

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

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 188
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 2nd FEBRUARY, 2024

Expenditure for e-Courts

188. DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI

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

- (a) whether there was any expenditure during the last five years on schemes and programmes for introduction of e-Courts in the country;
- (b) the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF
STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE
(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)**

(a) to (c): The eCourts Mission Mode Project is a national eGovernance project for ICT enablement of district/subordinate courts of the country with a view to facilitate faster disposal of cases by speeding up court processes and providing transparent on-line flow of information on case status, orders/judgments etc. to the judiciary as well as litigants, lawyers and other stakeholders. The eCourts Phase I (2011-15) was aimed at basic computerization of courts and providing local network connectivity under which a total expenditure of Rs.639.41 crore was done. Phase II (2015-2023) of the project focused on citizen-centric e-services besides computerising 18735 courts and interconnecting these with wide area network (WAN). Against the financial outlay of Rs.1670 crore in the

phase II of the project, the Department of Justice has released Rs.1668.43 crore for implementation of the project till 31st March 2022.

The Union Cabinet in its meeting held on 13.09.2023 approved eCourts Phase-III with a budgetary outlay of Rs.7210 crore. Subsequently, Rs. 225 crore has been released for eCourts Phase III by the Ministry of Finance from the Contingency Fund, out of which Rs. 102.50 crore has been allocated to BSNL and NIC and Rs. 110.24 crore has been sub-allocated to various High Courts for scanning and digitization, e-Sewa Kendras, IT Hardware for existing and newly setup courts, solar power backup etc. The details of expenditure during the last five years, phase-wise is attached at Annexure-I.

Annexure-I

Statement referred to in reply of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.188 for 02/02/2024 regarding Expenditure for e-Courts. The details of expenditure during the last five years is;

Year	Fund Allocated(Rs. Crore)	Fund Released(Rs. Crore)
2019-20	180.00	179.26
2020-21	180.00	179.31
2021-22	98.92	98.30
2022-23*	0.00	0.00
2023-2024	825 [#]	212.79**

* For year the 2022-2023 no funds were released as the total outlay of Phase II amounting to Rs. 1670 crore were exhausted and the Detailed Projected Report for Phase –III was under the process of approval.

** Fund released till 10.01.2024.

eCourts Phase-III was approved by the Union Cabinet on 13.09.2023 and Ministry of Finance released Rs. 225 crore from the Contingency Fund of India on 05.10.2023 of which Rs. 102.50crore has been allocated to BSNL and NIC and Rs. 110.24 crore has been allocated to various High Courts. Recently on 08.01.2024 Rs. 600 crore under RE 2023-24 has been received for further allocation to different High Courts as per the plan approved by the eCommittee of Supreme of India.