GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4229 TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 21st MARCH, 2018

e-Courts Mission Mode Project

4229. SHRI D. K. SURESH:

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

- (a) the status of implementation of e-Courts Mission Mode Project in the country;
- (b) whether the Government has achieved the target set for e-Courts Mission Mode Project in the country and if so, the details thereof,
- (c) the details of the total number of e-Courts set up in the country till date; and
- (d) the details of total allocation made and spent on the said project in the country till date for the last three years?

ANSWER MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW & JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): The Government is implementing the e-Courts Mission Mode Project throughout the country for Information and Communication Technology enablement of district and subordinate courts. The eCourts Mission Mode Project Phase I was implemented during 2011 - 2015 wherein Rs. 251 crores was released for computerisation of district and subordinate courts. At the end of Phase-I, out of the total target of computerisation of 14,249 district and subordinate courts, sites for all 14,249 courts (100%) were made ready for computerisation, out of which LAN was installed at 13,643 courts, hardware provided in 13,436 courts and software was installed in 13,672 courts. Laptops were provided to 14,309 judicial officers and change management exercise was completed in all the High Courts. Over 14,000 Judicial Officers were trained in the use of UBUNTU-Linux Operating System and more than 4000 court staff have been trained in Case Information System (CIS) as System Administrators. Video Conferencing facility was operationalised between 488 court complexes and 342 corresponding jails.

Under the Phase II of the Project (2015-19), Rs. 936.98 crores has been released till date against the financial outlay of Rs.1670 crores. Computerisation of 16,089 district and subordinate courts has been completed, through provisioning of computer hardware, Local Area Network (LAN), and installation of standard application software.

The details of computerised district and subordinate courts under various High Courts are as under:

| S. No. | Name of the High Court | No. of computerised subordinate |
|--------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | courts |
| 1. | Allahabad | 1733 |
| 2. | Andhra Pradesh | 1078 |
| 3. | Bombay | 2079 |
| 4. | Calcutta | 772 |
| 5. | Chattisgarh | 340 |
| 6. | Delhi | 427 |
| 7. | Gauhati | 442 |
| 8. | Gujarat | 1108 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 118 |
| . 10. | Jabalpur | 1203 |
| . 11. | Jammu And Kashmir | 218 |
| . 12. | Jharkhand | 351 |
| . 13. | Jodhpur | 978 |
| . 14. | Karnataka | 897 |
| . 15. | Kerala | 486 |
| . 16. | Madras | 988 |
| . 17. | Orissa | 509 |
| . 18. | Patna | 1025 |
| . 19. | Punjab And Haryana | 1018 |
| . 20. | Sikkim | 15 |
| . 21. | Uttarakhand | 185 |
| . 22. | Tripura | 62 |
| . 23. | Manipur | 30 |
| . 24. | Meghalaya | 27 |
| | Total | 16089 |

A new and user-friendly version of Case Information Software (CIS 2.0) has been developed and deployed at all the computerized District and Subordinate Courts. QR Code facility has been made operational in the software. An advance version of CIS NC 3.0 has been made ready for deployment.

Till date, 11 High Courts have migrated to Case Information System National Core version 1.0.

The National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) for District & Subordinate Courts has been created as an online platform which now provides information relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of 16,089 computerized district and subordinate courts of the country. The portal provides online information to litigants such as details of case registration, cause list, case status, daily orders, and final judgments. Currently litigants can access case status information in respect of over 9 crore cases and more than 6 crore orders / judgments. Litigant centric information can be obtained through the eCourts portal (https://ecourts.gov.in). Case information is thus available speedily to the petitioners and respondents. The eCourts portal and National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) also serve as tools of efficient court and case management for judiciary which aids in disposal of pending cases.

Judicial Service Centres (JSC) have been established at all computerized subordinate courts to serve as a single window for filing petitions and applications by litigants/ lawyers, and for obtaining information on ongoing cases and copies of orders and judgments etc. ECourts mobile app with the facility of QR Code was launched on 22.07.2017 for use of litigants and lawyers. Services under different captions viz. Search by CNR, Case Status, Cause List and My Cases are available on this application, which is available on both Google Play and Apple Store.

Furthermore, the facility of providing case information services through SMS has also been implemented and the process of disseminating system-generated SMSs is operational. The case details can also be obtained by sending unique CNR number (Case Number Record) to a mobile number through SMS. Cause lists, judgements, case status etc. can be received in the litigants' mailbox on registration of email address. Information Kiosks have been setup at all computerized court complexes for disseminating judicial information related to cause lists and other case related information to the lawyers and litigants.

An eFiling application to enable the advocates, petitioners-in-person, etc., to file their cases online (at any time) has been launched in December 2017 and has been deployed at Delhi district court and successfully tested at City Civil Court, Mumbai.

During the Phase II, till date, about 109.56 crore electronic transactions have been recorded for eCourts through eTaal portal.

(d) Funds allocated by the Department of Justice for computerization of courts in the country under eCourts Mission Mode Project Phase –II during the last three years are as under:

| Year | Funds released under eCourts Project | Funds spent |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| | for computerization of courts (Rupees | (Rupees in |
| | in crores) | crores) |
| 2015-16 | 210.23 | 195.99 |
| 2016-17 | 357.52 | 176.00 |
| 2017-18 (till date) | 369.23 | 44.45 |