

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2521
ANSWERED ON – 10/08/2023

DIGITISATION OF COURT RECORDS

2521 SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state: -

- (a) the State-wise details of digitisation of court records in High Courts and district courts;
- (b) whether it is a fact that there has been a delay in the digitisation of court records in the country;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether the Central Government has prescribed any format to ensure uniform digitisation of court records?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE
(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)**

(a): High Court wise details of digitization are enclosed at Annexure I.

(b) to (d): As part of the National eGovernance Plan, the eCourts Mission Mode Project is under implementation for ICT development of the Indian Judiciary based on the “National Policy and Action Plan for Implementation of Information and Communication Technology in the Indian Judiciary”. It is being implemented by Department of Justice in association with eCommittee Supreme Court of India. Its vision is to transform the judicial system of the country by ICT enablement of courts and to enhance the judicial productivity, both qualitatively & quantitatively, making the justice delivery system accessible, cost effective, reliable, and transparent. Phase I of the eCourts project was implemented between 2011-2015. It was largely aimed at procuring and installing hardware and providing network connectivity. 14,249 courts were computerised under this phase. Phase II of the project

extended from 2015-2023 and it was focused towards providing citizen centric services like eFiling, ePayment, eCourts Mobile app, virtual courts, video conferencing, etc. 18,735 District & Subordinate courts were computerized under this phase. Till the end of Phase-II, 73.45Crore pages of court records in various High Courts were digitized. Building upon the gains of Phase I and Phase II, Phase III of eCourts Project has been planned that envisages establishment of fully functional eSewa Kendras in all court complexes, implementation of paperless courts, and use of emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning,etc. The Government of India has announced Rs.7000 crore as the budgetary outlay for eCourts Phase III that includes a provision for digitization of an additional 3108 crore pages which includes all legacy records and pending cases. A sub-committee has been constituted by eCommittee, Supreme Court of India for preparing a Digital Preservation Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for scanning, storage, retrieval, digitization of court records and preservation of legacy data of the judiciary. The SOP was approved in the full body meeting by the eCommittee, Supreme Court of India under the chairmanship of Chief Justice of India, Dr. D.Y. Chandrachud on 21st October 2022. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) of the eCourts Phase III has been prepared and the Expenditure Finance Committee in its meeting held on 23.02.2023 has approved the eCourts Phase III with a total outlay of Rs.7210 crore. Further, the Empowered Technology Group chaired by the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Prime Minister in its meeting held on 21.06.2023 has recommended the eCourts Phase III for approval of the Cabinet.

ANNEXURE I

Statement referred to in reply of part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2521 for 10/08/2023 regarding Digitisation of court records. The progress of digitization of court records is as under:

High Court wise Status of Current Digitization		
Sr. No.	High Court Location	Total Number of Digitized pages
1	Calcutta High Court West Bengal	1,22,00,000
2	Allahabad High Court	19,68, 00,000
3	Delhi High Court, New Delhi	17,90,00,000
4	Andhra Pradesh High Court	Not Available
5	Guwahati High Court, Assam	2,92,17,338
6	High Court of Himachal Pradesh	75,34,000
7	Gauhati High Court Kohima Bench	2,80,000
8	Gauhati High Court Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh	0
9	Chhattisgarh High Court	Not Available
10	Gujarat High Court	Not Available
11	High Court of Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur	15,40,00,000
12	High Court Meghalaya Shillong	0
13	Gauhati High Court, Aizwal Bench, Mizoram	29,867
14	Orissa High Court, Cuttack, Odisha	1,22,00,000
15	High Court of Sikkim, Gangtok	6,83,861
16	Madras High Court, Chennai	50,98,000
17	High Court of Telangana, Hyderabad	4,01,50,753
18	High Court of Uttarakhand, Nainital	1,32,00,000
19	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh High Court	Not Available
20	Bombay High Court	0
21	Daman Diu High Court	0
22	High Court Jharkhand, Ranchi	5,50,00,000
23	High Court of Karnataka	1,13,22,389
24	Manipur High Court	16,40,855
25	Rajasthan High Court	1,61,00,000
		73,44,57,063