

**e-Courts Mission Mode project**

1390. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of funds sanctioned and utilised under the second phase of the e-Courts Mission Mode project till date;

(b) the current status of the e-Courts Mission Mode project and the allocated deadline for the project;

(c) the total number of Judicial Officers trained under the project so far, and the targets set out under the project; and

(d) the total number of courts computerised in the country so far and the targets set out under the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) The Government is implementing the e-Courts Mission Mode Project for Communication and Information Technology enablement of district and subordinate courts, across the country in association with the Hon'ble 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) The e-Courts 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 Administrators in Case Information System (CIS). Video Conferencing facility was operationalised between 488 court complexes and 342 corresponding jails.
- (ii) The e-Courts 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. Against the financial outlay of ₹ 1670 crores in the second phase, ₹ 931.31 crores have been released to High Courts and ₹ 616.45 crore have been utilised by the High Courts.

- (iii) The target set out under the project is 20,000 courts. Out of that 14,249 courts have been covered under the first phase.
- (iv) Computerisation of 16,845 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 given in the Statement (*See below*).
- (v) During the Phase II, till date, 164.11 crore electronic transactions have been recorded for eCourts through eTaal portal. The eCourts transactions have thus emerged as one of the topmost accessed services of the Government of India.

**Statement**

*Details of computerised district and subordinate courts  
under various High Courts*

Sl.No.	Name of the High Court	No. of computerised subordinate courts
1.	Allahabad	2072
2.	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	1078
3.	Bombay	2079
4.	Calcutta	811
5.	Chhattisgarh	357
6.	Delhi	427
7.	Guahati	496
8.	Gujarat	1108
9.	Himachal Pradesh	119
10.	Jammu And Kashmir	218
11.	Jharkhand	351
12.	Karnataka	897
13.	Kerala	486
14.	Madras	1032
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1293
16.	Manipur	37

Sl.No.	Name of the High Court	No. of computerised subordinate courts
17.	Meghalaya	39
18.	Odisha	534
19.	Patna	1025
20.	Punjab and Haryana	1018
21.	Rajasthan	1094
22.	Sikkim	19
23.	Uttarakhand	186
24.	Tripura	69
TOTAL		16845

#### **Pendency in High Courts**

1391. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge vacancies are a cause of concern for Government as well as the higher judiciary with 40 lakh cases pending in various High Courts; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that 22 per cent of them are more than ten years old?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) As per the information available, 384 posts of Judges were vacant in various High Courts as on 1st December, 2018. As per the data available on the web-portal of National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), 49.74 lakh cases are pending in High Courts as on 17th December, 2018 out of which 11.05 lakh cases (22.23%) are pending for more than ten years.

Filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous and collaborative process, between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. Initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies in High Courts keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges (to the Supreme Court) and also due to increase in the strength of Judges.