

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2776
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 17th MARCH 2023**

Functional e-Courts

**2776. SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:
SHRI RAJVEER SINGH (RAJUBHAIYA):
DR. SUKANTA MAJUMDAR:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA KUMARI SINGH DEO:
DR. JAYANTA KUMAR ROY:
SHRI RAJA AMARESHWARA NAIK:
SHRI JAYANT SINHA:
SHRI KRIPANATH MALLAH:
SHRI BHOLA SINGH:
DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY:**

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

- (a) the salient features of the e-Courts Mission Mode Project;
- (b) the status of implementation of the project and the number of operational e-Courts in the country, State-wise and district-wise;
- (c) the details of the number of e-Courts functional cross the country and the details of the funds sanctioned, allocated and utilized for this project during the last three years and the current year across the country, State-wise including Tamil Nadu;
- (d) the details of the targets set and achievements made under the e-Courts Mission thereof during the said period;
- (e) the number of cases disposed off by thee-Courts during last five years;
- (f) whether the Government has proposed to launch phase-3 of the e-Courts project for efficient administration of justice, if so, the details thereof along with the funds allocated and targets set there under; and
- (g) the steps taken by the Government in popularizing and simplifying the procedural requirements in e-Courts in the country?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)**

(a) to (d): The Government has launched the eCourts Integrated Mission Mode Project in the country for computerization of District and subordinate courts with the objective of improving access to justice using technology. As part of the National eGovernance Plan, the project is under implementation since 2007 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”. eCourts project is being implemented in association with e-Committee Supreme Court of India and Department of Justice. Phase I of the project was implemented during 2011-2015. Phase II of the project started in 2015 under which 18,735 District & Subordinate courts have been computerised so far. The salient features of the e-Courts mission mode projects include:

- Providing IT infrastructure to new courts as well as to existing courts and to provide additional hardware for the courts covered in phase I
- Replacement of the obsolete Laptops provided to judicial officers in Phase-I and provisioning of Laptops and other IT facilities to new judicial officers
- Installation of VC equipment in Courts and Jails
- Provision of laptops, printers, UPS and connectivity to judicial Officers not covered under Phase I and replacement of obsolete hardware provided to Judicial Officers under Phase I
- Installation of hardware in Judicial Academies and training labs
- Computerisation of District Legal Service Authority (DLSA) and Taluka Legal Services Committees (TLSC)
- Cloud connectivity in all Court Complexes
- Connecting all courts in the country through WAN
- Solar energy equipment to 5% of the court complexes in order to provide sustained power availability
- Installation and operation of e-Office, Document Management System, Learning Tools Management System and Judicial Knowledge Management System and Localisation Project Management Framework for all courts in the country
- Software development for eCourts Phase II
- Change Management initiatives for training, outreach campaign and awareness programmes to stakeholders

The detailed break-up of operational e-Courts in the country has been attached in Annexure-I. Funds released during the last three years for infrastructure development of e-Courts are given in Annexure-II. The details of the targets of phase II of eCourts Project has been attached in Annexure III. In the eCourts Project the Government has taken the following initiatives to make justice accessible and available for all: -

- i. Under the Wide Area Network (WAN) Project, connectivity has been provided to 99.4% (2976 out of earmarked 2994) of total Court Complexes across India with 10 Mbps to 100 Mbps bandwidth speed.
- ii. National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) is a database of orders, judgments, and cases, created as an online platform under the eCourts Project. It provides information relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of all computerized district and subordinate courts of the country. Litigants can access case status information in respect of over 22.38 crore cases and more than 20.83 crore orders / judgments (as on 01.03.2023).
- iii. As part of eCourts project, 7 platforms have been created to provide real time information on case status, cause lists, judgements etc. to lawyers/Litigants through SMS Push and Pull (2,00,000 SMS sent daily), Email (2,50,000 sent daily), multilingual and tactile eCourts services Portal (35 lakh hits daily), JSC (Judicial Service centres) and Info Kiosks. In addition, Electronic Case Management Tools (ECMT) have been created with Mobile App for lawyers (total 1.64 cr. downloads till 31st January 2023) and JustIS app for judges (18,407 downloads till 31st December 2022).
- iv. 21 Virtual Courts in 17 States/UTs have been operationalized to handle traffic challan cases. More than 2.53 crore cases have been handled by 21 virtual courts and in more than 33 lakhs (33,57,972) cases online fine of more than Rs. 359.34 crore has been realized till 31.01.2023.
- v. The Supreme Court of India emerged as a global leader by conducting 4,02,937 hearings (till 31.01.2023 since the beginning of lockdown period). The High Courts (77,67,596 cases) and Subordinate Courts (1,84,95,235 cases) have conducted 2.62 crore virtual hearings till 31.01.2023.
- vi. New e-filing system (version 3.0) has been rolled out for the electronic filing of legal papers with upgraded features. Draft eFiling rules have been formulated and circulated to the High Courts for adoption. A total of 19 High Courts have adopted the model rules of e-Filing as on 31.01.2023.
- vii. e-Filing of cases requires the option for electronic payment of fees which includes court fees, fines and penalties which are directly payable to the Consolidated Fund. A total of 20 High Courts have implemented e-payments in their respective jurisdictions. The Court Fees Act has been amended in 22 High Courts till 31.12.2022.
- viii. To bridge the digital divide, 689eSewaKendras have been rolled out with the intention of facilitating the lawyer or litigant who needs any kind of assistance ranging from information to facilitation and eFiling.

- ix. National Service and Tracking of Electronic Processes (NSTEP) has been launched for technology enabled process serving and issuing of summons. It has currently been implemented in 28 States/ UTs.
- x. A new “Judgment Search” portal has been started with features such as search by Bench, Case Type, Case Number, Year, Petitioner/ Respondent Name, Judge Name, Act, Section, Decision: From Date, To Date and Full Text Search. This facility is being provided free of cost to all.
- xi. To make effective use of database created through National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) and to make the information available to public 39 LED Display Message Sign Board System called Justice Clocks, have been installed in 25 High Courts.

(e): As per the data available on NJDG the number of cases disposed during last five years are as follows:-

Year	Total Cases Instituted	Total Cases Disposed
2022	21853647	19521570
2021	18161344	14568227
2020	12577604	7731987
2019	16893238	14951046
2018	15225544	13250054

(f): The phase II of the project is nearing its completion and DPR for e-Courts Phase III has been finalized and approved by eCommittee, Supreme Court of India on 21st October 2022. The meeting of the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) was held on 23.02.2023. Other, requisite approvals of eCourts Project Phase-III are at advance stage.

(g): Courts procedures are an administrative matter which strictly comes under the domain of judiciary in which the government has no direct role to play.

To popularize eCourts in the country, the eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India has conducted 117 trainings and awareness programmes on the ICT services provided under the eCourts project. These programmes have covered nearly 5,13,080 stakeholders, including High Court Judges, Judges of the District Judiciary, Court Staff, Master Trainers among Judges/DSA, Technical Staff of High Courts, and Advocates.

Annexure-I

Statement referred to in reply of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.2776 for 17/03/2023 regarding Functional e-Courts. The details of operational eCourts in the country are as under:

S.No	High Court	State	Court Complexes	Courts
1	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	180	2222
2	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	218	617
3	Bombay	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	3
		Daman and Diu	2	2
		Goa	17	39
		Maharashtra	471	2157
4	Calcutta	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4	14
		West Bengal	89	827
5	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh	93	434
6	Delhi	Delhi	6	681
7	Gauhati	Arunachal Pradesh	14	28
		Assam	74	408
		Mizoram	8	69
		Nagaland	11	37
8	Gujarat	Gujarat	376	1268
9	Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh	50	162
10	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh	86	218
11	Jharkhand	Jharkhand	28	447
12	Karnataka	Karnataka	207	1031
13	Kerala	Kerala	158	484
		Lakshadweep	1	3
14	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh	213	1363
15	Madras	Puducherry	4	24
		Tamil Nadu	263	1124
16	Manipur	Manipur	17	38
17	Meghalaya	Meghalaya	7	42
18	Orissa	Odisha	185	686
19	Patna	Bihar	84	1142
20	Punjab & Haryana	Chandigarh	1	30
		Haryana	53	500
		Punjab	64	541
21	Rajasthan	Rajasthan	247	1240
22	Sikkim	Sikkim	8	23
23	Telangana	Telangana	129	476
24	Tripura	Tripura	14	84
25	Uttarakhand	Uttarakhand	69	271
	Total		3452	18735

Annexure-II

Statement referred to in reply of Lok Sabha Question No.2776 for 17/03/2023 regarding Functionale-Courts. The funds released during the last three years for infrastructure development are:

S.No.	High Courts	2019-20		2020-21		2021-22	
		Released (Cr.)	Utilized (Cr.)	Released (Cr.)	Utilized (Cr.)	Released (Cr.)	Utilized (Cr.)
1	Allahabad	15.04	9.00	13.79	5.11	0.00	0.00
2	Andhra Pradesh	0.00	0.00	1.96	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Bombay	0.00	0.00	8.86	7.91	0.00	0.00
4	Calcutta	0.00	0.00	4.93	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Chhattisgarh	4.44	4.40	2.34	2.22	0.00	0.00
6	Delhi	0.00	0.00	3.00	0.63	0.00	0.00
7	Gauhati (Arunachal Pradesh)	0.98	0.98	1.52	0.18	1.26	0.00
8	Gauhati (Assam)	13.68	13.40	6.11	1.78	3.49	3.30
9	Gauhati (Mizoram)	0.51	0.31	0.72	0.35	0.30	0.00
10	Gauhati (Nagaland)	0.70	0.33	0.83	0.18	0.84	0.00
11	Gujarat*	0.00	0.00	3.48	0.83	0.00	0.00
12	Himachal Pradesh	0.00	0.00	2.00	1.24	0.00	0.00
13	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	0.00	0.00	1.00	0.17	0.00	0.00
14	Jharkhand	5.53	0.35	2.98	0.48	0.00	0.00
15	Karnataka	9.15	8.92	4.29	2.49	0.00	0.00
16	Kerala	0.00	0.00	2.83	1.23	1.58	0.00
17	Madhya Pradesh	11.21	5.92	6.28	6.16	0.00	0.00
18	Madras	0.00	0.00	4.73	2.45	0.00	0.00
19	Manipur	0.61	0.36	1.30	0.21	0.76	0.00
20	Meghalaya	0.92	0.09	2.32	0.36	2.23	0.65
21	Orissa	13.46	0.00	3.37	1.63	0.00	0.00
22	Patna	7.08	4.61	5.44	1.67	0.00	0.00
23	Punjab & Haryana	0.00	0.00	4.55	0.64	0.00	0.00
24	Rajasthan	1.29	1.29	10.58	8.99	1.62	1.62
25	Sikkim	1.61	0.68	1.01	0.92	0.77	0.00
26	Telangana	0.00	0.00	1.79	0.00	0.00	0.00
27	Tripura	2.24	1.33	4.44	3.82	0.95	0.46
28	Uttarakhand	0.00	0.00	1.28	0.63	0.00	0.00
Total		88.44	51.97	107.74	52.28	13.80	6.02

*Gujarat High Court surrendered Rs.13.12 Cr. Total utilization included surrendered funds.

Statement referred to in reply of Lok Sabha Question No.2776 for 17/03/2023 regarding Functionale-Courts. The details of year wise targetare as under:

Year Wise targets and financial targets of Phase II of eCourts MMP (Financials in Rs Crores)											
Sl. No.	Component	Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Total Target	Total in Crores
		Physic al	Finan cial	Physic al	Financ ial	Physi cal	Financ ial	Physi cal	Financ ial		
1 (a)	Additional Hardware for 14249 courts (1 + 3 format)	3575	108.8	3550	108.1	7124	216.89	0	0	14249	433.8
1 (b)	Computeris ation of new courts (2+6 format)	1000	54.16	1000	54.16	1000	54.16	1013	54.87	4013	217.4
1 (c)	Compt. Of expected courts (2+6)			0		0		1738	94.14	1738	94.14
2 (a)	Technical infrastru ctur e at existing Court Complexes	1000	88.16	1000	88.16	700	61.71		0	2700	238
2 (b)	Technical infrastru ctur e at new Court Complexes	200	25.63	150	19.22	150	19.22	300	38.45	800	102.5
3 (a)	Replacemen t of obsolete Laptops provided to Judicial Officers in Ph-I	7155	32.43	0	0	0	0	0	0	7155	32.43
3 (b)	Provisionin g of Laptops and other IT facilities to new judicial officers	1800	9.86	1630	8.92	1630	8.92	1631	8.93	6691	36.64
4 (a)	Installation of VC equipments in Courts	1000	11	750	8.25	750	8.25	0	0	2500	27.5
4 (b)	Installation of VC equipments in Jails	300	2.1	300	2.1	200	1.4	0	0	800	5.6
5	Installation of hardwares in Jas TLs	17	3.46	3	0.61	0	0	0	0	20	4.07
6 (a)	Computeris ation of	400	9.15	222	5.08	0	0	0	0	622	14.23

	DLSAs										
6 (b)	Computerisation of TLSCs	0	0	0	0	1168	16.74	1000	14.33	2168	31.08
7	Cloud Connectivity in all CCs		25	0	25	0	23		0	3500	73
8	WAN Connectivity		38.55		77.11		77.11		38.55		231.3
9	Solar Energy in 5% Court Complexes	0	0	58	8.75	58	8.75	58	8.75	175	26.25
10	Software Development		12.33	0	13.46	0	14.71		2.28		42.78
11	Change Management		5		5		5		5		20
12	Judicial Process Reengineering		5		5		5		5		20
13	JKMS		4.82		4.82		4.82		4.82		19.28
14	Service Delivery		0		0		0		0		0
Total as per plan											
			435.5		433.7		525.68		275.12		1670