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

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 5058 TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 31stMARCH, 2023

Webcast of Court Proceedings

5058. SHRI MANOJ KOTAK: SHRIMATI RAKSHA NIKHIL KHADSE:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to provide courts their own platform for the medium of webcast likewise 'You-Tube' for the telecast of proceedings of the Court which has introduced video conferencing and online system put in usages in the wake of COVID Pandemic for two years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government also proposes for filing of the petitions through online portal; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) & (b) :Live streaming of court proceedings is an administrative matter which falls strictly within the purview and domain of the judiciary and Central Government has no direct role in this matter.

Live Streaming of court proceedings has been started in High Courts of Gujarat, Gauhati, Orissa, Karnataka, Jharkhand, Patna, Madhya Pradesh & Hon'ble Supreme Court of India thus allowing lawyers, litigants and other related parties to join the proceedings.

eCourts Phase IIIhas a component of Courtroom Live Audio-visual Streaming System (CLASS) to telecast live court proceedings in 300 court complexes.

(c) & (d): Under eCourts project an e filing system has been rolled out for the electronic filing of legal papers. This allows the lawyers to access and upload documents related to the cases from any location 24X7. The e-filing 3.0 Portal 9th inaugurated April was on 2021 and is accessible on https://filing.ecourts.gov.in. The e-filing portal can also be accessed from eCourts service portal. In the new version, new tab is provided which allows advocates and litigants to record their oath with in-system video recording while uploading documents. The new version has also provided new dashboard which includes Case Filing, Vakalatnama, pleading, e-payments, applications and portfolio. It providesan option to litigant to send offer to the Advocates.

Draft eFiling rules have been formulated and circulated to the High Courts for adoption. A total of 19High Courts have adopted the model rules of e-Filing as on 28.02.2023. A SOP has been formulated by a high-level committee comprising of judges of High Courts for providing a uniform set of guidelines for eFiling in Courts.Also,714eSewa Kendras have been rolled out to bridge the digital divide by providing eFiling services to lawyers and litigants within court complexes.