

GENERAL INFORMATION SERVICE OF NATIONAL INFORMATICS

Introduction

In this era of information, right to information is vital. To collect data about various walks of life, churning them into useful information is a gigantic task. In view of the availability of NICNET throughout the country including all states and districts and with the advent of Internet, reaching the people with information (and vice versa) is no more a dream. The General Information Service Terminal of National Information Centre (GISTNIC) is a national project, meeting the challenges of data collection, moulding it as useful information and making it available for public access.

Objectives of Gistnic

The objectives of GISTNIC initiated by the National Information Centre are:

1. Offer online general information/database services to common public by deriving useful information from various existing databases and other information sources.
2. Act as a NICNET/Internet based communication channel for the Government to assist in disseminating important development information to common public.
3. Popularize informatics culture into the life style of common public for improving quality of life.

Pre-Internet Era

GISTNIC was available throughout the country through NICNET, the first ever Governmental communications network and at specially designed GISTNIC booths that are strategically located at secretariats, legislative assemblies, libraries, airports, hotels etc offering online information services such as:

- Statistical profile of India.
- District Level Economic Indicators
- District Profiles
- University Education Guide of India
- Tourist Guide of India
- All India Railway Time-Table
- Hotel Guide of India
- General Information Guide
- All India Hospital Directory
- Country Profiles
- Work Economy Tables
- Industrial Directory of India
- Employment Guide
- Investment Guide

GISTNIC was first made available on the NEC-1000 mainframe system over NICNET. Upon invoking GISTNIC a Main Menu was displayed. One can select any one of the displayed service guides. For example, one can select Tourist Guide by selecting the Tourist Guide by number and pressing Return key. Further selections of the sub-means are made to furnish other details.