

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No - 431
ANSWERED ON- 06/02/2025

e-COURTS MISSION MODE PROJECT PHASE- III

431 SHRI NARHARI AMIN:

SHRI BRIJ LAL:

SHRI MAYANKBHAI JAYDEVBHAI NAYAK:

SHRI MADAN RATHORE:

SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA:

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

- (a) whether there will be an expansion of the existing infrastructure to include more courts at the district and sub-district levels under Phase-III;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the manner in which the Phase III addressing the issue of case backlog and whether there are specific timelines or targets set for reducing the pendency of cases through the new digital tools and systems introduced in this phase;
- (d) whether there are any measures in place to train judicial staff and stakeholders in utilizing the new technologies introduced by the e-Courts Project; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (b): With a significant outlay of Rs.7210 crore, the eCourts Phase III Project underlines the importance which the Government attaches to the infrastructural needs of the courts in the country. Several initiatives have been planned and are under progress, to strengthen and expand the capacity of the existing infrastructure at the district and sub-district levels. Some

of the major initiatives under the eCourts Phase III project include, making fully functional advanced e-Sewa Kendras in all court complexes, interlinking of all courts across the country, including High Courts and District and subordinate courts, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enablement of the Indian judicial system and making the justice delivery system accessible, cost-effective, transparent, and accountable. Besides, infrastructure is being developed for paperless courts in a phase-wise manner, expansion of the virtual courts for hearing of court cases by creating a robust digital infrastructure, live streaming of court proceedings, digitisation of the entire court records, E-filing of cases and provision for video conferencing facilities. Some of the futuristic technological advancements such as Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain and others are also planned. For ensuring seamless availability of ICT infrastructure, solar power facilities are being installed and obsolete hardware is being replaced. Migrating the District Court websites to the Secure, Scalable & Suganya Website as a Service (S3WAAS) platform is an ongoing process and efforts are on to provide adequate cloud storage facilities in the courts.

(c): No time frame has been prescribed for disposal of various kinds of cases by the respective courts. Timely disposal of cases in courts depends on several factors which, inter-alia, include availability of adequate number of judges and judicial officers, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders viz. bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. There are several factors which may lead to delay in disposal of cases. These, inter-alia, include vacancies of judges, frequent adjournments and lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing. As far as, the technological interventions are concerned, under eCourts Project, the Wide Area Network (WAN) has been extended to 99.5% court complexes, 27 Virtual Courts have been set up in 21 States/UTs to try traffic offences, litigants have access to case information through the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), VC facilities have been operationalized between 3240 Courts and related 1272 Prisons, live streaming of court proceedings is functional in the 9 High Courts, e-filing system (version 3.0) has been rolled out with upgraded features for lawyers to access and upload documents related to the cases from any location 24X7. As on date, 12,19,214 cases have been filed in High Courts and 49,04,673 have been filed in District & Taluka Courts (Total 61,23,887) using eFiling facility. Apart from this, 1540 eSewa Kendras (Facilitation Centres) in District & Subordinate courts and 39 eSewa Kendras (Facilitation Centres) in

High Courts including 3 benches of Gauhati High Court have been rolled out to provide citizen centric services to lawyers and litigants.

(d) to (e): The details of the training programs conducted by the eCommittee, SCI covering various stakeholders, like, courts staff, advocates, Judges, etc., are available in the public domain at eCommittee, SCI webportal link: <https://ecommitteesci.gov.in/document-category/training-and-awareness-programmes/>.
