

Xavier University Bhubaneswar
University Dialogue Series (UDS)

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Venue: Class Room 12

**Role of Technology in Addressing Challenges of Governance and Development:
The Case of e-Uparjan**

Speakers:

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Role of technology in governance and development has been an area of discourse that has generated a renewed interest among practitioners and policy makers to address the challenges of sustainable development. This essay explores the possibility of an interlinkage between the attributes of technology, governance, and development through a technology enabled procurement system – e-Uparjan – rolled out in Madhya Pradesh in end



of 2010. The improvisation using a low-cost information and communication technology (ICT) has played a critical role to streamline the procurement operations and secure farmer payoff under the price support scheme. e-Uparjan can be seen as a case of digital inclusion of farmers and state agencies in foodgrains procurement. The faster and near real-time information flow in the decision support system has potential to reduce the chances of fund leakage, transaction costs and mitigate the rent seeking behaviour of actors along the value chain.

Key Words: Technology, Governance, Development, Madhya Pradesh.

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