

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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2031
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 5th AUGUST, 2021

Phase-III of eCourts Mission Mode Project

2031 **Shri Binoy Viswam:**

Will the Minister of *Law and Justice* be pleased to state:

- (a) the present status of Phase-III of the eCourts Mission Mode Project;
- (b) whether the Ministry has considered the Draft Vision Document for Phase-III as prepared by the eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India, if so, whether this document has been accepted;
- (c) whether the Ministry is considering the use of virtual courts in criminal trial proceedings as a special category of proceedings requiring additional safeguards, if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the Ministry's stand on the live streaming of court proceedings, whether there has been any development on the same?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) & (b): A draft Vision Document has been formulated by the eCommittee of the Supreme Court for eCourts Project Phase III. The Vision Document has been prepared in consultation with domain

experts from within the judiciary and private sector experts. This document had been put in the public domain for inviting suggestions and feedback for preparation of Detailed Project Report for Phase-III.

(c): The use of virtual courts in criminal trial proceedings is an administrative matter which falls strictly within the purview and domain of the judiciary and the Ministry has no role in the matter.

(d): Live streaming of proceedings enables direct access to people to first hand information about court proceedings and opinion of the judges and watch the justice delivery system in action. The eCommittee of the Supreme Court has formulated Draft Rules for live streaming of court proceedings, which has been circulated amongst all the High Courts and placed in the public domain for inputs and suggestions.
