertainty about the working of these schemes.

These are the primary concerns for implementation of schemes in urban areas and turn to be worse in case of rural areas. A kiosk machine provides a platform that can be established anywhere and made available to every person placed either in a city or a village. Any computer system can be turned into a kiosk using a kiosk software that displays interfaces to establish interaction between the people and the government.

Schemes are either announced by the central government or by the corresponding state governments. Every scheme has its own set of guidelines, objectives, scope, implementation technique, etc. The main idea behind the proposal is to enable each and every individual to explore on their own and arrive at a proper decision and to get benefitted from these schemes. In later versions of this machine, more government services can be deployed on this kiosk.

Even with a multitude of schemes being announced and in existence the response/result is not up to the mark. Thus, technology is used to bridge this gap between the citizen's dilemma and choosing the appropriate scheme according to their needs. Kiosks are generally small structures with a computer and a display screen used to display information and this method is simple, cost-effective and easy to set up.

II. EXISTING OPERATION OF GOVERNMENT SCHEMES

____ Since the pre-independence era the concept of schemes or developmental programs are present. Until now new schemes are being introduced and existing ones are being corrected. Earlier days when there was not much use of media, the people were totally unaware of these schemes and they had to approach the government offices for knowing it in detail. Later it was conveyed through the use of newspapers, even then they had to approach some government official to check their eligibility and current status. Now with the use of the internet everything is available online. A particular website can provide us the information about that scheme related to a particular ministry. Unfortunately people are unaware of it and are often being misled by the intermediate person. The Press Information Bureau (PIB) which is the Government of India's nodal agency circulates information on government programmes, policies, achievements and initiatives. It operates as an interface between the media and the Government. PIB spreads details through various modes of communication via feature articles, press notes, press releases, backgrounders, photographs and databases available on the Bureau's website. Central sector schemes are predominantly developed on subjects from the Union List. Few schemes are implemented in States/UTs by the Central Ministries directly which are known as Central Sector Schemes but details under these Schemes are not transferred to States generally.

Drawbacks:

One of the major drawbacks is that all the schemes are not available in a particular website.

Even though present separately, they still don't reach the person in need. Neither are the people aware of these.

There is a lot of confusion over choosing a particular scheme since various eligibility criteria is to be checked.

Inefficiency of manpower since there are a lot of schemes launched and it becomes impossible to check each person's eligibility against these.

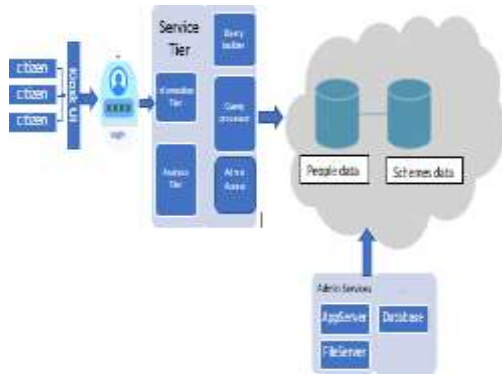
III. PROPOSED SYSTEM

To solve the issues with the existing system we've proposed a solution named CAGS(Common People's Access to Government Schemes)that helps to disseminate information on government schemes / programmes to the public through a kiosk software. It functions as an interface between Government and the people with a wider coverage and ease to avail benefits. The implementation of Kiosk software is user-friendly and very simple to use. The main objectives of this system are to ensure transparency of information of all the welfare schemes, the middlemen don't take advantage, to create awareness, make people in charge to be held responsible by the people and to ensure only the intended beneficiaries are benefited from this CAGS would therefore act as a system to provide service to the people in the domain of government schemes. CAGS has all the information related to the schemes that are being launched and is widely accessible by all the people. The users may interact with the system to find the schemes for which they are eligible.

To login to the system the user must input their Aadhaar number and phonenumber through the user interface. The authentication server will get the information, generate an OTP and send it to the linked mobile number of the user. After verification, the details of the user are passed on to the web server that has a direct connection to the database in the cloud. The user's attributes are now matched with specific eligibility criteria of different schemes. If all the criteria are satisfied for a particular scheme then, the web server fetches the information that has to be displayed in the user-interface. The user is shown all the schemes for which he/she is eligible and also provided with a detailed description of schemes called scheme profile.

IV. ARCHITECTURE AND PROCESSFLOW

There are two main challenges with the CAGS system. First one is the collection and storage of data from different government sources both for the schemes and Aadhaar details of individuals. Enormous amount of data is present with each department of the government that has to be organized properly. The second most important challenge is the prediction of schemes after accurately analysing the data.



The layered architecture of CAGS ensures communication between the components. The presentation tier has the user interface to get input and deliver desired output to the person in user understandable format. Service tier takes the input from the user, makes logical decisions and executes the processes.

Entity	Attributes	Description
Scheme	Scheme name, Ministry/Dept., Eligibility criteria, time period, etc	These are the welfare schemes that are launched by the government along with the eligibility criteria.
Beneficiary	Aadhaar number, Name, Address, contact no., date of birth, caste, income, occupation, etc	Details of the people with certain attributes to match with the eligibility criteria.

Table 1: Two different entities

Analysis tier performs all the selection related tasks for choosing the appropriate scheme for the user. Content Access is needed for storing and retrieving data from the cloud. Data and information are located in the content tier(in our case, cloud). The service tier, Analysis tier and the Content Access tier forms the logic under which the whole system functions.

Two different entities(Table 1) are taken into consideration for the study of our system i.e., Scheme and Beneficiary wherein schemes are the welfare schemes launched by the government and Beneficiary contains the eligibility criteria and information related to the intended beneficiary.

V. IMPLEMENTATION

The user first gives input through the user interface of the application either as a normal visitor or an administration. This application is hosted in kiosk software in a computer that makes it function like an independent kiosk machine.

A normal visitor has no access to others information nor do they have permission to make any changes to the system. They can verify their identity in the first step and later check for their eligible schemes. But in case of Administrator Login, the person has to login with a user name and a password and the admin can make changes to the system or the records present. The administrator can add/delete a scheme or alter details of the individual.

VI.

Centralized information sharing is used i.e., information shared in the cloud that enables many simultaneous logins and provides output to different segments of users. For relational databases MySQL is implemented which is later hosted in Cloud SQL using Database Migration Service(DMS).

VII. CONCLUSION

Kiosk is used to guide people without any specialised skill or knowledge and our system is designed in such a manner to act as a platform for sharing of information related to government schemes and also to analyse and report the eligible schemes. This ensures transparency of information and directs various departments to pass on the scheme benefits to the people who are really in need, for whom they were intended to be launched. The higher officials are held responsible as this creates awareness among the people about the schemes that are being launched and their eligibility to those schemes.

The kiosk machine works as a service providing agent that ensures one-to-one communication between the government and its citizens. It also reduces human labour and human errors and provides for greater satisfaction of the public.

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