

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2514
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 1ST AUGUST, 2018

E-Court Facility

2514. SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:
SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:

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

- (a) whether the Government has proposed for installation of E-Court facility in all the courts of the country ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether this initiative will help in transparent and speedy trial of cases; if so, the details thereof, and
- (d) whether any proposal for modernization of courts has also been approved for all the District Courts of Delhi/NCR and if so, the details thereof?

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

(a) & (b) : Yes, Madam. The Government of India is implementing the eCourts Mission Mode Project (Phase-I 2010-14 and Phase-II 2015-19) with a total outlay of Rs.1,670 crore (Phase-II) for communication and information technology enablement of district and subordinate courts across the country in association with the Supreme Court of India. The

steps being taken by the Government to promote the use of technology in the working of the Courts are as under :-

(i) eCourts Mission Mode Project Phase I was implemented during 2011 - 2015; wherein Rs. 639.41 crores were 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, 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 4,000 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.

(ii) Under the Phase II of the Project (2015-19) till date, Rs. 1,073.18 crores have been released 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 in district and subordinate courts.

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 district and subordinate courts
1.	Allahabad	1,733
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1,078

S. No.	Name of the High Court	No. of computerised district and subordinate courts
3.	Bombay	2,079
4.	Calcutta	772
5.	Chattisgarh	340
6.	Delhi	427
7.	Gauhati	442
8.	Gujarat	1,108
9.	Himachal Pradesh	118
10.	Jabalpur	1,203
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	1,025
19.	Punjab And Haryana	1,018
20.	Sikkim	15
21.	Uttarakhand	185
22.	Tripura	62
23.	Manipur	30
24.	Meghalaya	27
	Total	1,6089

(iii) 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.

(iv) 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 10.1 crore cases and more than 6.90 crore orders / judgments.

(v) e-filing application has been developed and is integrated with Case Information Software (CIS 3.0), which is the unified common software across all district and subordinate courts of the country. The pilot testing of e-filing software has been launched in December, 2017 in district and subordinate courts under the jurisdiction of Delhi High Court. e-filing module with e-payment of court fees is ready for courts in the states of Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Punjab and Haryana.

(vi) Judicial Service Centres (JSCs) 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.

(vii) 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.

(viii) Furthermore, the facility of providing case information services through SMS has also been implemented and the process of disseminating system-generated SMSs is operational.

During the Phase II, till date, about 124.98 crore electronic transactions have been recorded for eCourts portal.

(c): Yes, Madam. ICT enablement makes the functioning of courts efficient and transparent, which will have an overall positive impact on the justice delivery system. ICT systems can be used to efficiently organize and allocate the caseload of a judicial officer and his staff and not allowing time consuming cases to be listed on same dates, thereby allowing efficient use of court's time. NJDG's analytical tools play an important role in helping the judicial management in framing rules and monitoring their strict adherence by the courts. NJDG is thus not merely a tool for supervising and organising information from the courts and to promote transparency, it is also a mechanism to undertake electronic case management and to benefit from court automation. Video Conferencing between Courts and Jails for remand proceedings saves judicial time. eCourts facilities in courts thus helps transparent and speedy trial of cases through enabling transparent and efficient court proceedings, digitised case records, automation of workflow management, eliminating delays in transmitting the court orders, better resource management, performance management, and monitoring.

(d) : Yes, Madam. All district and subordinate courts across the country, including those in Delhi/NCR have been approved for modernization under eCourts project. Under the Phase-II of the Project (2015-19) till date, Rs. 20.26 crores have been released to Delhi High Court for computerisation of District and Subordinate Courts under the Delhi High

Court towards procurement of computer hardware including peripherals, establishment of Local Area Network, technical infrastructure such as touch screen kiosks, racks, switches, projectors etc., video conferencing, solar energy, technical manpower, computerisation of District Legal Service Authorities (DLSAs), Taluka Legal Service Committees (TLSCs) and State Judicial Academies.