

## Chapter III

### Infrastructure, Organization and Management of DBT in the State

*Audit Objective 2: Whether the infrastructure, organization and management of DBT were adequate and effective*

DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi issued guidelines for establishment of State DBT cells. The State DBT cell shall primarily work towards co-ordinating the implementation of DBT in various schemes and act as a nodal point for all the activities and matters related to DBT operations in the State. Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi vide DO letter of even number dated 12<sup>th</sup> May 2016 requested all states & UTs to set up a “**State DBT Cell**” that would co-ordinate efforts for DBT on boarding exercise of the Central Schemes and to provide an opportunity to the States to adopt the DBT framework in the State-run schemes as well.

As informed (July 2020) by Planning (Institutional Finance) Department, Government of Rajasthan, the State DBT Cell was constituted in the State under the Bhamashah Scheme and Secretary, Planning Department was nominated as Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for DBT in Oct 2016.

#### 3.1 State DBT Portal and integration with DBT Bharat portal

As per Joint Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi letter No. D-20011/02/2017-DBT (Cab) dated 11 May 2017 addressed to the states, the process of DBT on boarding entails digitization of beneficiaries’ database, Aadhaar seeding and preparation of scheme specific Management Information System (MIS). Priority items requiring immediate action included creation of State Portal on DBT Bharat portal<sup>53</sup>, generation of scheme specific code, reporting savings from DBT implementation and key DBT initiatives at the state level. In order to achieve the said task, the State DBT cells require sufficient skill set and a coordination mechanism with various departments.

Scrutiny of records of the state DBT cell revealed that the State DBT Portal was not created on DBT Bharat portal. However, the Planning department stated (July 2021) that Jan-Aadhaar platform (previously *Bhamashah* portal) is being used as the State DBT Portal for Rajasthan. Further, 164 schemes were notified under Bhamashah Act (replaced with Jan-Aadhaar Act). All these schemes are

---

<sup>53</sup> [www.dbtbharat.gov.in](http://www.dbtbharat.gov.in)

being managed through the scheme portals operated by the respective Departments. On the Jan-Aadhaar portal, the information of only 59 schemes<sup>54</sup> out of these 164 schemes was available.

It was noticed that Jan-Aadhaar portal of the state is not integrated with the DBT Bharat portal. Even though certain information regarding central schemes involving DBT pertaining to Rajasthan is being made available on the DBT Bharat portal, information regarding state DBT schemes is not available on the portal. Further, even on Jan-Aadhaar portal, important scheme-wise details of the state DBT schemes such as number of beneficiaries, amount of benefit transfer per beneficiary, month-wise/year-wise DBT transfers, and savings due to DBT etc. are not available. It was also noticed that the limited scheme data available on the state DBT Portal is not updated in real time.

Regarding lack of real time scheme data on the portal, the Department informed (December 2020) that currently the data pertaining to different schemes is uploaded on the portal by Department of Information and Technology from time to time and efforts are being made by the cell for real time updating of data by the concerned departments.

It is pertinent to note that shortcomings in this regard have led to Rajasthan's poor score in the indices of the DBT performance rankings<sup>55</sup> of States/UTs such as 'Portal compliance', 'Data Reporting', 'Savings reporting compliance' and 'Savings expenditure ratio' leading to Rajasthan being at the 18<sup>th</sup> rank among 36 states/UTs with a score of 57.5 out of 100.

The State Government accepted the facts and replied (August 2021) that State DBT portal has been linked with DBT Bharat portal and the performance of Rajasthan in DBT performance rankings would improve when the data of DBT schemes would be provided on DBT Bharat portal. Regarding non-availability of real time and complete information of DBT schemes on State DBT Portal, the Government accepted the fact and informed that efforts are being made in that direction. Further progress in this regard is awaited (December 2021).

Unavailability of real time information of all the schemes on the State DBT portal limits the utility and relevance of the information available on the portal.

## 3.2 Constitution of Advisory Board

As per the guidelines issued for State DBT cell by DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi, an '**Advisory Board**' may be constituted as a parallel body to the state-level DBT Cell. It shall comprise representatives from various

---

<sup>54</sup> As of 16 July 2021

<sup>55</sup> <https://dbtbharat.gov.in/state/state-ranking>

enablers and stakeholders of DBT like all the government departments which run schemes which fall under the purview of DBT, UIDAI, State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC), IT Team, NIC, NPCI, Telecom Service Providers (TSPs), etc. This Board may also include representation from multi-lateral agencies like World Bank, Asian Development Bank (ADB) etc. for bringing in their technical competence to the operation of state DBT cell. The main role of this body would be to provide holistic, well-rounded advisory and consulting inputs to the executive body of the state DBT cell. This body may meet once in a quarter or at any other regular interval, as deemed fit.

Audit scrutiny revealed that Advisory Board as envisaged in the guidelines has not been constituted in the State.

The State Government accepted the facts and replied (August 2021) that State DBT cell is functioning both as State DBT cell and the Advisory board and that the constitution of a separate State Advisory Board is in progress. As per the information provided by the Department (October 2021), the DBT State Advisory Board has been constituted by the State Government under the chairmanship of the Chief Secretary and with the participation of State level Bankers Committee, NIC, National Payments Corporation of India, TSPs, World Bank, ADB etc.

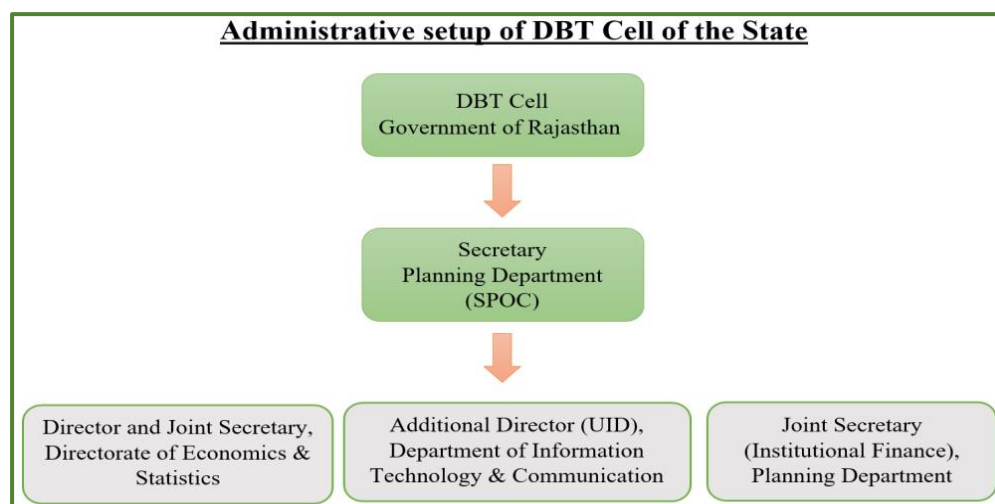
### **3.3 Functioning of the State DBT cell**

As per Guidelines for State DBT Cell issued by DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi for State DBT cell, Principal Secretary (Planning/IT/Finance) or equivalent level officer can be nominated as the state DBT co-ordinator, who shall act as the nodal officer for DBT related matters of the State. In addition, an Implementation Support Layer in DBT Cell must be constituted consisting of three coordinators who will be responsible for Technical, Non-technical and Finance/Admin support to the Cell's operations and may be Director or Officer on Special Duty (OSD) rank personnel.

Technical support coordinator was to provide IT support for implementing DBT in the different schemes and function as a research unit in developing scheme/department-specific ICT applications. Further, the responsibilities of the non-technical support included facilitating training and capacity building of state officials regarding DBT.

The administrative setup of the State DBT cell is as follows:

**Chart 4**



During audit it was noticed (December 2020) that GoR informed the Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi (October 2016) that Secretary (Planning Department), Government of Rajasthan was nominated as Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for DBT related matters of the state. However, during scrutiny of records, it was noticed that Joint Secretary (Institutional Finance, Planning Department) was working as SPOC (December 2020). It was also noticed that State DBT cell is not involved in development of scheme/department-specific ICT applications and the development of such applications is being handled by the concerned Departments. Further, the scrutiny of records (December 2020) revealed that training /seminar/workshop for capacity building of State officials have not been organized.

The State Government replied (August 2021) that Secretary, Planning department of the State is the State DBT co-ordinator and acts as the nodal officer for DBT related matters of the State. However, as per the records Joint Secretary (Institutional Finance, Planning Department) was working as SPOC for DBT related matters of the state. Regarding the lack of training/seminar/workshop, the State Government replied (September 2021) that training programs for the relevant departments had been organised on 10.04.2019, 19.09.2020 and 30.01.2020. The State Government further informed that a seminar/workshop with the relevant departments regarding DBT was organised on 15.09.2021 and a training program with all the departments has been scheduled from 27.09.2021 to 10.10.2021.

However, scrutiny (September 2021) of the relevant records revealed that all these were review meetings where progress in the implementation of DBT was assessed and further directions were given. The fact remains that steps for capacity building of the officers/officials regarding DBT have not been taken by the State Government.

***Summing up***

Jan-Aadhaar platform, serving as the State DBT portal, lacks effective linking with the DBT Bharat portal and does not contain important scheme details of the State DBT schemes such as number of beneficiaries in a scheme, amount transferred to the beneficiaries, month-wise/year-wise DBT transfers, savings due to DBT, etc. leading to Rajasthan's poor score in the DBT performance rankings. Advisory Board to provide holistic, well-rounded advisory and consulting inputs to the executive body of the state DBT cell had not been constituted in the state. Training, workshop, seminar and capacity building programmes for the officials have not been organised.

***Recommendations***

*The State Government may:*

- *ensure the availability of scheme-wise information of all DBT schemes in the state on the State DBT portal and its proper linking with the DBT Bharat portal;*
- *make provision of expert technical support to enable State DBT cell to effectively function as nodal point for DBT related matters of the state as envisaged.*