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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1172
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 25th JULY, 2018

Paperless Courts

1172. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWARA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court is considering to become paperless in phases and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is also a fact that in the first five Courts, each Judge will have a computer before him and the Judges will peruse fresh case files on the computer ;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Integrated Court Management Information System is almost ready to help the apex court registry towards implementing its paperless objective and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the time by which entire judiciary would become paperless?

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

(a) Yes, Madam. The Supreme Court is considering to become paperless in phases. Paperless work environment through introduction of E-office in Supreme Court was started in 2013. Supreme Court of India then launched the Integrated Case Management Information System (ICMIS) in 2017 with the introduction of digital filing. Digitized case records can be sent by High Courts to Supreme Court Registry after implementation of Integrated Case Management Information System.

Digitization/scanning of case records, including fresh files/petitions is in progress. With the launch of ICMIS, integration of High Court's Digital Case details with Supreme Court in a two way communication mode has been implemented. Interlinking of all High Courts and Supreme Court with Wide Area Network (WAN) with the implementation of high bandwidth digital MPLS network for facilitating speedy digital data movement and Video Conferences among High courts/Jails in the future will result in speedier movement of e-files and reduction in trial time of cases.

(b) Yes, Madam.   In the first nine Courts of the Supreme Court of India, each Judge can peruse a fresh case file on the computer.

(c) Yes, Madam. The launching of ICMIS is a step towards achieving paperless Supreme Court. The salient features of the system are: web-based case status displaying each movement of the case to lawyers/litigants and all stakeholders time to time, online availability of information, online availability of scanned paper books for judges, file tracking, e-Cause list etc.

(d) The time by which entire judiciary would become paperless cannot be ascertained as it relates to availability of infrastructure, networking, capacity building and digitization of records at respective High Courts and Subordinate Courts.