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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 644 TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 6th FEBRUARY, 2019

E-Network for Courts

644. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:

Will the MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide online facility to people by connecting all the courts with e-network in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the action taken by the Government in this regard so far, and
- (d) the time by which online facilities are likely to be provided to the people by connecting all the courts with e-network in the country?

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

- (a) to (d): Yes, Madam. The Government is implementing the e-Courts Mission Mode Project with the aim of computerisation and connecting district and subordinate courts across the country, in association with the eCommittee of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. The steps being taken by the Government to promote the use of technology and e-network in the working of the district and subordinate courts are as under:
- (i) Establishment of Wide Area Network (WAN) connecting all District and Subordinate court complexes, spread across the country. The

eCourts' WAN project to BSNL. Work order to the tune of Rs. 169 crores has been awarded to BSNL for establishing Wide Area Network (WAN) connecting 2992 district and subordinate court complexes across the country, including 547 court complexes with no connectivity. National Informatics Centre has operationalised an online monitoring tool for tracking real-time progress and monitoring of pan - Indian WAN project against the set baselines. Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) has already been laid at 2364 court complexes so far, out of 2992 project locations.

- (ii) The eCourts Mission Mode Project Phase-I was implemented during 2011 - 2015. 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 was 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 as System Information Administrators in Case System (CIS). Video Conferencing facility was operationalised between court complexes and 342 corresponding jails.
 - (iii) The eCourts Mission Mode Project Phase-II is being implemented for a period of four years (2015-19) or until the project is completed, whichever is later. The target set out under the project are 14,249 courts covered under the first phase, 4,013 new courts and 1,738 expected courts, totaling 20,000 courts. Against the financial outlay of Rs.1,670 crores in the second phase, Rs.1,087 crores have been released, including Rs.931.3 crores to High Courts. Rs.632.3 crore have been utilised by the High Courts.

- (iv) As per information received from eCommittee of Supreme Court of India, 16,845 courts have been computerized till date. The High Court wise details of such district and subordinate courts are at **Annexure**<u>I.</u>
 - (v) All the district and subordinate courts computerized under eCourts project have been linked to National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), which is a common repository of case records across the country. The portal also provides online information to citizens including 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 10.97 crore cases.
 - (vi) E-Courts 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. The application can be downloaded both from Google Play or Apple Store.
 - (vii) Furthermore, the facility of providing case information services through SMS has also been implemented and the process of disseminating system-generated SMSs is operational.
 - (viii) During the Phase II, till date, 172.75 crore electronic transactions have been recorded for eCourts through eTaal portal.
 - (ix) Integration of eCourts Services through Common Service Centers (CSC) has been successfully completed, and this has enabled the eCourt CNR Service through Digital Seva Portal in all Common Service Center (CSC) locations across the country.

S. No.	Name of the High Court	Number of computerised district and subordinate		
		courts		
1.	Allahabad	2,072		
2.	Andhra Pradesh & Telangana	1,078		
3.	Bombay	2,079		
4.	Calcutta	811		
5.	Chhattisgarh	357		
6.	Delhi	427		
7.	Gauhati	496		
8.	Gujarat	1,108		
9.	Himachal Pradesh	119		
10.	Jammu And Kashmir	218		
11.	Jharkhand	351		
12.	Karnataka	897		
13.	Kerala	486		
14.	Madras	1,032		
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1,293		
16.	Manipur	37		
17.	Meghalaya	39		
18.	Orissa	534		
19.	Patna	1,025		
20.	Punjab And Haryana	1,018		
21.	Rajasthan	1,094		
22.	Sikkim	19		
23.	Uttarakhand	186		
24.	Tripura	69		
	Total	16,845		