eCommittee Newsletter

eCommittee

Supreme Court of India

website: http://sci.nic.in/e-committee.htm

email: ecommittee@aij.gov.in

Meeting of the eCommittee held on 8ᵗʰ November, 2016

Meeting of the eCommittee was held on 8ᵗʰ November, 2016 and following important decisions were taken:

1. It was resolved in principle to approve proposal of Indian Institute of Management, Banglore, for '**Three days training programme** on 'Project Management' for Central Project Coordinators of High Courts, or other nominees involved in eCourts Mission Mode Project as part of its executive education programme and recommended that 35 participants including Members of eCommittee and nominee of DoJ, if any, be imparted the training. Training Module to be finalised after discussions with the eCommittee.

2. It was resolved in principle to approve the **integration of system delivering eServices with Rapid Assessment System (RAS)**, to prompt users for feedback electronically and also facilitate analysis of feedback and generation of reports in improving service delivery. However, the Committee was of the view that the questionnaire in the feedback form proposed by the National eGovernance Division be redesigned to be more purposive with the approval of the eCommittee.

3. Suggestions received from few High Courts to the **Memorandum of Understanding** to be signed by the Government of India, State Government and the High Court of the State concerned for effective implementation of the Phase-II of eCourts Integrated Mission Mode Project (MMP) were discussed and decisions were taken on the suggestions.

4. It was resolved that NIC will give suggestions, if any, to the proposed specifications and maximum estimated price of the laptops for Judicial Officers (JOs) performing judicial or non-judicial/administration duties, UPS for Courts and Video Conference Facility.

5. The Committee was informed that earlier manpower description, qualification and skill set requirement were specified on the basis of the manpower description of NICSI. At present the existing manpower description of NICSI is not matching with the manpower description prescribed by the eCommittee. The Committee considered the prevailing manpower description of NICSI and the cost for that manpower, and resolved to approve that the High Courts may engage technical manpower as per existing manpower description of NICSI.

6. (a) Regarding Process Re-engineering Reports received from the High Courts and model reports received from the Registrar Generals of the High Courts pursuant to decision taken in the workshop conducted on 10th June 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan New

Delhi under the Chairmanship of **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madan B. Lokur,** Judge, Supreme Court of India and Judge Incharge of eCommittee, the Committee was of the view that beginning of process re-engineering be made by suggesting incorporating rules for ICT enablement of the Court processes. It was decided that rules relating to the ICT enablement in Courts have to be identified to create separate set of rules. The model rules for ICT related topics like **electronic filling, recording of evidence through video conference, electronic evidence, serving of summons** etc to be suggested as a first step for process re-engineering. These rules may be common for all the High Courts. It was also decided that the draft model rules be shared with NIC for their technical suggestions.

(b) The Committee also resolved to request **Hon'ble Dr. Justice S. Muralidhar,** Judge, Delhi High Court, who is one of the members of the committee of Hon'ble Judges of High Court of Punjab & Haryana and High Court of Delhi constituted as per the decisions of Chief Justices' Conference 2016, for suggesting model rules for preservation of electronic evidence, to give his suggestions to the Sub Committee for preparing model rules for ICT enablement of the Court processes.

(c) The Committee resolved that the Sub Committee already constituted for suggesting Common Case Types, Adjournment Types, Purpose Types and Disposal Types may be requested, in future, to suggest incorporating rules for ICT enablement of Court processes after they have successfully discharged the responsibility placed on it for suggesting Common Case Types, Adjournment Types, Purpose Types and Disposal Types.

7. The Committee discussed the connectivity issue and resolved that a pilot project be carried out at small, medium and large court complexes or at District Courts and Taluka Courts. It was resolved to find **optimum bandwidth requirement for connectivity** enabling for online movement of documents. The NIC was requested to carry out a pilot project and to submit its report to the committee.

8. The Committee discussed the issue of cloud connectivity and resolved that a pilot project be carried out at small, medium and large court complexes or at District Courts and Taluka Courts. It was also resolved that **Proof of Concept (POC)** be created for implementation of Cloud Infrastructure and to find optimum bandwidth requirement for the cloud infrastructure. NIC was requested to carry out the pilot project and to submit its report to the committee. The committee was informed that till the implementation of cloud infrastructure, the servers which were provided are to be maintained properly

since they are very crucial for providing services to public. The NIC requested the committee to reconsider its decision about the maintenance of existing servers at Districts.

9. It was resolved in principle to approve to develop a software module to monitor the management of process services and to develop a **ePOD (eProof of Delivery) mobile application** with capability of capturing of GPS, photos and signature. The Committee was informed that the High Court of Madhya Pradesh has already created one software application for management of process serving services and android mobile application which can be integrated with the software application. **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Badar Durrez Ahmed** informed that as per practice directions issued by the Delhi High Court, Proof of Delivery (POD) is delivered to the Court electronically. The Committee requested NIC, Pune team to examine the same and give his report to the Committee.

10. The Committee discussed the feedback received from the High Court of Maharashtra. The **masking facility** in the case information system of all the family courts in Maharashtra is being utilized. The Committee resolved to send a short note to all the High Courts informing the masking facility available in CIS 2.0 and to make use of it for the data of Family Courts. The High Court of Bombay has suggested to make a provision in CIS software to provide secure access to the litigants to their judgments and orders through one time password (OTP) on mobile registered in the respective data of cases of the litigants. The NIC suggested to send judgements/orders through the registered email address to the litigants. The NIC Pune, was requested to consider these suggestions and to submit a report.

11. The eCommittee had resolved in its meeting of 12th July 2016 that DoJ may take steps with regard to issuing advertisements in the local newspapers giving publicity to the eCourts Project. The DoJ informed that DAVP was approached for which an estimate of Rs. 5 Crore has been given by DAVP to DoJ. The content of the publicity and text of advertisement will be shared by the DoJ with the eCommittee.

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Release of funds to High Courts for implementation of decentralized components of Phase II of eCourts Project

Sanction of the President of India was conveyed for incurring an expenditure of Rs. 29.2561 Crores (Rupees Twenty Nine Crores Twenty Five Lacs and Sixty One Thousand Only) during 2016-2017 (Plan) to be paid to High Courts for implementation of decentralized activities of Phase-II of eCourts Project. The High Court wise break-up of funds

being released as per the recommendation of the eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India is as under :

Sr. No.	High Court	Amount (In Cr.)
1	Registrar General, High Court of Calcutta	7.6678
2	Registrar General, High Court of Delhi	4.3523
3	Registrar General, High Court of Himachal Pradesh	1.5954
4	Registrar General, High Court of Orissa	5.5055
5	Registrar General, High Court of Patna	10.1351
	Total	**29.2561**

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Nominations invited from 23 High Courts for Fifth and Sixth Screening Course on Cyber Laws, Cyber Crimes and Electronic Evidence to be held at **Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy, Hyderabad**. This training is being imparted to address the rapid increase in Cyber Crimes and complexity involved in some of them. This Fifth and Sixth Screening Course is to be conducted on 5th to 7th December 2016 and 8th to 10th December 2016, respectively.

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Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India has been pleased to appoint **Shri Yashwant Anand Goswami,** a Judicial Officer serving as Deputy Registrar at High Court of Bombay (Appellate Side) as Member [Project Management], on deputation basis, initially for a period of one year with effect from the forenoon of 28th November 2016 in the eCommittee.

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Meeting of the Sub Committee to suggest Common Case Types, Adjournment Types, Disposal Types and Purpose Types

The third meeting of the Sub Committee was held on 28th November 2016 at 11.30 am. The meeting was attended by Mr. Justice Vedpal, Judge (Retd.), Allahabad High Court, Mr. Justice G.M. Akbarali, Judge (Retd.), High Court of Madras and Umesh Sharma, District Judge (Retd.), Rajasthan.

Shri Ashish J. Shirandhonkar, Technical Director, NIC, Pune also participated in the meeting through video conferencing facility.

The Sub Committee tentatively suggested Common Case Types and resolved to meet again on 14th December 2016 at 11.30 am to suggest Common Disposal Types, Common Adjournment Types and Common Purpose Types.

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Status of Utilization (Phase II of e-Courts Project) as on 30th November 2016

Sr.No.	High Court	Total Fund Utilized (in Crore)
1	Bombay	29.26
2	Chhattisgarh	3.13

Sr.No.	High Court	Total Fund Utilized (in Crore)
3	Gauhati- Assam	4.1
4	Gauhati – Mizoram	0.55
5	Gauhati – Nagaland	0.75
6	Himachal Pradesh	1.3
7	Jammu & Kashmir	2.14
8	Kerala	3.45
9	Madras	12.45
10	Manipur	0.43
11	Orissa	3.18
12	Patna	7.28
13	Punjab & Haryana	11.14
14	Rajasthan *	7.99
15	Sikkim	0.18
16	Tripura	0.97
	Total	**88.28**

* Provisional Utilization Certificate