

Status and Progress Report of eCourt Project in Bihar

❖ **Creation of Computer Server Room at all the complexes / Site Preparation** - A dedicated area for housing the servers and other related ICT equipment's (Computer Server Room / CSR) has been set up at each subordinate court complex. This also serves as the Judicial Service Centre, a citizen service interface counter for provision of various services such as case filing, status enquiry, etc. at the court complex. Funds are provided to 30 new court locations and 5 existing court locations for site preparation.

- At present there are 79 locations (37 District courts & 42 Sub-divisional courts) in Bihar where court is running.
- Site Preparation is completed at 69 locations out of 79 locations.
- **In context of Court Complexes:** - Site preparation is completed in 80 court complexes out of 90 court complexes.

❖ **LAN (Local Area Network) installation at new court complexes and up gradation of existing LAN infrastructure:** - Previously only 41 locations are covered under eCourt Project Phase-I but now it has been increased to **79** locations including 37 district courts and 42 Sub-divisional Courts.

- LAN is installed in 37 districts and 18 Sub-divisional courts.
- **In context of Courts rooms:** - sanctioned court rooms – 1338
- LAN installed (Passive and Active Components) – 819 courts
- LAN passive & Active survey has been completed for rest courts rooms – 534 courts
- LAN Active & passive work is completed in (out of 519 court rooms) – 211 courts
- Further, LAN Work will be started soon for 322 courts.

❖ **Provision of Computer Server:** - The purchase order of 150 Computer Server was issued for 75 locations and the same has been delivered and installed at all locations under the Phase-II.

(150 units Tower Server Purchased from Saved Fund which is approved for appropriation for this purpose, and SAN server purchased from State Govt. Fund.

Further the matter for purchasing of rest Servers will be referred before Hon'ble computer committee of this court for consideration.

❖ **CIS Software:** At present, 37 District Courts and 42 Sub-Divisional Courts of

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Bihar have been computerized in terms of CIS 3.1 installation to meet the several objectives like e-filing, e-pay, e-summons and NSTEP, ICJS, cloud computing.

❖ **Provision of Desktop Computers, UPS, and Printers: -**

4924 units of Desktop Computers, 3276 units of UPS 600Va for desktop computers and 1025 units of Printers have been provided to sub-ordinate courts of Bihar and all the equipment are installed and in use to meet the day-to-day progress of the e-courts work.

❖ **AMC for laptops of judicial officers –:**

Annual maintenance contract has been given to agency for repairing/maintaining the laptops of judicial officers which was given to them in year 2015.

❖ **Provision of Connectivity, Wide Area Network implementation status in district courts of Bihar and Data on NJDG: -** Previously, VpnoBB Connectivity is available at only 37 locations which has been extended to 4 more locations, hence in total 41 locations are connected. In addition, Lease Line facility is also available at 30 locations for better connectivity.

The WAN connectivity is to be implemented by BSNL by the order of Department of Justice (DOJ), New Delhi for which 78 locations have been identified and WAN is commissioned at 71 locations.

Further, a request has been sent to DOJ, New Delhi to add Sonapur (Saran at Chapra) for providing WAN connectivity.

❖ At present, the CIS data is replicated on NJDG (National Judicial Data Grid) for all the 79 Locations (Including 37 District Courts & 42 Sub-Divisional Courts).

At present 57 locations replicated their CIS Case data by itself and rest 22 locations CIS Case data replicated through Hon'ble High Court.

❖ SMS Push service for litigants and advocates are functional at 63 locations. The Number of SMS has been increased up **304019** monthly.

❖ **District Court information on official website: -** All District Court Website have been migrated from Drupal version 6 to Drupal version 7.59. This will enable

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others to cater information of district courts such as Judicial Officer's name, contact number, recruitment details, notices, tender details, judges on leave and other relevant information.

- ❖ **Information kiosks at each court complex:** The Policy Document proposes installation of touch-screen kiosks at all Court Complexes. These kiosks will provide services such as case status and daily order sheets to litigants without having to approach court officials. The KIOSK machine has been supplied to all 37 District Courts and installation is completed in all the judgship except Patna Sadar and Sheohar .
- ❖ **Display Board at each court in Subordinate Courts of Bihar:** The Policy Document proposes installation of Display Board screen (Monitor) at subordinate courts of Bihar. These Display Board will provide services such as case status running in the courts of the Judicial Officer such as which case if current heard by judicial officer, pass over cases and upcoming cases thus the accordingly Display Board with extra monitor and thin client machine has been supplied to all 1025 Courts and installation of them is completed at all 75 locations.
- ❖ **Provision for Power Back for ICT equipment:** - For sustainability and safety Of ICT equipment we need Power Backup for which D.G Set and 2kva online UPS for Network Room has been provided to all 75 locations.

Further installation of D.G Set has been completed for 75 locations and installation of 2kva online UPS for Network Room is also completed at all 75 locations.
- ❖ **ICT Training for Judges & court Staff for Capacity building-** ICT training had been planned to be imparted to judicial officers and court staff with an aim to make them familiar and proficient in the use of ICT tools, which is going on at regular intervals. As part of the Change Management exercise, Judicial Officers have been trained in the use of UBUNTU-Linux OS and court staff has also been trained in CIS software. Bihar Judicial academy has organized time to time refresher training program for Judicial Officers, Court staffs, DSAs, System Officers and System Assistants for such Capacity building.

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Further, the training session has been also organized in Judgeship by Stock Holding Corporation of India for eCourt fee and e-Stamping and the same has been operational in almost all the District Courts including High Court.

- ❖ **Technical Manpower:** – We have deployed 1 Senior System Officer, 1 System Officer, 2 System Assistant in High Court, 1 System Officer, 2 System Assistant in each District headquarters and 1 System Assistant in each sub-divisional court for maintenance of computerization under e-Courts project.
- ❖ **Video Conferencing:** Facilities in courts and jails: presently point to point video Conferencing facility is available in 37 District Courts and 16 Sub Divisional Courts comprising 53 Court locations provided by State Govt.

As of now tendering of multipoint VC is under process by State Govt. for all the District Courts and Jails, implementation and monitoring done by Beltron. Further demonstration of VC is to be conducted in Araria, Patna Sadar, Danapur and Hajipur by Beltron.

- ❖ **Solar energy for power backup:** The UPS and DG sets for servers and judicial service centers have been installed in Phase I and Phase-II of the project, but there is no provision of power back-up for thin clients, printers and other hardware. In this regard, the Policy Document proposes to utilize solar energy, as an alternate source, being environment friendly and easily available. It is proposed to initially cover 5% of the total court complexes, thus we started working on it and total 38 judgeships selected for installation of Roof Top Solar Panel. 25KWp Roof Top Solar Panel is installed and working at 2 judgeships (Jehanabad & Sheikhpura), further, 7 Judgeship is selected for 40KWp off grid solar system, installation is completed and Plant is working at 6 locations (Muzafferpur, Bhagalpur, Nalanda, Bhabhua, Saran & Gaya) out of 7.

Further apart from the above, work order has been issued for 24 locations for installation of Grid connected roof top solar power plant.

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- ❖ **Installation of CCTV Camera in Court Rooms and Court Premises for security purpose:** - State Govt. has issued a work order to Beltron for installing CCTV camera in the Court Rooms and Court Premises of the Sub-Ordinate Courts of the Bihar.

As of now, CCTV camera is installed & functional in Court Rooms at 68 locations out of 79 locations and for security purpose it has been also installed at 67 location out of 79 locations.

- ❖ **Implementation of e-filing, e-pay, e-summons, NSTEP & Cloud CIS:** - An e-filing is a hassle free and convenient platform for case filing, anyone having internet facility can easily file the case from anywhere. In this way we have recently tested the e-filing, e-pay, esummons and NSTEP module successfully in Darbhanga District.

- ❖ All due process for migration of Gaya District Court (Pilot District) to cloud have been completed. Further, District User have been given URL of Cloud CIS and requested to test the software from their end and to provide feedback.

- ❖ **Others activities:** -

DCMS: - The District Court Monitoring System (DCMS) has been adopted by all the Districts and its sub-ordinate courts as per the direction of the Hon'ble computer committee of this court and the same is monitored by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

DCMS will help in monitoring and analyzing the day to day progress of Courts work of Judicial Officers.

Creation of Official Email ID: - We have recently created official email id for remaining approx. 500 Judicial Officers, which is necessary for official communication and the same is being used for DCMS (District Court Monitoring System) login.

Monitoring CIS Case data: - It is very essential that the CIS Case Data must

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have accurate and reliable information and keeping in view of such fact and as per the direction received from the Hon'ble eCommittee of Supreme Court of India we used to exercise the following activities in order to achieve the aforesaid objective: -

1. Identifying and correcting the Data of total Courts vs. total Judge Count.
2. Ensuring that every court in cis must have a regular Judge or In-charge and if any court is vacant then this court should have the In-charge Judge who also has the regular Court.
3. Ensuring that every Judicial Officer must have JOCODE entry in CIS.
4. Ensuring that empty courts should not be the created in CIS and each court must have JOCODE entry.
5. Ensuring that there should be no pending cases left in the closed courts.
6. Identifying and correcting the Case Type anomalies such as Criminal cases are showing Civil Side or Vice-versa.
7. Ensuring that each and every Police Station should be mapped with Judicial Officer in CIS.
8. Ensuring that each and every case which have been stayed should entered the Delay Status entry in CIS.
9. Notifying and tagging the Courts for Special Cases in CIS like POCSO, N.D.P.S etc.
10. We have just started the entering details of Under trial Prisoners.

Updation of Judicial Officer's details on NJDG: - The Hon'ble eCommittee, Supreme Court of India started SMS facility for Judicial Officers to know how many cases are being undated (Those cases having Next Listing Date less than Current date) in their courts on daily basis, for that purpose it is necessary to enter and update the details of Judicial Officers on NJDG, the same has been entered by us. Overall 69% of Judgements and Orders has been uploaded in August,2019 which has been increased from 57% in July,2019.

Further installation of JustIS android app in Judicial Officer's mobile handset is under progress, which provide the latest status of their court's data like today's cases, pending cases, undated cases , disposal cases etc. from NJDG.

eCourt service publicity and awareness: - eCourt services publicity and awareness posters are circulated to sub-ordinate courts of bihar for increasing awareness among litigants, advocates and other stakeholders as per the

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direction of Hon'ble eCommittee, Supreme Court of India and the same are pasted by districts on the walls of court complexes.

Backlog Data Entry:- For the efficient implementation of eCourt project and delivery of Citizen Centric Services through CIS software it is necessary to enter and update all the cases in CIS. In order to achieve the same, backlog cases Data entry has been completed for most of the locations.

We have created temporary server room with 400 sq. feet for Sub Divisional Courts (where site preparation is pending) to initially start the Backlog data entry in CIS and other computerization work.

eCourt Citizen Centric Services delivered by District Courts of

Bihar:-

eCourt project provides many kind of services to litigants, Lawyers and other stakeholders via SMS, email, Web pages, Kiosk Machine at court premises, and online Display Board placed beside the Court rooms of Judicial Officer. Some of the services listed here.

- ✓ Pull SMS service.
- ✓ Online Case Status.
- ✓ Kiosk Machine at court Premises.
- ✓ Online Cause list.
- ✓ Automated Email service.
- ✓ Advance Cause list.
- ✓ Order/Judgment available on NJDG.
- ✓ Find the case status via Android app launched by Hon'ble eCommittee Supreme Court of India.
- ✓ District Court website.
- ✓ Online Status of Running cases via Display board places there after Court Rooms of Judicial Officer in subordinate courts of Bihar.
- ✓ Find the Court Complex locations with address details via Android app.
- ✓ A awareness program to Litigant/people/advocates about the NJDG and eCourt Services is initiated in subordinates courts of Bihar with the help of posters and gestures, and SMS pull services on the direction of Hon'ble eCommittee of Supreme Court of India.

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✓ SMS pull service Ecourt<space><CNR Number> To 9766899899

Sustainability of the project: Memorandum of understanding (MoU) under E-Courts project has been signed by the Central Government, State Government and Patna High Court. The State Government of Bihar is assisting financially by providing fund under E-Court MMP project to the High Court and District Courts in financial year for sustainability of the project. The State Government is assisting financially mainly for the following issues under eCourt project: -

- Payment regarding Technical Manpower (i.e. Senior System Officer, System Officer, System Assistants) including agency charges and service taxes of the third party, besides NIC fund provided.
- D.G. Sets recurring expenditure in the Judgeships of Bihar.
- Broadband of Hon'ble Judges of Patna High Court and Judicial Officers of Bihar including officers on deputation.
- VPNoBB / Lease Line expenditure in District Courts and Patna High Court
- Expenditure of Judicial Officers in computer consumables. Expenditure in maintenance / rectification of LAN / Hardware where warranty has expired or not covered under warranty due to, i.e. fire, flood, damage, burnt case etc.