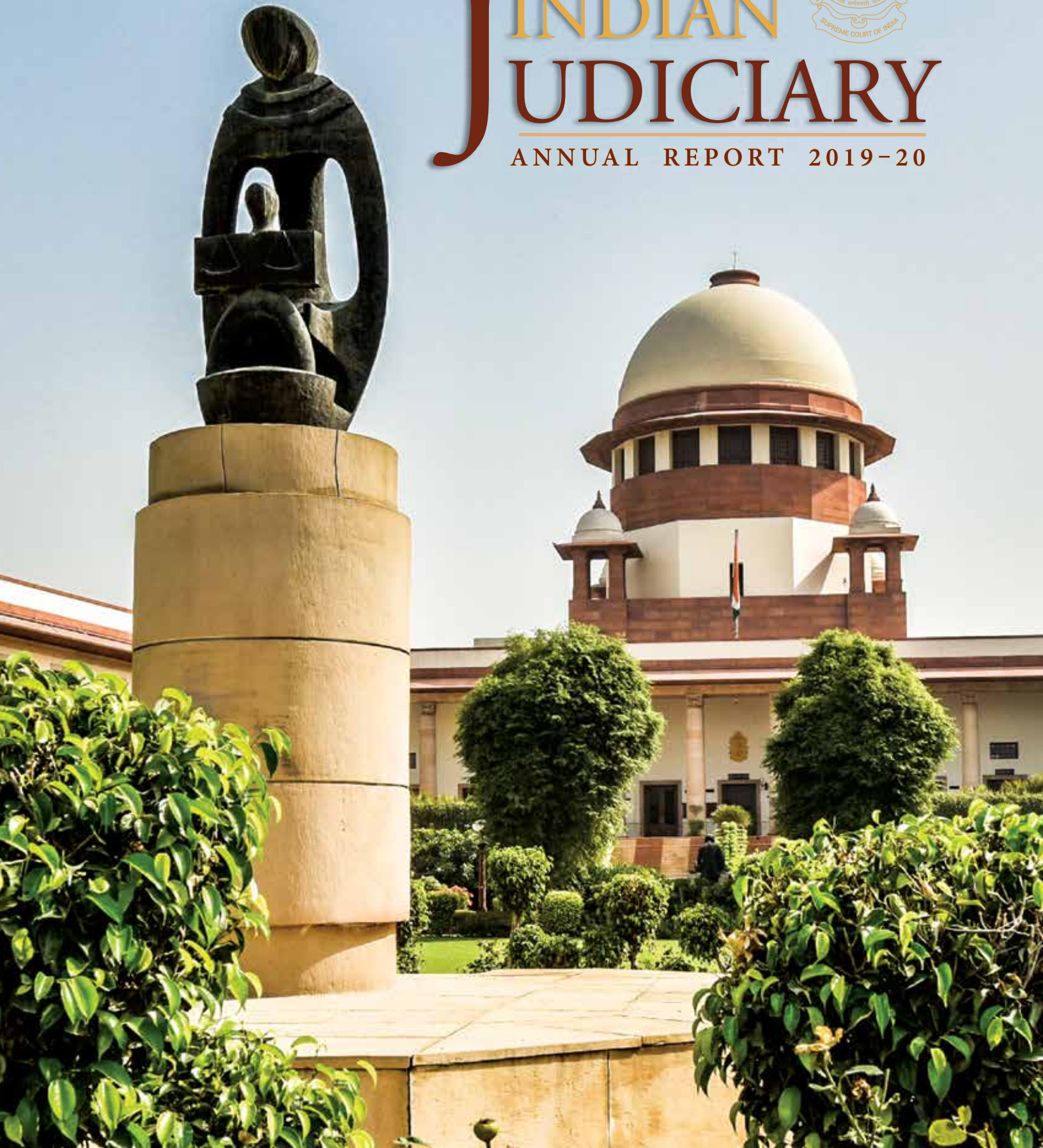




JINDIAN JUDICIARY

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20



Publisher

The Supreme Court of India, New Delhi - 110 001

Website

<http://sci.gov.in>

Book

Indian Judiciary : Annual Report 2019-20

Photography by

1. Vinay Thakur and Amogh Thakur

2. J. S. Studio (Jinendra Kr. Jain) 9711217865

Cover Page Design by : Ms. Malini Saigal

Designed and Printed by

Mittal Enterprises, 485, Patparganj Industrial Area, Delhi-110092 - 9811340726

For Official Use Only

COPYRIGHT@2020: THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by any means - electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission in writing of the copyright owner.

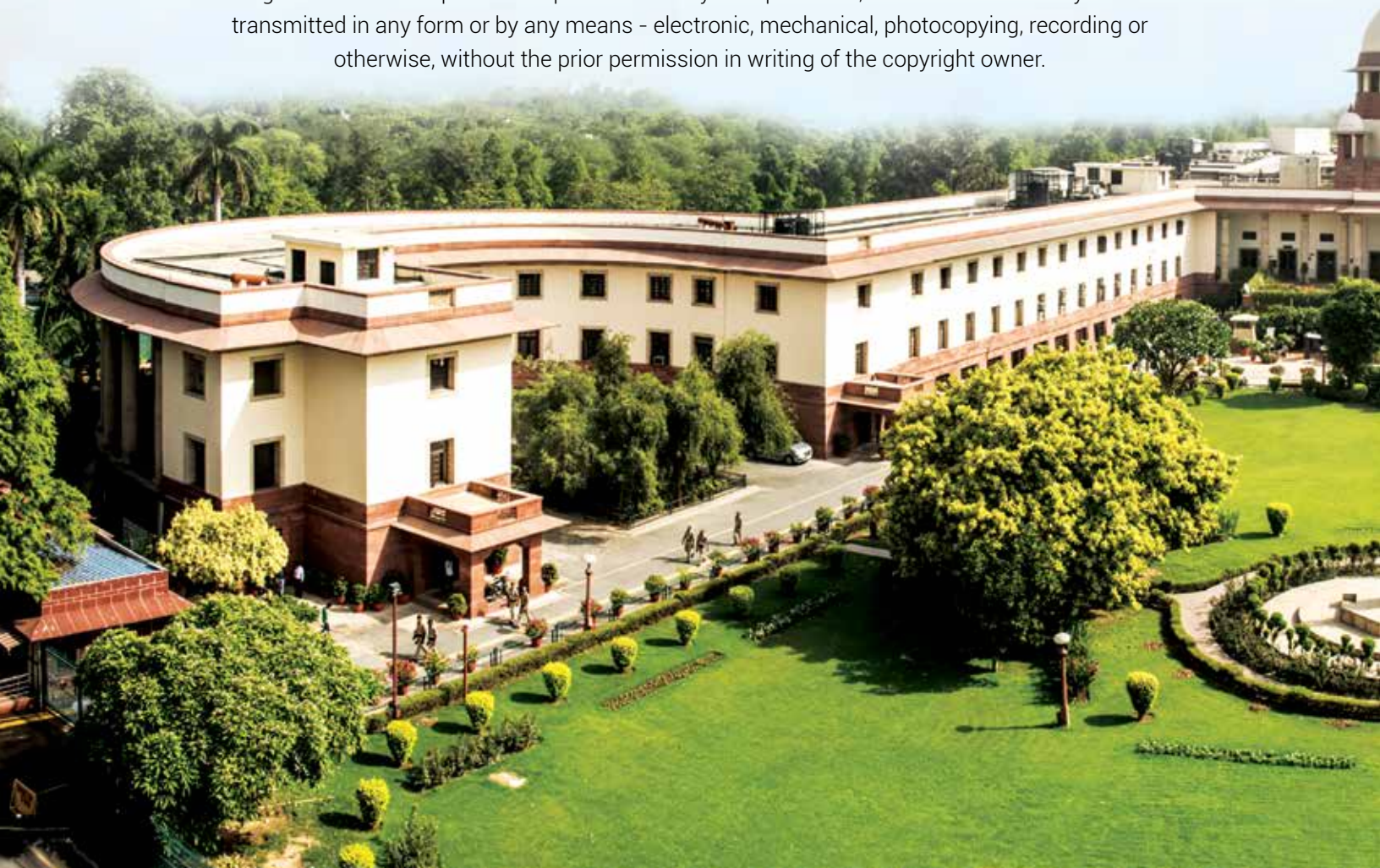


Table of Contents

1 | Supreme Court

From the Desk of the Chief Justice of India	3
Introduction	5
1. Profile of Judges (As on 02 November 2020)	9
2. Supreme Court : Past to Present	41
3. Jurisdiction	51
4. Supreme Court Building	55
5. Court Administration	67
6. Judicial Wing	75
7. Recent Initiatives	85
8. Covid-19 and Supreme Court of India	93
9. The Bar	101
10. Library and Museum	105
11. Online Court Proceedings and Technological Accomplishments	113
12. Education, Training and Research	121
13. Alternative Dispute Resolution	133
14. Conferences and Meets	151
15. International Judicial Conference-2020	167
16. Landmark Judgments	187
17. Publications	199



2 | High Courts

1. High Court of Judicature at Allahabad	203
2. High Court of Andhra Pradesh	215
3. High Court of Bombay	223
4. Calcutta High Court	233
5. High Court of Chhattisgarh	243
6. High Court of Delhi	249
7. Gauhati High Court	257
8. High Court of Gujarat	273
9. High Court of Himachal Pradesh	281
10. High Court of Jammu and Kashmir	289
11. High Court of Jharkhand	297
12. High Court of Karnataka	305
13. High Court of Kerala	315
14. High Court of Madhya Pradesh	323
15. Madras High Court	333
16. High Court of Manipur	343
17. High Court of Meghalaya	351
18. High Court of Orissa	357
19. High Court of Judicature at Patna	365
20. High Court of Punjab and Haryana	373
21. Rajasthan High Court	381
22. High Court of Sikkim	391
23. High Court for the State of Telangana	399
24. High Court of Tripura	407
25. High Court of Uttarakhand	415





Emblem of the Supreme Court of India



CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA

From the Desk of The Chief Justice of India



After independence, the founding fathers of the Indian Constitution emphasized on the *trias politica* model i.e. separation of powers amongst three co-equal branches of the government, namely, legislature, executive and judiciary. The Indian Judiciary led by the Supreme Court of India plays a pivotal role in upholding the rule of law and in balancing the societal interest on one hand and individual's freedom granted by the Constitution on the other.

The unprecedented conditions due to COVID-19 pandemic presented a number of challenges, and pervaded every aspect of life in India. Inasmuch as during the pandemic; courts- especially the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts, could not have been shut down completely, a number of initiatives were taken to ensure access to justice by adopting and adhering to new and advanced technologies. Notwithstanding multiple problems and unprecedented challenges encountered during the pandemic, the Supreme Court of India was not locked down even for a single day, and, in fact, a large number of urgent matters involving fundamental rights, and protection of vulnerable sections of the society were taken up for adjudication via video conferencing mode.

The Supreme Court of India continues to focus on upholding the rule of law, and on ensuring effective administration of justice, while following precautionary measures in accordance with the Covid-19 protocols and guidelines such as social distancing, sanitization, wearing of masks, etc.

As it is rightly said, milestones are reached with small and consistent steps. This Annual Report reflects all the recent initiatives and achievements of the Indian Judiciary; and the steps and measures taken to promote a more litigant-friendly and accessible justice delivery system.

I am sure that all the stakeholders in the entire system of judicial administration in the country would find this Annual Report very useful in broadening their horizon of knowledge and understanding of the Indian Judiciary.

I congratulate everyone involved in the publication of this Annual Report for their efforts and convey my best wishes to all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sharad A. Bobde'.

[Sharad A. Bobde]


INTRODUCTION

The "Indian Judiciary: Annual Report 2019-2020" is a comprehensive reference about the Courts in India and their workings; the contemporary challenges, and also the initiatives and achievements.

As per practice, the Report is divided into two parts; Part-1 is about the Supreme Court whereas Part-2 is dedicated to the 25 High Courts.

Part-1 of the Report contains 17 chapters. Chapter 1 contains brief profiles of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India and Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court whereas Chapter 2 talks about the evolution of the Supreme Court from past to present. Chapter 3 gives an outline about the jurisdiction and authority of the Supreme Court; while Chapter 4 details salient features of the original Supreme Court building- as well as the Additional Building Complex of the Supreme Court of India, built on the land abutting Pragati Maidan. Chapter 5 entitled Court Administration contains information about the various wings of the Supreme Court Registry including the two specialized Secretariats, namely, the Conference Secretariat and the Information and Statistics Secretariat. Chapter 6 contains information about the recent changes in Judicial Work flow as well as statistical data regarding institution, disposal and pendency of cases in Supreme Court of India. Chapter 7 gives details of some of the recent initiatives and efforts of the Supreme Court. Chapter 8 details about the institutional response of the Supreme Court of India to the challenges posed by the unprecedented public health necessity arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the steps and measures taken by the Supreme Court administration to deal with the same. Chapter 9 relate to the Bar while Chapter 10 is about the Supreme Court Judges Library, and also the Supreme Court Museum. Information about online court proceedings and recent technological accomplishments is covered in Chapter 11. Chapters 12 and 13 are entitled "Education, Training and Research" and "Alternative Dispute Resolution" respectively and, *inter alia*, shed light on the major activities of the sister institutions of the Supreme Court. Chapter 14 contains details about the important conferences and meets attended by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India and the Hon'ble Judges- including those via Video Conferencing. Chapter 15 is devoted to proceedings of the International Judicial Conference-2020 held in the Supreme Court premises from 21 to 23 February, 2020. Gists of some recent landmark decisions pronounced by this Hon'ble Court are covered in Chapter 16 while Chapter 17 contains information about the Publications.

Part-2 of the Annual Report contains information in respect of the 25 High Courts with one Chapter dedicated to each High Court. Each such Chapter contains a "brief introduction" of the High Court concerned, alongwith details about the "administrative achievements" and "technological accomplishments" of the High Court during the judicial year 2019-2020.



1

SUPREME COURT





PROFILE OF JUDGES*

CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA

JUSTICE SHARAD A. BOBDE

Born on 24 April 1956 at Nagpur, Maharashtra, son of Shri Arvind Shrinivas Bobde. Took B.A. and LL.B. Degrees from Nagpur University.

Enrolled on the Roll of the Bar Council of Maharashtra in 1978. Practiced Law at the Nagpur Bench of the Bombay High Court with appearances at Bombay before the Principal Seat and before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India for over 21 years.

Designated as Senior Advocate in 1998.

Elevated to the Bench of the Bombay High Court on 29 March 2000, as Additional Judge. Sworn in as Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court on 16 October 2012.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 12 April 2013.

Appointed as The Chief Justice of India on 18 November 2019.

Due to retire on 23 April 2021.

*As on 2 November 2020

JUSTICE N. V. RAMANA

Born on 27 August 1957 in an agricultural family in Ponnaram Village, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh. Did B.Sc., B.L.

Enrolled as an Advocate on 10 February 1983. Practiced in the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Central and Andhra Pradesh Administrative Tribunals and the Supreme Court of India in Civil, Criminal, Constitutional, Labour, Service and Election matters. Specialized in Constitutional, Criminal, Service and Inter-State River laws.

Functioned as Panel Counsel for various Government Organizations and as Additional Standing Counsel for Railways in the Central Administrative Tribunal at Hyderabad before rendering services as Additional Advocate General of Andhra Pradesh.

Appointed as a permanent Judge of the Andhra Pradesh High Court on 27 June 2000. Functioned as Acting Chief Justice from 10 March 2013 to 20 May 2013. Participated in several National and International Conferences held in India and abroad and submitted papers on various topics of legal importance.

Elevated as the Chief Justice of Delhi High Court on 02 September 2013, and as a Judge of Supreme Court of India on 17 February 2014.

Served as Chairman, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee from 7 March 2019 to 26 November 2019. Nominated as Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority with effect from 27 November 2019.

Due to retire on 26 August 2022.



JUSTICE ROHINTON FALI NARIMAN

Born on 13 August 1956. Did schooling from Cathedral School, Mumbai (High 1st Division, ISC). Did B.Com. from Shri Ram College of Commerce, LL.B. (1st Class-2nd in the University) from Faculty of Law, Delhi, and LL.M. from Harvard Law School (Thesis on 'Affirmative Action: A Comparison between India and US Constitutional Law').

Practiced Maritime Law in New York at Haight, Gardener, Poor and Havens for 1 year. Was Solicitor General of India from 27 July 2011 to 04 February 2013. Was made Senior Counsel by the Chief Justice of India. Justice Venkatachaliah



amended the Rules in order to make him a Senior Counsel at the young age of 37 against the mandatory 45. Has practiced law for 35 years. Has over 500 Reported Supreme Court Judgments to his credit. Has expertise in Comparative Constitutional Law and Civil Law.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 07 July 2014.

He is on the Governing Board of Gujarat Law School, Ahmedabad. Is a Member of Mediation Committee, Supreme Court of India. Has given numerous lectures on varied topics including Western Classical Music, Comparative Religion, History, and Constitutional Law, at many venues, including IIC Delhi, Bombay High Court, Gujarat High Court, Madras High Court (Madurai Bench) and Himachal Pradesh High Court. Was a Member of the Delegation from the Supreme Court of India to the Supreme Court of the United States of America, 2002. Gave the keynote address at the K.L. Misra Lecture on SPIRITUALITY AND LAW along with the Chief Justice of India and other Supreme Court Judges in Allahabad in 2004. Lectured at the Bar Council of India, Supreme Court of India and the University of Delhi.

Has specialized in 'Comparative Religious Studies: Zoroastrianism in Other Faiths'. Delivered the Annual K.R. Cama Lecture at K.R. Cama Institute, Mumbai on "Through the Looking Glass". Held fortnightly Gatha classes for two years in Delhi. Lectured in New York at the Zoroastrian Federation. Gave two lectures in Ahmedabad at the invitation of the Ahmedabad Parsi Panchayat in 2003. Gave religious talks at Philadelphia in 2005. Gave the SEARCH lecture at IIC, Delhi in 2000.

Ordained Priest from Bandra Agiary. Has written the critically acclaimed book 'The Inner Fire: Faith, Choice, and Modern-Day Living on Zoroastrianism.'

Has passion for and deep knowledge of western classical music. Great interest in and avid reader of history, philosophy, literature and science. Enjoys nature walks - is a committed daily walker.

Due to retire on 12 August 2021.

JUSTICE UDAY UMESH LALIT

Born on 09 November 1957.

Enrolled as an Advocate in June 1983.

Practised in the High Court of Bombay till December 1985.

Shifted his practice to Delhi in January 1986.

Designated as Senior Advocate by the Supreme Court in April 2004.

Appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 13 August 2014.

Due to retire on 08 November 2022.



JUSTICE A. M. KHANWILKAR

Born on 30 July 1957 in Pune, India.

Did B.Com. from Mulund College of Commerce, Mumbai and LL.B. from K.C. Law College, Mumbai. Enrolled as Advocate on 10 February 1982.

Appointed as Additional Judge of the Bombay High Court on 29 March 2000 and confirmed as Permanent Judge on 08 April 2002.

Appointed as Chief Justice of the High Court of Himachal Pradesh on 04 April 2013. Thereafter, appointed as Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court on 24 November 2013.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 13 May 2016.

Due to retire on 29 July 2022.



JUSTICE D. Y. CHANDRACHUD

Born on 11 November 1959.

Graduated with a B.A. (Hons.) in Economics from St. Stephen's College, Delhi and completed LL.B. from Delhi University. Obtained LL.M. and Doctoral degree (SJD) from Harvard Law School, U.S.A. Conferred with an *Honoris Causa* LL.D. by Lucknow University in 2015 and by the Uttar Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open University in 2017.

Designated as a Senior Advocate of the Bombay High Court in June 1998 and was the Additional Solicitor General of India from 1998 until his appointment as a Judge in March 2000. Served as Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court and as a Judge of the Bombay High Court.

Was a Visiting Professor of International Law at Oklahoma University School of Law, USA and of Comparative Constitutional Law at the University of Mumbai. Delivered lectures at the Australian National University, Harvard Law School, Yale Law School, the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa, the Deakin University and William S Richardson School of Law at the University of Hawaii and spoken at conferences organised by international organizations such as the United Nations High Commission on Human Rights, International Labour Organisation and the World Bank.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India in May 2016.

Due to retire on 10 November 2024.



JUSTICE ASHOK BHUSHAN

Born on 05 July 1956 in Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh to Late Shri Chandrama Prasad Srivastava and Smt. Kalawati Srivastava. Graduated in Arts in the year 1975, obtained Law Degree in 1st Division from the Allahabad University in the year 1979.

Enrolled as an Advocate with the U.P. Bar Council on 06 April 1979. Practiced on Civil and Original side at Allahabad High Court till the elevation to the Bench.

Worked as Standing Counsel of Allahabad University, UPSMDC Ltd. and several Municipal Boards, Banks & Education Institutions. Elected as Senior Vice-President of the Allahabad High Court Bar Association.

Elevated as Permanent Judge of the Allahabad High Court on 24 April 2001.

Transferred to Kerala High Court, sworn in as Judge on 10 July 2014, took charge as Acting Chief Justice on 01 August 2014 and as Chief Justice on 26 March 2015.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 13 May 2016.

Due to retire on 04 July 2021.



JUSTICE L. NAGESWARA RAO

Born on 08 June 1957 at Chirala, Prakasam District, Andhra Pradesh. Did his B. Com., B.L. from Nagarjuna University, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh.

Enrolled as an Advocate on 29 July 1982 at Bar Council of Andhra Pradesh. Practiced at the District Court, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh from July 1982 to January 1984.

Practiced at the High Court of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad from January 1985 to December 1994. Practiced at the Supreme Court of India from January 1995 to May 2016.

Designated as a Senior Advocate by the Andhra Pradesh High Court in December 2000.

Served as Additional Solicitor General of India from August 2003 to May 2004 and again from 26 August 2013 to 18 December 2014.

Appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 13 May 2016.

Due to retire on 07 June 2022.



JUSTICE SANJAY KISHAN KAUL

Born on 26 December 1958. Studied in Modern School, New Delhi from 1964 to 1976 completing his school education in Science & Economics. Graduated in Economics (Hons.) from St. Stephens College, Delhi University in 1979. Obtained LL.B. Degree from The Campus Law Centre, Delhi University in 1982.

Enrolled as an Advocate with Bar Council of Delhi on 15 July 1982. Practiced mainly in the Commercial, Civil, Writ, Original and Company jurisdictions of the High Court of Delhi and the Supreme Court of India.

Remained Advocate-on-Record of the Supreme Court of India from 1987 to 1999 and was designated as a Senior Advocate in December, 1999.

Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court of Delhi on 03 May 2001 and was appointed as a Permanent Judge on 02 May 2003.

Elevated as the Acting Chief Justice of Delhi High Court w.e.f. 23 September 2012 to 25 September 2012.

Elevated as the Chief Justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court on 01 June 2013 and assumed charge as the Chief Justice of the Madras High Court on 26 July 2014.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 17 February 2017.

Deeply interested in theatre, music and golf.

Due to retire on 25 December 2023.



JUSTICE MOHAN M. SHANTANAGOUDAR

Born on 05 May 1958.

Enrolled as an Advocate on 05 September 1980. Practiced for one year at Dharwad in the Chambers of Sri I.G. Hiregoudar, Advocate before shifting practice to Bengaluru. Joined the Chambers of Sri Shivraj V. Patil, Advocate (as he then was), who later adorned the Supreme Court of India. Started independent practice in the year 1984. Practiced mainly in Civil, Criminal and Constitutional matters.

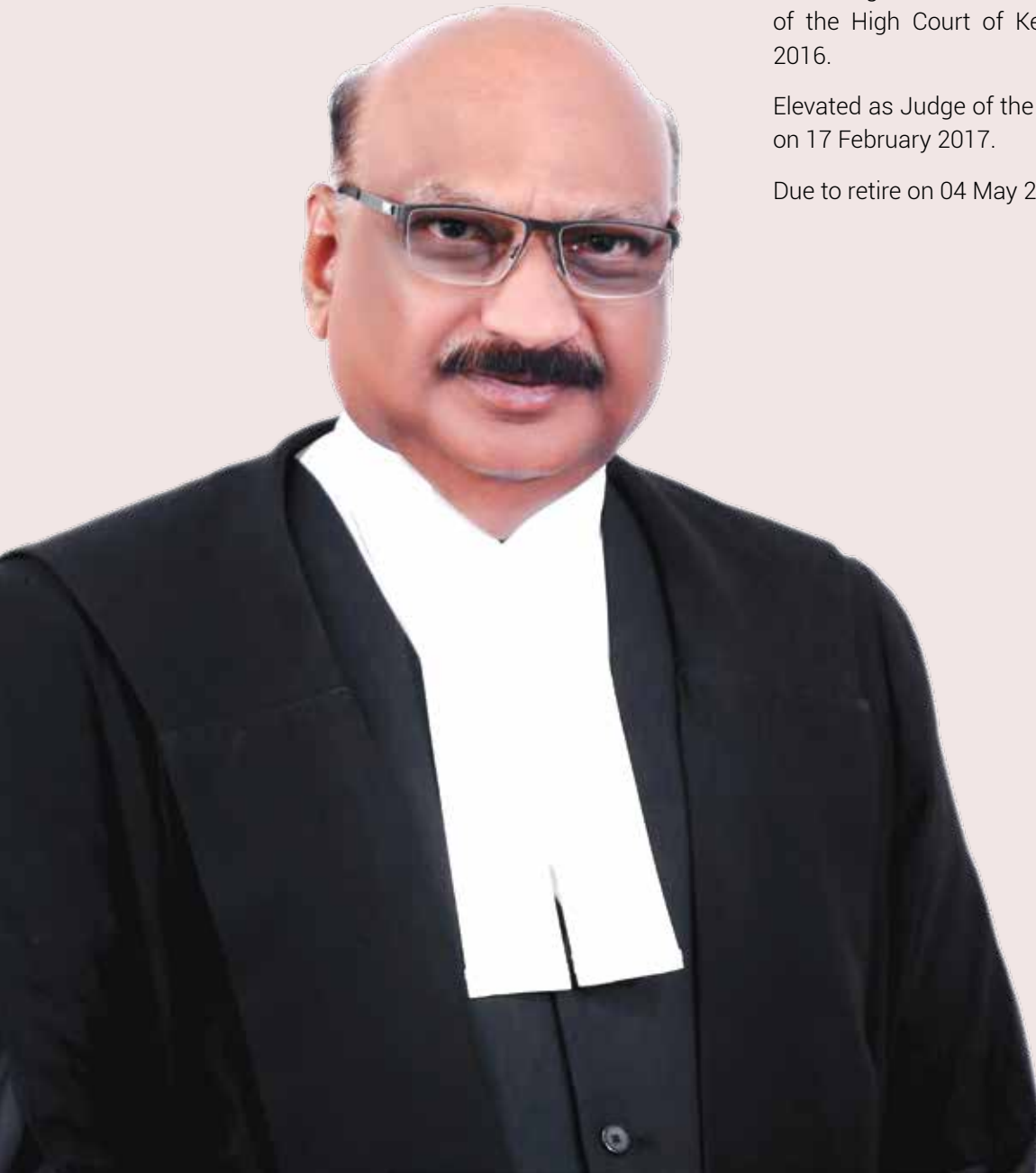
Served as Vice-Chairman of Karnataka State Bar Council from 1991 to 1993 and as Chairman of Karnataka State Bar Council during 1995 and 1996. Served as State Public Prosecutor of Karnataka State from 1999 to 2002.

Appointed as Additional Judge of the Karnataka High Court on 12 May 2003 and as Permanent Judge on 24 September 2004. Was the President of Bangalore Mediation Centre and Karnataka Judicial Academy.

On transfer, sworn-in as Judge, High Court of Kerala. Assumed charge as Acting Chief Justice on 01 August 2016. Sworn in as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala on 22 September 2016.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 17 February 2017.

Due to retire on 04 May 2023.



JUSTICE S. ABDUL NAZEER

Born on 05 January 1958.

Enrolled as an Advocate on 18 February 1983.
Practised in the High Court of Karnataka.

Appointed as an Additional Judge of the
Karnataka High Court on 12 May 2003 and as a
Permanent Judge on 24 September 2004.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India
on 17 February 2017.

Due to retire on 04 January 2023.



JUSTICE NAVIN SINHA

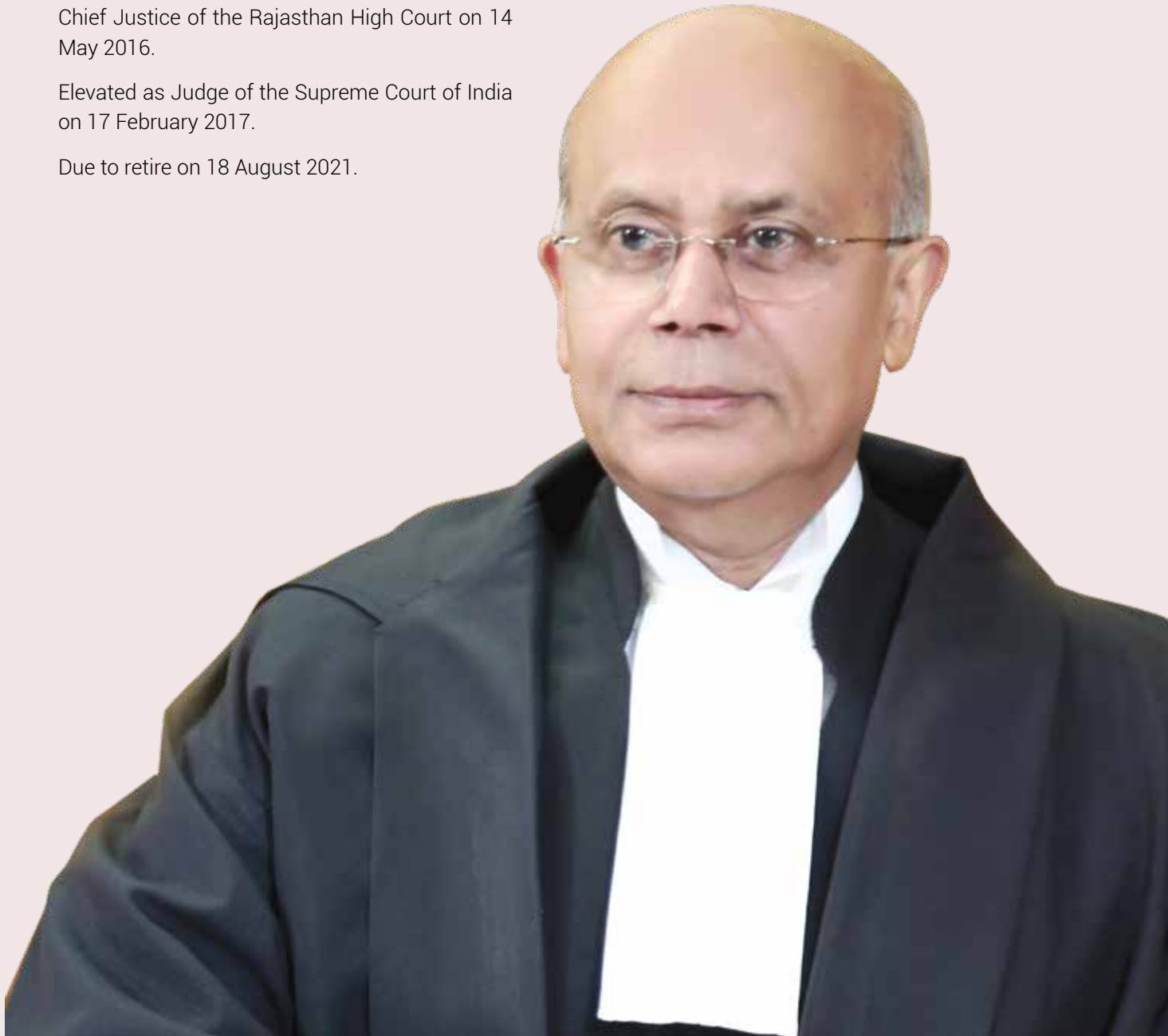
Born on 19 August 1956. Did schooling at St. Xavier's High School, Patna, Graduation from Hindu College, New Delhi and LL.B. from Delhi University.

Enrolled as an Advocate on 26 July 1979 and practiced in the Patna High Court for 23 years on Civil, Constitutional, Labour, Service, Commercial, Company Law and Criminal matters.

Appointed as Permanent Judge of the Patna High Court on 11 February 2004. Transferred to Chhattisgarh High Court in July 2014. Also functioned as its Acting Chief Justice and thereafter, as Chief Justice till sworn-in as the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court on 14 May 2016.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 17 February 2017.

Due to retire on 18 August 2021.



JUSTICE INDU MALHOTRA

Born on 14 March 1956 in Bangalore, completed her schooling from Carmel Convent School, Delhi in 1972. Obtained her B.A. (Hons.) Degree and Masters in Political Science from Lady Shri Ram College, Delhi University.

After obtaining Master's degree, briefly worked as a Lecturer in Political Science in Miranda House and Vivekananda Colleges, Delhi University.

Did her Bachelor of Laws from the Delhi University, and enrolled with the Bar Council of Delhi in 1983. In 1988, she qualified as an Advocate-on-record, when she topped in the examination.

Was appointed as the Standing Counsel for the State of Haryana in the Supreme Court during the period 1991 to 1996. Represented various multinational corporations and statutory corporations like Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR), before the Supreme Court.

Was designated as a Senior Advocate by the Supreme Court of India in 2007. Became the second woman to be designated by the Supreme Court after over 30 years. Was appointed as *amicus curiae* in various matters.

Elevated as a Judge of the Supreme Court on 27 April 2018, and has the unique distinction of being the first woman judge to be elevated directly from the Bar.

Specializes in the field of arbitration law, and has appeared in various domestic and international commercial arbitrations. Is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators

(CI Arb), England. Was empanelled as an Arbitrator with the Singapore International Arbitration Centre (SIAC), and various other institutions conducting arbitrations, such as the Indian Council of Arbitration (ICA), Delhi International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), ASSOCHAM, etc. Was a member of the High Level Committee known as the Shri Krishna Committee, which made recommendations for institutionalization of arbitration in India.

Has authored and recently published the 4th Edition of 'Commentary on the Law of Arbitration' in March 2020, which was released by the Chief Justice of India.

Due to retire on 13 March 2021.



JUSTICE INDIRA BANERJEE

Born on 24 September 1957.

Passed India School Certificate Examination from Loreto House, Calcutta. Graduated with History (Hons.) from Presidency College, then affiliated to Calcutta University. LL.B. from Calcutta University, College of Law.

Enrolled as an Advocate on 05 July 1985. Practiced both in the Original and Appellate Sides of the Calcutta High Court in all branches of law except Criminal law, with appearances in Supreme Court, other Courts and Tribunals. Elevated as a permanent Judge of Calcutta High Court on 05 February 2002.

Was Chairperson of the Calcutta High Court Services Committee for almost 4 years. Officiated as Executive Chairperson of West Bengal State Legal Services Authority for almost a year, till transfer as Judge of the Delhi High Court. Nominated in July 2013 by the then Chief Justice of India for a week long training in Judicial Administration at the Civil Services College, Singapore.

Appointed Judge of the Delhi High Court on 08 August 2016. Was Chairperson of the Delhi State Legal Services Authority.

Sworn in as Chief Justice of Madras High Court on 05 April 2017.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 07 August 2018.

Due to retire on 23 September 2022.



JUSTICE VINEET SARAN

Born on 11 May 1957. Did B.A., LL.B.

Enrolled as an Advocate with the U.P. Bar Council on 28 July 1980. Practiced in the Allahabad High Court from 28 July 1980 to 13 February 2002 on the Original, Constitution, Civil and Criminal sides. Conducted cases for various private and public sector companies and also as special counsel for the Central and State Governments. Served as Additional Advocate General for the State of U.P in the year 1995.

Elevated as Permanent Judge on 14 February 2002. Took oath as Judge of Karnataka High Court on 16 February 2015. Appointed as the Chief Justice of the Odisha High Court on 26 February 2016.

Appointed as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 07 August 2018.

Due to retire on 10 May 2022.



JUSTICE K. M. JOSEPH

Born on 17 June 1958. Educated at Kendriya Vidyalaya, Kochi and New Delhi, Loyola College, Chennai and Govt. Law College, Ernakulam.

Enrolled as an Advocate on 12 January 1982 in Delhi. Later shifted to the High Court of Kerala, Ernakulam in 1983 and practised in Civil and Writ matters.

Appointed as Permanent Judge of the High Court of Kerala on 14 October 2004. Appointed as Chief Justice of Uttarakhand High Court on 31 July 2014.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 07 August 2018.

Due to retire on 16 June 2023.



JUSTICE HEMANT GUPTA

Born on 17 October 1957. Belongs to a family of professionals in law. His grandfather was a prominent civil lawyer who voluntarily left practice at the prime of his professional career at the age of 65. His father retired as Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court in the year 1991.

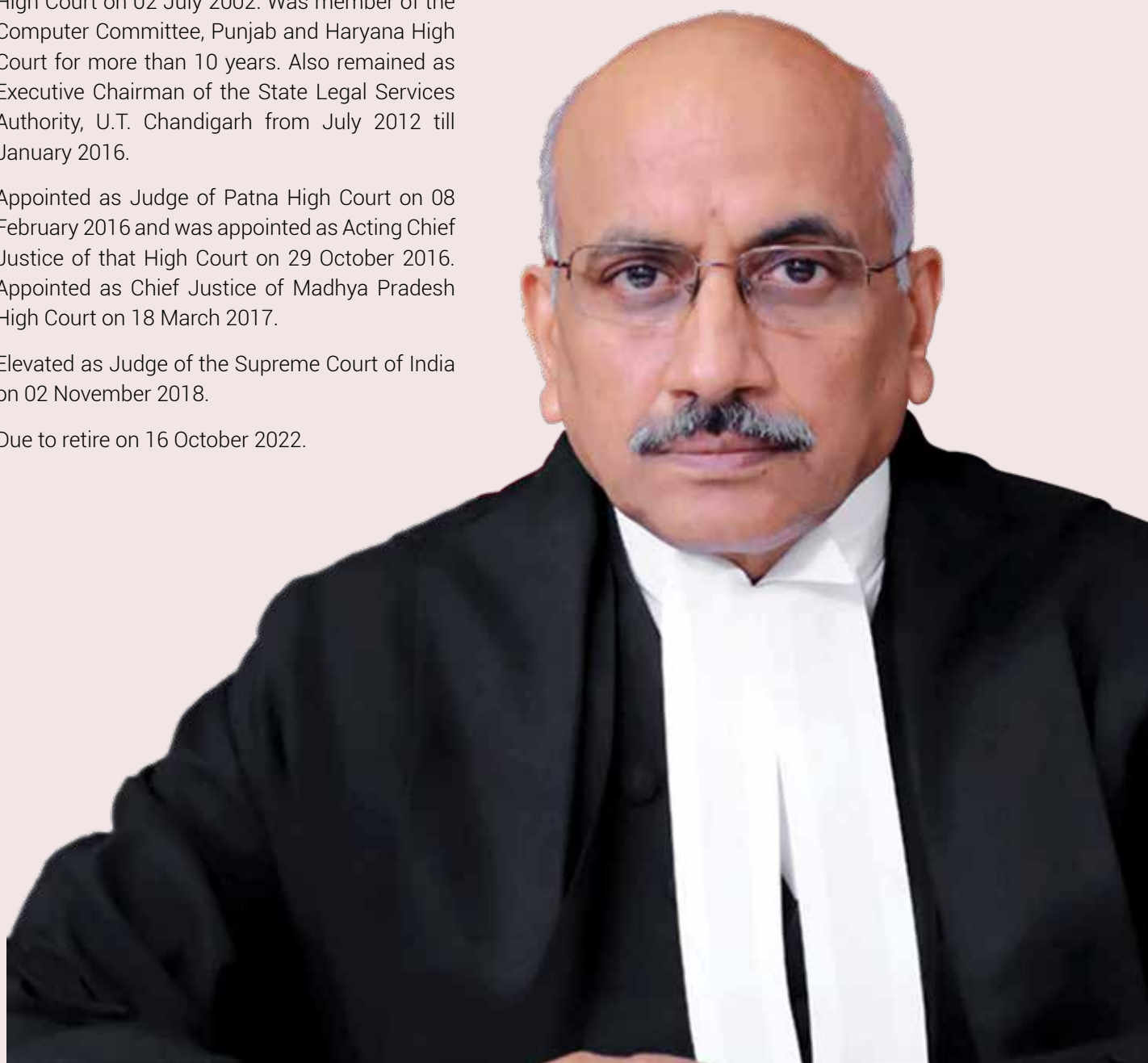
Enrolled as an Advocate in July 1980 and practiced at the High Court after spending initial few years in the District Court. Mainly dealt with the civil cases. Also worked as Additional Advocate General, Punjab from 1997 to 1999.

Appointed as Judge of Punjab and Haryana High Court on 02 July 2002. Was member of the Computer Committee, Punjab and Haryana High Court for more than 10 years. Also remained as Executive Chairman of the State Legal Services Authority, U.T. Chandigarh from July 2012 till January 2016.

Appointed as Judge of Patna High Court on 08 February 2016 and was appointed as Acting Chief Justice of that High Court on 29 October 2016. Appointed as Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court on 18 March 2017.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 02 November 2018.

Due to retire on 16 October 2022.



JUSTICE R. SUBHASH REDDY

Son of late Sri R. Jagannath Reddy and Smt. R. Vishala Devi.

Born on 05 January 1957 in an agricultural family in Kamaram Village of Chinna Shankarampet Mandal, Medak District.

Had his primary education in Upper Primary School and Higher Education in Zilla Parishad High School, Sankarampet, Medak District. Passed Intermediate and graduation from Andhra Vidyalaya College (AV College), Hyderabad. Obtained Law Degree from the University College of Law, Osmania University, Hyderabad.

Enrolled as an Advocate on the rolls of the Bar Council of Andhra Pradesh on 30 October 1980 and joined the Chambers of Sri Justice B. Subhasan Reddy (As Advocate as he then was).

Actively practised in Civil, Criminal, Constitutional and almost all other branches of Law. Had developed his independent practice within short span of time and extensively dealt with number of cases covering all branches of Law.

Was Standing Counsel for premier institutions like S.V. University and Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, etc.

Elected unanimously as the President of the A.P. High Court Advocates' Association for the year 2001-2002.

Elevated as Additional Judge of High Court of Andhra Pradesh on 02 December 2002.

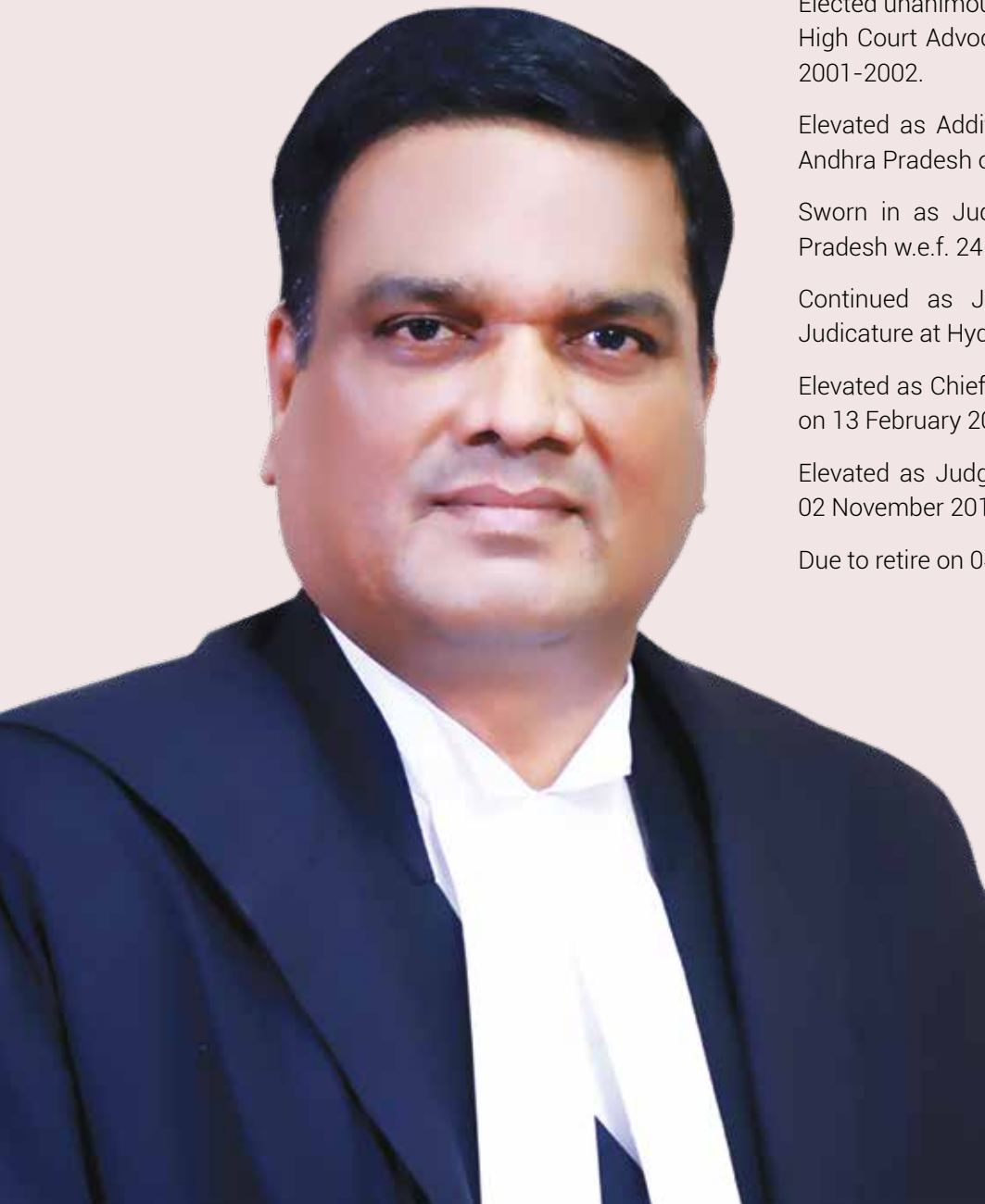
Sworn in as Judge of High Court of Andhra Pradesh w.e.f. 24 June 2004.

Continued as Judge of the High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad till 12 February 2016.

Elevated as Chief Justice, High Court of Gujarat on 13 February 2016.

Elevated as Judge, Supreme Court of India on 02 November 2018.

Due to retire on 04 January 2022.



JUSTICE M. R. SHAH

Born on 16 May 1958. Did B.Sc. and LL. B.

Enrolled as an Advocate on 19 July 1982 and practiced in the Gujarat High Court in Civil, Criminal, Constitutional, Taxation, Labour, Service and Company matters and specialized in Land, Constitutional, Education, Excise and Custom matters.

Worked as Central Government Standing Counsel and also Special Public Prosecutor for C.B.I. in the Gujarat High Court.

Appointed as an Additional Judge of the Gujarat High Court on 07 March 2004 and appointed as Permanent Judge on 22 June 2005.

Appointed as Chief Justice of Patna High Court on 12 August 2018.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 02 November 2018.

Due to retire on 15 May 2023.



JUSTICE AJAY RASTOGI

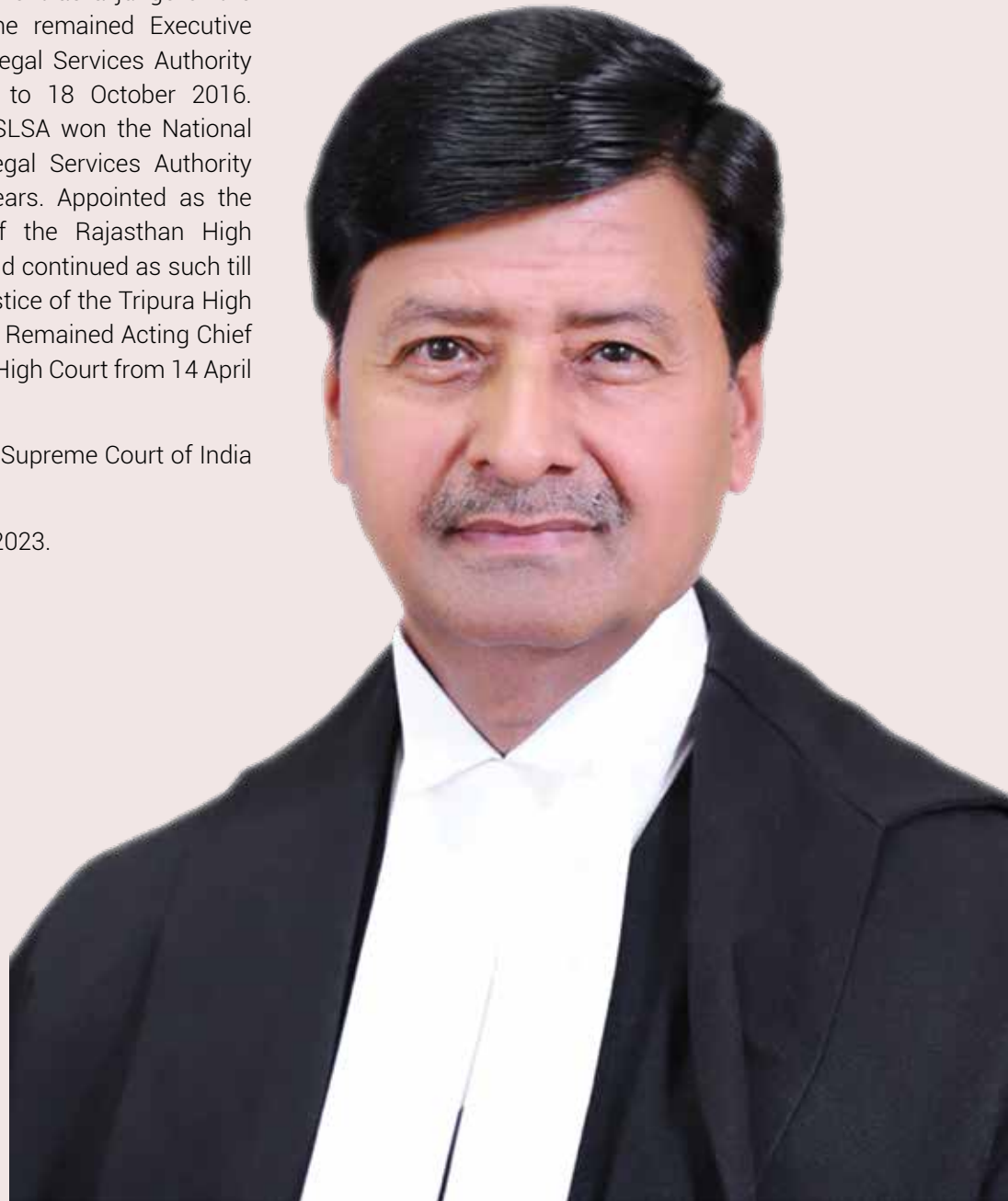
Born on 18 June 1958. Followed in the footsteps of his father Late Shri Harish Chandra Rastogi who was an eminent civil lawyer in Rajasthan High Court and joined the bar in 1982.

During his years at the bar practised in different spheres of law but specialized in Constitutional and Service Laws. Was nominated as the standing counsel for the Rajasthan High Court in the year 1990 and continued as such till his elevation in the year 2004. Remained President of the Rajasthan High Court Bar Association at Jaipur in the year 1999-2000.

Pursuant to his appointment as a judge of the Rajasthan High Court he remained Executive Chairman of the State Legal Services Authority from 14 October 2013 to 18 October 2016. Under his stewardship, SLSA won the National Award from National Legal Services Authority for three consecutive years. Appointed as the Administrative Judge of the Rajasthan High Court on 19 July 2014 and continued as such till his elevation as Chief Justice of the Tripura High Court on 01 March 2018. Remained Acting Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court from 14 April 2016 to 13 May 2016.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 02 November 2018.

Due to retire on 17 June 2023.



JUSTICE DINESH MAHESHWARI

Born on 15 May 1958 at Udaipur, Rajasthan. Hails from lawyers' lineage - grandfather late Shri Jagannath Kahalya practiced mainly at Begun, District Chittorgarh and father late Shri R. C. Maheshwari was a renowned civil side lawyer at Jodhpur.

Did B.Sc. (Hons.) in physics from Maharaja's College, Rajasthan University, Jaipur in the year 1977 and LL.B. from Jodhpur University in the year 1980.

Enrolled as an Advocate with Bar Council of Rajasthan on 08 March 1981. Practised on Original and Appellate sides before Rajasthan High Court and its subordinate Courts. Mainly dealt with Civil and Constitutional matters. Served as Counsel for Revenue and Excise Departments of Government of Rajasthan as also several Local Bodies and Corporations. Had also been co-opted member on various Disciplinary Committees of the Bar Council of Rajasthan.

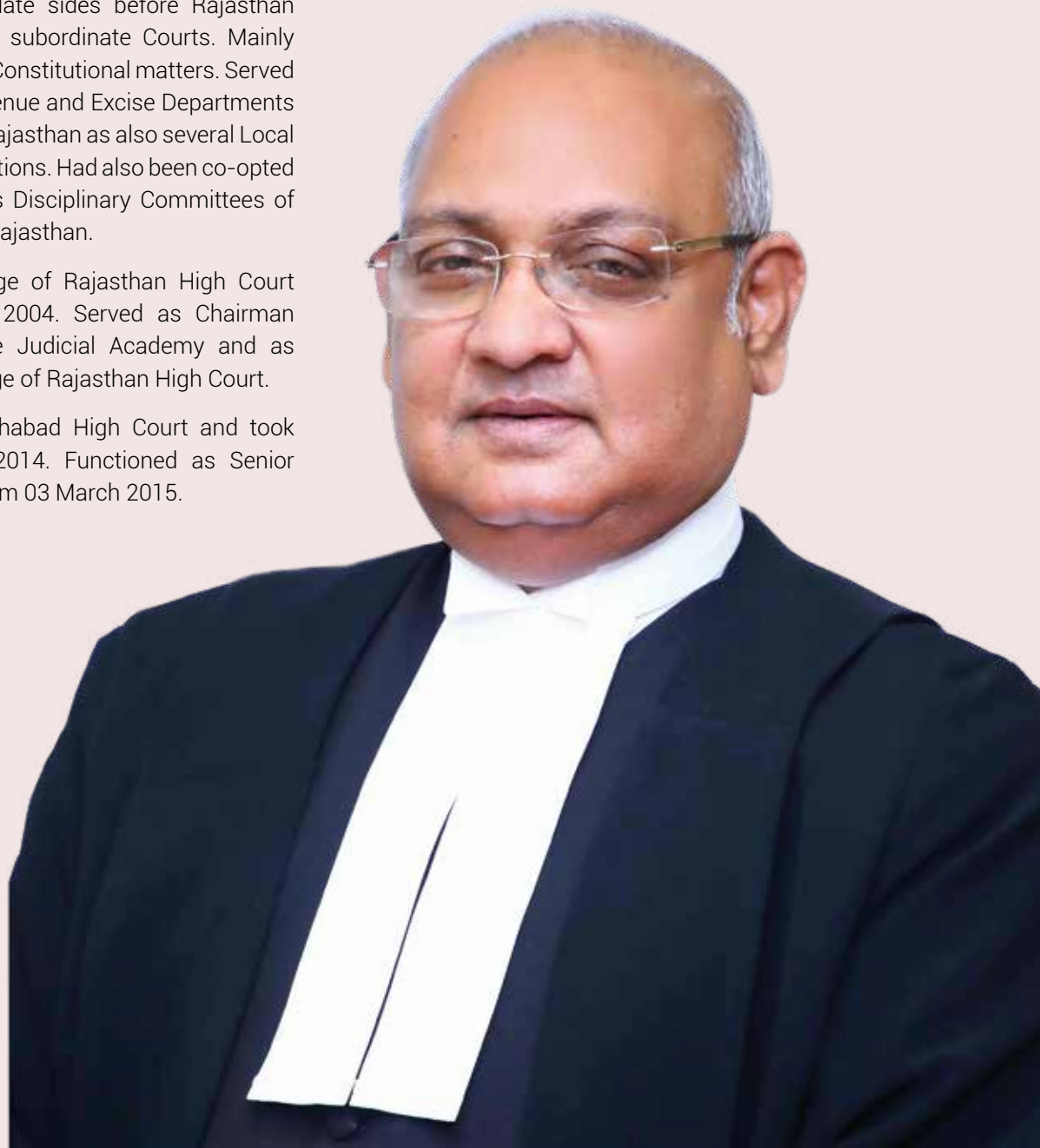
Took oath as Judge of Rajasthan High Court on 02 September 2004. Served as Chairman of Rajasthan State Judicial Academy and as Administrative Judge of Rajasthan High Court.

Transferred to Allahabad High Court and took oath on 19 July 2014. Functioned as Senior Judge, Lucknow from 03 March 2015.

Took oath as Chief Justice of High Court of Meghalaya on the 24 February 2016 and then, as Chief Justice of High Court of Karnataka on 12 February 2018.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 18 January 2019.

Due to retire on 14 May 2023.



JUSTICE SANJIV KHANNA

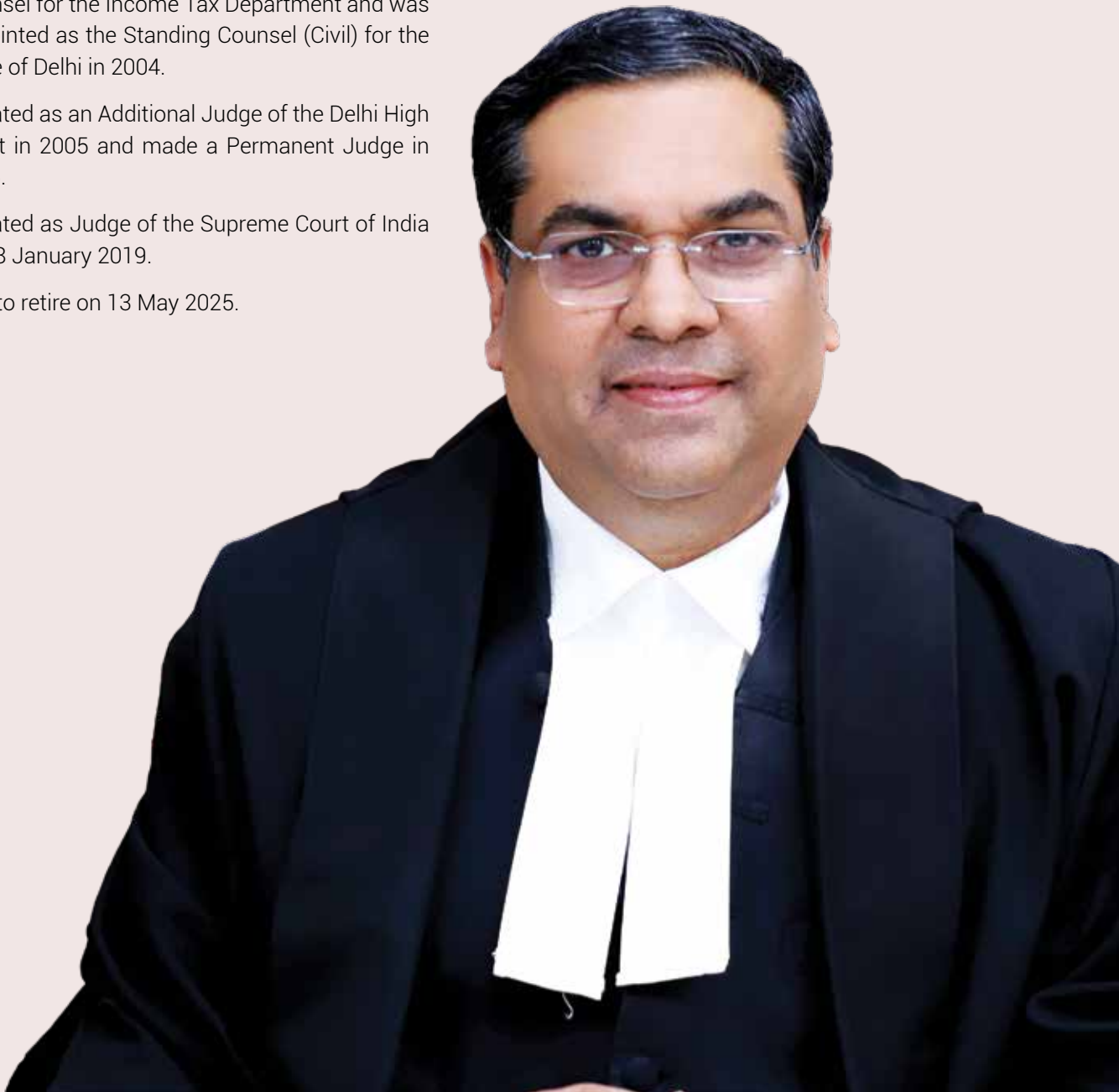
Born on 14 May 1960.

Enrolled as an advocate with the Bar Council of Delhi in 1983. Began practice in the District Courts at Tis Hazari and thereafter primarily practiced in the High Court of Delhi, in diverse fields of Constitutional Law, Direct Tax Appeals, Income Tax prosecutions, Arbitration matters, Commercial Suits, Company Law as well as cases concerning Environment and Pollution Laws and Medical Negligence. As an Additional Public Prosecutor and *amicus curiae*, had argued and appeared in Criminal Law matters before the High Court. Also held the office of Senior Standing Counsel for the Income Tax Department and was appointed as the Standing Counsel (Civil) for the State of Delhi in 2004.

Elevated as an Additional Judge of the Delhi High Court in 2005 and made a Permanent Judge in 2006.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 18 January 2019.

Due to retire on 13 May 2025.



JUSTICE BHUSHAN RAMKRISHNA GAVAI

Born on 24 November 1960 at Amravati.

Joined Bar on 16 March 1985. Practiced at Bombay High Court from 1985 to 1990.

After 1990, practised mainly before Nagpur Bench of Bombay High Court with occasional appearances at the Principal Seat and the Supreme Court. Practised in Constitutional Law and Administrative Law.

Was Standing Counsel for Municipal Corporation of Nagpur, Amravati Municipal Corporation and Amravati University. Appeared regularly for various autonomous bodies and Corporations like SICOM, DCVL, etc. and various Municipal Councils in Vidarbha region. Appointed as Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor for Nagpur Bench on 17 January 2000. Elevated as Additional Judge of the High Court on 14 November 2003. Became a Permanent Judge of the Bombay High Court on 12 November 2005. Presided over Benches having all types of assignments at the Principal Seat at Mumbai as well as Benches at Nagpur, Aurangabad and Panaji.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 24 May 2019.

Due to retire on 23 November 2025.



JUSTICE SURYA KANT

Born on 10 February 1962 in a middle-class family in District Hisar in Haryana. Was an avid debater, graduated from the Government Post Graduate College, Hisar in 1981 and earned a Bachelor's Degree in Law from Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak in 1984. Earned another distinction by standing First Class First in his LL.M. from the Directorate of Distance Education, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra in 2011.

Started law practice at the District Court in Hisar in 1984 and later shifted to the Punjab and Haryana High Court in Chandigarh in 1985 and represented multiple Universities, Boards, Corporations, Banks and also the High Court itself. Specialized in Constitutional, Service and Civil matters. Appointed as the youngest Advocate General of Haryana on 07 July 2000 and was designated as Senior Advocate in March 2001.

Held the office of Advocate General till elevation as a Permanent Judge to the Punjab and Haryana High Court on 09 January 2004.

Nominated as a member of the Central Authority of the National Legal Services Authority on 23 February 2007 for two consecutive terms. Has been/is also a member of different Committees of the Indian Law Institute. Has organized and attended several prestigious National and International Conferences as well.

Elevated as the Chief Justice of the Himachal Pradesh High Court on 05 October 2018.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 24 May 2019.

Due to retire on 09 February 2027.



JUSTICE ANIRUDDHA BOSE

Born on 11 April 1959.

Studied in St. Lawrence High School, St. Xavier's College in Kolkata. Did LL.B. from Surendranath Law College under the University of Calcutta.

Practised on Constitutional, Civil and Intellectual Property matters in the Calcutta High Court in 1985. Worked in the Original Side as well as the Appellate Side of the High Court.

Elevated as Permanent Judge of the Calcutta High Court in January 2004.

Elevated as Chief Justice of Jharkhand High Court on 11 August 2018.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 24 May 2019.

Due to retire on 10 April 2024.



JUSTICE AJJIKUTTIRA SOMAIAH BOPANNA

Born on 20 May 1959.

Enrolled as an advocate on 21 November 1984 and practised Civil, Constitutional, Company, Service and Labour matters in the High Court as well as in the Civil and Labour Courts. Worked as legal advisor to Central Public Sector Undertakings and worked as Additional Central Government Standing Counsel from 1999 onwards till 2005.

Appointed as an Additional Judge of the High Court of Karnataka on 06 January 2006 and became a Permanent Judge on 01 March 2007.

Elevated as Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court on 29 October 2018.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 24 May 2019.

Due to retire on 19 May 2024.



JUSTICE KRISHNA MURARI

Born on 09 July 1958. Obtained LL.B. degree from Allahabad University, Allahabad.

Enrolled as an Advocate on 23 December 1981. Practised in the Allahabad High Court for over 22 years in Civil, Constitutional, Company, Service and Revenue matters and has specialised in Civil Revenue and Service cases. Appointed as Standing Counsel of U.P. State Yarn Company Limited, Kanpur; Northern Railway Primary Co-operative Bank Limited; U.P. State Textile Corporation Limited, Kanpur; U.P. Co-operative Spinning Mills Federation Limited, Kanpur and Bundelkhand University, Jhansi.

Appointed as an Additional Judge of the Allahabad High Court on 07 January 2004 and appointed as Permanent Judge of the Allahabad High Court on 18 August 2005.

Took over as Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh on 02 June 2018.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 23 September 2019.

Due to retire on 08 July 2023.



JUSTICE S. RAVINDRA BHAT

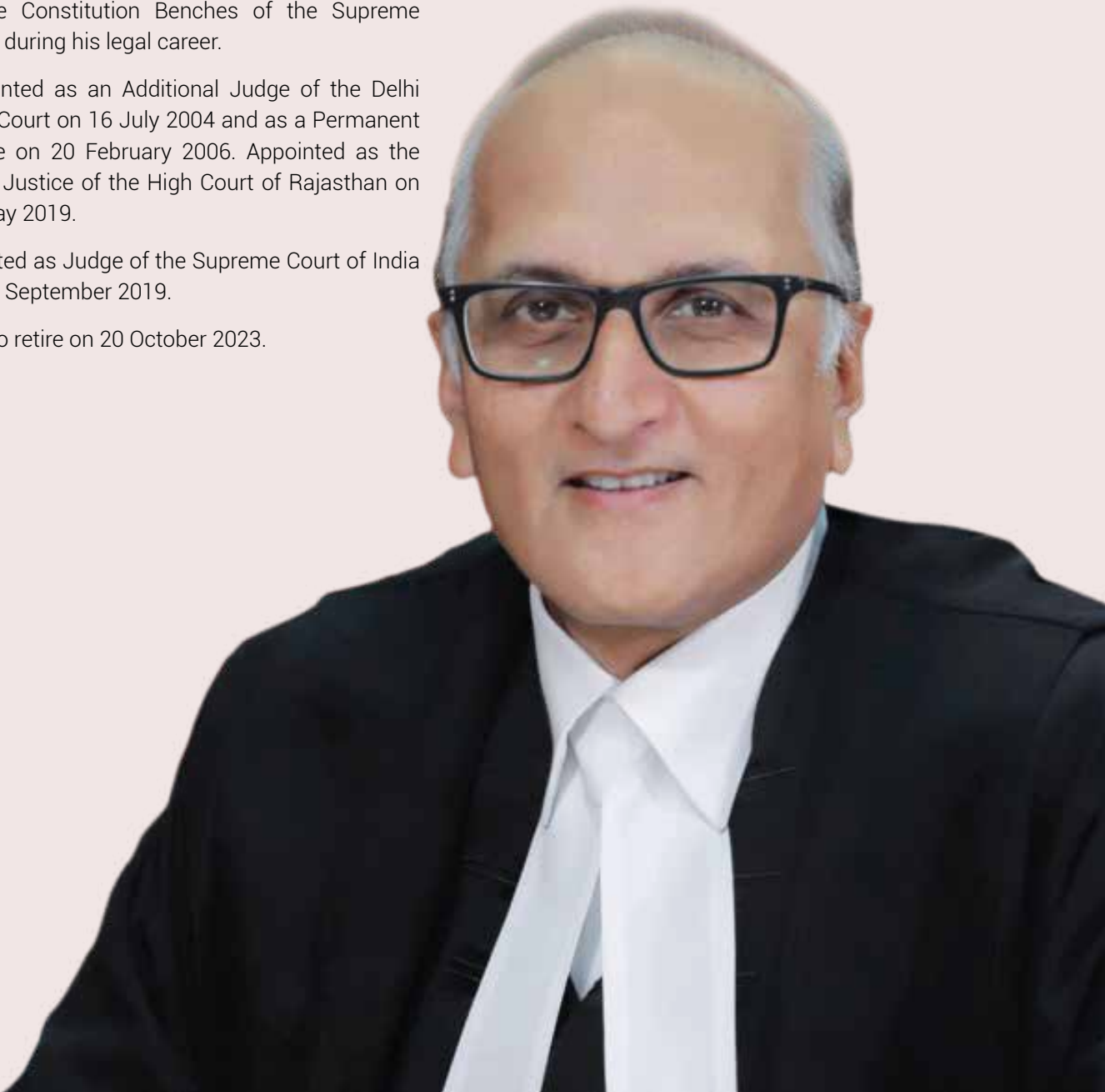
Born on 21 October 1958 in Mysore, Karnataka. Studied in Bangalore and Gwalior and completed his schooling from Kendriya Vidyalaya, Faridabad. Did B.A. (Hons.) in English from Hindu College, University of Delhi and obtained LL.B. degree from the Campus Law Centre, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, in 1982.

Enrolled as an Advocate with the Delhi Bar Council in 1982 and practised in the Supreme Court, where he was enrolled as an Advocate-on-Record in 1989. Practised in Public Law, Employment, Education and Constitutional Disputes and appeared in several important cases before Constitution Benches of the Supreme Court during his legal career.

Appointed as an Additional Judge of the Delhi High Court on 16 July 2004 and as a Permanent Judge on 20 February 2006. Appointed as the Chief Justice of the High Court of Rajasthan on 05 May 2019.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 23 September 2019.

Due to retire on 20 October 2023.



JUSTICE V. RAMASUBRAMANIAN

Born on 30 June 1958. Graduated in Chemistry from Ramakrishna Mission, Vivekananda College, Chennai and then studied Law in the Madras Law College.

Enrolled as a member of the Bar on 16 February 1983. Practiced for about 23 years in the High Court of Madras which included a stint in the office of the Senior Advocates K. Sarvabhauman and T.R. Mani for four years from 1983 to 1987.

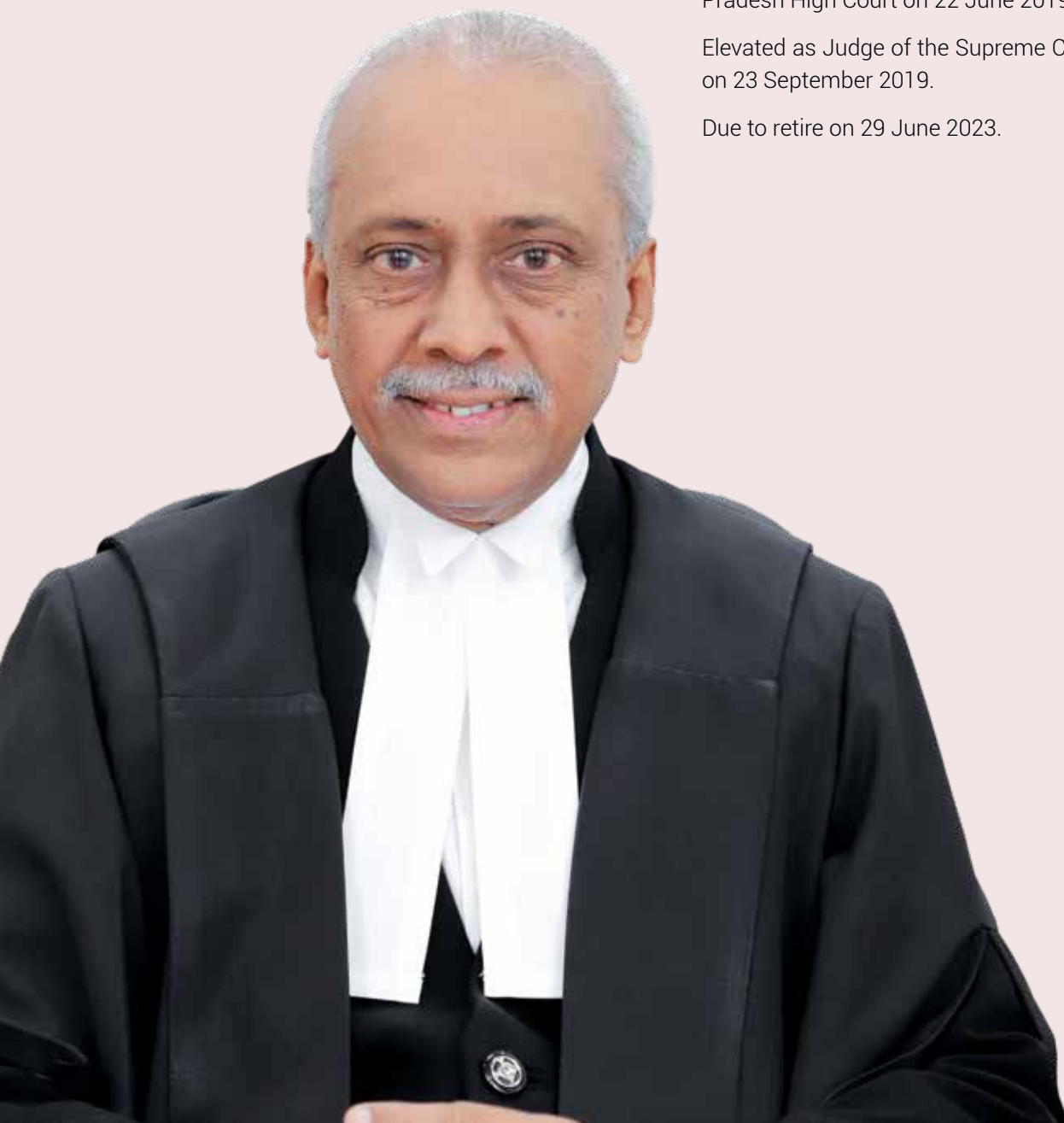
Appointed as an Additional Judge of the Madras High Court on 31 July 2006 and as a Permanent Judge on 09 November 2009.

Transferred on his own request to the High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh with effect from 27 April 2016. After the bifurcation and the creation of a separate High Court for the State of Andhra Pradesh, was retained as a Judge of the High Court of Telangana at Hyderabad w.e.f. 01 January 2019.

Appointed as the Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court on 22 June 2019.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 23 September 2019.

Due to retire on 29 June 2023.



JUSTICE HRISHIKESH ROY

Born on 01 February 1960. Obtained LL.B. Degree in 1982 from Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi.

Designated as Senior Advocate by the Gauhati High Court on 21 December 2004.

Appointed as Additional Judge of the Gauhati High Court on 12 October 2006 and Permanent Judge, with effect from 15 July 2008.

Spearheaded the training programmes for the Judicial officers under the Gauhati High Court and was nominated as a member of the National Judicial Academic Council, headed by the Chief Justice of India.

While heading the Legal Services Authority in Assam and in Arunachal Pradesh, Justice Roy opted for the visual media route to communicate the effectiveness of Mediation Programme through the film *Shako* (Bridge). Produced another short film, *Apne Ajnabi*, which explained how legal help can be accessed easily by the needy, under the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987. Both productions were used as training tools for judicial officers, lawyers and para legal volunteers.

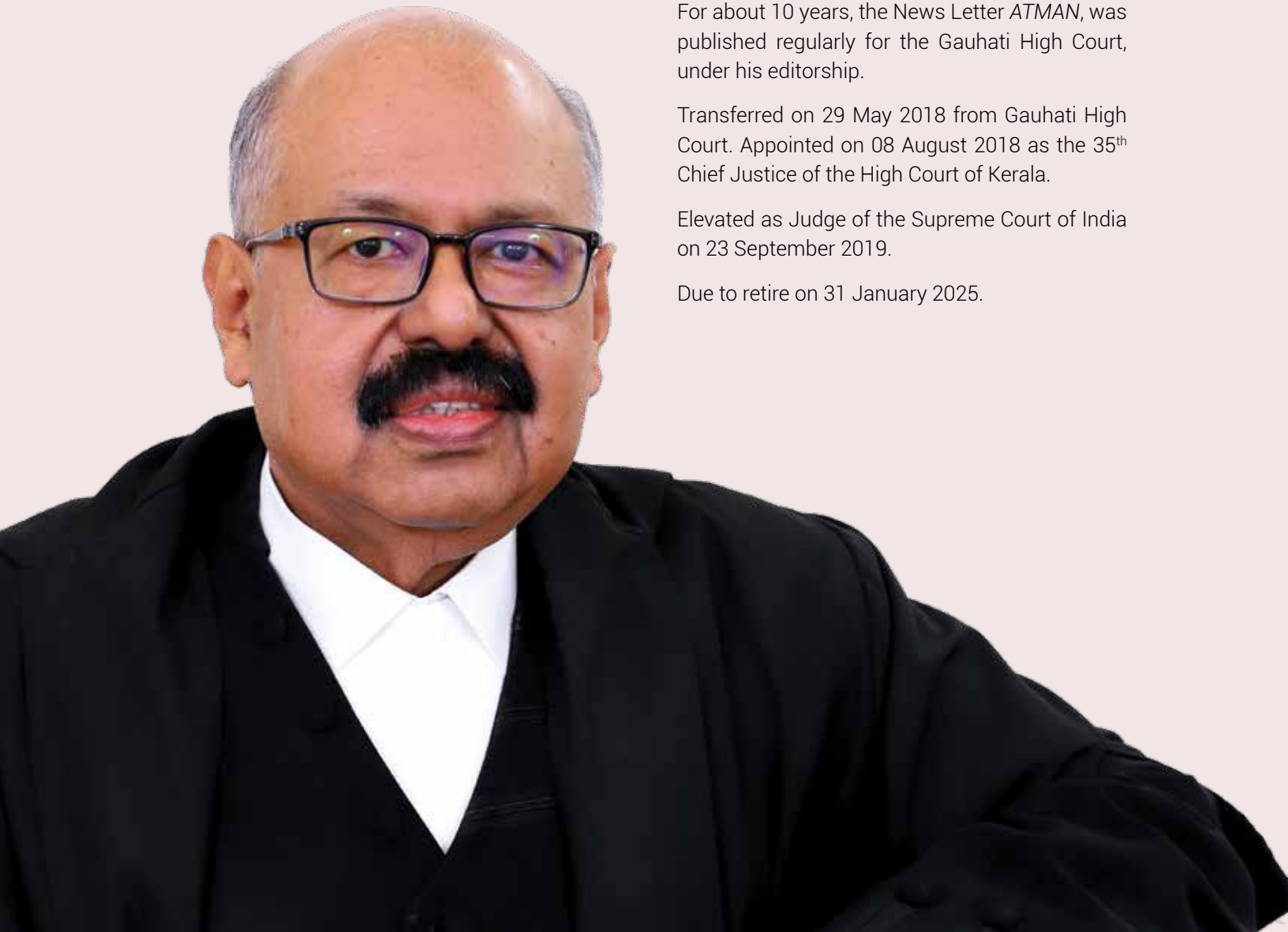
In Assam, to ensure justice delivery at the shortest distance, the *Reach Out & Respond* programme was launched and implemented, which helped large number from the marginalized segment to benefit from government schemes.

For about 10 years, the News Letter *ATMAN*, was published regularly for the Gauhati High Court, under his editorship.

Transferred on 29 May 2018 from Gauhati High Court. Appointed on 08 August 2018 as the 35th Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala.

Elevated as Judge of the Supreme Court of India on 23 September 2019.

Due to retire on 31 January 2025.



HON'BLE JUDGES RETIRED

From 1 July 2019 to 30 September 2020



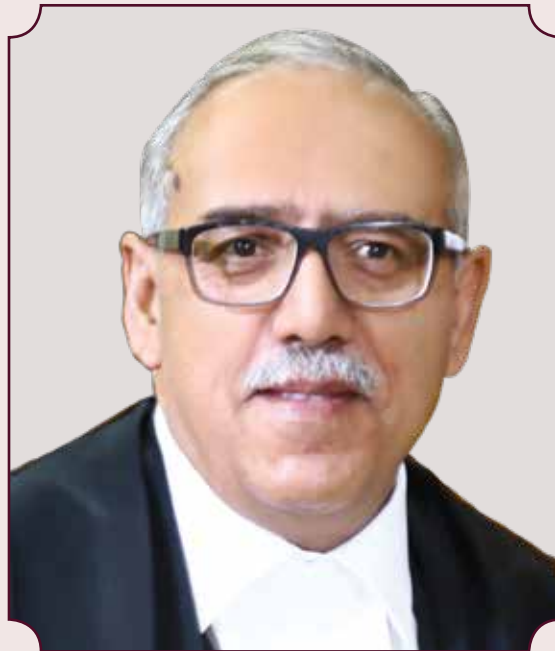
Justice Arun Mishra

Date of Appointment: 07 July 2014
Held Office Till: 02 September 2020



Justice R. Banumathi

Date of Appointment: 13 August 2014
Held Office Till: 19 July 2020



Justice Deepak Gupta

Date of Appointment: 17 February 2017
Held Office Till: 06 May 2020



2

SUPREME COURT : PAST TO PRESENT

Redoubtable chronicler of the Indian Constitution, Granville Austin, observed: "The subjects that loomed largest in the minds of Assembly members when framing the Judicial provisions were the independence of the courts and two closely related issues, the powers of the Supreme Court and judicial review. The Assembly went on great lengths to ensure that the courts would be independent, devoting more hours of debate to this subject than to almost any other aspect of the provisions. If the beacon of the judiciary was to remain bright, the courts must be above reproach, free from coercion and from political influence". Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, in Constituent Assembly described Indian Judiciary as: "One single integrated Judiciary having jurisdiction and providing remedies in all cases arising under the constitutional law, the civil law, or the criminal law". In his vision such a judicial system along with uniformity of law were "essential to maintain the unity of the country". Therefore, the Supreme Court at the Apex of a unified judicial system was envisioned as an Institution which would be instrumental in realization of the vision of framers of the Constitution. In 70 years of its existence, the Supreme Court of India has established itself as an institution which has performed yeoman service in establishment of, and in securing a 'Constitutional State'.

TRACING THE EVOLUTION

In the colonial period, laws were established

through a series of royal charters. The promulgation of Regulation Act of 1773 by the King of England paved the way for establishment of Supreme Court of Judicature at Calcutta. Letters Patent was issued on 26 March 1774 to establish the Supreme Court of Judicature at Calcutta, as a Court of Record, with full power & authority to hear and determine all complaints under any existing law also to entertain, hear and determine any suit or action against any of His Majesty's subject in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa. Similarly, Supreme Courts were established at Madras and Bombay by King George-III on 26 December 1800 and 8 December 1823, respectively. In the year 1857, after the first war of independence, the power from the East India Company was transferred to the British Crown and Indian judicial system was also changed accordingly. The Indian High Courts Act, 1861 was enacted to create High Courts for various provinces and the Supreme Courts at Calcutta, Madras and Bombay were abolished. High Courts were established in Allahabad, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras and subsequently in Lahore, Nagpur and Patna. In this period, the Appeals against the judgment of British-Indian Court lay to the Privy Council in Britain. However, because of inaccessibility of Privy Council (in terms of distance and expenses as well as its judicial aloofness), the rise of nationalist movement also saw rising calls for a 'Federal Court' in India. Subsequently, the Federal Court of India was created under the Government of India Act, 1935

which began functioning from 1 October 1937. However, there was still a right of appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London from the Federal Court of India. After attaining Independence, India became sovereign and, like most of modern sovereign countries, it adopted a constitution. The constitution lays down the court system for independent India. The final appellate power of Privy Council was transferred to the Supreme Court of India. On 28 January 1950, two days after India became a Sovereign Democratic Republic, the Supreme Court of India came into being. The inauguration took place in the Chamber of Princes in the Parliament building, which also housed India's Parliament, consisting of the Council of States and the House of the People. In the inaugural proceedings, the Judges of the Federal Court - Chief Justice Harilal J. Kania and Justices Saiyid Fazl Ali, M. Patanjali Sastri, Mehr Chand Mahajan, Bijan Kumar Mukherjea and S.R. Das - took their seats. Also in attendance were the Chief Justices of the High Courts of Allahabad, Bombay, Madras, Orissa, Assam, Nagpur, Punjab, Saurashtra, Patiala and the East Punjab States Union, Mysore, Hyderabad, Madhya Bharat and Travancore-Cochin. Along with the Attorney General for India, M.C. Setalvad were present the Advocate Generals of Bombay, Madras, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, East Punjab, Orissa, Mysore, Hyderabad and Madhya Bharat. Present too, were Prime Minister, other Ministers, Ambassadors and diplomatic representatives of foreign States, a large number of Senior and other Advocates of the Court and other distinguished visitors.

SUPREME COURT- AT PRESENT

After its inauguration on 28 January 1950, the Supreme Court commenced its sittings in a part of the Parliament House. The Court moved into the present building in 1958. The building is

shaped to project the image of scales of justice and has a 27.6 metre high dome and a spacious colonnaded verandah. The Central Wing of the building is the Centre Beam of the Scales. The Chief Justice's Court is the largest of the Courts located in the Centre of the Central Wing.

Chapter IV of Part V of the Constitution of India makes provision for "Union Judiciary". Article 124 deals with establishment and constitution of the Supreme Court, inter alia, prescribing its composition, qualifications of a Judge and mode of appointment as a Judge, thereof, and procedure for removal of a Judge from office. There is also a provision for appointment of ad hoc Judges under Article 127, and attendance of retired Judges at sittings, under Article 128. It is a Court of Record, as per Article 129, and has all the powers of such Court including the power to punish for its contempt. With its extensive powers under Articles 32 & 129 to Article 145 of the Constitution, the Supreme Court of India stands out as the forum for redressal of grievances, as the guardian of liberties and rights and also as the final arbiter in most disputes, not only between individuals, but also between States or between the Union and State/s or between individual/s and State/s. As an appellate court, it can hear appeals from the High Courts on civil, criminal and constitutional matters. The Supreme Court has the Appellate Jurisdiction over all Courts and Tribunals in India. The Court can review its own judgments. In its advisory capacity, it answers references by the President of India on any question of law or fact of public importance, which may have arisen or is likely to arise. The Supreme Court is designated as the custodian of fundamental rights and "rule of law". Article 144 mandates all authorities, civil and judicial, to act in aid of the Supreme Court. Interwoven into these powers is the power of judicial review, the power to strike down such legislation or executive

action as may be violative of the provisions or the basic structure of the Constitution, or inimical to the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Constitution. The Court has the authority to pass any decree and order as is necessary for doing "complete justice".

Under Article 141 of the Constitution, the law declared by the Supreme Court is binding on all courts within the territory of India. The Supreme Court exercises a wide and powerful discretionary jurisdiction under Article 136 which is unique and is aimed at doing complete justice rather than strictly following the letter of the law. Article 32 of the Constitution confers a right to move the Supreme Court for the enforcement of fundamental rights, and also power on the Supreme Court to issue writs for the protection of such rights. Further, for doing complete justice, the Supreme Court is empowered, under Article 142, to pass necessary orders. The Supreme

Court thus wields a unique jurisdiction unfettered by the strict letter of the law.

The proceedings of the Supreme Court are conducted in English only. Supreme Court Rules, 1966 are framed under Article 145 of the Constitution to regulate the practice and procedure of the Supreme Court.

STRENGTH OF JUDGES

The present strength of Supreme Court Judges is 34 i.e. Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India and 33 Hon'ble Judges. The strength of the Judges in the Supreme Court at the time of its inception was eight which has been increased from time to time by amending the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956. The strength of the Judges in the Supreme Court, as increased by amending Acts from time to time, has been as under: -

Constitutional Provision /Acts	Strength of Judges	Bill No.
Article 124, Constitution of India	Chief Justice + 7 Judges = 8	-
Act No. 55/1956	Chief Justice + 10 Judges = 11	Lok Sabha Bill No. 44/1956
Act No. 17/1960	Chief Justice + 13 Judges = 14	Lok Sabha Bill No.V/1960
Act No. 48/1977	Chief Justice + 17 Judges = 18	Lok Sabha Bill o.135/1977
Act No. 22/1986	Chief Justice + 25 Judges = 26	Lok Sabha Bill No.157/1985
Act No. 11/2009	Chief Justice + 30 Judges = 31	Lok Sabha Bill No.41/2008
Act No. 37 /2019	Chief Justice + 33 Judges = 34	Lok Sabha Bill No. 191-F/2019

THE FORMER JUDGES

The Supreme Court, since its inception has been nurtured and served by the judicial vision of 46

Hon'ble Chief Justices and 171 Hon'ble Judges besides the present Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India and 29 Hon'ble Judges (as on 2 November 2020)

RETIRED HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICES

(ARRANGED ACCORDING TO SENIORITY)

S. No.	Name	Date of Appointment in Supreme Court	Date of Appointment as C.J.I	Held Office Till
1	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harilal Jekisundas Kania	26/01/1950	26/01/1950	06/11/1951*
2	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Patanjali Sastri	26/01/1950	07/11/1951	03/01/1954
3	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mehr Chand Mahajan	26/01/1950	04/01/1954	22/12/1954
4	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bijan Kumar Mukherjea	26/01/1950	23/12/1954	31/01/1956**
5	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhi Ranjan Das	26/01/1950	01/02/1956	30/09/1959
6	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bhuvneshwar Prasad Sinha	03/12/1954	01/10/1959	31/01/1964
7	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.B. Gajendragadkar	17/01/1957	01/02/1964	15/03/1966
8	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Sarkar	04/03/1957	16/03/1966	29/06/1966
9	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Subba Rao	31/01/1958	30/06/1966	11/04/1967**
10	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.N. Wanchoo	11/08/1958	12/04/1967	24/02/1968
11	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Hidayatullah	01/12/1958	25/02/1968	16/12/1970
12	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.C. Shah	12/10/1959	17/12/1970	21/01/1971
13	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.M. Sikri	03/02/1964	22/01/1971	25/04/1973
14	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.N. Ray	01/08/1969	26/04/1973	28/01/1977
15	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Hameedullah Beg	10/12/1971	29/01/1977	21/02/1978
16	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Y.V. Chandrachud	28/08/1972	22/02/1978	11/07/1985
17	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.N. Bhagwati	17/07/1973	12/07/1985	20/12/1986
18	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.S. Pathak	20/02/1978	21/12/1986	18/06/1989**
19	Hon'ble Mr. Justice E.S. Venkataramiah	08/03/1979	19/06/1989	17/12/1989
20	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sabyasachi Mukherji	15/03/1983	18/12/1989	25/09/1990*
21	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ranganath Misra	15/03/1983	25/09/1990	24/11/1991
22	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.N. Singh	10/03/1986	25/11/1991	12/12/1991
23	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.H. Kania	01/05/1987	13/12/1991	17/11/1992
24	Hon'ble Mr. Justice L.M. Sharma	05/10/1987	18/11/1992	11/02/1993

25	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.N. Venkatachaliah	05/10/1987	12/02/1993	24/10/1994
26	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.M. Ahmadi	14/12/1988	25/10/1994	24/03/1997
27	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.S. Verma	03/06/1989	25/03/1997	17/01/1998
28	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.M. Punchhi	06/10/1989	18/01/1998	09/10/1998
29	Hon'ble Dr. Justice A.S. Anand	18/11/1991	10/10/1998	31/10/2001
30	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.P. Bharucha	01/07/1992	01/11/2001	05/05/2002
31	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Kirpal	11/09/1995	06/05/2002	07/11/2002
32	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.B. Pattanaik	11/09/1995	08/11/2002	18/12/2002
33	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.N. Khare	21/03/1997	19/12/2002	01/05/2004
34	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Rajendra Babu	25/09/1997	02/05/2004	31/05/2004
35	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.C. Lahoti	09/12/1998	01/06/2004	31/10/2005
36	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Y.K. Sabharwal	28/01/2000	01/11/2005	13/01/2007
37	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.G. Balakrishnan	08/06/2000	14/01/2007	11/05/2010
38	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.H. Kapadia	18/12/2003	12/05/2010	28/09/2012
39	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Altamas Kabir	09/09/2005	29/09/2012	18/07/2013
40	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Sathasivam	21/08/2007	19/07/2013	26/04/2014
41	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajendra Mal Lodha	17/12/2008	27/04/2014	27/09/2014
42	Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.L. Dattu	17/12/2008	28/09/2014	02/12/2015
43	Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Thakur	17/11/2009	03/12/2015	03/01/2017
44	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.S. Khehar	13/09/2011	04/01/2017	27/08/2017
45	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dipak Misra	10/10/2011	28/08/2017	02/10/2018
46	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ranjan Gogoi	23/04/2012	03/10/2018	17/11/2019

* Date of Death

** Date of Resignation

RETIRED HON'BLE JUDGES (ARRANGED ACCORDING TO SENIORITY)

S. No.	Name	Date of Appointment in Supreme Court	Held Office Till
1	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sir Syed Fazl Ali	26/01/1950	18/09/1951
2	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Chandrasekhara Aiyar	23/09/1950	24/01/1953
3	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivian Bose	05/03/1951	08/06/1956
4	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ghulam Hasan	08/09/1952	05/11/1954 *
5	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Natwarlal Harilal Bhagwati	08/09/1952	06/08/1959

6	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. Jagannadhadas	09/03/1953	26/07/1958
7	Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.L. Venkatarama Aiyar	04/01/1954	24/11/1958
8	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Syed Jaffer Imam	10/01/1955	31/01/1964 **
9	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.K. Das	30/04/1956	02/09/1963
10	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Govinda Menon	01/09/1956	16/10/1957 *
11	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.L. Kapur	14/01/1957	12/12/1962
12	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.C. Das Gupta	24/08/1959	02/01/1965
13	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Raghubar Dayal	27/07/1960	25/10/1965
14	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Rajagopala Ayyangar	27/07/1960	14/12/1964
15	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.R. Madholkar	03/10/1960	03/07/1966 **
16	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.S. Bachawat	07/09/1964	31/07/1969
17	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Ramaswami	04/01/1965	29/10/1969
18	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Satyanarayana Raju	20/10/1965	20/04/1966 *
19	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.M. Shelat	24/02/1966	30/04/1973 **
20	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vishishtha Bhargava	08/08/1966	04/02/1971
21	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.K. Mitter	29/08/1966	23/09/1971
22	Hon'ble Mr. Justice C.A. Vaidyalingam	10/10/1966	29/06/1972
23	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.S. Hegde	17/07/1967	30/04/1973 **
24	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.N. Grover	11/02/1968	31/05/1973 **
25	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Jaganmohan Reddy	01/08/1969	22/01/1975
26	Hon'ble Mr. Justice I.D. Dua	01/08/1969	03/10/1972
27	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Subimal Chandra Roy	19/07/1971	12/11/1971 *
28	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.G. Palekar	19/07/1971	03/09/1974
29	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hans Raj Khanna	22/09/1971	12/03/1977 **
30	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kutttyil Kurien Mathew	04/10/1971	02/01/1976
31	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.N. Dwivedi	14/08/1972	08/12/1974 *
32	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Mukherjea	14/08/1972	23/10/1973 *
33	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. Alagiriswami	17/10/1972	16/10/1975
34	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer	17/07/1973	14/11/1980
35	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.K. Goswami	10/09/1973	31/12/1977
36	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.S. Sarkaria	17/09/1973	15/01/1981
37	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.C. Gupta	02/09/1974	31/12/1981
38	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.L. Untwalia	03/10/1974	31/07/1980
39	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Murtaza Fazal Ali	02/04/1975	20/08/1985 *
40	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.N. Shingal	06/11/1975	14/10/1980
41	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jaswant Singh	23/01/1976	24/01/1979
42	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.S. Kailasam	03/01/1977	11/09/1980
43	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.D. Tulzapurkar	30/09/1977	08/03/1986
44	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.A. Desai	30/09/1977	08/05/1985
45	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.D. Koshal	17/07/1978	06/03/1982

46	Hon'ble Mr. Justice O. Chinnappa Reddy	17/07/1978	24/09/1987
47	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.P. Sen	17/07/1978	19/09/1988
48	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Baharul Islam	04/12/1980	12/01/1983 **
49	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. Varadarajan	10/12/1980	16/08/1985
50	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Amarendra Nath Sen	28/01/1981	30/09/1985
51	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Balakrishna Eradi	30/01/1981	18/06/1987
52	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.B. Misra	30/01/1981	14/06/1986
53	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.P. Madon	15/03/1983	06/04/1986
54	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.P. Thakkar	15/03/1983	03/11/1988
55	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Khalid	25/06/1984	30/06/1987
56	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.L. Oza	29/10/1985	11/12/1989
57	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.C. Ray	29/10/1985	31/10/1991
58	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.M. Dutt	10/03/1986	29/10/1989
59	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Natarajan	10/03/1986	28/10/1989
60	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Jagannatha Shetty	01/05/1987	14/12/1991
61	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ranganathan	05/10/1987	30/10/1992
62	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.D. Ojha	18/01/1988	18/01/1991
63	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ratnavel Pandian	14/12/1988	12/03/1994
64	Hon'ble Dr. Justice T.K. Thommen	14/12/1988	25/09/1993
65	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.N. Saikia	14/12/1988	28/02/1991
66	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kuldip Singh	14/12/1988	31/12/1996
67	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Ramaswami	06/10/1989	14/02/1994
68	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.B. Sawant	06/10/1989	29/06/1995
69	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.M. Kasliwal	06/10/1989	03/04/1993
70	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Ramaswamy	06/10/1989	12/07/1997
71	Hon'ble Ms. Justice M. Fathima Beevi	06/10/1989	29/04/1992
72	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Jayachandra Reddy	11/01/1990	14/07/1994
73	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.C. Agrawal	11/01/1990	04/09/1998
74	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.M. Sahai	11/01/1990	24/06/1995
75	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Yogeshwar Dayal	22/03/1991	02/08/1994 *
76	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Mohan	07/10/1991	10/02/1995
77	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.P. Jeevan Reddy	07/10/1991	13/03/1997
78	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.N. Ray	07/10/1991	30/04/1998
79	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.C. Patnaik	03/12/1991	30/05/1992 *
80	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.P. Singh	15/06/1992	24/12/1996
81	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Venkatachala	01/07/1992	02/07/1995
82	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.K. Mukherjee	14/12/1993	30/11/1998
83	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Faizan Uddin	14/12/1993	04/02/1997
84	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.L. Hansaria	14/12/1993	24/12/1996
85	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.C. Sen	11/06/1994	20/12/1997

86	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.S. Paripoornan	11/06/1994	11/06/1997
87	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Majumdar	19/09/1994	19/08/2000
88	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Sujata V. Manohar	08/11/1994	27/08/1999
89	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.T. Nanavati	06/03/1995	16/02/2000
90	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Saghir Ahmad	06/03/1995	30/06/2000
91	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Venkataswami	06/03/1995	18/09/1999
92	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.P. Kurdukar	29/03/1996	15/01/2000
93	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.T. Thomas	29/03/1996	29/01/2002
94	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Jagannadha Rao	21/03/1997	01/12/2000
95	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.P. Wadhwa	21/03/1997	04/05/2000
96	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Srinivasan	25/09/1997	25/02/2000 *
97	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajay Prakash Misra	04/12/1997	31/08/2001
98	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.S.M. Quadri	04/12/1997	04/04/2003
99	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.B. Shah	09/12/1998	24/09/2003
100	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.P. Mohapatra	09/12/1998	02/08/2002
101	Hon'ble Mr. Justice U.C. Banerjee	09/12/1998	17/11/2002
102	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Santosh Hegde	08/01/1999	15/06/2005
103	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.P. Sethi	08/01/1999	06/07/2002
104	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.N. Phukan	28/01/1999	31/03/2002
105	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Doraiswamy Raju	28/01/2000	01/07/2004
106	Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Ruma Pal	28/01/2000	02/06/2006
107	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.N. Variava	15/03/2000	07/11/2005
108	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shivaraj V. Patil	15/03/2000	11/01/2005
109	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Brijesh Kumar	19/10/2000	09/06/2004
110	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Agrawal	19/10/2000	14/10/2009
111	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Venkatarama Reddi	17/08/2001	09/08/2005
112	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Bhan	17/08/2001	01/10/2008
113	Hon'ble Dr. Justice Arijit Pasayat	19/10/2001	09/05/2009
114	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.P. Singh	14/12/2001	08/07/2007
115	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.M. Dharmadhikari	05/03/2002	13/08/2005
116	Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.K. Sema	09/04/2002	31/05/2008
117	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Sinha	03/10/2002	07/08/2009
118	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Kumar	03/10/2002	11/04/2006
119	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Srikrishna	03/10/2002	20/05/2006
120	Hon'ble Dr. Justice AR. Lakshmanan	20/12/2002	21/03/2007
121	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.P. Mathur	20/12/2002	18/01/2008
122	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Mathur	07/06/2004	06/08/2008
123	Hon'ble Mr. Justice C.K. Thakker	07/06/2004	09/11/2008
124	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tarun Chatterjee	27/08/2004	13/01/2010
125	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.K. Balasubramanyan	27/08/2004	27/08/2007

126	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.P. Naolekar	27/08/2004	28/06/2008
127	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.V. Raveendran	09/09/2005	14/10/2011
128	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dalveer Bhandari	28/10/2005	27/04/2012**
129	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Lokeshwar Singh Panta	03/02/2006	22/04/2009
130	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.K. Jain	10/04/2006	24/01/2013
131	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Markandey Katju	10/04/2006	19/09/2011
132	Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.S. Bedi	12/01/2007	04/09/2011
133	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.S. Sirpurkar	12/01/2007	21/08/2011
134	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. Sudershan Reddy	12/01/2007	07/07/2011
135	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.S. Singhvi	12/11/2007	11/12/2013
136	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aftab Alam	12/11/2007	18/04/2013
137	Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.M. Panchal	12/11/2007	05/10/2011
138	Hon'ble Dr. Justice Mukundakam Sharma	09/04/2008	17/09/2011
139	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Cyriac Joseph	07/07/2008	27/01/2012
140	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Ganguly	17/12/2008	02/02/2012
141	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Verma	11/05/2009	27/08/2012
142	Hon'ble Dr. Justice B.S. Chauhan	11/05/2009	01/07/2014
143	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Patnaik	17/11/2009	02/06/2014
144	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.S. Radhakrishnan	17/11/2009	14/05/2014
145	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.S. Nijjar	17/11/2009	06/06/2014
146	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Swatanter Kumar	18/12/2009	19/12/2012**
147	Hon'ble Mr. Justice C.K. Prasad	08/02/2010	14/07/2014
148	Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.L. Gokhale	30/04/2010	09/03/2014
149	Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Gyan Sudha Misra	30/04/2010	27/04/2014
150	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil R. Dave	30/04/2010	18/11/2016
151	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. J. Mukhopadhaya	13/09/2011	14/03/2015
152	Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai	13/09/2011	29/10/2014
153	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jasti Chelameswar	10/10/2011	22/06/2018
154	Hon'ble Mr. Justice F.M. Ibrahim Kalifulla	02/04/2012	22/07/2016
155	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madan B. Lokur	04/06/2012	30/12/2018
156	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.Y. Eqbal	24/12/2012	12/02/2016
157	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Gopala Gowda	24/12/2012	05/10/2016
158	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikramajit Sen	24/12/2012	30/12/2015
159	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose	08/03/2013	27/05/2017
160	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kurian Joseph	08/03/2013	29/11/2018
161	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Sikri	12/04/2013	06/03/2019
162	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shiva Kirti Singh	19/09/2013	12/11/2016
163	Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Nagappan	19/09/2013	03/10/2016
164	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.K. Agrawal	17/02/2014	04/05/2018
165	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Mishra	07/07/2014	02/09/2020

166	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Adarsh Kumar Goel	07/07/2014	06/07/2018
167	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abhay Manohar Sapre	13/08/2014	27/08/2019
168	Hon'ble Mrs. Justice R. Banumathi	13/08/2014	19/07/2020
169	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prafulla C. Pant	13/08/2014	29/08/2017
170	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Amitava Roy	27/02/2015	28/02/2018
171	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Gupta	17/02/2017	06/05/2020

* Date of Death

** Date of Resignation

3

JURISDICTION

The Supreme Court has jurisdiction over – the authority to hear – a wide range of cases. Its jurisdiction is generally classified into three categories namely, original, appellate and advisory.

ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

The Supreme Court of India is empowered by Article 131 of the Constitution of India to entertain original jurisdiction exclusively with regards to any dispute between the Government of India and one or more States; or, between the Government of India and any State or States on one side and one or more other States on the other; or, between two or more States, if and in so far as the dispute involves any question (whether of law or fact) on which the existence or extent of a legal right depends: Provided that the said jurisdiction shall not extend to a dispute arising out of any treaty, agreement, covenant, engagements, and or other similar instrument which, having been entered into or executed before the commencement of this Constitution, continues in operation after such commencement, or which provides that the said jurisdiction shall not extend to such a dispute. In addition, Article 32 of the Constitution gives an extensive original jurisdiction to the Supreme Court in regard to enforcement of Fundamental Rights. It is empowered to issue directions, orders or writs, including writs in the nature of habeas corpus, mandamus, prohibition, quo warranto and certiorari to enforce them. In accordance

with the power conferred under Article 71 of the Constitution, all doubts and disputes arising out of or in connection with the election of a President or Vice President shall be inquired into and decided by the Supreme Court whose decision shall be final. Apart from this, Section 25 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 enables the Supreme Court to transfer any case, appeal or other proceedings from High Court or other civil court in one State to a High Court or other civil court in any other State. Moreover, Supreme Court can also transfer any case involving same or substantially same questions of law pending before it and one or more High Courts in certain contingencies to itself, as per the provisions under Article 139A. The Appointment of Arbitrators by the Chief Justice of India Scheme, 1996 as framed under Section 11(10) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 regulates the appointment of arbitrators under Section 11(6) of the said Act. Furthermore, the Supreme Court has all the powers to punish for contempt of itself. For this purpose, 'Rules to Regulate proceedings for Contempt of the Supreme Court, 1975', have been framed in exercise of the power under Section 23 of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, read with Article 145 of the Constitution of India.

APPELLATE JURISDICTION

The Supreme Court has very wide appellate jurisdiction over all Courts and Tribunals in India. The Appellate Jurisdiction is exercised

under Articles 132 to 134. According to Article 132, An appeal shall lie to the Supreme Court from any judgment, decree or final order of a High Court in the territory of India, whether in a civil, criminal or other proceeding, if the High Court certifies under article 134A that the case involves a substantial question of law as to the interpretation of this Constitution. Apart from the above, Supreme Court also has the discretion to grant Special Leave to Appeal under Article 136 of the Constitution from any judgment, decree, determination, sentence or order in any cause or matter passed or made by any court or tribunal in the territory of India. Further, the Supreme Court of India has the jurisdiction to decide a statutory appeal, whenever any legislation provides for appeal to the Supreme Court. A number of special statutes provide for an Appeal to Supreme Court. Such provisions for statutory appeals include the following:

- Section 35L of the Central Excise Act, 1944 (1 of 1944);
- Section 116A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951);
- Section 38 of the Advocates Act, 1961 (25 of 1961);
- Section 261 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 (43 of 1961) before the establishment of National Tax Tribunal from 28.12.2005;
- Section 130E of the Customs Act, 1962 (52 of 1962);
- Section 19 (1) (b) of the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 (70 of 1971);
- Section 374 and Section 379 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (2 of 1974) read with Section 2 of Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Act, 1970 (28 of 1970);
- Section 23 of the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 (68 of 1986);
- Section 19 of the Terrorist and Disruptive Activities (Prevention) Act, 1987 (28 of 1987);
- Section 10 of the Special Courts (Trial of Offences relating to Transactions in Securities) Act, 1992 (27 of 1992);
- Section 15Z of the Securities and Exchange Board of India Act, 1992 (15 of 1992);
- Section 18 of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act, 1997 (24 of 1997);
- Section 53T of the Competition Act, 2002 (12 of 2003);
- Section 125 of the Electricity Act, 2003 (36 of 2003);
- Section 24 of the National Tax Tribunal Act, 2005 (49 of 2005);
- Section 30 of the Armed Forces Tribunal Act, 2007 (55 of 2007);
- Section 37 of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006 (19 of 2006);
- Section 31 of the Airports Economic Regulatory Authority of India Act, 2008 (27 of 2008);
- Section 22 of the National Green Tribunal Act, 2010 (19 of 2010);
- Section 423 of the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013);
- Section 38 of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 2013 (23 of 2013);
- Section 21 of the Black Money (Undisclosed Foreign Income and Assets) and Imposition of Tax Act, 2015 (22 of 2015);

- Section 33E of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (18 of 2016);
- Section 62 and 182 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (31 of 2016);
- Section 118 of the Central Goods and Services Tax Act, 2017 (12 of 2017); and
- Section 73 of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 (35 of 2019).
- Sections 14 and 17 of the Right to Information Act, 2005, as regards the Removal of Chief Information Commissioner or any Information Commissioner and State Chief Information Commissioner or State Information Commissioner, respectively.
- Section 257 of the Income Tax Act, 1961, as regards reference by the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal.

ADVISORY JURISDICTION

- I. Article 143(1) of the Constitution of India states that if at any time it appears to the President of India that a question of law or fact has arisen, or is likely to arise, which is of such nature or of such public importance that it is expedient to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court upon it, the President may refer the question to the Supreme Court for consideration. The Supreme Court may, after such hearing as it thinks fit, report to the President, its opinion thereon. In accordance with Article 143(2) of the Constitution, the President may, refer a dispute of the kind mentioned in the proviso of Article 131 of Constitution to the Supreme Court for opinion and the Supreme Court shall, after such hearing as it thinks fit, report to the President its opinion thereon.
- II. Reference to the Supreme Court can also be made under following provisions:
 - Article 317 of the Constitution of India, as regards removal of Chairman or any other Member of a Public Service Commission.
 - Section 11 of the Competition Act, 2002, as regards removal of Chairperson and other Members of the Commission.

OTHER POWERS OF THE SUPREME COURT

In addition to the Original, Appellate and Advisory Jurisdiction, the Supreme Court also exercises the following powers:

- **Public Interest Litigation (PIL):** A Public Interest Litigation may commence in any of the manner, such as: (i) through a suo motu petition in pursuance of the order of the Chief Justice or Judge of the Supreme Court; (ii) in pursuance of an order of the Chief Justice or a Judge nominated by the Chief Justice on a letter or representation; (iii) by an order of the Supreme Court to treat a petition as a Public Interest Litigation; (iv) by presentation of a petition in the Supreme Court.
- **Power of Review:** The Supreme Court under Article 137 of the Constitution of India has the power to review any judgment pronounced, or any order made by it. Review Petitions are disposed of by circulation as per listing procedures. However, in death sentence cases, oral hearing has been made permissible, limited to 30 minutes as per the verdict in *Sonu Sardar v. Union of India* [2014 (9) SCC 737]
- **Curative Petitions:** Order XLVIII of the

Supreme Court Rules, 2013 provides that the Supreme Court can reconsider its final judgment/order by way of a Curative Petition on limited grounds after the dismissal of Review Petition.

IMPORTANT ACTS RELATING TO SUPREME COURT

The important legislations relating to Supreme Court of India are as follows:

- Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968 (51 of 1968);
- Judges (Protection) Act, 1985 (59 of 1985) [amended by Act No. 34 of 2019];
- Supreme Court (Enlargement of Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction) Act, 1970 (28 of 1970) [amended by Act No. 37 of 1972];
- Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956 (55 of 1956) [amended by Act Nos. 17 of 1960, 48 of 1977, 22 of 1986, 11 of 2009 and 37 of 2019]; and

- Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958 (41 of 1958) [amended by Act Nos. 77 of 1971, 36 of 1976, 57 of 1980, 36 of 1985, 38 of 1986, 20 of 1988, 32 of 1989, 72 of 1993, 2 of 1994, 20 of 1996, 18 of 1998, 7 of 1999, 8 of 2003, 46 of 2005, 23 of 2009, 13 of 2016 and 10 of 2018].

SUBORDINATE LEGISLATIONS

The subordinate legislations relating to the Supreme Court are as follows:

- Judges (Inquiry) Rules, 1969;
- Supreme Court Rules, 2013;
- Supreme Court (Decree and Orders) Enforcement Order, 1954;
- Supreme Court Judges Rules, 1959;
- Supreme Court Judges (Travelling Allowance) Rules, 1959; and
- Rules to Regulate Proceedings for Contempt of the Supreme Court, 1975.

4

SUPREME COURT BUILDING

The Supreme Court of India came into existence replacing the Federal Court of India on 28 January 1950, two days after India became a Sovereign, Democratic Republic. The first sitting of the Supreme Court was held in the Chamber of Princes at Parliament Building, the place from where the Federal Court was functional. The Court shifted to the present premises, upon its inauguration by Hon'ble Dr. Rajendra Prasad, the first President of India, on 4 August 1958. While inaugurating the building of the Supreme Court, Dr. Rajendra Prasad had said – "I do not think it will fall to the lot of any of my successors to declare open such a 'Temple of Justice'."

1. ORIGINAL BUILDING-PAST TO PRESENT

The Original block of Supreme Court building was built on a triangular plot of 17 acres and the

building was designed by Chief Architect Ganesh Bhikaji Deolalikar, who was the first Indian to head the CPWD. He designed the Supreme Court building in an Indo-British architectural style. The Original building boasts of architectural splendour and rich ornamentation and manifests the significance of this institution as a coequal, independent branch of the State. Along the main corridors of the building, stand imposing columns in Grecian architecture. There is a happy blend of the Indian and the Grecian architectures in the construction of the building. The design of the Original building itself is in the shape of a balance with a pair of Scales of Justice. This noble edifice has been conceived and planned by Engineers and Architects, who were trained in their profession according to western standards. The architecture and construction of the building bear testimony to their western experience and skill set of high order and that they have combined



with it our conception of justice. Traditionally, one looks upon justice as a pair of scales, the two pans of which have to be held evenly without allowing the beam from which they hang to incline to either side. The two wings on the two sides of the building accommodate the offices and the records. At the end of each wing is a semi circular structure. They represent the pans which are attached to the beam at the top. This beam accommodates the Court rooms wherein the Hon'ble Judges are seated while dispensing justice. The Central beam from the ends of which the scales hang, comprises the Chief Justice's Court at the Centre with two Court halls on either side. The right wing of the structure presently consists of the Bar room, the offices of the Attorney General for India and other Law officers and the Judges Library of the Court. The left wing presently consists of offices of the Court.

Three extensions were made to the Original building- for the first time in 1979, then in 1994, and again in 2015. In 2019, a multi-storey Additional Building Complex built on the land abutting Pragati Maidan became functional.

First extension to the building

In the year 1979, two new wings, the east and the west wing, were added to the complex. Both wings consist of two Court Rooms each. The exterior of the building is dressed in red sand stone, in keeping with the architecture of existing main Building.

Second extension to the building

In the year 1994, second extension of the building was made, connecting the east wing and the west wing of the first extension. The ground floor has office rooms. There are Court Rooms and Judges' Assembly Hall/ Common Room on the first floor. The Second Floor of the block has

one Conference Hall. The third floor of the block has office rooms, Judges' library and Advocates' Library (R.K. Garg Memorial).

Third extension to the building

The New Extension Block near Supreme Court Museum was inaugurated by Hon'ble the then Chief Justice of India on 4 November 2015 and some of the Sections from the existing buildings were shifted to the new building to make the newly shifted and remaining Sections comfortable.

Additional Building Complex of the Supreme Court of India

His Excellency the President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the Additional Building Complex of the Supreme Court of India on 17 July 2019. The additional complex, with a total built up area of 1,80,700 sq. mts., has five Functional Blocks and one Service Block. These Blocks are four to eight storeys high and have a three-level basement with car parking capacity of about 1800 car units. The building complex is a state-of-the-art, environment friendly, centrally air-conditioned office complex with all modern facilities. The curvature of the building in the European style pillars that rise from the ground level in the colour scheme and the sandstone external cladding depicts that an attempt has been made in design of this building to retain the original marvel of the Supreme Court.

2. SCULPTURES, LOGO AND MURAL

Mother and Child Sculpture

This black bronze sculpture of 210 centimeter height was installed in the lawns of the Supreme Court on 20 February 1978. It portrays Mother



India in the form of the figure of a lady. The sculpture depicts Mother India sheltering the young Republic of India represented by the symbol of a child, who is upholding the laws of land symbolically shown in the form of an open book. On the book, a balance is shown, which represents dispensation of equal justice to all. The sculpture was made by the renowned artist Shri Chintamani Kar.

Statue of the Father of the Nation- Mahatma Gandhi

The statue was installed on 1 August 1996 in the lawns of the Supreme Court facing the main



entrance of Chief Justice's Court. The statue was sculpted by the renowned artist Freda Brilliant Marshall.

Logo/ Emblem of the Supreme Court

The logo of the Supreme Court appears on the front wall, just above the entrance of the Chief Justice's Court. It has been designed by reproducing the wheel with 32 spokes found on the Abacus of the Lion Capital of Ashoka Pillar at Sarnath. The supreme norm "यतो धर्मस्ततो जयः" (Sanskrit: "Yato Dharmastato Jaya") is inscribed on the logo, which means- 'Where there is Dharma, there is victory.'



Mural in the Judges Gallery

There is a beautiful mural of coloured porcelaintiles in the Judges Gallery, with the Goddess of Justice on the right side and





Entrance Gate, Additional Building Complex, Supreme Court of India

Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of our Nation, on the left side. The Goddess of Justice is in white robes and wearing a crown, holding a balance with scales in one hand and a book in the other. The Goddess is not blind-folded because as per Vedic sutras, the deity of Justice does not close its eyes but allows the graceful rays from its eyes to illumine the administration of justice. Below the figure of Mahatma Gandhi are two charkhas (spinning wheels) which symbolize spirit of self-reliance. Between the Mahatma and the Goddess, there is a rectangle showing a Dharma Chakra (Wheel of Justice) with twenty four spokes with an inscription below "सत्यमेवोद्धराम्यहम्" in Sanskrit "Satyamevoddharamyaham" which means "Truth alone I uphold".

3. NEW INITIATIVES

- (a) **Judges Ceremonial Hall:** Upgradation/ redesigning of new Judges Ceremonial Hall in the Additional Building Complex. This Ceremonial Hall has been erected with spacious wall-to-wall carpeting, podium attached pantry and restrooms, capacity to host events, official dinners and cultural get-togethers in the Additional Building Complex;
- (b) **Judges Arrival Area:** The alighting point of Hon'ble Judges has been re-designed with a grand entrance for their Lordships arrival at the Auditorium/ Multipurpose Hall and Conference Hall;
- (c) **Constitution Day celebrations:** Constitution Day was celebrated with great pomp and



Tree plantation by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sharad A. Bobde, Chief Justice of India, during International Judicial Conference 2020

show on 26th November, 2019 in the Auditorium/Multipurpose Hall in Block 'C' of the Additional Building Complex. The occasion was graced by His Excellency the President of India, Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Judges and other high dignitaries. The event was successfully organised involving seamless co-ordination with CPWD, Delhi Police, PWD, ITPO, Fire Department, SDMC etc.

(d) **International Judicial Conference, 2020 held from 21st to 23rd February, 2020:** International Judicial Conference, 2020 was a first of its kind event organized by the Supreme Court of India in which Hon'ble Judges from as many as 23 countries and jurisdictions participated and spoke on contemporary challenges before the Judiciary. The Dignitaries including His Excellency the President of India, Hon'ble the Prime Minister of India, Hon'ble Law Minister of India, Hon'ble the Chief Justice



A view of fountain at the Additional Building Complex, Supreme Court



of India and other Hon'ble Judges, Hon'ble Chief Justices and Judges of Supreme Court of other countries, Hon'ble Chief Justices and Hon'ble Judges of High Courts graced the occasion. At the conclusion, Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, other Hon'ble Judges as well as Hon'ble Dignitaries from various visiting countries planted flowering trees in the Additional Building Complex of the Supreme Court of India, which are being nurtured thereafter;

- (e) **Redevelopment of the Supreme Court Guest House:** Rooms of the Guest House in the Additional Building Complex were redesigned to create 12 Suites with modern fixtures, fittings and furniture to make it amenable for comfortable stay of visiting dignitaries.
- (f) **Shifting of the Judicial and other ancillary branches of the Registry:** All necessary provisions and arrangements were made for shifting of the Judicial and other ancillary Branches of the Registry from the Main Campus to the Additional Building Complex. All the Branches at the new premises have been provided with modern day office furniture etc. as per requirements. Basement areas were furnished and godowns were created therein while providing compactors for storage of files and records;
- (g) **Modern Departmental Canteen:** The Departmental Canteen for the staff/officers of the Registry was provided a new operational area with all modern fixtures and fittings with an automated state-of-the-art kitchen to ensure high level of hygiene and adequate cooking space. Large sitting area is provided in the Canteen. Designer clocks, Utility furniture with TVs were made available in both the big halls of the said canteen. The same is operational now and is catering to



A view of the Auditorium at the Additional Building Complex, Supreme Court

the needs of large number of staff members. Environment-friendly PNG fuel is used in the Departmental Canteen and Hon'ble Judges Pantry for which separate gas pipeline was laid down inside the Additional Building Complex;

- (h) **Creation of Five new Chambers:** Five new Chambers for the use of Hon'ble Judges have been constructed, three at ground floor of the West Wing and remaining two at 1st Floor, East Wing of the Main Building;
- (i) **Two new Registrar Court Nos. 1 & 2:** Two new Registrar Court Nos. 1 & 2 have been created by modifying the existing structure of Cash and Accounts Branch so that vacated court rooms can be utilized for Additional Courts viz., Court Room Nos. 16 and 17 as per requirement of more court rooms, while Court No.15 would continue to be used as an auxiliary Court at all times;
- (j) **Court Master Assembly:** Court Master Assembly has been created with state-of-the-art gadgets, secure area, central air-conditioning, individual storage with provision for the working of 64 Court Masters at Second Floor, West Wing of the main building. This assembly place has been provided with all modern furniture and amenities for office use such as modular work stations, storage and chairs as per architectural drawings. A state of the art CCTV surveillance system having 15 Cameras, display unit, 6 KVA UPS and access control system with automatic sliding door and 43 inch display unit with one Desktop has been put in place.
- (k) **Reconstruction/renovation of Physiotherapy Unit:** Physiotherapy Unit of the Supreme Court CGHS Centre was reconstructed/renovated making way for more space for the doctors and staff while improving aesthetics of the area and putting in place improved air-conditioning system ensuring more comfort for its users;
- (l) **Renovation of Fountain in central lawns:** Renovation of Fountain in central lawns of Hon'ble Judges area at their Lordships' alighting point and relaying of road carpeting in surrounding areas with a view to uplift the beauty of the surroundings.



Interior view of the Additional Building Complex, Supreme Court

(m) **Renovation/repair/finishing work of exterior walls of iconic 27.6 metre high Central Dome of the Supreme Court of India:**

Renovation/repair/finishing work of exterior walls of iconic 27.6 metre high Central Dome of the Supreme Court of India has been executed with ultra-modern technique using vapour permeable lime finish plaster through CPWD, enabling restoration of its beauty and strengthening of the structure which was constructed long back in 1958. Since its inception, due to positioning and height of the Central and other domes it was very difficult and risky for the CPWD to carry out the maintenance/ repairing and paint work of domes. In the year 2019, CPWD was directed to undertake the task of repairing/ painting of all the Domes, for which large double scaffolding was constructed by the CPWD to reach the dome, and repairing/ painting work was safely carried out by the professionals, specialized in the field. The process of renovation involved three stages. In the first stage, coat of masonry primer along with sealer was applied by brush/

roller after proper sanding of the surface. primer and sealer was applied to reduce the absorption in the surface and also for proper adhesion. In the second stage, three coats of marmorino were applied with stainless steel trowel, which is developed from natural lime, marble dust, natural pigment and adhesive/ resins. The product is specially designed for heritage buildings to restore its beauty; the product has been developed on the 12th century technique used by Venetians to incorporate art into building design. Finally, two coats of anti-moss water base Matt was applied by roller/ brush to make the product totally water repellent and UV resistant for a long time;

- (n) **Deep and exhaustive treatment of roof top:** Deep and exhaustive treatment of roof-top of entire main building of the Supreme Court was done to protect it from recurrent seepage during rainy season;
- (o) **Stone treatment/cleaning work of entire boundary walls:** Stone treatment/cleaning work of entire boundary walls surrounding

- the main building of the Supreme Court was done to ensure and maintain its longevity;
- (p) **Periodical pruning drives:** Periodical pruning drives of all the trees inside and outside the main building and surrounding areas of the Supreme Court building was done mainly for getting clear view for the security personnel. Pruning of branches of trees was done on all the three sides of Supreme Court Boundary i.e. Tilak Marg, Bhagwan Das Road and Mathura Road regularly, while ensuring that there is no obstruction in the sight of cameras and street lights installed adjacent to these trees to prevent any security threat;
- (q) **Plantation work, gardening work and horticulture related works:** Plantation work, gardening work and horticulture related works were done to enhance the floral beauty of the premises. The area from 'F' Gate to 'G' Gate along the Supreme Court periphery on Mathura road was rejuvenated by executing plantation and gardening work. Plant watering trucks were deputed to water the plants and big trees along Mathura Road;
- (r) **VRV/VRF Air Conditioning System:** Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF), also known as Variable Refrigerant Volume (VRV) Air-conditioning units for independent operation with self-regulating temperature mechanism have been installed in Court Room Nos. 1 to 5;
- (s) **The works of arts and artefacts, murals etc.:** The works of art and artefacts, murals etc. within the premises and Hon'ble Judges areas were got restored/cleaned with the help of experts in the field. In the month of May, 2019, experts were called from Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts for cleaning and restoration of Mural installed in the Hon'ble Judges Gallery area;
- (t) **Creation of Rejuvenation/ Recreation centre:** Rejuvenation/ Recreation centre exclusively for the Hon'ble Judges has been created for the first time within the premises of main building of this Hon'ble Court. The centre is equipped with all modern fixtures, fittings, modern gadgets and essential equipments with grand and beautiful surroundings and comfort as per requirement. This is a state of- the-art creation being a unique one in the complex;
- (u) **Grand and sprawling secretariat of Hon'ble CJI:** Grand and sprawling secretariat/offices for the secretarial staff of Hon'ble CJI has been earmarked underneath the area of the Hon'ble Chief Justice's Court and its renovation/construction work is now at the stage of its completion;
- (v) **Renaming of the 'Pragati Maidan Metro Station' as 'Supreme Court Metro Station':** Renaming of the 'Pragati Maidan Metro Station' as 'Supreme Court Metro Station' was done;
- (w) **Renaming of DTC Bus stands:** Re-naming of DTC Bus stands i.e "Appu Ghar" as "Supreme Court" and "Supreme Court (Pragati Maidan Metro Station) as Supreme Court Metro Station was done;
- (x) **Signages at prominent places:** Signages at prominent places indicating the new Additional Building Complex of the Supreme Court of India have been placed;
- (y) **Historical storm water drain discovered and restored:** For long, there has been a problem of water logging in the basements, paper book godowns and premises of the Supreme Court especially during the monsoon season due to the back-flow of water from storm water drainage pipes. On thorough inspection, it

- was found that the drainage/sewerage pipes of PWD running along the Mathura Road, to which Supreme Court drainage/sewerage pipes are connected, were clogged and required complete restoration. Accordingly, initiatives were taken for removal of debris and complete restoration of such pipes to prevent back flow of drainage/sewerage/rain water to the Supreme Court premises;
- (z) **Construction of new Sump:** Complete overhaul of sewerage discharge system of Supreme Court of India has been undertaken; Underpass project of ITPO necessitated relaying and shifting of sewer lines and construction of new sump.
- (aa) **Pollution Control measures:** Pollution Control measures have been taken including streamlining drinking water supply in entire premises; periodical air quality testing of the Supreme Court premises by the Central Pollution Control Board; banning use of plastic containers/plastic utensils/polythene bags to serve food/beverages in all canteens functioning within the Supreme Court premises, including the Lawyers Chambers areas. Periodical testing of drinking water, water storage tanks, etc. is carried out. Random testing of drinking water is also carried out;
- (ab) **Laser light illumination:** Practice of fitting of decorative lights by pinning nails on the external walls, pillars and other structure of the iconic main building has been discontinued to prevent damage to the structure. It has been replaced by laser light illumination on ceremonial occasions or as directed, which has proved to be a better alternative to conventional illumination in terms of energy saving, lighting and preserving the aesthetics of the Building;
- (ac) **Curved Stone linings:** Curved Stone linings to prevent pigeons from using the parapets have been constructed in order to protect the domes, pillars (made of Dholpur stone) and heritage structure of the building. 50 metre of pigeon protecting mechanism was installed from Court No.10 to Court No.16 to prevent pigeons from using the parapets.
- (ad) **Creation of Tenure Pool:** Creation of Tenure Pool for Ld. Secretary General and Ld. Registrars of this Hon'ble Court coming on deputation from various States is another great achievement. Such a pool was created for the first time, in line with pools for officers of All India Services; and in view of round the clock functionality of Supreme Court of India. Vide Office Memorandum dated 28.10.2019 of Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, creation of Tenure Pool (TN) for total eight accommodation for Registrars in Type-VIB(CI) and one accommodation in Type-VII for allotment to the Secretary General was notified. It was also specifically prescribed that the allotment shall be made to them on priority basis. At present, as per above OM one Type-VII accommodation has been allotted to Secretary General and two accommodations in Type-VIB (CI) have been allotted to the Registrars.
- (ae) **Stone Jali work:** Stone Jali work to match the facade of main buildings and in order to improve the ambience of the area and as safety measure was executed around the Air Conditioning plants near Gate 'G' in the pattern consonant with the surroundings and aesthetics of the Building.
- (af) **Covering of the passage/path with canopy from the lift and escalator area to be used by Advocates/Litigants:** The passage/path from the lift and escalator area to be used



Grand Entrance of the Additional Building Complex, Supreme Court

by Advocates/Litigants, connecting the Supreme Court Main Building to the Additional Building Complex, upto the Security Check/ Porta Cabin near Hon'ble Judges' Library Car Parking area in the Supreme Court Main Building has been made weather friendly by covering it with a canopy.

- (ag) **Creation of necessary infrastructure and making arrangements of social distancing in Court Rooms:** Suitable arrangements were made in order to support resumption and smooth functioning of Hon'ble Courts keeping

in view COVID-19 pandemic. Polycarbonate transparent sheets fixed on robust aluminium panels of appropriate height were installed in designated areas inside the Court Rooms on trial basis, separating the dias area and Advocates/Litigants areas to mitigate the effect of COVID-19 infection. Further, UVC Boxes for sanitization of paper/books/brief etc. of Advocates were also provided.

5

COURT ADMINISTRATION

I. SUPREME COURT REGISTRY – MAIN WINGS

The administrative wing of the Supreme Court is known as the Registry. For systematic functioning and efficient disposal of work, the Registry is divided into two main Wings, viz. Administration and Judicial, which are further divided into various Divisions, Branches, Sections and Cells. The subject matters dealt with by each and every Section/Unit are well defined.

Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India is the Administrative Head of the Supreme Court. All the administrative powers for determining the work structure of the Court and the Registry of the Apex Court and also for setting up the ministerial side of the Court, exclusively vest in Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India. Powers under Article 146 of the Constitution read with the Supreme Court Officers and Servants (Conditions of Service and Conduct) Rules, 1961 are exercised by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India either directly or through some other Hon'ble Judge or a Committee of the Hon'ble Judges or Officer(s) of the Court authorized for the purpose.

The Secretary General who is of the rank of Secretary to the Government of India is the highest Administrative Officer of the Supreme Court. The post of the Secretary General is exclusively meant for a judicial officer of the rank of a District and Sessions Judge. For positions of Registrars, mostly the judicial officers of the

rank of Additional District and Sessions Judge are drawn on deputation. The Secretary General is assisted by 10 Registrars, 2 Officer on Special Duty and 25 Additional Registrars who are assigned work of specific branches and they, in turn, are assisted by Deputy Registrars, officers of other lower ranks and subordinate staff. There are 2,610 posts on the establishment of the Supreme Court Registry, which includes 2,133 permanent posts. Details of staff strength in the Registry are as under:

Staff strength in the Registry		
S. No.	Type of Posts	No. of Posts
1	Gazetted-Officers	363
2	Non-Gazetted officials	1,288
3	Non-Clerical Staff	959
Total		2610

The Supreme Court Registry has been divided into 61 Sections/Units. All case files pertaining to judicial matters, i.e. SLPs, Writ Petitions, Original Cases, References and other appeals etc. are mainly handled in 23 Sections on the judicial side and the division of work between them is based either on its nature, i.e. Special Subject Category or on geographical area, i.e. State/High Court wise. Further, there are other Sections dealing with judicial matters, which are called ancillary judicial Sections such as Filing Counter (Section I-B), Extension Counter, Paper Books Sections [Sections preparing Paper Books (I, I-A & I-A Annexe) & Paperbook Godown-II], Sections

relating to Computerization (Computer Cell & D.E.U. Sections), Elimination Section, Sections dealing with maintenance of Original Record and Translation work (Sections V&VI), Record Room & Scanning Cell, Decree Sections (XIII & XIII-B), Copying, Editorial, PIL(English), Listing, Receipt & Issue and Information & Statistics Secretariat for dealing with applications under RTI Act, 2005 and Compilation and processing of statistical information. There are two supporting wings, i.e. Library Wing and Court Masters Wing. A Centre for Research and Planning has also been established to assist the Court in general and Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India in the field of legal research. It also prepares material for the purpose of Conferences, Seminars and Legal Forum Meetings. Two Courts of Registrars have also been functional, one since 3 April 2006 and the other from 1 September 2006 for dealing with matters referred to in the Supreme Court Rules.

There are 16 Sections dealing with the matters pertaining to the establishment, which includes Recruitment Cell, Admn. I - Human Resource Management Cell, Admn. II, Admn. III, Training Cell, Vigilance Cell, Admn. Materials (Purchase & Stores), Admn. Materials (Maintenance), Admn. General, Cash and Accounts-I & II, Admn. J, Protocol, Medical, Transport and Caretaking. Recruitment Cell deals with the recruitment on various posts, Departmental Examination etc. Admn. I - Human Resource Management Cell deals with promotion and probation of officers and staff etc. Admn. II Section deals with leave, pay and pension of officers and staff. Admn. III Section deals with all types of advances admissible to officers and staff. Training Cell deals with imparting training to staff. Vigilance Cell deals with vigilance matters, verification of antecedents of employees and new recruits etc. Admn. Materials (Purchase & Stores) Section deals with purchase and issue of all items including Stationery, Furniture, Livery and Printing etc. Admn. Materials (Maintenance) deals with

the maintenance of all the items, award of annual maintenance contract and other miscellaneous work. Admn. General Section deals with maintenance of Supreme Court Building and allotment of Lawyers' Chambers etc. Cash and Accounts Sections deal with preparation of pay bills and budget estimates etc. Admn. Judges Section looks after the provision of necessary amenities to the Hon'ble Judges whereas overall housekeeping job, including the work connected with maintenance of the Judges' Chambers in the Supreme Court and their official residences is allocated to the Caretaking Branch. Protocol Section renders protocol services to the Hon'ble Judges and the Transport Section provides transport facilities to the Hon'ble Judges and the Registry. There also exists a Medical Section for arranging medical facilities for the Hon'ble Judges. Reception Office and the Reception Counters provide necessary assistance and hassle-free services to the visitors, litigant public and the Advocates.

While the practice and procedure of working on the judicial side of the Registry are regulated by the Supreme Court Rules, 2013 and Handbook on Practice and Procedure and Office Procedure, the practice and procedure of working on the Administrative side have been mentioned in the Supreme Court Officers and Servants (Conditions of Service and Conduct) Rules, 1961 and Manual of Office Procedure. The minimum educational qualifications and other eligibility conditions prescribed for each and every post have been specified in the Schedule to the 1961 Rules. Manuals also contain the nature of duties and responsibilities of the officers and employees.

II. SPECIALISED SECRETARIATS

a) Conference Secretariat:

By the Resolution adopted in the Chief

Justices Conference held in the year 2016, Mini Secretariats for tracking the progress made in implementing the Resolutions which are agreed upon, have been created in High Courts. Similarly, a Conference Secretariat at Supreme Court of India is in place since 2016 for coordinating with High Courts. The Conference Secretariats of the High Courts share information on periodic basis on the progress made in the implementation of the Resolutions passed in the Chief Justices' Conference 2016 through online portal. The Conference Secretariat of the Supreme Court of India takes up the follow up action, as and when necessary, on the Resolutions, co-ordinates with High Courts on the various follow-up actions, ensures processing of the updated information on the Resolutions adopted; apart from any other work assigned from time to time.

The Conference Secretariat played a vital role in organizing the International Judicial Conference, 2020 organized by Supreme Court of India on 21-23 February, 2020. The International Judicial Conference witnessed participation of Chief Justices/Presidents, Judges and officers/ Officials from Highest Courts of 23 Countries/ Jurisdictions, Hon'ble Supreme Court Judges, Hon'ble Chief Justices/Judges from 25 High Courts, Vice-Chancellors from various National Law Universities, Directors of State Judicial Academies, representatives of State Legal

Services Authorities from across the country and other dignitaries.

b) Information and Statistics Secretariat:

Information and Statistics Secretariat compiles the data regarding Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts as well as in the High Courts for every quarter. In the judicial year 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020, Quarterly Statements of Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases during the period from 1 July 2019 to 30 September 2019, 1 October 2019 to 31 December 2019, 1 January 2020 to 31 March 2020 and 1 April 2020 to 30 June 2020 were compiled. The quarterly statements are published in the Supreme Court's publication "Court-News" magazine.

The Information and Statistics Secretariat also deals with RTI applications received under provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005. During the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020, a total of 3,582 RTI/N-RTI applications were received and all were duly processed under the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005. During the period 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020, a total of 318 First Appeals under the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005 were received and dealt with in the office of the First Appellate Authority as per the provisions of the said Act.

FORMER REGISTRAR GENERAL/ SECRETARY GENERAL RETIRED

[As on 11.09.2020]

S.No	Name of the Officer	From	To
1.	Shri Sankatha Rai	01.06.1987	03.11.1992
2.	Shri MSA Siddiqui	09.11.1992	26.09.1994
3.	Shri Chandresh Bhushan	27.09.1994	27.04.1998
4.	Shri Bhanwar Singh	27.04.1998	26.03.1999
5.	Shri Lal Chand Bhadoo	27.03.1999	19.01.2003
6.	Shri J.C.S. Rawat	20.01.2003	28.06.2004
7.	Shri B.M. Gupta	29.06.2004	24.11.2005

8.	Shri V.K. Jain	01.12.2005	13.05.2009
9.	Shri M.P. Bhadran	13.05.2009	12.05.2010
10.	Shri A.I.S. Cheema	12.05.2010	13.05.2013
11.	Shri Ravindra Maithani	12.05.2013	15.11.2014
12.	Shri V. S. R. Avadhani	15.11.2014	11.12.2015
13.	Shri Ravindra Maithani	11.12.2015	02.12.2018

FORMER REGISTRARS

[As on 11.09.2020]

S. No.	Name of the Officer	From	To
1	Shri P.N. Murthy	26.01.1950	04.01.1956
2	Shri K.Krishnaswami Aiyar	05.01.1956	01.04.1956
3	Shri Arindam Dutt	02.04.1956	14.06.1962
4	Shri S.N. Sharma	01.07.1962	15.03.1964
5	Shri Y.D. Desai	13.08.1963	19.04.1969
6	Shri C.V. Rane	09.06.1969	19.10.1971
7	Shri M.P. Saxena	20.10.1971	30.04.1979
8	Shri S.K. Gupta	16.07.1973	01.01.1978
9	Shri R.Narasimhan	16.01.1978	31.03.1984
10	Shri R.Subba Rao	01.05.1979	31.03.1986
11	Shri A.N. Oberai	01.04.1986	29.02.1988
12	Shri H.S. Munjral	02.04.1987	31.08.1988
13	Shri R.R. Kumar	01.09.1988	30.04.1993
14	Ms. S.V. Kashyap	01.09.1988	30.11.1988
15	Shri R.N. Joshi	01.12.1988	28.02.1989
16	Shri Yoginder Lal	01.03.1989	30.06.1989
17	Shri S. Vardarajan	01.07.1989	31.08.1989
18	Shri Ved Prakash Sharma	16.12.1989	14.02.1995
19	Shri Susanta Ghosh	01.02.1990	25.10.1996
20	Shri P.N. Likhyan	15.02.1991	28.02.1994
21	Shri L.C. Bhadoo	01.03.1993	26.02.1999
22	Ms. Manju Goel	30.09.1994	31.03.1997
23	Shri H.S. Kapoor	12.02.1997	30.11.2002
24	Shri R.C. Gandhi	04.04.1997	31.07.2007
25	Shri B.M. Gupta	05.04.1999	23.06.2004
26	Shri Ashok I. Cheema	26.11.1999	01.04.2007
27	Shri Suresh Chandra	18.12.2002	31.01.2004
28	Shri J.K. Sharma	03.02.2004	31.07.2006
29	Shri V.K. Jain	08.07.2004	30.11.2005
30	Shri Hemant Sampat	08.12.2005	07.02.2007
31	Shri B. Sudheendra Kumar	20.03.2006	01.09.2007

32	Shri S.G. Shah	11.05.2006	30.04.2009
33	Shri R.K. Gauba	11.05.2006	12.01.2007
34	Shri T.N. Sansi	01.08.2006	30.06.2008
35	Shri T. Sivadasan	07.02.2007	31.10.2010
36	Shri Sunil Thomas	12.03.2007	11.03.2014
37	Shri M.P. Bhadrans	27.09.2007	13.05.2009
38	Shri Ashok Kumar	16.10.2008	31.12.2010
39	Shri Ashok Menon	01.05.2009	31.05.2010
40	Shri M.K.Gupta	14.05.2009	01.05.2010
41	Shri S.G. Shah	03.05.2010	11.11.2012
42	Shri Mohammad Akram Sayeed	12.05.2010	10.05.2014
43	Shri Maharaj Krishan Hanjura	28.06.2010	24.06.2011
44	Shri Ravindra Maithani	21.09.2010	12.05.2013
45	Shri P.R. Bora	22.11.2010	01.10.2012
46	Shri H.B. Prabhakara Sastry	11.07.2011	10.10.2011
47	Shri NijamoddinJahiroddin Jamadar	01.05.2012	30.04.2014
48	Shri Sheo Kumar Singh	29.08.2013	06.09.2013
49	Shri Sanjiv Jain	05.02.2014	01.11.2014
50	Shri V.S.R Avadhani	02.04.2014	25.10.2014
51	Shri Pankaj Bhandari	30.04.2014	15.11.2014
52	Shri Govind K. Rathod	25.08.2014	29.11.2014
53	Shri Praveen Kumar	03.10.2014	03.01.2015
54	Shri Maharaj Krishan Hanjura	21.08.2013	12.10.2015
55	Dr. K. Arul	15.10.2014	14.10.2015
56	Ms. Rachna Gupta	31.01.2014	12.12.2015
57	Shri Surajit Dey	29.11.2014	12.12.2015
58	Dr. K. Arul	14.12.2015	18.04.2016
59	Shri Subhash Malik	01.08.2007	31.05.2016
60	Shri Raj Pal Arora	03.01.2011	31.05.2016
61	Shri Pawan Dev Kotwal	14.12.2015	31.03.2017
62	Shri M. V. Ramesh	05.01.2015	04.05.2017
63	Ms. Nisha Bharadwaj	17.11.2015	31.05.2017
64	Shri Ravinder Nath Nijhawan	17.11.2015	24.08.2017
65	Shri Chirag Bhanu Singh	10.11.2014	9.11.2017
66	Shri Sanjay Parihar	05.09.2016	30.6.2018
67	Shri Ramkumar Choubey	26.10.2017	1.10.2018
68	Shri Kapil Kumar Mehta	20.04.2017	1.10.2018
69	Shri Manoj Jain	06.08.2018	1.10.2018
70	Shri K. Babu	1.10.2018	16.11.2018
71	Shri Surinder S. Rathi	23.11.2018	1.12.2019

SECRETARY GENERAL



Sanjeev S. Kalgaonkar

REGISTRARS*



Anil Laxman Pansare



Surya Pratap Singh

*As on 2 November 2020

REGISTRARS*



Avani Pal Singh



Rajesh Kumar Goel



Deepak Jain



Pardeep Kumar Sharma



P. K. Gera



Rajiv Kalra

*As on 2 November 2020

REGISTRARS/OSD*



Rita Chopra



H. K. Juneja



B. Hari



S. N. Joshi

6

JUDICIAL WING

The Judicial Wing of the Supreme Court Registry is responsible for case management, i.e. from the stage of filing of petition till its disposal, and consignment of record. Judicial Wing functions through its 23 Sections and the division of work between them is based either on its nature, that is special subject category or the geographical area i.e. State/High Court wise. All case files pertaining to judicial matters i.e. Special Leave Petition, Writ Petition, Original Case, Reference and other Appeals etc. are handled by these 23 Sections on the basis of nature of cases allocated to a particular Section. In addition to these 23 Judicial Sections, there are other Sections dealing with judicial matters, which are called ancillary Judicial Sections such as the Filing Counter (Section I-B), Extension Counter, Paper Books Section, Sections relating to Listing and Data Entry, Monitoring Cell, Elimination Section, Sections dealing with maintenance of Original Record and Translation Work (Sections V & VI).

COURT PROCESSES- CONTINUITY AND CHANGE

A. Integrated Case Management Information System

In order to clear the backlog of cases, the Supreme Court of India has made various efforts from time to time and also succeeded in reducing the pendency. On these lines one more initiative was taken in May, 2017 with the introduction of

an Integrated Case Management Information System (ICMIS). The same was inaugurated on 10th May, 2017 by Hon'ble the Prime Minister of India in a glittering function attended by Hon'ble the then CJI, Hon'ble Judges and other dignitaries. This system is not only transparent and dynamic but is also litigant centric. Under the new ICMIS, the website of this Hon'ble Court was also transformed which provided lot more information for the benefit of counsel, litigants and all concerned. Through the new designed website, notices are issued to the Advocate-on-Records, litigants and also to the Government Departments electronically. Besides this E-Cause Lists are also being forwarded on the respective e-mails of all concerned. Yet another feature of the new ICMIS programme is that it provided for a framework for two-way communication for accessing the case information in future from the respective High Courts across the country. In the new ICMIS programme, the Union of India, State Government and the High Courts can monitor the status of their cases through login IDs and also download the scanned copies online. Besides this, even the jails throughout the country and all Police Stations will be integrated online. The new system is now in use for more than 3 years and is proving to be a boon for the Advocates and litigants.

B. Constitution of Special Benches

1. In order to step up hearing and disposal of Constitution Bench matters, Five Constitution

Benches were constituted for disposal of CB matters.

2. In order to step up hearing and disposal of Special Bench matters, 36 Special Benches were constituted for disposal of Special Bench matters.
3. 41 Three Judge Benches were constituted with a view to expedite the disposal of Three Judge Bench matters.
4. In-Chamber Matters are being listed before Six Hon'ble Judges and also at times before other Hon'ble Judges.
5. Bench comprising Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Mishra and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Gupta was constituted to hear matters relating to Forest and Environment Pollutions. This Bench used to sit very frequently usually on every Monday and Friday.

C. New Handbook of Practice and Procedure

A handbook containing the Practice and Procedure of the Supreme Court was published online on 21st August, 2017. This book contains the complete procedure adopted right from the inception till the listing of matter before Hon'ble Court together with other relevant information for convenience of all concerned.

D. Changes in Judicial Work Flow

1. All miscellaneous matters are now being listed chronologically and in relative proportion of cases pending under different subject categories.
2. Matters pending on regular hearing side in which bail applications were filed are listed before each of the Benches dealing with the criminal categories for their speedy disposal.

Since the liberty of an individual is at stake in criminal matters in which the accused were in custody the same were also listed before the Hon'ble Courts on priority basis.

3. Certain subject categories described as 'Short Categories' which includes Rent Act, Compensation Matters, Criminal matters relating to maintenance, Criminal matters relating to bail/interim bail/anticipatory bail and Transfer Petitions are being listed before the Hon'ble Courts on regular hearing days for early disposal.
4. To avoid delay of service of notice on the parties, a special tracking system of notices has been devised in tandem with the postal authorities. It help in ensuring service of notices promptly.
5. The procedure of issuing formal orders has also been simplified. Now certified copies of the orders are sent to the concerned authorities. This has expedited the process.
6. The practice of placing Record of Proceedings in Part-II case file was discontinued and the Record of Proceedings now is included in Part-I right from the inception of the matter. This has simplified the process and done away with cumbersome exercise of shifting the Record of Proceedings from Part-II file to Part-I file after the disposal of the matter and at the time of consigning it to the Record Room.
7. The Terminal List has been converted into a running list and has been made dynamic. This list includes all the Regular Hearing matters which are ready for listing before the Hon'ble Court.
8. The earlier practice of publication and uploading of Advance List has been restored

so that the Litigants and Advocates know the listing of their matters well before the day of its listing and it is generally uploaded on the website two weeks prior to the date of listing. Similarly elimination notice of matters deleted from the Advance List is also uploaded on the website with the reasons for deletion and also showing the next date of listing for the information of all concerned.

9. In order to list the fresh matters within three days of their verification, the practice of their listing has been changed and now the fresh matters verified on Friday, Saturday and Monday are listed on coming Friday in the same week and those verified on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are listed on Monday in the next week.
10. Due to the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic, the functioning of this Hon'ble Court has been adversely affected. However, even during the said period when there was a complete lockdown some Benches continuously assembled and heard matters of urgent nature through video conferencing mode. Apart from this, Curative and Review Petitions were also listed by circulation in Chambers during lockdown period and Hon'ble the CJ and Hon'ble Judges disposed of Curative and Review Petitions.
11. The summer vacation of the Hon'ble Courts was curtailed from 7 weeks to 2 weeks and the courts functioned during the entire period of rescheduled summer vacation.
12. The summer vacations of the Hon'ble Courts commenced on 22.06.2020 for two weeks and miscellaneous matters mentioned on the ground of urgency and other specifically directed matters were listed.
13. The Court of Hon'ble Judge, sitting singly, also functioned during lockdown period and matters as provided in Order VI in Rule 1, of the Supreme Court Rules, 2013 were listed.

STATEMENT OF INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY OF CASES IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

Year	INSTITUTION			DISPOSAL			PENDENCY		
	Admission	Regular	Total	Admission	Regular	Total	Admission	Regular	Total
1950	1037	178	1215	491	34	525	546	144	690
1951	1324	600	1924	1560	227	1787	310	517	827
1952	1127	330	1457	1145	527	1672	292	320	612
1953	1354	360	1714	1163	252	1415	483	428	911
1954	1743	410	2153	1522	427	1949	704	411	1115
1955	1580	512	2092	1669	200	1869	615	723	1338
1956	1732	630	2362	1720	258	1978	627	1095	1722
1957	1490	999	2489	1517	411	1928	600	1683	2283
1958	1698	784	2482	1694	623	2317	604	1844	2448
1959	1870	783	2653	1829	682	2511	645	1945	2590
1960	1971	1276	3247	1910	1271	3181	706	1950	2656
1961	2000	1214	3214	1899	1654	3553	807	1510	2317
1962	2214	1345	3559	2291	1542	3833	730	1313	2043

1963	2189	1561	3750	2152	1131	3283	767	1743	2510
1964	2544	1520	4064	2463	1605	4068	848	1658	2506
1965	2366	1535	3901	2444	1341	3785	770	1852	2622
1966	2639	3012	5651	2429	1412	3841	980	3452	4432
1967	2826	2493	5319	2515	1566	4081	1291	4379	5670
1968	3489	3317	6806	3138	3032	6170	1642	4664	6306
1969	4185	3512	7697	3731	2737	6468	2096	5439	7535
1970	4273	3203	7476	3779	2569	6348	2590	6073	8663
1971	5338	2641	7979	4588	1903	6491	3340	6811	10151
1972	4853	4223	9076	5053	1769	6822	3140	9265	12405
1973	6298	3876	10174	6112	2063	8175	3326	11078	14404
1974	5423	2780	8203	5103	3158	8261	3646	10700	14346
1975	6192	3336	9528	5749	2978	8727	4089	11058	15147
1976	5549	2705	8254	4904	2830	7734	4734	10933	15667
1977	9251	5250	14501	8714	1681	10395	5271	14502	19773
1978	13723	7117	20840	10624	6471	17095	8370	15148	23518
1979	16088	4666	20754	11988	3845	15833	12470	15969	28439
1980	21749	4616	26365	14520	2433	16953	19699	18152	37851
1981	24474	6566	31040	16528	2162	18690	27645	22556	50201
1982	29706	13804	43510	26593	2519	29112	30758	33841	64599
1983	37602	18300	55902	35745	10079	45824	32615	42062	74677
1984	37799	11275	49074	28813	6734	35547	41601	46603	88204
1985	36243	15349	51592	36004	15074	51078	41840	46878	88718
1986	22334	5547	27881	17881	12819	30700	46293	39606	85899
1987	22234	5806	28040	15476	6331	21807	53051	39081	92132
1988	21950	5771	27721	15714	4181	19895	59287	40671	99958
1989	21213	6256	27469	17389	4011	21400	63111	42916	106027
1990	22265	6223	28488	20890	4348	25238	64486	44791	109277
1991	26283	6218	32501	28679	6662	35341	62090	44347	106437
1992	20435	6251	26686	20234	15613	35847	62291	34985	97476*
1993	18778	2870	21648	17166	3718	20884	37549	21245** (98240)	58794**
1994	29271	12775	42046	35853	12037	47890	30967	21983	52950
1995	35689	15754	51443	51547	16790	68337	15109	20947	36056
1996	26778	6628	33406	35227	10989	46216	6660	16586	23246
1997	27771	4584	32355	29130	7439	36569	5301	13731	19032
1998	32769	3790	36559	31054	4179	35233	7016	13342	20358
1999	30795	3888	34683	30847	3860	34707	6964	13370	20334
2000	32604	4507	37111	30980	4320	35300	8588	13557	22145
2001	32954	6465	39419	32686	6156	38842	8856	13866	22722
2002	37781	6271	44052	36903	5536	42439	9734	14601	24335

2003	42823	7571	50394	41074	6905	47979	11483	15267	26750
2004	51362	7569	58931	47850	7680	55530	14995	15156	30151
2005	45342	5198	50540	41794	4416	46210	18543	15938	34481
2006	55402	6437	61839	51584	4956	56540	22361	17419	39780
2007	62281	6822	69103	56682	5275	61957	27960	18966	46926
2008	63346	7006	70352	61219	6240	67459	30087	19732	49819
2009	69171	7980	77151	64282	6897	71179	34976	20815	55791
2010	69456	8824	78280	71867	7642	79509	32565	21997	54562
2011	68020	9070	77090	67131	6002	73133	33454	25065	58519
2012	68887	8030	76917	64682	4062	68744	37659	29033	66692
2013	68478	8264	76742	70385	6700	77085	35752	30597	66349
2014	74730	14434	89164	75980	16742	92722	34421	28370	62791
2015	69485	8959	78444	70763	11329	82092	33263	26009	59272
2016	71460	7784	79244	68618	7361	75979	36105	26432	62537
2017	50104	6000	56104	53175	9878	63053	33034	22554	55588
2018	35142	4086	39228	31729	5741	37470	36447	20899	57346
2019	37785	5828	43613	34640	6460	41100	39592	20267	59859
2020 (upto Sept)	16230	1413	17643	12757	2525	15282	43804	19342	63146

- * The pendency figures shown up to the year 1992 indicates the number of matters after expanded hyphenated number on files
- * From 1993 onwards the figures of pendency of matters are actual file-wise, that is, without expanding hyphenated number of files

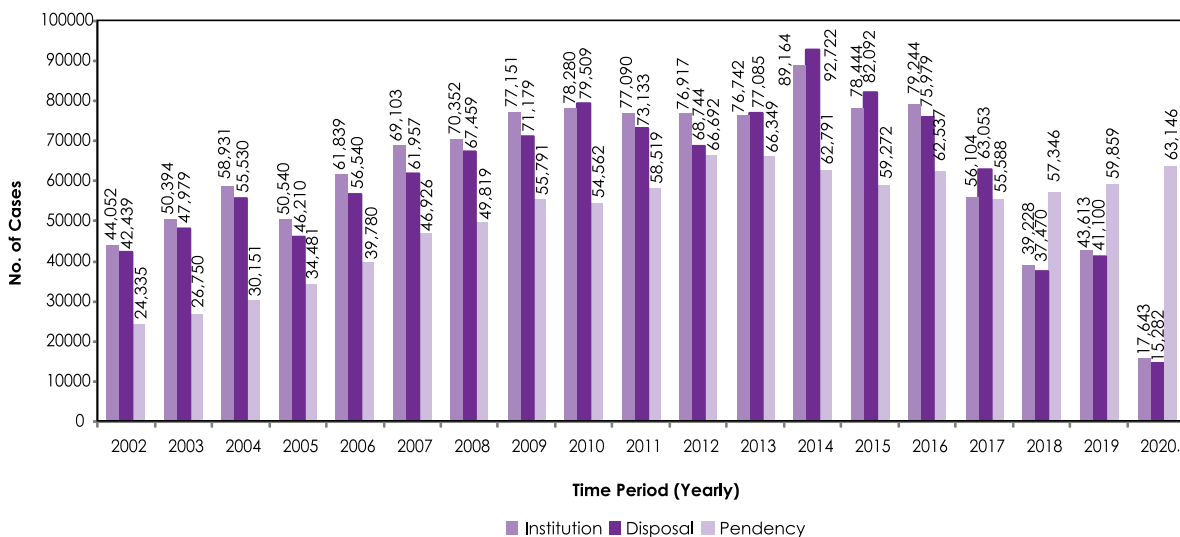
Monthly statement of Institution, Disposal, and Pendency of Cases in the Supreme Court (January to September 2020)

Year	Month	INSTITUTION			DISPOSAL			PENDENCY		
		Admission	Regular	Total	Admission	Regular	Total	Admission	Regular	Total
1	Jan-20	3343	404	3747	3265	671	3936	39670	20000	59670
2	Feb-20	3451	428	3879	2398	682	3080	40723	19746	60469
3	Mar-20	1364	285	1649	801	175	976	41286	19856	61142
4	Apr-20	81	95	176	193	242	435	41174	19709	60883
5	May-20	858	48	906	1011	150	1161	41021	19607	60628
6	Jun-20	1191	95	1286	1343	127	1470	40869	19575	60444
7	Jul-20	1905	13	1918	932	92	1024	41842	19496	61338
8	Aug-20	1720	38	1758	933	109	1042	42629	19425	62054
9	Sep-20	2317	7	2324	1881	277	2158	43804	19342	63146

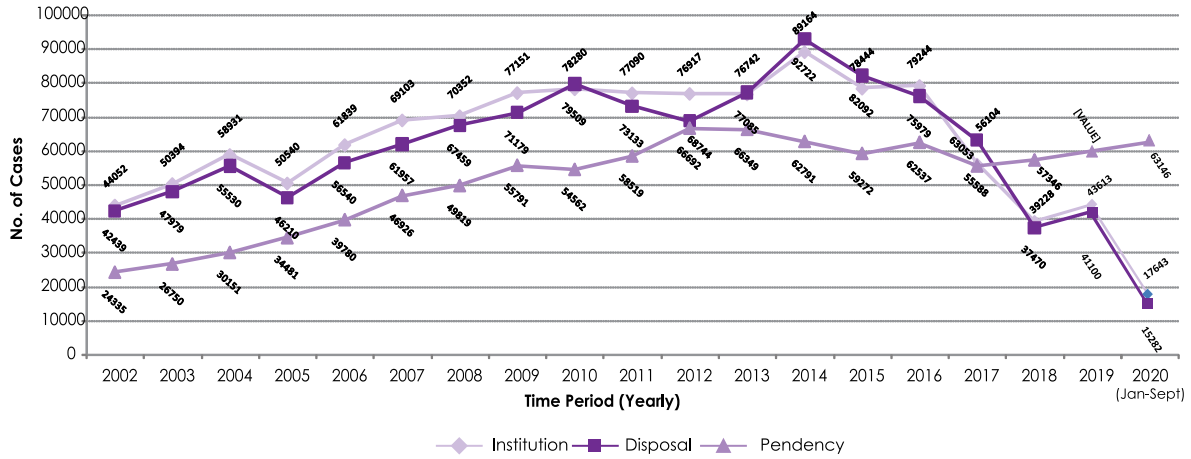
Civil / Criminal Institution and Disposal- 2020 (upto September)

Year	Month	INSTITUTION			DISPOSAL			PENDENCY		
		CIVIL	CRIMINAL	Total	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	Total	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	Total
1	Jan-20	2738	1009	3747	2906	1030	3936	48438	11232	59670
2	Feb-20	2858	1021	3879	2313	767	3080	48983	11486	60469
3	Mar-20	1141	508	1649	682	294	976	49442	11700	61142
4	Apr-20	133	43	176	368	67	435	49207	11676	60883
5	May-20	637	269	906	927	234	1161	48917	11711	60628
6	Jun-20	855	431	1286	1076	394	1470	48696	11748	60444
7	Jul-20	1360	558	1918	690	334	1024	49366	11972	61338
8	Aug-20	1230	528	1758	674	368	1042	49922	12132	62054
9	Sep-20	1645	679	2324	1365	793	2158	50782	12364	63146

**SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL & PENDENCY
FROM YEAR 2002 to SEPTEMBER 2020
(Total of Admission and Regular matters)**

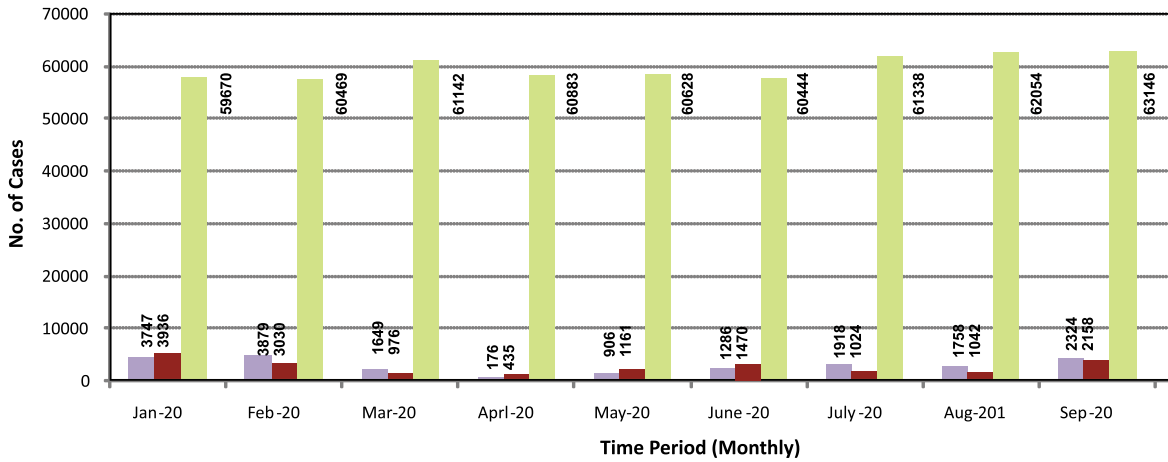


**SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL & PENDENCY
FROM YEAR 2002 to SEPTEMBER 2020
(Total of Admission and Regular matters)**

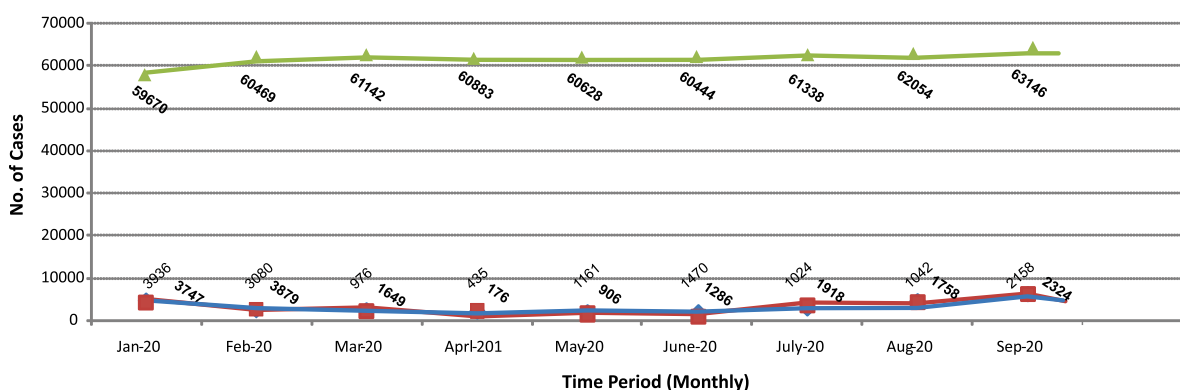


◆ Institution ■ Disposal ▲ Pendency

**SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL & PENDENCY
FROM JANUARY, 2020 to SEPTEMBER, 2020
(Total of Admission and Regular matters)**



**SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL & PENDENCY
FROM JANUARY, 2020 to SEPTEMBER, 2020
(Total of Admission and Regular matters)**



**STATEMENT OF INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY OF CASES IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF INDIA**

[As on 11.09.2020]

Letters/Petitions and Writ Petitions (Civil and Criminal) Received/Filed			
Year	"Letter-Petitions Received in English, Hindi, and	26.01.1950	04.01.1956
	Other Regional Languages"	05.01.1956	01.04.1956
(Civil)	Writ Petition	02.04.1956	14.06.1962
	Shri S.N. Sharma	01.07.1962	15.03.1964
(Criminal)	Shri Y.D. Desai	13.08.1963	19.04.1969
1985	24716	105	2
1986	25419	286	10
1987	18411	119	19
1988	16271	71	25
1989	17769	76	22
1990	17971	92	26
1991	17474	61	28
1992	16961	62	16
1993	15749	96	38
1994	16466	83	20

1995	15094	109	44
1996	19180	185	36
1997	15503	180	35
1998	13087	160	17
1999	15339	137	21
2000	17764	161	22
2001	17198	159	23
2002	15518	186	13
2003	14293	156	21
2004	15653	171	22
2005	14261	215	12
2006	19840	226	17
2007	18200	232	26(3)*
2008	24666	193(1)*	33(1)*
2009	21180	153(1)*	12
2010	24611	115	14
2011	35026	135	20(1)*
2012	41314	126	23
2013	45588	214(3)*	45(2)*
2014	30404	332	48(2)*
2015	51203	264 (2)*	39(1)*
2016	53282	282	35
2017	59561	79 (2)*	5(1)*
2018	61061	350 (1)*	49
2019	70403	374 (4)*	59 (4)*
2020 (Till 30.09.2020)	54812	361(8)*	33 (2)*

*Figure in brackets shows the number of Writ Petitions registered suo-moto.



7

RECENT INITIATIVES

I. SUPREME COURT TAKES SERIES OF INITIATIVES TO SAVE PAPER FOR PROTECTING AND CONSERVING ENVIRONMENT

In the quest to conserve and protect the environment by saving paper, the Supreme Court of India under the leadership of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Shri Justice Sharad A. Bobde, has taken a series of steps both on the Judicial and on the Administrative side at the Supreme Court which will result in protecting thousands of trees and huge amount of water. These steps have also triggered a chain of events whereby the High Courts of Calcutta, Karnataka, Kerala, Sikkim and Tripura and recently Allahabad have also emulated some of these measures in their respective jurisdictions which will have cascading effect in conserving the environment.

For the judicial filings in the Supreme Court of India, effective from 1st of April 2020, all the stakeholders are required to use A4 size paper [to be printed on both the sides, with one and a half line spacing and reduced margins¹] instead of earlier legal size paper for judicial filings. These measures alone are estimated to save around

¹ Now, A4 size paper is being used with one and a half line spacing, and margin of 4 cm on left and right and 2 cm on top and bottom. Earlier, legal size paper was being used with double spacing, and margin of 1.5 inch on left and right and one inch on top and bottom.

1.95 crore A-4 pages per year².

In addition to this, the Advocate(s)-on-Record/ Parties-in-Person have now been permitted to file 1+1 paperbooks instead of 1+3 paperbooks at the time of initial filing³ which is projected to save another 15 lakh A-4 pages annually.

The Registry has also decided to dispense with the printing and distribution of hard copies of Judgments and Orders, to various agencies as the same are now being made readily available on the official website of the Supreme Court of India (www.sci.gov.in). Based on the usage of the last three calendar years, around 8.5 lakh pages would be saved annually by this initiative. It has been further decided that all communications from the Registry shall only be sent to the concerned Advocate(s)-on-Record through e-mail followed by an SMS on the registered mobile number of the Advocate(s)-on-Record.

- ² With an average fresh filing of 41,010 matters (average of fresh filing for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019) with an average paperbook size of 200 pages (800 pages for 4 paperbooks), with both side printing, it is a conservative estimate that around 1.5 crore pages will be saved in a year. Legal size paper (35.56 cm x 21.59 cm) is roughly 23% bigger in size, than A4 size paper (29.7 x 21 cm), however due to margin reduction and one and half line spacing for the same paper area around 15% more content can be accommodated, thus saving additional 45 lakh pages.
- ³ Due to reduction in submission of two paperbooks as against the earlier requirement of 4 paperbooks at the time of initial filing and assuming 10% average change in pages due to defects rectification, additional around 15 lakh pages are likely to be saved.

Further, in all the administrative work of the Registry, usage of A-4 paper with both sides printing has been made mandatory. In the internal deliberations amongst various Sections of the Registry, communication through email / electronic mode has been encouraged. Based on the usage of the last three years⁴, around 25 lakh pages are likely to be saved annually by this initiative.

These innovative steps by the Supreme Court of India for reducing usage of paper are likely to save around 2.4 crore pages, reducing felling of over two thousand eight hundred trees annually and conserve over one crore litres of water every year⁵.

II. TRAINING CELL:

With a view to enhance efficiency in the administration of Supreme Court Registry, improve professional competence of staff and also to bring greater transparency in the working system, a well-equipped Training Cell was established in September 2019 for imparting training to Officers and staff members of the Registry. The Training Cell has been conducting various programmes as enumerated below:-

In-house Training

(i) Through Senior Officers of this Registry

- Training for enhancing the Stenographic skills of Shorthand knowing Staff including Court Masters (Shorthand), Senior Personal Assistants and Personal Assistants during the period from October to December 2019

⁴ As per the average consumption for 2017 - 2019 for various administrative work, an estimated 20,000 reams annually were utilised by the Registry. Assuming atleast 25% saving due to double side printing and reduction of size of paper, around 25 lakh pages are likely to be saved.

⁵ As per generic estimate, one tree produces 16.67 reams of A4 size paper (8335 pages) and around 500 ml water is required for one page.

and in the months of February and March 2020

- Training on Budget, LTC, Purchase Procedure etc. for officials of the Registry during the month of November, 2019

(ii) Through Trainer(s) of specialized Agencies/Institutes

- Training for enhancing efficiency and professional competency of Cooks/Bearers of Supreme Court Departmental Canteen and Cooking knowing Attendants of this Registry through 'TATA Strive' during the months of October 2019 and February 2020.

Training with outside Agencies

(i) Locally in Delhi

- Training for improving Driving skills of Chauffeurs and Driving Knowing Attendants through Institute of Driving and Traffic Research (IDTR) at Sarai Kale Khan, Delhi during the month of October, 2019.

(ii) Outside Delhi

- A 4 days' Residential Management Training Programme on Communication Skills, Time Management, Emotional Intelligence, Stress Management, Team Building and Leadership etc. for Officers of the rank of Branch Officer to Deputy Registrar from 19 December 2019 to 22 December 2019 organized by International Centre for Environment Audit & Sustainable Development (ICED), Jaipur. It was a first of its kind official tour where Officers were taken for training on an outbound location.

Some of the recent initiatives taken by the Training Cell are as follows: -

- (i) A virtual Training Programme on enhancement of stenographic and soft skills of shorthand knowing officers and officials



Officers attending Residential Mangement Training Programme at Jaipur

through Management and Entrepreneurship and Professional Skills Council (MEPSC) was organized for a duration of 2 hours on specified 14 days from 4 August 2020 to 5 September 2020 for a first batch consisting of 22 Officers and officials (from shorthand side of this Registry) and on each day, two sessions were conducted. Another virtual training programme for 25 officers and officials from concerned categories is being conducted during the period 28 October 2020 to 5 December 2020.

- (ii) A training programme on updated version of e-filing system was conducted for Registered Clerks of Advocates-on Record from 3 September 2020 to 8 September 2020 in different batches in the Additional Building Complex, Supreme Court of India. An Online Webinar was also conducted on 4 November 2020 for imparting training to Advocates-on-Record/Advocates about updated module of e-Filing system designed and setup by

Supreme Court of India. Both the training programmes were conducted by Computer Cell of the Registry.

- (iii) An interactive Workshop "MIND MATTERS", to manage stress and anxiety levels in a better way, was organized in collaboration with the Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences, Delhi on 15 September 2020 in the Additional Building Complex, Supreme Court of India. The Officers of the rank of Registrars and Additional Registrars joined the workshop.
- (iv) A Training Session regarding additional features in the existing Mobile Application developed by NIC was conducted for Branch Officers/Court Masters (NS) connected with Judicial side of this Registry on 17 September 2020. Similar sessions will be conducted for dealing officials too.
- (v) On 9 October 2020, another interactive

workshop 'Virus, Vitality & V : Building Muscles in the Mind" in the series of "MIND MATTERS" was organized for the Gazetted Level Officers of the Registry through virtual mode. The Workshop was conducted by Dr. Harish Shetty, a renowned Psychiatrist and eminent Trainer in the field of mental health.

- (vi) An In-house Training Programme for imparting knowledge, skill and attitude/ethics with emphasis on practical orientation is being conducted for Junior Court Assistants (who joined this Registry since 2019) by the Officers of this Registry in two different batches from 31 October 2020 to 27 January 2021.
- (vii) On 3 November 2020, an interactive workshop for the Gazetted officers of the Registry was conducted by Dr. Ravindra M. Sarnaik, a leading Pulmonologist on 'Safety from contagion of Covid-19 and related issues'

III. VIGILANCE CELL:

In order to enhance efficiency in the administration of Supreme Court Registry, for strengthening of the mechanism for dealing with vigilance matters and for bringing greater transparency in the working system, the Vigilance Cell has been set up which inter alia handles complaints, processes cases for administrative action for violation of the provisions of the Conduct Rules, and conducts departmental enquiries. The Vigilance Cell also looks after the work of verification of character and antecedents of new entrants through concerned police authorities. The complaints received against the Registry staff are dealt with expeditiously, and in case there is substance in the complaints with verifiable material, directions of the Competent Authority are solicited for initiating administrative action. The Vigilance Cell

also ensures due observance of Conduct Rules by the staff and timely processing of vigilance cases at all stages. Besides, in order to strengthen the administrative machinery by developing responsible and efficient administration at all levels and to achieve efficiency, economy and prompt disposal of work, the exercise of periodical review of officers and staff for adjudging their suitability/ fitness for continuance in service beyond specified age after completion of specified period of service is also undertaken by the Vigilance Cell at regular intervals. An online interactive training session of the Branch Officers on the administration/ judicial side on vigilance matters including punctuality, discipline, dress code etc. has been proposed.

IV. SUPREME COURT MUSEUM:

To satisfy the desires of the 21st century visitor, the Supreme Court Museum is being re-organized / upgraded and some recent initiatives have been taken by the Museum to facilitate the project, which are as follows:

- (i) Acquisition of artefacts/ objects from the history pertaining to the law & justice of the nation has been taken from High Courts, major Museums & Archives of the country and the individuals, to enrich the collection of the Museum. In furtherance of the foregoing, as primary objective of a museum is to preserve the artefacts/ objects in 'best condition' as possible, and as the Supreme Court Museum mostly has organic objects in its collection, the Museum has taken the initiative of providing appropriate conservation treatment to its collection of old case files/ objects partially damaged due to fragility, brittleness and deterioration through Interventional Preservation, Tissue Lamination, Archival Binding, and also Digitization/ Scanning of the same for the future generations.



Museum, Supreme Court of India

- (ii) Also, as Ambassador Cars in India have stood as a symbol of wealth and power for decades and were also used by Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court in transport system of Hon'ble Court, one old Ambassador Car was transferred to the Museum for display in public view as a remembrance of machinery used for Hon'ble Judges.
- (iii) The Museum also received some rare archival documents from different parts of the country in vernacular languages, and to display & depict the same in forthcoming upgraded museum; translation of these documents has been initiated.
- (iv) Further, with the increase of souvenirs and their demands among visitors, Cash Register Machine has been provided in the Museum

for making cash transactions easy during sale of souvenirs.

V. SUPREME COURT JUDGES LIBRARY:

Some recent initiatives of the Supreme Court Judges Library are as follows:-

1. E-Cell- Establishment of an 'E-Cell' in the Additional Building Complex Library has been approved for creation of a Digital Library. Purchase of IT and furniture items to establish the same is in progress. The E-Cell will carry out works related to creation of e-library for providing a legal repository of old/ rare books; e-versions of central/ state legislations, Committee/ Commission

- Reports, Law Commission Reports and also for e-versions of the data procured from various institutions like ILI and other government departments.
2. During COVID-19 pandemic, as Hon'ble Courts are working through Video Conferencing, a "Standard Operating Procedure" "SOP" has been framed and the same has been uploaded on the official website of the Supreme Court to facilitate the Advocates, Litigants and Petitioners-in-Person to submit their requisitions of books and documents to the Library. A separate e-mail ID requisition.lib@sci.nic.in has been created for this purpose.
 3. To facilitate the smooth working of the Hon'ble Courts, after receiving requisition of Advocates and Litigants, queries are analysed and required documents are made available to the Hon'ble Courts, Hon'ble Judges at the places where the respective courts/ Judges are sitting either in hard copies or soft copies as per their Lordships' requirements.

VI. SUPREME COURT REPORTS (SCR) AND EDITORIAL BRANCH:

1. Supreme Court Reports (SCR) is the official journal of reportable decisions pronounced by this Hon'ble Court. Digitization and scanning of back volumes of SCR from its inception in the year 1950 to 2017 and preservation of same as a digitized soft copy, has been initiated by the Editorial Branch in coordination with the Supreme Court Judges Library and the Scanning Cell. The preservation of these back volumes in digitized format will help in creating a digital repository in the Supreme Court. From the year 2018 onwards, SCRs are being prepared in-house in the Editorial Branch, and stored as digitized soft copies in PDF.
2. Complete list of Cause Titles of all decisions reported/ published in SCR from 1950 onwards till date has been prepared in alphabetical order alongwith corresponding SCR citations, and is now being updated on a regular basis.
3. Compilation of speeches and other relevant documents generated in connection with Full Court References held in memory of deceased Hon'ble Judges/ Senior Advocates, are being prepared by the Editorial Branch of the Registry, in co-ordination with Admn General Branch, which are thereafter got printed by Admn. Materials Branch, in the form of printed booklets for better preservation and for the sake of posterity, as per the dignity and decorum of the occasion.
4. Process is underway for e-publication of Supreme Court Reports (SCR) in addition to physical publication of printed copies of SCR. Modalities are being worked out for early release of e-SCR on the official website as well as the official Mobile App of the Supreme Court of India. Modalities are also being worked for launching of an e-SCR menu/ module/ navigation tab whereby indicative notes of important/ landmark reportable Supreme Court judgments would be uploaded on the official website as well as the official Mobile App of Supreme Court of India.
5. Process for preparation & publication/ e-version of Digest of the judgments delivered by the Federal Court of India (from 1937 onwards) and the Supreme Court of India (from its inception) has been initiated.

6. The practice of printing and distribution of hard copies of Reportable and Non-Reportable judgments/ orders pronounced by this Hon'ble Court, has been dispensed with/discontinued. This will save human resources, and funds (spent on printing and on papers) and also lead to resultant protection of the environment.

VII. INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES / LEGAL FORUMS / MEETINGS CONDUCTED IN ONLINE MODE:

Due to COVID-19 pandemic the International Conferences / Legal Forums / Meetings which were scheduled to be held abroad are being conducted in online mode with mutual consent of the participating countries.

In recent times, Hon'ble Chief Justice of India / Hon'ble Judges / Secretary General / Registrars of this Court have participated in the following International Conferences / Legal Forums / Meetings via video conference:

1. Hon'ble Dr. Justice Dhananjaya Y Chandrachud, Judge and Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. Nageswara Rao, Judge alongwith Mr. Sanjeev S. Kalgaonkar, Secretary General and Mr. Rajesh Kumar Goel, Registrar (Admn. J) participated in Board of Members Meetings, IV Congress (International Conference) and Meeting of Secretaries General respectively of Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions organized by the Constitutional Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan on 26 and 27 August 2020.
2. Indian Delegation comprising Hon'ble Shri Sharad Arvind Bobde, Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat, Judge

and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Judge participated in the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Chief Justices Forum organized by the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation on 8 September 2020.

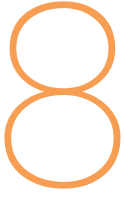
3. Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India participated in Commonwealth Chief Justice Virtual Roundtable- Justice systems response to the pandemic – learning lessons and future opportunities hosted by Rt. Hon'ble the Lord Burnett of Maldon, Lord Chief Justice of England & Wales on 29 September 2020. Hon'ble Chief Justices/Presidents of Federal Court of Australia, Gambia, Malawi, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Northern Ireland, Rwanda, Scotland, Singapore, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia also participated in the meeting.
4. Indian Delegation comprising Hon'ble Mr. Justice Uday Umesh Lalit, Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. Nageswara Rao and Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Ramasubramanian, Judges participated in the XV Meeting of the Chief Justices of the Supreme Courts of the SCO Member States held online on 30 October 2020.
5. Indian Delegation comprising Mr. Anil Laxman Pansare and Mr. Rajesh Kumar Goel, Registrars, Supreme Court of India participated in the 2nd Research Conference under the theme "Freedom of Expression: Experience of AACC Members" organized by Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions, Secretariat for Research and Development, Constitutional Court of Korea from 23 to 25 September 2020.

VIII. BOOK RELEASE THROUGH VIDEO CONFERENCE:

Hon'ble Shri Sharad Arvind Bobde, Chief Justice of India released book of High Court of Madhya Pradesh on "Judicial History and Court of Madhya Pradesh" through Video Conference on 27 August 2020.

IX. MANDATORY FILING OF SOFT COPY FOR LISTING OF MATTERS

Filing of soft copy has been made a mandatory requirement for listing of matter before the Hon'ble Courts. An Advocate-on-Record or a Party-in-Person is now required to file soft copy of the petition as well as the accompanying documents, filed in physical form at the filing counter of the Registry, as per the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) elaborated in terms of the circular issued on 27th July, 2020. The soft copy is required to be uploaded by the AOR or the Party-in-person, as the case may be, on the email specifically created for the purpose i.e. soft.petition@sci.nic.in. It is mandated that the subject of the email shall clearly state "Soft copy of petition and the accompanying documents in Diary No....." and the text of the email shall contain a verification in specific terms.



COVID-19 AND SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

I. COVID-19 VIRUS AND ITS TURNING INTO A PANDEMIC WORLDWIDE

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in India is part of a worldwide pandemic caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). "COVID" stands for "Corona Virus Disease", and "19" refers to the year 2019 in which this disease was first reported in Wuhan, China, which subsequently spread worldwide as a global threat. The reasons that have turned COVID-19 into a pandemic were initially ascribed to the virus being a new one with little known of its etiology as well the failure of any known drug world-wide to assure any cure/recovery against diseases caused by the virus; that apart, lack of any vaccine against the virus as well as its possible fatal outcomes increased the epidemiological challenge manifold as 'breaking the chain' of its spread [by use of face-masks, maintaining physical distancing and frequent washing of hands by soap and/or alcohol-based sanitizer] came to be acknowledged by the world-community led by World Health Organisation, as the only effective methods to prevent its spread in the community.

In India, the first case of COVID-19 was reported on 30 January 2020. Even as this Report goes to press, India unfortunately has the largest number of confirmed Covid-19 infection cases in Asia, and has the second-highest number of

confirmed cases in the world after the United States of America.

II. UNPRECEDENTED PUBLIC HEALTH NECESSITY ARISING OUT OF THE PANDEMIC

Institutions and Individuals alike, all over the world, are still battling with the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, and its' severity and unpredictability has put everything on hold. The World Health Organisation declared the outbreak a Public Health Emergency of International Concern in January 2020 and a pandemic in March 2020. Accordingly, early efforts by all instrumentalities of the State witnessed priority being given to upgradation of healthcare infrastructure and imposition of necessary measures including lockdowns to contain the spread of the virus.

Since specific antiviral treatments and vaccines were not available, testing, quarantine, wearing masks, frequent washing of hands by soap and/or alcohol-based sanitizer and physical distancing and contact-tracing were the prescribed measures for preventing the virus spread. The unprecedented and extraordinary public health necessity arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic was recognized, and public health was given precedence over conventions. Accordingly, various operational measures have been taken to prevent spread of the infection within Supreme Court premises and the Residential Offices of

Hon'ble Judges, even though several factors remained beyond the control of the Supreme Court administration. This, in turn, had an unintended yet unpropitious impact on dispensation of justice as it imposed restrictions on the overall functioning of the Supreme Court of India. In particular, the physical distancing norms required that access to Courts Complexes, which are places of crowd-convergence, had to be drastically regulated, and hearing in physical form inside Court Rooms, in presence of the parties was rendered impossible.

III. SHIFTING OF INSTITUTIONAL FOCUS TO PREVENTIVE STRATEGIES, DUE TO ABSENCE OF VACCINE/ CURE / MEDICAL REMEDIES – BALANCE BETWEEN SAFETY OF STAKEHOLDERS AND NEED FOR ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

No aspect of social life, including administration of justice, has remained insulated from the pernicious and multifarious implications of COVID-19. However, the Constitution of India guarantees justice in all its manifestation; and to achieve this overriding mandate, the Indian Judiciary, led by the Supreme Court of India, devised proactive innovative strategies to secure access to justice during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In the absence of vaccine/ cure/medical remedies, the institutional focus of the Supreme Court Administration shifted to preventive strategies. Notwithstanding the constraints of resources and limitations of existing Court-infrastructure, the Supreme Court of India continued to function, balancing heightened health restrictions as advised by the medical experts with core notions of justice including protection and upholding of basic

rights, respect for rule of law and settlement of disputes within reasonable time while respecting all procedural safeguards.

IV. INNOVATIVE STRATEGIES ADOPTED AND STEPS UNDERTAKEN – DURING INITIAL PHASE, NATION-WIDE LOCKDOWN AND UNLOCKDOWN PHASES

In its attempt to secure access to justice, the Supreme Court of India, from time to time, adopted and adapted a response mechanism to effectively deal with emerging challenges in the aftermath of the corona virus outbreak. Conceptualized as short term and long-term solutions, they were evolved in consultations with relevant stakeholders, and implemented progressively to keep the justice system functioning and to optimize justice-dispensation. The Supreme Court of India, in adherence to its constitutional mandate of ensuring access to justice, attempted to lead by example – re-enforcing its commitment to the fact that effective access to justice is not merely a public service but an integral aspect of the rule of law and the fabric of rights; and therefore, no matter how dire the situation or circumstance, justice cannot and ought not to be put on hold.

A) INITIAL PREVENTIVE INITIATIVES

At the institutional level, the Supreme Court of India took early preventive measures to secure functioning of the courts in view of initial reports concerning the novel coronavirus, even prior to the nation-wide lockdown. A two-pronged approach, consisting of awareness and prevention, was adopted to prevent the risk of spread. As part of the awareness drive, information concerning

COVID 19 infection and steps to be taken to reduce its spread, were disseminated among officers, staff, advocates and other court users. All employees were encouraged to wear masks at all times and sanitize their hands at frequent intervals. Further, to avoid risk of infection through incidental contact, the employees were exempted from recording attendance using biometric machines. In light of Government of India advisory cautioning against mass gathering, a range of preventive/precautionary measures, including restrictions on non-essential visits and/or entry into Supreme Court premises; closure of common spaces of public gathering such as cafeteria including departmental canteen; closure of Supreme Court Museum for visitors; regular sanitisation of common areas such as restrooms, staircases, etc., were also adopted. All entrants to the High Security Zone of the Supreme Court premises were required to undergo thermal screening and submit self-declaration forms concerning their health status. Information such as contact detail, recent travel history, list of people the individual had come in contact with recently, etc., were also collected through these forms to be utilised for contact tracing in the event the need arose. Individuals found to be having temperature greater than 37°C (98.6°F) were denied entry into the premises.

On 23 March 2020, the Supreme Court of India took suo motu cognizance of challenges faced by litigants across the country in filing petitions/suits/appeals and all other proceedings within the prescribed limitation period. The Supreme Court exercising its plenary powers under Article 142 of the Constitution of India, extended the period of limitation in all types of proceedings till further orders.

B) MEASURES DURING NATION-WIDE LOCKDOWN

Judicial measures

To prevent justice from being locked down during the pandemic, Benches of the Supreme Court were constituted to hear matters involving extreme urgency. Stepping away from the convention of physical court hearings, these matters were taken up through video conferencing mode. Digital e-paper books were made available to the Hon'ble Judges during hearing. Detailed Standard Operating Procedures (SoP) to be followed for e-filing, mentioning, listing and video conferencing hearing were issued. The SoPs were revised and updated on a regular basis. Helplines were also created to assist parties and respond to queries. Further, to facilitate participation of the press in court proceedings via video conferencing, special arrangements were made including setting up of dedicated video-conference rooms for members of the press/media.

Administrative measures

In order to secure least amount of dislocation of work, work-from-home protocols were adopted for the staff. To facilitate visit of staff members to the residential offices of the Hon'ble judges to discharge official duties, a helpline was established in coordination with the Delhi Police authorities. Further, all officers and staff members were requested to inform designated nodal officials at the Supreme Court in the event they or any member of their family was tested positive with the coronavirus. Information so received was shared with appropriate authorities to enable quick containment and rapid contact tracing. Extensive cleaning and conservancy operations were undertaken on a daily basis to disinfect and sanitize the entire court complex. To avoid overcrowding inside the Lawyers Chamber Blocks, in

terms of the prescribed social-distancing norms, the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) and Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association (SCAORA) was requested to jointly prepare and circulate plan detailing the 'Odd-Even' Chamber Numbers of every Block, which would alternately open on Weekdays (Monday to Saturday) indicating therein the maximum number of persons who may access any Chamber at any point of time. The entry into the Lawyers Chambers was facilitated as per the given plan.

C) MEASURES DURING UNLOCKING PHASES TO ENHANCE CONTINUOUS FUNCTIONING

Judicial measures

In order to enable further expansion of the working of the court, SoPs for listing and hearing of matters through video and tele-conferencing before the Hon'ble Judge-in-Chambers and Registrar's Court were issued. SoP for interaction with party in person was also issued to enable the parties to do interaction in terms of Order IV Rule 1(c) proviso of the Supreme Court Rules, 2013.

Supreme Court Video Conferencing Facilitation Rooms (SCI VC Rooms) were set up on 13 June 2020 in seven district courts (Dwarka, Karkardooma, Patiala House, Rohini, Rouse Avenue, Saket, and Tis Hazari) complexes in Delhi. These rooms were equipped with state-of-the-art video and audio facilities, and functioned under the supervision of the High Court of Delhi and the concerned District Court. Supreme Court video conferencing helpline was also setup to assist advocates and parties-in-person in case of any difficulty in using the aforementioned facilities. Additional arrangements for effective conduct of the courts through virtual conferencing were also made in the Supreme Court Additional Building Complex, waiting areas for lawyers and litigants,

and viewing areas for media personnel.

In order to de-congest the filing counters, e-filing was allowed 24x7 and the queries of the Advocates/Parties-in-person were attended telephonically. Standard Operating Procedures were issued time to time for assisting the advocates to file case/document. Payment of court fee/printing charges was also accepted electronically.

In the prevailing circumstances, exemption from filing duly affirmed affidavit, with an undertaking that deficit court fees would be paid subsequently, was allowed to the advocates/ parties in person. For matters involving extreme urgency, SOP dated 4 July 2020 was issued allowing the Advocate-on-Record/ party in person to file petition/misc. application preferably through E-filing mode and to separately file the signed and verified application containing a synopsis of extreme urgency not exceeding one page. Further, Video-conferencing/tele-conferencing facility for interaction with Registrar was extended to parties-in-person vide circular dated 10 July 2020. Helplines were established and even the mobile numbers of senior officers were given for the convenience of all concerned.

Administrative measures

Functioning of the Registry:

As the lockdown across the nation was eased, to secure continuing functioning of the Registry, all officers in the ranks of Deputy Registrar and above in the Registry were required to attend office from 4 May 2020. This was extended to Assistant Registrars and above from 20 May 2020. Additionally, arrangements were made to ensure that 50 percent of officers and staff attended offices on any given day, though, in order to meet office exigencies, officers/staff were required to attend office apart from the

approved roster. Further, all the officers and officials were exempted from wearing coat and tie while on duty till the situation improved. In order to facilitate movement of officers and staff of the Registry residing in areas outside Delhi to offices either at the Court or the residential offices of the Hon'ble Judges, inter-State movement passes were arranged on expedited basis. Pick-and-drop facility was arranged for the officers and staff whenever so required. The movement of files, both by the judicial and administrative branches, was minimized to the extent possible.

Automatic hand sanitiser dispensing machines were installed at the entry gates, court corridors, tunnel area, residence of Hon'ble Judges and lawyers chambers block gates to ensure that all entering the premises sanitised their hands. Also, while entering the premises, all staff members were required to undergo thermal screening and submit self-declaration form concerning their health status, contact detail, recent travel history etc.. Staff and officials were provided with face masks and requested to adhere strictly to respiratory etiquettes at all times. Use of elevator was restricted, but where it was unavoidable to do so, not more than four persons were permitted to use the elevator at a time. Fumigation machines were procured for disinfecting courts, sections, rooms, corridors and open areas. There was regular sanitisation of office rooms and common spaces such as restrooms, stairs, etc., and appropriate arrangements were made for proper disposal of used facemasks and gloves. As a measure to contain the spread of infection, all official vehicles were sanitised at regular intervals and separator sheets were installed in them.

With the initial reports indicating that the air circulation mechanism of the air conditioning equipment could be responsible for spread of the Covid-19 infection, the use of central air conditioning was stopped for all Courts and

Chambers of Hon'ble Judges and instead the Courtrooms and Chambers were provided with separate air conditioning equipment, together with a strong air-exhaust system. For the Registry offices, as per expert medical advice and with the increasing heat, the central air conditioning system was made operational in some offices to a limited extent by closing the return air vents so as to prevent re-circulation of any contaminated air, and further, to ensure proper cross ventilation, at least one door and one window in each room were required to be kept ajar in all office-rooms.

Special testing camps were organized in the Supreme Court premises for rapid testing of COVID 19 of the entire staff of the Court – at first, in the first week of July 2020, and thereafter at regular intervals to ensure wellness of the officers and staff and to effectively contain spread of infection. Telephone numbers of tele-consultation doctors, helpline centers, designated hospitals, district surveillance officers, etc., as notified by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi and Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, were made available to all officers and staff. All assistance was extended to any staff member or their family members who were infected.

A training programme to manage stress and anxiety levels in a better way was organized through Dr. Nimesh G. Desai, Director, the Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences (IHBAS) for senior officers on 15 September 2020.

An interactive workshop on 'Virus, Vitality & V : Building Muscles in the Mind' in the series of "MIND MATTERS" was conducted through Video Conferencing by Dr. Harish Shetty, a renowned Psychiatrist and eminent Trainer in the field of mental health on 9 October 2020 for the officers of the Supreme Court of India.

An Interactive Workshop was conducted through

Dr. Ravindra M. Sarnaik, a leading Pulmonologist, on 'Safety from contagion of Covid-19 and related issues" on 3 November 2020 for the officers of this Registry.

Facilitating work of Lawyers

As a precautionary measure to contain spread of coronavirus, dress code for the advocates was relaxed and they were permitted to dispense with the need to wear blazer and gown during the hearings before the Supreme Court of India through virtual court system. Additionally, to facilitate working of advocates, access to Lawyers Chamber Blocks for advocates and their staff was permitted for limited duration during the day. Entry to every block was so arranged as to have a single-entry-exit point. Automatic hand-sanitizer dispensation machines were provided by the Registry to be fixed at each such point. Daily regular cleaning of the premises in all working areas, and deep cleaning and sanitization were undertaken on Sundays and holidays. To facilitate contact tracing, all individuals accessing lawyer chamber blocks were required to submit to thermal scanning and submit duly filled up self-declaration forms. Entrants who were found to be symptomatic during the thermal screening were denied entry into the blocks. Additionally, photostat machine operators and other licensed vendors were permitted to function in the lawyers chamber blocks subject to strict compliance with statutory and other guidelines as issued from time to time by the Registry. Necessary arrangements for monitoring compliance with statutory guidelines and advisories was made in cooperation with SCBA and SCAORA.

V. MEASURES FOR RESUMPTION OF LIMITED PHYSICAL HEARING IN COURTS:

- a) **A Special Committee of seven Hon'ble Judges** was constituted to look into suggestions and requests for resuming physical hearing of cases in the Court-Rooms as well as for making various offices inside the High Security Zone, including Law Offices of the Union Government, SCBA & SCAORA, fully operational, and into matters connected therewith;
- b) **A Co-ordination Committee comprising of Registry Officials and two nominees each from SCBA & SCAORA** was constituted to discuss various issues, namely, (1) Technical Issues (Video-Conferencing and E-filing; etc); (2) Listing of matters (Listing; Urgent hearings; Identifying categories of cases, where physical presence of parties is necessary; etc); (3) Access and Circulation (Entry & Exit point(s); Circulation plan(s); Crowd-convergence; Staging area(s); Special Hearing passes; etc); (4) Health and Safety (Special measures to prevent spread / outbreak/ hotspot; Self Declaration Forms/ Thermal Scanning; Masks & Sanitizer; strengthening emergency medical care; etc); and (5) Volunteers, Helplines & Miscellaneous issues (streamlining and enforcing measures on ground; etc).
- c) **Physical infrastructure setup in court-rooms readied for limited physical hearings:** Measures such as – (i) transparent polycarbonate glass sheet partitions / screens, tower type and split type Air Conditioners (instead of Central Air Conditioning system) and powerful exhaust mechanisms were setup inside the court

rooms; (ii) Scanning devices at entry points for detecting body temperature, infection status and maintenance of data of entrants in touch-free mode and of UVC boxes for sanitisation of papers and other articles of the entrants were setup; (iii) Queue manager for creation of movement corridors for smooth movement and for avoiding crowd convergence were setup; (iv) Climate controlled, ventilated and furnished 'Staging Area(s)' for parties etc.- to be readied adjacent to the court rooms for parties awaiting their turn for hearing of cases inside Courts;

technical issues; or issues pertaining to court administration and listing of matters; or issues of public access, and requirement of warding off any possibility of crowd-convergence and unmindful behaviour in the premises; or health and safety issues to prevent emergence of a hotspot. The Supreme Court of India is continually attempting to devise and facilitate means and measures to ensure justice delivery is not obstructed, by calibrating its response mechanism, in light of the constantly, evolving COVID-19 situation in the country.

VI. COVID-19, AN EVOLVING SITUATION

The battle against COVID-19 is not yet over. The Corona virus outbreak continues to have a profound impact on everyone and everything. It is universally recognized that this demands continual engagement and response(s). The virus may continue to circulate in the human population, and may also keep mutating and evolving, since specific anti-viral treatments and vaccines are still under development, and testing, quarantine, and social distancing are the only measures to prevent the virus spread.

In the wake of COVID-19 pandemic, the functionality of Supreme Court of India has been traversing an unknown path since March 2020, and all this while, it has been continuously and consistently aiming to adapt its' responses to the ongoing and emerging challenges, which have tested the tenacity and preparedness of our existing systems of justice administration. The constant endeavour of the Supreme Court Administration has been to maintain institutional responsiveness in the most appropriate manner possible, in the face of multitude of issues like



9

THE BAR

Advocates play a vital role in the administration of justice. They are not only professionals but also officers of the courts. On the recommendation of the Law Commission of India and the All India Bar Committee, the Advocates Act, 1961 was enacted with the aim to amend and consolidate the law relating to the legal practitioners and to provide for the constitution of the Bar Councils and an All India Bar. The most significant contribution of the Advocates Act, 1961 was to integrate the Bar into a single class of legal practitioners known as 'Advocates' and categorization of Advocates into Senior Advocates and other Advocates based on merits.

ADVOCATES ACT, 1961

The Advocates Act, 1961 provides for two categories of Advocates – Senior Advocates and other advocates, who are entitled to practice law before the Courts. The exercise of powers vested in the Supreme Court and the High Courts to designate an Advocate as a Senior Advocate is circumscribed by the requirement of due satisfaction that the advocate concerned fulfils the qualifications prescribed under the Advocates Act, 1961. In terms of Section 16 of the Advocates Act, 1961, an advocate may, with his consent, be designated as senior advocate if the Supreme Court or a High Court is of opinion that by virtue of his ability [standing at the Bar or special knowledge or experience in law] he is deserving of such distinction.

BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA

The Bar Council of India is a statutory body which regulates and represents the Indian bar. It was established by Parliament under the Advocates Act, 1961, and performs regulatory function by prescribing standards of professional conduct and etiquette and by exercising disciplinary jurisdiction over the bar. The Bar Council also sets standards for legal education and grants recognition to Universities whose degree in law will serve as qualification for enrolment as an advocate. In addition, it performs certain representative functions by protecting the rights, privileges and interests of advocates and through the creation of funds for providing financial assistance to organise welfare schemes for them.

The Bar Council of India consists of members elected from each State Bar Council, and the Attorney General of India and the Solicitor General of India who are ex-officio members. The members from the State Bar Councils are elected for a period of five years. The Council elects its own Chairman and Vice-Chairman for a period of two years from amongst its members. Eligible persons are admitted as advocates on the rolls of the State Bar Councils. The Advocates Act, 1961 empowers State Bar Councils to frame their own rules regarding enrolment of advocates.

BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA RULES, 1975

The Bar Council of India Rules, 1975 were made by the Bar Council of India in exercise of its rule-making powers under the Advocates Act, 1961. Rules on the professional standards that an advocate needs to maintain are mentioned in Chapter II, Part VI of the Bar Council of India Rules. These rules have been placed there under section 49(1)(c) of the Advocates Act, 1961.

TYPE OF ADVOCATES WHO PRACTICE IN SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

I. Senior Advocate:

'Senior Advocate' means any advocate so designated under sub section (2) of Section 16 of the Advocates Act, 1961, and all such advocates whose names were borne on the roll of the senior advocates of the Court immediately before the commencement of Chapter III of the Advocates Act, 1961.

Order IV Rule 2 of the Supreme Court Rules, 2013, deals with designation of Advocates as Senior Advocates. Rule 2(a) provides that the Chief Justice and the Judges may, with the consent of the Advocate, designate that Advocate as Senior Advocate, if in their opinion, by virtue of his ability, standing at the Bar or special knowledge or experience in law the said Advocate is deserving of such distinction. Apart from the designation of Advocates as Senior Advocates, retired Hon'ble Chief Justices/ Judges of the High Courts are also considered for designation as Senior Advocates

in the Supreme Court. A Senior Advocate is not entitled to appear in the Supreme Court without an Advocate-on Record.

In *Indira Jaising v. Supreme Court of India & Ors* [Writ Petition (C) No. 454/2015, Writ Petition (C) No. 33/2016 and Writ Petition (C) No. 819/2016], the Supreme Court emphasized the need of formulating norms/guidelines governing the exercise of designation of Senior Advocates by the Supreme Court and the High Courts. The Court had directed that a permanent Committee to be known as "Committee for Designation of Senior Advocates" must be constituted and also issued detailed guidelines for designation of Senior Advocate in the Supreme Court and the High Courts. In compliance with the judgment of the Court, a permanent Committee has been constituted by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India to deal with all matters relating to designation of Senior Advocates in the Supreme Court of India. The composition of the Committee is as under: (a) Hon'ble Chief Justice of India- Chairperson (b) Two senior most Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court of India- Members (c) Attorney General for India – Member; and (d) A member of the Bar as nominated by the Chairperson and Members of the Committee, as referred to in (a) to (c) above. The Committee has framed detailed guidelines to regulate conferment of designation of Senior Advocates, which is available on the website of the Court. The process for designation of Senior Advocates was initiated after the Guidelines to Regulate Conferment of Designation of Senior Advocates were framed and it has culminated in conferment of designation of Senior Advocates as per details given below :

Category	Full Court Meeting dated	Designated
Former Chief Justices/ Judges of High Courts	6 September 2018	25
Advocates on- record/ Advocates	27 March 2019	37

II. Advocate-on-record:

'Advocate-on-record' means an advocate, who is entitled under the Supreme Court Rules, 2013 to act as well as to plead for a party in the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court of India at the time of its inception in 1950 inherited the jurisdiction of the Federal Court and the Privy Council. The Rules prevalent in the Federal Court were continued in the beginning. The Practice and Procedure of the Supreme Court has undergone enormous changes ever since. Originally, the Rules of the Supreme Court (as then adopted) recognized the system of "Agents". The Practice and Procedure were substantially modified in the year 1954 and "Advocates-on-Record" (AOR) replaced the system of "Agents". When introduced in 1954, apart from the then registered "Agents", an Advocate of seven years standing was entitled to get himself registered as an 'Advocate-on-Record, provided he fulfilled the conditions prescribed. In 1959, the Rules were amended, introducing the 'Advocate-on-Record' examination conducted by the Supreme Court.

Order IV Rule 5 of the Supreme Court Rules, 2013, deals with registration as an Advocate-on-Record. No Advocate other than an Advocate-on-Record is entitled to file an appearance or act for a party

in the Court. The Registry of the Supreme Court conducts Advocates-on-Record Examination periodically with approval of the Examination Committee and under the supervision of Secretary, Board of Examiners, appointed by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India. The examination maintains high standards to ensure that best of the talent come in as Advocates-on-Record. List of Advocates-on-Record is available on Supreme Court of India website www.sci.gov.in. Regulation 6(i) pertaining to AOR examination states that no Advocate shall be eligible to appear in the examination unless he has received training from an Advocate-on-Record of not less than ten years standing for a continuous period of one year commencing from the end of the fourth year of date of his enrolment, ending with the 30 April or 30 November of the year of the examination, as the case may be.

III. Other Advocates:

These are Advocates whose names are entered on the roll of any State Bar Council maintained under the Advocates Act, 1961 and they cannot appear, plead and address the court in any matter on behalf of a party in the Supreme Court unless instructed by an Advocate-on Record (Order IV Rule 1(b) of Supreme Court Rules, 2013).



Interior view of the Judges Library, Supreme Court of India

10

LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

The Supreme Court Judges Library is one of the largest Law Libraries in Asia. It is a state-of-the-art Library, located in an iconic structure in left wing of the Supreme Court Building. The Judges Library is providing electronic Library and Information Services through commercial and in-house legal databases developed by the Library. It has also developed Digital Library and National Legal Information System (NLIS) through which resources of all High Court Libraries and Supreme Court Library can be accessed through a single window portal. Established since 1937 with Federal Court of India, Library takes care of the multifarious literature requirements of the Hon'ble Judges and Court functionaries.

SUPREME COURT JUDGES LIBRARY

As all Judicial Proceedings revolve around the precedents and citations, the library occupies a central position in a Judicial Institution. Supreme Court Judges Library, is thus an important organ of the Apex Court. It contains more than 3,77,000 legal documents. Its collection ranges from Books/Monographs, Encyclopedias of law (both Indian and Foreign), Law Journals, Statutes, Commission/ Committee Reports, State Legislations, Parliamentary Debates and other Legislative materials, such as Manuals, Local Acts, Indian Codes, etc. The Supreme Court Judges Library is a grid of libraries consisting of 17 Bench Libraries and 34 Residential Libraries of

the Hon'ble Judges. A workable collection of Law Reports/ Legal books/ Commentaries is provided at the residential offices of each Hon'ble Judge on permanent basis in the form of Residential Library. A complete set of frequently cited Law Reports, in multiple copies, are arranged in Court Rooms in the form of Bench Libraries so that the required Law Report at the time of hearing may be immediately provided to the Hon'ble Judges. The Library is subscribing to approximately 185 journals (145 Indian and 40 Foreign journals). It is also subscribing to 20 newspapers and 8 magazines.

NEW WING OF JUDGES LIBRARY IN ADDITIONAL BUILDING COMPLEX - 'A' BLOCK

As per Fifth Law of Library Science, promulgated by Dr. S.R. Ranganathan, Father of Library Science, Supreme Court Judges Library is also a growing organism. The collection of Library is ever growing and to accommodate this ever increasing collection, a new Library Wing has been created in the 'A' Block of Additional Building Complex in order to cope up with present and future space constraints. Approximately 1,00,000 books have already been shifted to the Third Floor of the New Building. Furniture is being procured and organised for the Ground, First and Second Floor of the New Library.



Judges Library

LIBRARY AUTOMATION

KOHA, an Open Source Library Automation Software is used for housekeeping Library Operations.

STAFF

The Supreme Court Judges Library is managed by 22 Professional Librarians and 70 supporting staff.

WORKING HOURS

It is open on all 365 days, except during the three National Holidays.

LEGAL DATABASES

The Library is subscribing to 9 Commercial Legal databases:



ExCus
 Heinonline
 ITR Online
 Lexis Advance India
 Lexis Red
 Manupatra
 SCC Online / CD-ROM
 Taxmann
 Westlaw India

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SERVICES

In order to cater to the specific information requirements of the Hon'ble Courts and Hon'ble Judges, the Library provides different types of Library & Information Services, such as:

Lending Service
 Reference Service

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
॥ यतो धर्मस्ततो जयः ॥

Login FAQ Get Your App  


HOME COLLEGIUM RESOLUTIONS CASE STATUS JUDGMENTS VERNACULAR JUDGMENTS CAUSELIST DAILY ORDERS OFFICE REPORT COPYING CAVEAT
E-FILING SENIOR ADVOCATES DESIGNATION VISIT THE COURT - GUIDED TOUR LIMITED PHYSICAL HEARING

NAVIGATION

- Chief Justice & Judges
- Judges Roster
- Committees
- Registry Officers
- Notices & Circulars
- Press Release & Events
- Display Board
- Judges Library**
- Right to Information
- Calendar
- e-Visitor Pass
- E-Committee
- Mediation
- Recruitment
- Multimedia
- Legal Aid
- Tender
- FDRs & Deposits
- Law Officers
- Museum
- Court Fees Calculator
- Limitation Calculator

Judges Library

- Library Brochure
- Overview of Judges Library
- In House Data Bases
 - SUPLIS - Case Indexing
 - SUPLIB - Legal Articles
 - LEGIS - Legislation of Acts
 - Catalogue - Online Public Access Catalog(OPAC)
- Journal Holdings
- Current Journals
- Equivalent Citation Table
- Union Catalogue of Legal Journal
- Contacts
- Related Links



WESTLAW INDIA MANUAL
(for Internal Use Only)

- Legal Research
- Inter Library Loan
- Current Awareness Services
- Legal Write-ups on desired topics
- Newspaper Clippings
- Information Consolidation Services

PUBLICATIONS

For Current Awareness of the Hon'ble Judges, the Library compiles many publications, such as:

- Accession List (Quarterly)
- Library Catalogue Supplement (Annual)
- Current Contents (Monthly)
- Newsletter (Monthly)

LIBRARY AUTOMATION AND DIGITALIZATION

DIGITALIZATION OF LEGAL INFORMATION:

In order to strengthen and monitor electronic resource services, creation of a separate 'E-Cell' in the Additional Building Complex Library has been approved to streamline the online and offline e-resources of the Library.

i) Online e-resources:

Home Page

A "Home Page" of the Judges' Library has been developed for providing free access to legal



fraternity on the website of the Court (www.sci.gov.in) to access the digital resources of the library, which provides access to the In-house Databases developed by the library. It also provides access to the Open Source Websites of the important legal institutions and foreign countries to retrieve the legislations and case laws of foreign jurisdiction. Access to more than 60 free online journals has also been provided on this Home Page. Proposal for redesigning the Home Page of the Library has been approved for providing access to the Digital Law Library/ E-Library and National Legal Information System (NLIS) and other offline databases. Proposal to provide access to the Central/ State Legislations/ Parliamentary Debates and Link of Indian Law Institute's Digital Collection of Indian Law Reports and Federal Court Reports on the Home Page of the Library has also been approved and work is in progress. Process of creation of a Legal Repository containing valuable old and rare material is also in pipeline.

The main In-house Databases developed by the library, which can be accessed through this Home Page are:

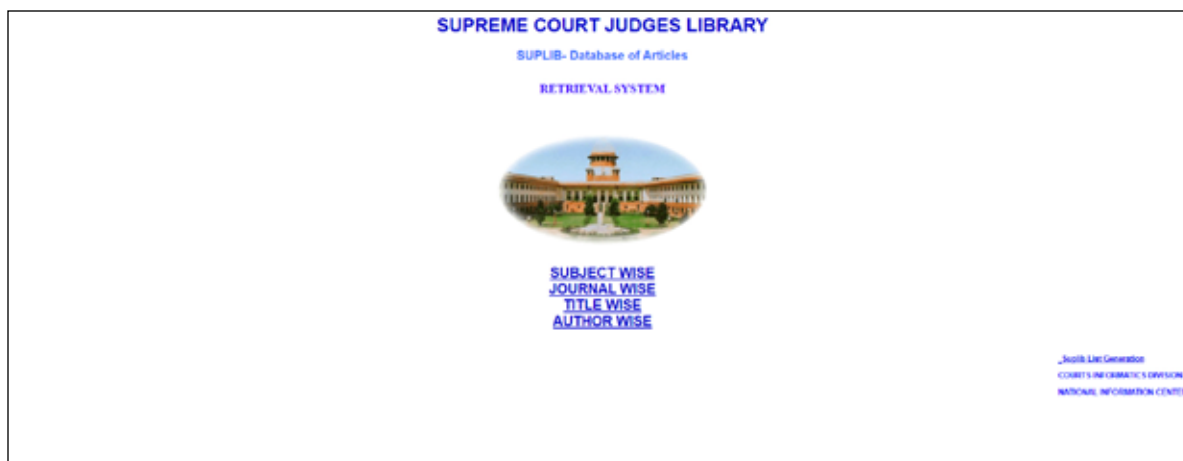
SUPLIS: Database of Case Laws

SUPLIS is an indexing database of case laws decided by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. This

database consists of more than 65,201 case laws since 1950. This database is very useful in finding out the desired case laws. Judgments delivered are immediately entered in this database after assigning subject headings and a famous case name (if any). This database is unique, as it contains some important features that are not available in other legal databases developed by commercial vendors. Besides retrieval of the case laws by subject and case title, it also provides search capability by a "Famous Case Name" (if any) assigned at the time of the entry – for example: "Bhopal Gas Case", "Rajiv Gandhi Assassination Case", "Mandal Commission Case," etc. SUPLIS also provides "Equivalent Citations" of case laws so that, in the event that a particular journal is unavailable, that case law could be made available from another journal with the help of this facility.

SUPLIB: Database of Legal Articles

Research articles published in various law reports and academic journals contain valuable information as they are written after comprehensive research on the aspect they deal with. SUPLIB is a database of legal articles published in about 185 foreign and Indian law reports subscribed to by the library. Presently, this database consists of bibliographic references of more than 22,568 articles. Immediately after



receipt of a journal in the library, important articles are identified, indexed, and entered in this database under all possible subject headings. This database is very useful for the library staff for identifying the articles needed by the Hon'ble Judges on a particular aspect and is one of the most used databases in the Supreme Court Judges Library. This database is very useful for academicians, Jurists and Researchers in the field of Law.

LEGIS: Database of Legislative History of Central Acts

Statutory materials such as Bills, Acts, Joint Committee Reports, Select Committee Reports, Law Commission Reports, Parliamentary and Assembly Debates, Rules, Bye-laws, Schemes, etc, are among the most important and sought-after library materials in any law library. The Legislative Database is a database for Central Government Acts including amendments, Rules, Bills, and all subordinate legislations relating to Central Acts. This database is very useful for tracing the complete legislative history of any particular Central Act. All the amendments in Acts, Rules, Schemes and Bye-laws framed under any particular enactment could be readily identified and retrieved with the help of Act Number, Subject and Title of the Act. If the text of any particular Central Act is desired, a "link" for

"India Code," which is a database of the Ministry of Law, is also provided to access the full text of the desired Central Act.

OPAC: Online Catalogue

Union Catalogue of Current Journals subscribed in all High Courts and Supreme Court.

Through "Related Links" on 'Home Page'/ free links for Foreign judgments/ vast open source legal materials can be accessed.

ii) Digital Law Library

It presently provides access to more than 3500 full text documents by click of the mouse. All the public domain legal information available on the web can be accessed through this database such as Legal Articles, Committee / Commission Reports, Consultation Papers, Policies and UN documents including Charters, Covenants etc. The intended purpose of this Digital Library is to provide free access to something on everything related to the field of law by click of the mouse. It is presently functional on the intranet.

iii) National Legal Information System (NLIS)

National Legal Information System (NLIS) was conceptualized by the Supreme Court Computerization Committee. Hon'ble Mr. Justice



Madan B. Lokur (since retired) had emphasized the need of interlinking the High Court Libraries with that of the Supreme Court Judges Library and to develop a single window search portal for accessing legal information. It was intended to serve as a national gateway for legal information in the country. Under the directions and guidance of the Computerization Committee, the Supreme Court Judges Library has developed the National Legal Information System with the co-ordination of the High Court Libraries in the country. It consists of a Unified Catalogue of the Supreme Court Judges Library and all the High Court Libraries in the country so as to ascertain availability of any particular book in any of these law libraries at the time of need. It provides access to all the In-house databases developed by the Supreme Court Judges Library and the other High Court Libraries. One of the significant features of NLIS portal is to provide access to "Digital Law Library" developed by the Supreme Court Judges Library. It is presently functional on the intranet.

iv) Off-Line E-Resources

Other than the In-House Databases available on the library home page of the website, many Offline In-House Legal databases have been developed by the library, which can be accessed through the intranet:

- Database of Reportable Judgments since 1950
- Database of Law Commission Reports
- Database of Committee/ Commission Reports
- Database of Standing/Select/Joint Committee Reports
- Database of "References" published in the Supreme Court Report
- Database of Newspaper Articles.

SUPREME COURT MUSEUM

Museums are no longer considered to be merely storehouses or agents for the preservation of a country's cultural and natural heritage, but powerful instruments of education in the broadest sense. With the diversity and variety of subjects which are now coming under the purview of museology, and the modern concepts of the role of museum, the understanding of museum is regularly changing with its subjects.

The Supreme Court of India has its own Museum having a unique collection of artefacts, objects, documents, etc., which showcase our judicial heritage and the systematic development of the judicial system in the country and give meaningful

National Legal Information System
nlis.gov.in

Gateway Of Legal Information

Home | About NLIS | NLIS Blog | Publications | Photo Gallery | Contact Us

Unified Catalogue - Search
 Unified Catalogue- Advance Search
 Constitution of India (Amending History)
 e-Gazette
 National Digital Law Library
 Supreme Court Library (OPAC)
 SCI In-House Databases
 Tribunal & Regulatory Authorities
 Legal Open Source Websites (Foreign Jurisdictions)
 Free Online Journals
 Unified Catalogue of Current Periodicals (Legal Libraries)
 Equivalent Citation Table
 Upload Koha Database

COURTS LIBRARY WEBSITES
 Supreme Court Judges Library
 High Court Libraries

UNIFIED CATALOGUE OF SUPREME COURT & HIGH COURTS LIBRARIES ONLINE PUBLIC ACCESS CATALOGUE (OPAC)

Search by
 Author Subject Title
 Call Number ISBN Series

Suffix * to search term for comprehensive search results;
 [Ex: MITRA* will show books of all the authors containing the word Mitra.]

Enter text here...

SUPREME COURT **HIGH COURTS +** **CHECK NONE**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allahabad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jharkhand
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Allahabad, Lucknow Bench	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Karnataka
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AP & Telengana	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kerala
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bombay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MP, Jabalpur Bench
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bombay, Aurangabad Bench	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MP, Gwalior Bench
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bombay, Goa Bench	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MP, Indore Bench
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bombay, Nagpur Bench	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Madras
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Calcutta	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Madras, Madurai Bench
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chhattisgarh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manipur
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Delhi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Meghalaya
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gauhati	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Orissa
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gauhati, Aizwal Bench	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patna
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gauhati, Itanagar Bench	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Punjab & Haryana
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gauhati, Kohima Bench	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rajasthan, Jaipur Bench
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gujarat	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rajasthan, Jodhpur Bench
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Himachal Pradesh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sikkim
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J&K, Jammu	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tripura
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J&K, Srinagar Bench	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uttarakhand

Search...

© 2015 | Designed and Developed by Computer (IT) Cell, Supreme Court of India | Hosted by NIC

information to the visitors in relation thereto.

The Supreme Court Museum is a single pillared round building located within the premises of the Supreme Court of India on the northern side and has two galleries of 5000 square feet on each floor viz.; "Development of Justice System in India" and "The Supreme Court of India". The first gallery is dedicated to the history of Indian Legal

& Judicial System since ancient period till British era; and the second gallery portrays the Federal Court of India and the Supreme Court of India. The Museum showcases artefacts / objects relating to the Indian legal & Judicial System prevailing at different historical time period, which includes Manuscripts, Copper Plates, Maces & Oars, old books on 'Dharmashastra' & Kautilya's 'Arthashastra', Court Furniture, Judges Wigs



Interior view of the Museum, Supreme Court

&Costumes, Landmark Judgments, Photographs of former Chief Justices of India and Judges of the Apex Court, Photographs of oath ceremonies of Hon'ble Presidents of India etc.

A Mini-Auditorium inside the museum well equipped with modern infrastructures is a point of attraction which provide to the visitors a virtual tour of the Legal & Judicial history of India and its administration through documentary films on various issues like "50 years of Supreme Court and the evolution of law in India", "Supreme Court of India-Virtual Tour", "Our Constitution", "Truth Alone I Uphold", "Parliament of India", "Witness to our Constitution", "The People of India" and "Institution of Democracy" etc. The visitors get to have a wonderful experience of listening to the original speeches of the eminent members of the Constituent Assembly and Hon'ble Dr. Rajendra Prasad the then President of India through kiosk. The museum also offers souvenirs to the visitors at no-profit and no loss basis.

This museum has so far received more than a lakh visitors from across the globe which includes

Hon'ble Chief Justices and Judges, Jurists and law students. The museum also welcomes group of students from different schools and colleges and general public across India & overseas.

Further, to meet the 21st Century demands & challenges in museum functioning, and for satisfying the expectations of local as well as foreign visitors, the Supreme Court Museum is in the process of upgradation / reorganization to match the international standards with respect to depiction of galleries while incorporating all advanced/ hi-end technologies as interactive exhibits so that the visitors may have exponential learning memories of the great Indian Judicial History & its administration.

Efforts are being made to make the Supreme Court Museum richer in its collection with visitor friendly facilities, especially for young students across the country.



ONLINE COURT PROCEEDINGS AND TECHNOLOGICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The technological and communicational advances offer opportunities to judicial policymakers to make the justice sector more service-oriented and effective. The adoption of technological innovations to improve the process of justice delivery system is especially relevant in developing countries where inequalities of access to justice are challenges that must be faced. The justice delivery system adopted for Supreme Court of India is undergoing significant changes with the computerization of lawsuit process with a goal to promote a more agile and efficient justice. Effective steps are being taken for upgradation of Supreme Court Data Centre for imparting improved services to the stakeholders.

1. Integrated Court Management & Information System (ICMIS):

Supreme Court of India has developed and deployed an interactive as well as dynamically designed software, "Integrated Case Management and Information System" (ICMIS), to facilitate faster disposal of cases by speeding up court processes and to provide transparent on-line flow of information on cause list, case status, orders/judgments etc. to all the stakeholders i.e. Bench, Bar and Litigants. To exercise greater control over the management of cases and courts, the automation of workflow management is also under target. The ICMIS interface available on secured intranet for Supreme

Court Registry enables automation of the entire court processes of filing, scrutiny, registration, allocation, listing and court proceedings apart from uploading of record of proceedings (ROP), orders and judgments.

2. Digitization and Preservation of Records:

In the year 2015, the digitization of Record Room was initiated and till now nearly 9,97,962 files have been digitized comprising of 4,41,19,892 pages. All the scanned records have been verified through digital signature. The digitized files are being maintained by using DSpace and open source technology. Such record is being preserved as per the ISO Standard 16363 Audit & Certification. For long term preservation of such record, a memorandum of understanding has been arrived at with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC).

3. Preservation of Records:

It is a step towards long term preservation of digitized records of all the decided and pending files which have been scanned. Modalities are being worked out with CDAC for preservation of scanned pdf files. It has been envisaged for provisioning of old records for the public use through Copying Section as also for long term digital safety of records.

4. File Tracking Software (QR Code):

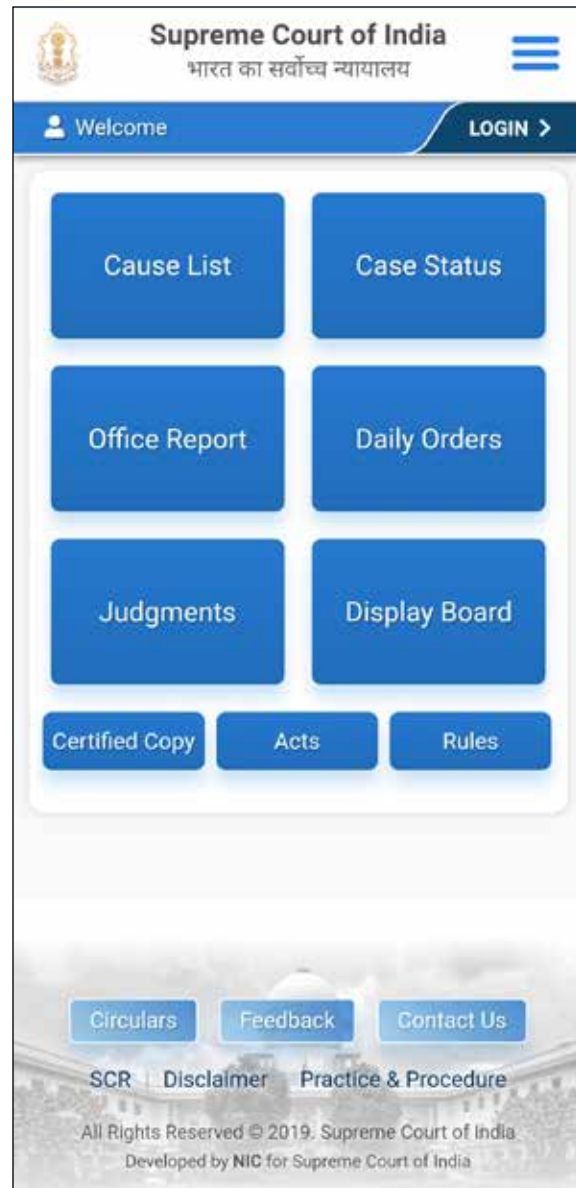
To ascertain the physical movement of files lying in various sections of Supreme Court Registry and for ready accessibility of these files, a QR Code (Quick Response Code) based File Tracking System has been developed and is at the final stage of deployment. Each file will be given a unique QR Code containing requisite information about such file and the file movement would be tracked within fraction of seconds through handheld scanners. The Registry is also contemplating to use QR Code for movable assets management and secure gate pass as well.

5. "SUVAS" (Supreme Court Vidhik Anuvaad Software):

India has linguistic richness with thousands of dialects and more than a hundred widely spoken languages inclusive of 22 official languages. To facilitate access to justice for non-English speaking litigants, the Artificial Intelligence Committee, Supreme Court of India has embarked upon the development of an Artificial Intelligence Translation Tool, Suvas (Supreme Court Vidhik Anuvaad Software). The Supreme Court has started utilizing this technology to provide its judgments to the general public in several vernacular languages through its AI Tool.

6. Supreme Court Official Mobile Application:

The Registry has designed and deployed one of its kind official mobile application for the use of Members of the Bar, Litigants and General Public. The mobile application is running successfully on the Android and iOS Platforms having the facility to search the case status, daily orders, record of proceedings, display boards, judgments and



much more. SCI Official Mobile Application is also available in five vernacular languages i.e. Hindi, Marathi, Telugu, Tamil and Kannada.

7. SCI Interact:

With an aim to achieve the target of paperless environment in the Supreme Court, the 'SCI Interact' Software has been developed for seamless flow of digitized petition, right from the filing counter up to the desk of Hon'ble Judges. The Hon'ble Judges are facilitated by the WACOM interactive display device to

The screenshot displays the official website of the Supreme Court of India. At the top, the logo and name 'SUPREME COURT OF INDIA' are visible, along with the motto '॥ यत्तौ धर्मस्तौ जयः ॥'. Below this is a navigation bar with links for 'HOME', 'COLLEGIUM RESOLUTIONS', 'CASE STATUS', 'JUDGMENTS', 'VERNACULAR JUDGMENTS', 'CAUSELIST', 'DAILY ORDERS', 'OFFICE REPORT', 'COPYING', and 'CAVEAT'. A secondary bar includes 'E-FILING', 'SENIOR ADVOCATES DESIGNATION', 'VISIT THE COURT - GUIDED TOUR', and 'LIMITED PHYSICAL HEARING'. A left-hand navigation menu lists various services like 'Chief Justice & Judges', 'Judges Roster', 'Committees', etc. The main content area features a large image of the court building and a 'CORONA STEPS' section with 11 numbered updates, such as 'Helpline Numbers of Court Masters/Court Moderators for 20.11.2020' and 'Notice regarding deletion of chamber matter listed on 20-11-2020'. The footer contains contact information for the Registrar and various internal links like 'Organizational Structure', 'Publication', and 'Guidelines & Orders'.

access soft copy of the paper books. It is a time responsive software and makes legal journals, statutes available to the Hon'ble Judges as well. At first instance, SCI Interact software is implemented for Registrar Courts

and is in final stage of development for being implemented for all Courts.

8. Website on Cloud Infra:

To enhance the efficiency of the website, a

trusted hybrid cloud technology has been used and Supreme Court Website has now been hosted on NIC Cloud. This has been devised in tandem with the NIC and it helps in ensuring services, delivery of Office Reports, Judgments, Circulars in real time on website.

9. VoIP Telephony:

VoIP is an acronym for Voice Over Internet Protocol, or in more common terms phone service over the Internet. With the inauguration of Additional Building Complex of Supreme Court of India, latest technologies like VoIP, high internet connectivity for video conferencing has been implemented. Supreme Court Registry is in the process of revamping the conventional telephony systems with VoIP Telephony for digital communication over 128 bits encryption. New building infrastructure is designed to be controlled with building management software, wherein Automatic Entry System, Sensor Based Security System, High-end CCTVs, Automated fire and Air Conditioner Control System, Automated Attendance Marking System have been considered.

10. New Data Centre:

After the inauguration of Additional Building Complex, Registry is in the process of establishing state-of-the-art Robust Data Centre which will strive to achieve standards akin to ISO 27001. The Data Centre would be of such configuration that it shall support the paperless functioning of Supreme Court as well as hosting of numerous public utility applications including Artificial Intelligence Multilingual Translation Interfaces.

11. District Court Monitoring System (DCMS):

District Court Monitoring System has been implemented, thereby collecting data

pertaining to evaluation of District Courts. The development and management of this initiative has enabled access to reliable data and statistics, effective administration of an increasingly large and complex judicial system and an effective management information system to the judiciary through partnership with National Judicial Data Grid. Total number of cases listed, cases fixed for evidence, Civil and Criminal Cases, arguments heard/ part heard and disposal of miscellaneous applications as well as cases being contested or uncontested are ascertained. This enables filtered statistics for the use of judicial administrators for effective decision making.

12. Website Compliance for Visually Challenged:

To ensure that all are empowered to access case files and records in a seamless and timely fashion, the website is being made disabled friendly and the target has been partially achieved. Further, suggestions from Agency (STQC) for Certification to Websites are being incorporated into the website.

13. Original Record uploading facility:

- a. High Courts/ Subordinate Courts are enabled for uploading digital (pdf) files of Original Records.
- b. Defects noticed in a particular case is readily available for litigants under head defect notification.

14. e-Copying Software:

e-Copying Software has been designed and developed for bringing speed and efficiency in obtaining certified copies in the Supreme Court of India. Using the portal link of the e-Copying module, the Advocate-On-Record, Parties to cases, and persons authorized

under the Rules can apply online to get certified or digitized copy. Soft copy of any record (if admissible to the user) will be provided free of cost through registered email address of the user. The user may also make online request to get hard copy physically from the counter or may choose to get the same at the given address by speed post.

15. e-Filing Software:

Supreme Court Registry firstly introduced an e-Filing module in the year 2007 with basic electronic filing of cases and documents. In the year 2017, the e-Filing module with few more added features along with ICMIS and redesigned website was introduced. The present e-Filing module has its own limitation and while considering the present COVID-19 pandemic situation and to maintain social distance, there is unprecedented demand of e-Filing of cases to facilitate Litigants and Advocates in hassle free and user-friendly environment. In these circumstances, the Registry is in process of rolling out Advanced e-Filing system, an electronic platform for filing cases and documents along with Management Tools and Interface for Advocates-on Record and registered litigants. With the rolling out of Advanced e-Filing System, electronic filing of cases in the Supreme Court will undergo a radical change with the introduction and operationalisation of e-Filing and associated modules.

16. Hearing by Courts through Video Conferencing:

Amid the clampdown of nationwide lockdown due to spread of COVID-19 pandemic, Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India has been pleased to direct the continuous functioning of Supreme Court of India to hear matters through Video Conferencing. Detailed guidelines have also

been passed on the judicial side in Suo Moto Writ (C) No. 5/2020 in reference to "Guidelines for Court functioning through Video Conferencing during COVID-19 Pandemic". Extensive arrangements have been made for facilitating hearing of matters by the Courts through Video/Tele Conferencing. The advocates and parties-in-person have been facilitated to join the hearing of their matters through Video/Tele-Conferencing mode from their respective offices/homes or place of their convenience. The Registry has also setup five dedicated VC Facilitation Rooms in Supreme Court Complex, and similarly, one VC Facilitation Room each at seven District Court Complexes of Delhi for facilitating the advocates and litigants to join the hearing of their matters through video conferencing. A special viewing facility has also been provided by the Registry to the media persons to watch the proceedings of all the matters being heard before the Court(s) through video conferencing. From 23 March 2020 to 30 September 2020, 24,298 matters involving 1,65,837 advocates were heard through Video/Tele Conferencing mode by 1,623 Benches over a time span of 127 days, and 7,547 matters were disposed of.

ACTIVITIES OF E-COMMITTEE FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 2019 TO JUNE 2020

The following milestones were achieved under the e-Courts project across the country :

- i. **Model Rules of Video Conferencing for Courts:** A Sub-Committee consisting of five Judges of the High Courts was constituted for drafting model rules of video conferencing for courts during the month of April 2020. The model rules of video conferencing for

courts were framed and circulated to all the High Courts for their adoption.

- ii. **Model Rules of e-Filing for Courts:** A Sub-Committee consisting of five Judges of the High Courts was constituted to draft model e-Filing Rules during the month of May 2020. The model rules on e-Filing were framed and circulated to the High Courts on 24 June 2020.
- iii. **Software Patch for COVID 19 Management:** A new software patch was released for the effective management of courts and cases during the COVID-19 pandemic. This software patch can be used for smart scheduling and will reduce the need for physical footfall in the courts. By use of such technology, social distancing can be maintained in courts. Courts can hear urgent cases in scheduled time slots and adjourn other cases which are not required to be heard on an urgent basis. It has enabled judicial officers to effectively manage overcrowding in courts during the pandemic.
- iv. **Sub-Committee for Creating SOP for Scanning and Digitization:** A Sub-Committee consisting of Judges and domain experts has been constituted for preparing a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for scanning, storage, retrieval, digitization and preservation of legacy data of the judicial domain. A Working Group has also been constituted.
- v. **e-Sewa Kendra:** Nearly 52% of the population does not have access to the internet. Litigants who do not have access to the internet must be provided with access to services of the e-Courts. Hence, it was decided to create e-Sewa Kendras at all the High Courts and all Court Complexes. These centres will assist the litigants with (i) information about their case status; (ii) obtaining judgments/orders; (iii) e-Filing of cases and (iv) access to court/case-related information.
- vi. **Fund Release and Fund Utilization Status as on 31 May 2020:** Over the period of four years, up to 30 May 2020, an amount of Rs. 1042.81 crores has been released to the High Courts. Utilization certificates have been received for an amount of Rs. 775.23 crores (74.34%).
- vii. **Inauguration of Virtual Courts at Delhi, Pune, and Chennai:** Virtual Courts were inaugurated in Delhi on 13 May 2020, in Pune on 15 May 2020, and in Chennai on 26 May 2020 for online settlement of challans for traffic violations. A total of 13,42,420, challans were received and proceedings were completed in relation to 13,31,999 challans. While 4,74,784 challans were contested, fines were paid in relation to 92,217 challans. As of 30 June 2020, a total fine of Rs. 96.13 crores has been collected.
- viii. **Inauguration of e-Courts Software Applications in Kerala:** On 15 June 2020, there was inauguration of several innovative software applications like Virtual Court, e-filing module for bail applications, Motor Accidents Claims Appeals and Land Acquisition Appeals, e-filing module for District Judiciary (in two pilot locations), Online Certified Copy Application for the Kerala High Court and the trial courts (in pilot location) and Paperless Office Communication, which were rolled out by the Kerala High Court for the benefit of litigants and advocates.
- ix. **Training:** Three-phase Awareness Webinars for Advocates on e-Courts Services and e-Filing in regional languages across the country: Phase-I- National level TOT Training was held on 20 June 2020 and 25 master

trainers were trained at the national level. Phase-II- State level TOT Training was completed on 27 June 2020 and 25 TOT master trainers trained 461 master trainers across the country in their respective States and in their respective regional languages. Phase-III - District level TOT Training was conducted in June 2020, in which the State level trained 461 master trainers conducted training programmes in each district throughout the country for the advocates in their regional language.

- x. **Regional Language Manuals, Brochures and Video tutorials:** The manuals, brochures, and video tutorials on e-Filing have been translated in various regional languages to increase their availability for the benefit of all advocates and litigants. Till 30 June 2020, the manuals on "Step by Step Guide for e-Filing" and "Registration of Advocate for e-Filing" were translated in 10 regional languages (Assamese, Bengali, Hindi, Nepali, Mizo, Odia, Punjabi, Telugu, Kannada, Malayalam) and 12 video tutorials with translation of voice over in 7 regional languages was completed.
- xi. **YouTube Channel for e-Courts Services :** To create greater awareness through social media, a YouTube channel of e-Courts Services was created, which has hosted video tutorials on e-Filing in various regional languages for the stakeholders. Till 30 June 2020, the video tutorials on e-Filing were uploaded in English and Hindi on the said YouTube link and has received 10,576 views (from 18 May 2020 to 30 June 2020).
- xii. **e-Committee Newsletter.** The e-Committee has resumed the digital publication of its newsletter from May 2020.
- xiii. **Cases dealt through Video conferencing:** A total number of 15,32,265 cases (High Courts

– 3,39,219 and District Courts – 11,93,046) were dealt through video conferencing by the High Courts and District Courts during the lock-down period from 25 March 2020 till 15 July 2020. This was possible due to the robust digital infrastructure created under Phase I and Phase II of the e-Courts Project.

- xiv. **Court Complex Connectivity:** As of 30 June 2020, 3,332 courts complexes have been provided with a minimum of 10 MBPS bandwidth MPLS connectivity. 54 Court Complexes could not be connected because it was technically not feasible to connect them due to their location (as reported by BSNL). Steps are being taken to provide VSAT connection to such Court Complexes.
- xv. **National Judicial Data Grid ("NJDG") for District and Taluk Courts:** As on 30 June 2020, data of 3,32,21,929 pending cases is available on NJDG for District and Taluk Courts. The above NJDG data can be accessed in the following link <https://njdg.e-Courts.gov.in/njdgnew/index.php>.
- xvi. **The Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System ("ICJS"):** Live electronic exchange of data between courts and police through ICJS has been successfully rolled out in most of the High Courts. FIR and charge sheet details are electronically received in courts through the CIS software system. This will lead to seamless data exchange between the servers of the police stations and the courts and will reduce the data entry work in the courts. Testing is going on for receiving PDF copies of charge sheets and documents.
- xvii. **e-Filing Software:** An e-Filing software application has been developed which enables electronic filing of legal papers and is aimed at promoting paperless filing. The web link for e-Filing is <https://efiling.ecourts>.

gov.in/. During the months of May and June 2020, e-Filing has been implemented across various High Courts and District Courts of Rajasthan, Madras, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka, Orissa, Patna, and Jharkhand. The latest e-Filing software application version 2.0 is undergoing a security audit and has been prepared with features like advocate portfolio, advocate clerk entry module, calendar and social media integration.

xviii. e-Payments: Online payment of court fees, fines, penalty and judicial deposits through an e-Payment link- <https://pay.ecourts.gov.in>- has been initiated. Citizens can now make payments online using this portal eliminating the use of stamps, cheques and cash. e-Payment portal is integrated with state specific vendors like SBI ePay, GRAS, eGRAS, JeGRAS and Himkosh.

12

EDUCATION, TRAINING AND RESEARCH

I. NATIONAL JUDICIAL ACADEMY (NJA)

The National Judicial Academy (NJA) was established as a registered society (fully funded by Government of India) on the initiative of the Supreme Court of India, and is an All India Institute for Judicial Education, Research and Training. NJA was dedicated to the Nation by Hon'ble the President of India on 05 September, 2002 at Bhopal.

Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India is the Ex-Officio Chairman of the society. The National Judicial Academy is managed by the Governing Council, chaired by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India. Two puisne Judges of the Supreme Court of India; the Secretary, Department of Law and Justice, Government of India; the Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, Government of India; the Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India; the Secretary General of the Supreme Court of India and the Director of the National Judicial Academy are the members of the Governing Council. The National Judicial Education Strategy was adopted by the National Judicial Academy under the chairmanship of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, which established for the first time a clear framework for National Judicial Education for enhancing timely justice by reducing delays and arrears

and improving the quality and responsiveness of justice. NJA organizes academic programs for Judges and Presiding Officers of various Tribunals in every academic year to take forward its mission of Judicial Education and Research.

In the academic year 2019-2020. NJA conducted 53 programs and witnessed participation of 1,891 participants between August 2019 and March 2020. Eight programs for Justices of High Courts; five Regional conferences; five workshops for Principal District Judges; six workshops for Presiding Officers of Special Courts; five conferences for Additional District Judges; three programs for Judicial Magistrate and four programs for Civil Judges Junior Division were conducted. One Court Excellence Enhancement Programs was organized in which stakeholders other than judges also participated. Seven Special Events were organized out of which four Conferences were for overseas judges and three Seminars were for Presiding judges and members of Tribunals operating at federal level.

Details of the activities of the Academy during 2019-2020 are as under:

a) **Judicial Conferences for High Court Justices**

- Workshop for High Court Justices on Goods & Services Tax (GST), 28 – 29 September 2019



A workshop for newly elevated High Court Judges

- Workshop for High Court Justices, 5 – 6 October 2019
 - Workshop for Newly Elevated High Court Justices, 12 – 13 October 2019
 - Workshop for High Court Justices on Intellectual Property Rights, 2 – 3 November 2019
 - Workshop for High Court Justices on Goods and Services Tax (GST), 4 – 5 January 2020
 - Workshop for Newly High Court Justices, 18 – 19 January 2020
 - Workshop for High Court Justices on Arbitration including International Arbitration, 8 – 9 February 2020
 - National Convention for Senior High Court Justices Strengthening Fiscal and Administrative Protocols in High Courts, 15 – 16 February 2020
- b) Regional Conferences of the Academy**
- West Zone-I Regional Conference on Optimizing Quality and Efficiency in Justice Delivery: Challenges & Opportunities, 19 – 20 October 2019.
 - North Zone-I “Regional Conference on Optimizing Quality and Efficiency in Justice Delivery: Challenges & Opportunities” 30 November – 1 December 2019
 - East Zone-I Regional Conference on Optimizing Quality and Efficiency in Justice Delivery: Challenges & Opportunities, 21 – 22 December 2019
 - South Zone-I: Regional Conference on Optimizing Quality and Efficiency in Justice Delivery: Challenges & Opportunities, 1 – 2 February 2020
 - West Zone-II “Regional Conference on Optimizing Quality and Efficiency in Justice



Hon'ble Supreme Court Judges at South Zone-I Regional Conference

Delivery: Challenges & Opportunities" 29 February – 1 March 2020

c) Conferences for principal district and sessions judges

- Workshop on Adjudicating Terrorism Cases in Collaboration with CEELI Institute and Federal Judicial Centre, Washington (Phase-IV, Part-I), 11 – 12 August 2019
- Seminar for Principal District & Sessions Judges on Court Administration, Management and ICT, 13 - 15 September 2019
- Workshop on Adjudicating Terrorism Cases in Collaboration with CEELI Institute and Federal Judicial Centre, Washington (Phase-IV, Part-II), 28 – 29 September 2019
- Seminar for Principal District & Sessions Judges on Constitutional and Administrative Law, 8 – 10 November 2019

- Seminar for Principal District & Sessions Judges on Access to Justice and Legal Aid, 31 January – 2 February 2020

d) Conferences for additional district judges

- Workshop for Additional District Judges, 6 - 8 September 2019
- Workshop for Additional District Judges, 15 – 17 November 2019
- Orientation Programme on Cases Concerning Persons Residing Abroad, 23 – 24 November 2019
- Workshop for Additional District Judges, 10 – 12 January 2020
- Workshop for Additional District Judges, 21 – 23 February 2020



A seminar for Judicial Officers on Constitutional and Administrative Law

e) Conferences for judicial officers of special courts

- Refresher Course for Family Courts, 20 – 24 September 2019
- Refresher Course for NDPS Courts, 4 – 6 October 2019
- Refresher Course for CBI Courts, 6 – 8 December 2019
- Refresher Course for POCSO Courts, 3 – 5 January 2020
- Refresher Course for Commercial Courts, 17 – 19 January 2020
- Refresher Course for Money Laundering Courts, 7 – 9 February 2020

f) Orientation programmes for junior division judges

- Orientation Programme for Junior Division Judges, 6 - 12 September 2019

- Orientation Programme for Junior Division Judges, 15 – 21 November 2019
- Orientation Programme for Junior Division Judges, 10 – 16 January 2020
- Orientation Programme for Junior Division Judges, 21 – 27 February 2020

g) Workshops for magistrates

- Workshop on Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, 1994, 31 August – 1 September 2019
- Workshop on Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, 22 – 24 November 2019
- Workshop on Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, 21 – 22 December 2019

h) Court excellence enhancement programmes

- Court Excellence Enhancement Programme-I, 18 – 20 October 2019

i) Special events and conferences for overseas judges and tribunals operating at federal level:

- Seminar for Foreign Judges [Myanmar], 23 – 29 August 2019
- Seminar for Members of the Customs, Excise and Service Tax Appellate Tribunal, 11 – 13 October 2019
- Seminar for Foreign Judges [Bangladesh], 1 – 7 November 2019
- Seminar for Presidents of District Consumer Forum, 22 – 24 November 2019
- Seminar for Foreign Judges [Bangladesh], 13 – 19 December 2019
- Seminar for Members of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal, 11 – 13 February 2020
- Seminar for Foreign Judges [Bangladesh], 14 – 20 February 2020

II. THE INDIAN LAW INSTITUTE (ILI)

The Indian Law Institute (ILI) is a premier legal research Institute founded on 27 December 1956. The first President of India Dr. Rajendra Prasad formally inaugurated the opening of Institute on 12 December 1957 in the Central Hall of Parliament, New Delhi which was witnessed by the first Prime Minister of India Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru and Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.R. Dave, the then Chief Justice of India. Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India is the Ex-officio President of the Institute. The Law Minister of the Union

Government is the Ex-officio Vice President. The Institute's governance is under supervision and guidance of nominated Judges of Supreme Court of India. The prime objective of the Institute is to promote advanced studies and research in law and to contribute substantially in reforming the administration of Justice, so as to meet the socio-economic aspirations through law and its instrumentalities.

The Indian Law Institute was granted Deemed University status in 2004 vide Government of India, Ministry of Human Resource Development Notification No.F.9-9/2001-U.3 dated 29 October 2004. Institute has been accredited with 'A' Grade (CGPA 3.35 out of 4.00) by NAAC in March 2017. After the visit and review by the UGC Expert Committee, the UGC approved the inclusion of Indian Law Institute u/s 12B of the UGC Act in June 2018. The Indian Law Institute was granted Graded Autonomy (Grade – II) by University Grants Commission during the year 2017. The Institute is conducting Masters and Ph.D. courses in Law. It also runs PG Diploma Courses in various areas of law, i.e., Alternative Dispute Resolution, Corporate Laws and Management, Cyber Law and Intellectual Property Rights Laws.

a) Indian Law Institute (ILI) Library : ILI Library is one of the leading law libraries in Asia and attracts scholars from all over the world for legal research. The ILI library has computerized all its catalogue to provide access to the computerized information about the availability of books, journals and various other legal resources. It contains around 82,500 volumes and receives about 190 current legal periodicals including serial publications. Digitisation of rare documents and Institute's publications are done on regular basis and placed in the repository for access by public at large. The library of the Institute has recently shared its Institutional

repository at the coveted National Digital Library platform (NDL) which is the brain child of the MHRD-NME-ICT.

b) Research Publications Released: The following research publications were released by the ILI during the period:

- **Journal of the Indian Law Institute (JILI)** – Published quarterly containing research articles on contemporary legal issues of National/International Importance.
- **ILI Newsletter** – Published quarterly referring various activities undertaken by the Institute during the year and forthcoming activities.
- **Index to Legal Periodicals** – Published yearly and contains indexes, periodicals (including year books and other annual publications) pertaining to law and related fields being received (either by subscription or exchange or complementary) by the ILI Library.
- **Annual Survey of Indian Law** – Published yearly and is a very prestigious publication of the Institute and contains Annual Survey of Indian Law including latest trends in every branch of law of importance.
- ILI Law Review (Summer) & (Winter)

c) Books:

- Right to Bail Law
- Rethinking Law and Violence

d) Activities in ILI:

- **Webinar on Impact of Covid 19 on Legal Education Sector and its responses thereon (24 June 2020):** The theme of

Webinar was “Impact of COVID 19 on Legal Education Sector” and its responses thereon, including development of legal education on COVID times. During the discussion the speakers put thrust on Online classes, Infrastructure, Evaluation and Assessment and Attitude of Teachers and students.

- **Webinar on Right to Health and Covid 19: Challenges to Access to Healthcare in India (17 June 2020):** In this Webinar, the discussion was on the challenges with respect to the right to health and access to healthcare in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- **Webinar on Domestic Violence During Lockdown : An Invisible Pandemic (10 June 2020):** The speakers in this Webinar discussed about the rising cases of Domestic Violence during Lockdown and suggested ways to tackle this issue effectively.
- **Webinar on Future of sustainable development in a Post Covid 19 World (3 June 2020):** The thrust of the Webinar was on interlink between environment and COVID-19 and analysis thereof with special emphasis on the future of sustainable development in a post COVID-19 scenario.
- **Webinar on Law Media and Covid-19 Issues and Challenges (27 May, 2020):** The focus of “Law, Media and Covid-19: Issues and Challenges” Webinar was on impact of COVID-19 and role of the Media in tackling the challenges posed by the pandemic.
- **Webinar on India's governance over covid-19 with special focus on Migrant**

- Workers (20 May 2020):** In this Webinar discussion was centred around India's governance over Covid-19 crisis with special focus on migrant workers. Various issues of the migrant workers were discussed and possible solutions thereof were also suggested by the speakers.
- **One day Consultation for Juvenile Justice Stakeholders in Delhi on their Roles & Responsibilities (20 February 2020):** The Indian Law Institute (ILI) in collaboration with Centre for Research and Advocacy for Child Rights & Persons with Disability (CRACR&PD) and Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) organized the One Day Consultation for Juvenile Justice Stakeholders in Delhi on their Roles and Responsibilities.
 - **One Day Workshop on "MOOCS: Design, Development and Deliver (19 February 2020):** The Indian Law Institute organised a one day workshop on "MOOCS: Design, Development and Deliver" to introduce MOOCS pedagogy and the open source.
 - **One Day Conference on Changing Contours of International Refugee Law and the Indian Position (1 February 2020):** The Indian Law Institute organized the one day National Conference on "Changing Contours of International Refugee Law and the Indian Position". The seminar extensively discussed various issues pertaining to the plight of refugees from national and international perspectives.
 - **One Day Legal Research Methodology Workshop on "Dissertation Writing" (28 January 2020):** The Institute organised the One Day Legal Research Methodology Workshop for Ph.D & LLM Students on "Dissertation Writing".
 - **Training Programme for Officer-Trainee of Indian Economic Services (27 -31 January 2020):** The Institute organized a One Week Training Program for Probationary Officer-Trainees of Indian Economic Services 2018 batch on "International and National Economic and political Laws, RTI and Rule of Law".
 - **One day Seminar Human Rights and Persons with Disabilities (11 January 2020):** The Institute in collaboration with the Law Mantra, Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur, National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam organised a One Day International Seminar on "Human Rights and Persons with Disabilities".
 - **One-Week Programme on Legal Awareness (12 - 18 December 2019):** The Institute in collaboration with Delhi State Legal Services Authority conducted a one-week program on legal awareness from 12 – 18 December 2019. The topics included fundamental rights, fundamental duties, Juvenile Justice Act, POCSO, Child Labour Prohibition Act and Justice Administration was extensively covered in this program.
 - **Certificate Course in Mediation (22 - 24 November 2019 & 6 - 8 December 2019):** The Indian Law Institute in collaboration with MAADHYAM (Council for Conflict Resolution) & SAARC LAW (India Chapter) conducted an Integrated Certificate Course in Mediation on 22 - 24 November 2019 (Phase -I) & 6 - 8 December 2019 (Phase II) at the ILI.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant inaugurating a Workshop on Teaching Techniques and Research

- **Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon Workshop on Teaching Techniques and Research for Young Law Teachers and Research Scholars (6 - 12 November 2019):** In association with Indian Law Institute (ILI) and Lloyd Law College (LLC) organized a week-long workshop on Teaching Techniques and Research. The motto of the workshop was "to equip law teachers with teaching techniques for moulding the law students to be profession-ready". The workshop was held from 6 - 12 November 2019. The Workshop was a seven-day fully residential face-to-face interactive training at Delhi in Indian Law Institute and at Lloyd Law College, Greater Noida to provide theoretical and practical inputs in law teaching and research by experts and professionals.
- **National Workshop on "Legal Capacity Building/Capacity Building of persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. (PwIDDs)" (23 October 2019):** The Indian Law Institute jointly with the National Trust for the persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation & Multiple Disabilities organized a National Workshop on Building Legal Capacity of Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (PwIDDs) to address issues concerning PwIDDs on 23 October 2019.
- **Visit of Foreign Parliamentary Officials from 20 countries led by the Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST), Lok Sabha Secretariat (30 September 2019):** About Foreign Parliamentary Officials from 20 different

countries led by Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training (BPST), Lok Sabha Secretariat visited the Institute on 30 September 2019 and an interactive discussion over Parliamentary Democracy in India was held with the ILI Faculty Members.

- **One Day National Seminar on “Exploring Disability Rights Paradigm in India”(28 September 2019):** The Indian Law Institute organized a one day National Seminar on “Exploring Disability Rights Paradigm in India” on Saturday, 28th September, 2019 at ILI. The Seminar sought to stir up conversation about the promotion of full realization of economic, social and cultural rights of persons with disability. The seminar received overwhelming responses from different stake holders including, disability law



Hon'ble Ms. Justice Indira Banerjee presiding over a National Seminar

activists, academicians, lawyers and researcher. Hon'ble (Ms.) Justice Indira Banerjee, Judge, Supreme Court of India inaugurated and presided over the Seminar.

- **Visit of the Nepal Delegation (25 - 28 August 2019):** The Institute organized a visit of officials from office of the Attorney General for Nepal for upgrading their knowledge on Attorney system in the Indian Legal System. The visit covered wider aspects relating to Criminal Justice System in India. During the visit the Nepalese delegates attended sessions, visited Supreme Court of India and High Court of Delhi and also visited local places in Delhi.
- **The Human Rights and Business Academy (HURBA) in collaboration with the Indian Law Institute organized an intensive certificate course on “Business and Human Rights” (8 - 12 July 2019):** The Course aimed to expose law/ business/ management students, lawyers, civil society representation, policy maker and government officials to international and comparative perspectives in the field of business and human Rights. Sixty five participants attended the program and the academic sections were handled by leading scholars and practitioners.
- **Training Programmes with National Human Rights Commission:** The Institute organized the following Training Programmes in collaboration with National Human Rights Commission during the period under consideration:
- **Two Day Training Programme for Judicial Officers on “Human Rights:**



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Mishra inaugurating a training programme

- Issues and Challenges” (14 - 15 March 2020):** The Indian Law Institute in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission organised a Two Days training Programme for Judicial Officers on “Judicial Officers and Human Rights: Issues and Challenges” at the Institute. The training programme was inaugurated by Hon’ble Mr. Justice Anirudha Bose, Judge, Supreme Court of India. While delivering the inaugural address, His Lordship highlighted the importance of organising the training programme for the judicial officers on issues and challenges on Human Rights.
- **Two Day Training Programme for Prison Officials on “Human Rights: Issues and Challenges”(15 - 16 February 2020):**The Indian Law Institute in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission organised a Two Days Training Programme for Prison Officials on “Human Rights: Issues and Challenges”.
 - **Two Day Training Programme for Police Personnel on “Police and Human Rights: Issues and Challenges” (23 - 24 November 2019):** The Indian Law Institute in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission organised Two Days Training Programme for Police Personnel on “Police and Human Rights: Issues and Challenges”.
 - **Two Days Training Programme for First Class Judicial Magistrates on “Human Rights: Issues and Challenges”(21 - 22 September 2019):** The Indian Law Institute in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission organised Two Days Training Programme for First Class Judicial Magistrates on “Human Rights: Issues and Challenges”. Hon’ble Mr. Justice Arun Mishra Judge, Supreme Court of India inaugurated the training

programme and presided over the function. While delivering the inaugural address His Lordship emphasised on the important issues and Challenges of the Human Rights.

- **One Day Training Programme for Officials working in Juvenile Homes, Old Age Homes & Health Sector on “Human Rights: Issues and Challenges” (10 August 2019):** The Indian Law Institute in collaboration with the National Human Rights Commission organised a One Day Training Programme for officials working in Juvenile Homes, Old Age Homes & Health Sector on “Human Rights: Issues and Challenges”. The role of NHRC in protecting human rights violations of the vulnerable groups was discussed during the programme.

III. LEGAL EDUCATION:

The Supreme Court is instrumental in enhancing and maintenance of standard of legal education in the country. Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India/ Nominee of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India is the Chancellor/ Visitor of a number of reputed institutions including National Law Universities, Indian Law Institute, New Delhi and National Judicial Academy, Bhopal.

IV. LAW CLERK – CUM- RESEARCH ASSISTANTS AND LAW TRAINEES:

- In order to attract young law students into judicial process and to provide assistance in legal research to Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court of India, Law Clerk-cum-Research Assistants are engaged for a short-term contractual assignment by the Supreme Court. They are given assignment

on a fixed stipend of Rs. 65,000/- per month. Each Hon'ble Judge is entitled to have four Law Clerk-cum-Research Assistants. Out of the four Law Clerks, if the Hon'ble Judge so desires, three Law Clerks can be persons of His Lordship's choice.

- Law students are considered for being placed as Law Trainees with the Hon'ble Judges, as per requirement, for a period not exceeding one month from time to time, without any monetary incentive.
- As per the Revised Scheme for selection of Law Clerk-cum-Research Assistants all final year Law students/Law Graduates from Law Schools/Colleges/ Universities from all over the country recognized by the Bar Council of India for enrolment as an Advocate are eligible for participating in the process of selection. The candidates are subjected to a Written Test and candidates short-listed on the basis of marks secured by them in the Written Test are called for interview by the Committee of Hon'ble Judges. On the basis of marks secured by the candidates in the Written Test and Interview, a merit list is drawn wherefrom the Committee of Hon'ble Judges will recommend sufficient candidates to be kept on the panel of Law Clerk-cum-Research Assistants for assignment during the assignment session.
- During 1 July 2019 – 30 June 2020, 85 Law Graduates were engaged as Law Clerk-cum-Research Assistants and 25 Law students were placed as Law Trainees.



1. SUPREME COURT MEDIATION CENTRE (SCMC):

Mediation is a voluntary structured and party centered process where a neutral third party assists the disputing parties in resolving their conflict by using specialized communication and negotiation techniques. A mediation centre has been functioning in Supreme Court since 6 August 2009 at 10-110, Lawyers Chambers, R.K. Jain Chamber Block. The Supreme Court Mediation Centre (SCMC) mediates and resolves only those matters which are pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court and are being referred by the Hon'ble Court for the purpose of settlement/ mediation. SCMC has a panel of 91 trained mediators (including Senior Advocates) sponsored by the Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC) of the Supreme Court to settle cases referred to the Centre by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Interested parties can approach the Co-ordinator, Supreme Court Mediation Centre for assistance and information. Since inception, the Mediation Centre has settled 924 matters (out of which 115 were settled between July 2019 till June 2020) referred to it by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Owing to Covid-19 pandemic, the SCMC has started conducting mediations through online platform.

2. MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION PROJECT COMMITTEE (MCPC):

The Supreme Court of India constituted the Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC) on 9 April 2005 with an aim to oversee the implementation of mediation and conciliation for encouraging amicable resolution of disputes pending in the Courts throughout the country in accordance with Section 89 of the Code of Civil Procedure. The MCPC was also mandated to evolve a policy for court annexed/directed mediation in the Country. A pilot project in this regard was launched at Tis Hazari District Courts in Delhi in August 2005 with Judicial Officers as Mediators. The MCPC receives grant-in-aid from the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) for implementing its activities. Presently, Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.F. Nariman is the Chariman of MCPC while the members of MCPC are Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Hon'ble Ms. Justice Indu Malhotra, Shri P.S. Narasimha, Senior Advocate and Shri Ashok Kumar Jain, Member Secretary, NALSA. The MCPC is conducting the following programmes/activities all over the country.

- 40 hrs Mediation Training Programme (40 hrs MTP)
- 20 hrs Refresher Programme
- Advanced Course (Capsule Course)

- Training of Trainers (TOT)
- Awareness Programme
- Referral Judges Training Programme
- Advanced Training Skills for Potential Trainers Programme
- Course on Developing Advanced Training Skills for Potential Trainers Programme
- 5 Day Intensive Training Programme for Potential Trainers

NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED DURING 2019-2020 (JULY, 2019- JUNE, 2020)		
S.No.	NAME OF THE PROGRAMME	NUMBER OF PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED
1.	40 HRS MEDIATION TRAINING PROGRAMME (40 HRS MTP)	24
2.	20 HRS REFRESHER PROGRAMME	1
3.	ADVANCED COURSE (CAPSULE COURSE)	1
4.	TRAINING OF TRAINERS PROGRAMME (TOT)	0
5.	AWARENESS PROGRAMME	0
6.	ONE DAY REFERRAL JUDGES TRAINING PROGRAMME	7
7.	ADVANCED TRAINING SKILLS FOR POTENTIAL TRAINERS PROGRAMME	0
8.	COURSE ON DEVELOPING ADVANCED TRAINING SKILLS FOR POTENTIAL TRAINERS PROGRAMME	0
9.	5 DAY INTENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR POTENTIAL TRAINERS	1
10.	TRAINING ON PRE-INSTITUTION MEDIATION IN COMMERCIAL MATTERS	9
	TOTAL	43

3. NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY (NALSA):

The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to monitor and evaluate the implementation of legal services programmes and to lay down policies and principles for making legal services available under the Act. Supreme Court Legal Services Committee has been constituted to administer and implement the legal services programme insofar as it relates to the Supreme Court of India. A State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) for every State,

and a High Court Legal Services Committee for each High Court, have also been constituted. District Legal Services Authorities, Taluk Legal Services Committees have been constituted in the Districts and most of the Taluks to give effect to the policies and directions of the NALSA and to provide free legal services to the people and to conduct Lok Adalats in the State. The Chief Justice of India is the Patron-in Chief of NALSA. The Senior most Judge of the Supreme Court is the Executive Chairman. Similarly, at the State level, the Chief Justice of the High Court is the Patron-in-Chief of State Legal Services Authority and Senior most Judge of the High Court is the Executive Chairman.

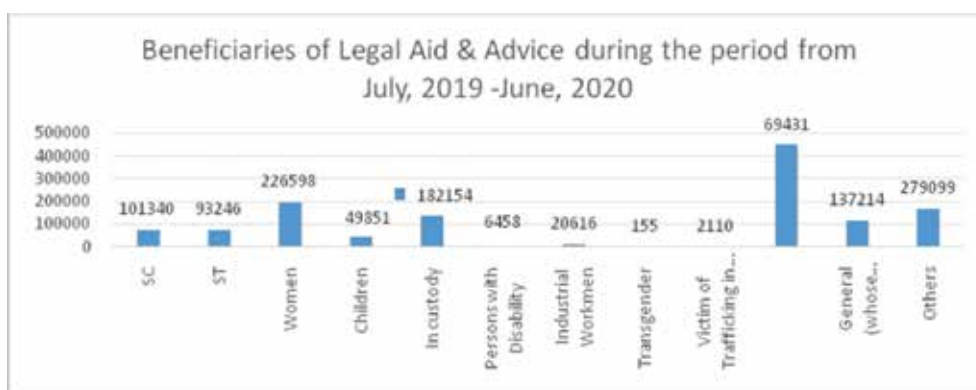
Some of the important activities and initiatives of NALSA during the period from July 2019 to September 2020 were:

(A) LEGAL AID & ADVICE: Providing free legal aid and advice to the marginalized sections of the society is at the heart of operations at NALSA. All the Legal Aid functionaries are working across the country to achieve the maxim of "Access to Justice", which embodies in itself free and competent legal aid and advice. During the period July 2019 to June 2020, the number of total beneficiaries

in all the States / UTs was recorded as 11.68 lakhs out of which total SCs, STs, Prisoners in custody and women benefitted were 1.01 lakhs, 93,246, 1.82 lakhs and 2.26 lakhs respectively.



Free legal aid and advice being provided at NALSA



(B) LEGAL AWARENESS PROGRAMMES: Legal Services Institutions (LSIs) work by putting the power of the law in the hands of the disempowered and marginalised. Legal Awareness Programmes offer an overview of the workings of the Legal Services Institutions, in which attendees gain an understanding of their entitlements as well as their duties under the law, empowering them to utilise the legal resources at their disposal. Various Legal Awareness Programmes on various laws and schemes relating to children, labourers, victims of disaster, SC and ST, persons suffering from disability were held across the country by the Legal Service Authorities. During pandemic the Legal Awareness programmes were held through digital platform. The Legal Services

Institutions have also prepared booklets and pamphlets in easy jargon-free language on various laws, which were distributed amongst the people.



Legal Awareness drive by Chattisgarh SLISA



Attending a legal awareness programme

Awareness Programmes Held during the period from July, 2019 to June, 2020	216315
Number of Persons attended programme during period from July, 2019 to June, 2020	3,10,30,404

(C) LOK ADALATS: Lok Adalats aim to facilitate access and reduce the time and cost involved in the resolution of Civil and Criminal (Compoundable) disputes. During the period, four National Lok Adalats were held across the country, under the aegis and conceptualisation of NALSA. Cases settled included matters relating to NI Act, Bank Recovery cases, Labour Dispute cases, Service matters, Criminal Compoundable matters, MACT, etc. Apart from the National Lok Adalat, State Legal Services Authorities organized regular Lok Adalats from time to time at the local level.

(D) E- LOK ADALAT: Legal Services Institutions through its initiative of E- Lok Adalat aims to ensure that justice is not denied to poor litigants even during the pandemic. E- Lok Adalats are also effectively reducing the burden on Courts by disposing of pending cases and cases at the pre-litigation stage. The first ever, Online Lok Adalat was organized by High Court Legal Services Authority, Madhya Pradesh on 27 June 2020. In the said E Lok Adalat, 91 cases were taken up and disposed of as settled.



Madhya Pradesh High Court organizing Lok Adalat via Video Conferencing for the first time

Statistical information for the period from July, 2019 to June, 2020 - National Lok Adalats			
No. of Lok Adalats	Disposal of Pre-litigation cases	Disposal of Pending cases	Total cases disposed of
4	26,45,566	25,54,887	52,00,453

E-Lok Adalats (June, 2020)			
HCLSC Madhya Pradesh	Disposal of Pre-litigation cases	Disposal of Pending cases	Total cases disposed of
27.06.2020	0	91	91

State (Regular) Lok Adalats			
No of Lok Adalats	Disposal of Pre-litigation cases	Disposal of Pending cases	Total cases disposed of
80643	63,664	3,53,095	4,16,759

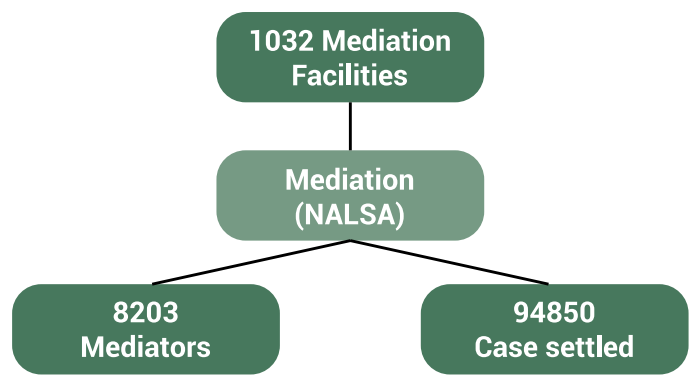
(E) PERMANENT LOK ADALATS (PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES): Permanent Lok Adalats for Public Utility Services have been established under Chapter VI-A of the Legal Services Authorities Act, to resolve disputes relating to public utility services at the pre-

litigation level. 365 Permanent Lok Adalats (PUS) worked across the country for settling matters related to public utility services. During the period from July 2019 to June 2020, around 96,535 cases were settled by the Permanent Lok Adalats.

Statistical Glimpse			
PLAs Functioning	Cases pending as on the beginning of the financial year	Cases received during the year	Cases settled during the year
365	74,437	91,523	96,535

(F) MEDIATION: Mediation is another cheaper, quicker and less stressful method of alternative dispute resolution mechanism that is being promoted by the Legal Services Authorities. It provides a safe and confidential

environment for litigating parties to discuss the matter. Skilled mediators help the parties to navigate the legal aid emotional maze and arrive at settlement of dispute.



(G) PRE-INSTITUTION MEDIATION IN COMMERCIAL MATTERS: After the introduction of Section 12 A in the Commercial Courts Act, 2015, by way of amendment in the year 2018, Legal Services Institutions have been mandated to conduct mandatory pre-suit mediation in the commercial matters.

Statistical Glimpse		
ADR Centres	Existing Mediation Centres other than ADR Centres	Cases settled through mediation
456	576	88,372

(H) FRONT OFFICES: To strengthen the court based legal services system, NALSA has

formulated guidelines to transform the Front Offices as One-Stop-Centres for legal aid beneficiaries. NALSA also conducted meetings with relevant state authorities for the implementation of these guidelines. During the period from July 2019 to June 2020, a total of 754 Front offices were created at the district level, and the number of people provided legal assistance in Front Offices was 3,29,463.

(I) VICTIM COMPENSATION SCHEME: Under the mandate of Section 357A of Cr.P.C., the Legal Services Institutions implemented victim compensation schemes for providing compensation to victims or their dependents who suffered loss or injury as a result of certain heinous crimes.

Statistical Glimpse				
Applications received directly by Legal Service Institutions (A)	Applications / orders marked / directed by any Court (B)	Applications received including Court Orders (A+B)	Applications Decided	Compensation Awarded in (Crores)
8226	6323	14549	10193	182.39

(J) LEGAL SERVICES CLINICS

i) **At Villages & Communities:** Legal Services Clinics are established across the country in jails, Juvenile Justice Boards (JJBs), observation homes, villages, community centres, and colleges to facilitate access to legal services institutions for people who face geographical, social or other such barriers. These clinics are manned by Panel Lawyers and Para Legal Volunteers.

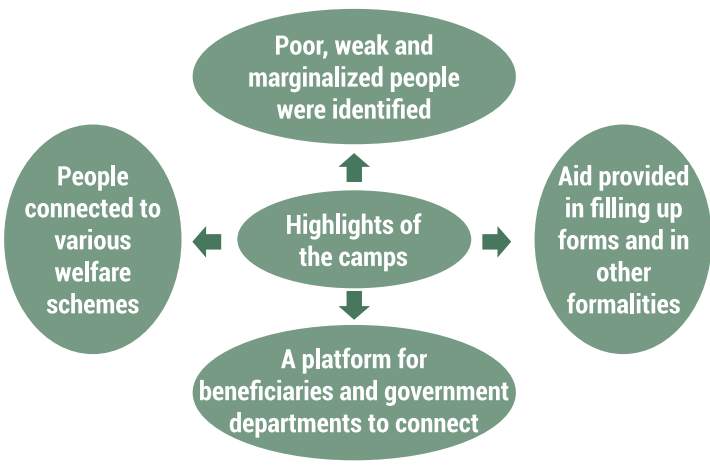
ii) **In Jails:** Legal Services Clinics primarily act as a point of contact for the undertrials in the prisons from where they can enquire about the status of their cases, next date, etc. Panel Lawyers visit these Clinics 3-5 times a week, depending upon the needs of the prisoners. During the period, a total of 1,079 Jail Legal Services clinics were operational across the country. More than 2,98,708 jail inmates were provided legal assistance through the Jail Legal Services Clinics in the form of legal advice, drafting of applications, etc.

	Legal Services Clinics functioning	No. of persons visited	No. of persons provided Legal Assistance
Colleges / Universities	955	55124	38916
Villages	14069	769556	593062
Community Centres	1393	212617	146180
Courts	1023	158255	116136
JJBs	442	41420	30485
For the people of North-East	109	2349	1390
Others	3893	235908	160986
Total	21884	1475229	1087155

(K) LEGAL SERVICES/ EMPOWERMENT CAMPS:

The Legal Empowerment Camps targeted not only the weak and the marginalized sections of the society but also those who were living in the far-flung areas and remotest corners of the country. Through these legal empowerment initiatives, efforts

were made to identify the poor, weak, and marginalized people and connect them to their entitlements provided by the law and other welfare schemes. Around 622 Legal Empowerment Camps were held in which around 8,43,514 people have received various benefits under the welfare schemes and law.



(L) 17TH ALL INDIA MEET OF STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES – ON 17 - 18 AUGUST 2019 AT NAGPUR, MAHARASHTRA

The 17th All India meet of the State Legal Services Authorities was held at Nagpur, Maharashtra on the 17 and 18 August 2019. Some of the key takeaways from the meet were (i) To implement Legal Aid Defence Counsel System in 17 selected districts on a pilot basis, for a period of two years; (ii) To implement NALSA's Front Office guidelines into action so as transform the Front Offices as One Stop Centres for legal aid seekers; (iii) To effectively implement NALSA's Protocol for 'Early Access to Justice at Pre-Arrest, Arrest and Remand Stage'; (iv) To implement NALSA's guidelines for Monitoring and Mentoring Committees and (v) Periodic assessment of the size of panel of advocates, including remand advocates to keep it proportionate to the actual requirement.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.A. Bobde (now Hon'ble CJI) addressing the 17th All India Meet of State Legal Services Authorities

(M) 31ST CENTRAL AUTHORITY MEETING OF NALSA ON 20 JULY 2019 :

The 31st Central Authority Meet was held on 20 July 2019 at the Additional Building, Supreme Court of India. Some of the key takeaways from the

meet were: i) Amendments in Rules 4, 8 and 10 in the NALSA (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations, 2010, were approved; (ii) Regulation 10 (3) of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee Regulations, 1996 was amended; and (iii) Regulation 14 of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee Regulations was deleted, and all the SLSAs were requested to delete the negative list of categories of cases for eligibility for legal aid in their respective regulations.

(N) CONSULTATION MEET OF MEMBER SECRETARIES OF STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES ON 2 AUGUST 2019 AT NEW DELHI :

Amid rapid expansion of Legal Services activities, a need was felt to consolidate and strengthen the existing legal service activities, especially court based legal aid by intensifying focus on organizational practices, qualitative aspects and constant evaluation and monitoring of legal services activities, front office. With this vision, a Consultation with the Member Secretaries of all the State Legal Services Authorities was organized by NALSA in the framework of its programmatic activities on Access to Justice which was held on 2 August 2019.

(O) REGIONAL MEETS : NALSA organised regional consultations for North Eastern, Southern, and Northern States in Meghalaya, Kerala and Shimla on 10 & 11 October 2019, 21 & 22 October 2019 and 21 & 22 November 2019 respectively. The objective of these consultations was to ensure better coordination, and undertake a collective assessment of the organizational activities, practices and implementation. Additionally, these meets aimed to identify the challenges at the regional level, thereby coming up with possible solutions to strengthen the legal aid programmes.

(P) INTERNATIONAL LEGAL FOUNDATION (ILF), NEW YORK ACCOMPANYING A STUDY GROUP FROM ILF, AFGHANISTAN ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2019 : International Legal Foundation (ILF), New York accompanying a study group of seven Afghan Lawyers, two Interpreters and four International Criminal Defense/Legal Aid Experts from the ILF, Afghanistan visited India for a one-week intensive training and mentoring session and intended to understand the functioning of NALSA and its various outreach programmes, common challenges and possible solutions to providing quality criminal legal aid services in India.

On 30 September 2019, a presentation



Presentation by NALSA to foreign delegates at Delhi SLISA

was given by NALSA to the said delegation at the conference hall of Delhi SLISA. The delegation was apprised about the legal aid system of India, working of the legal services functionaries, activities carried out by LSIs across the country for ensuring and promoting Access to Justice for weaker and marginalized sections of the society.

(Q) COMMENDATION CEREMONY ON 9 NOVEMBER 2019 AT SUPREME COURT OF INDIA : Honouring the spirit of justice and fairness, the National Legal Service Authority in collaboration with the Delhi State Legal Service Authority, organized its annual commendation ceremony of legal aid



Inauguration of annual commendation ceremony of legal aid stakeholders

stakeholders on 9 November 2019. The event felicitated Para Legal Volunteers and Panel Lawyers for their service and contribution to the cause of 'Equal Access to Justice'. The chief guest for the event, Hon'ble Union Minister of Law & Justice, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad particularly appreciated the efforts made by Legal Services Authorities in effectively conducting Lok Adalats, and the payment of compensation to the victims of crime. Justice S.A. Bobde, the then Chief



Release of report and compendium during the annual commendation ceremony



Dignitaries attending the annual commendation ceremony

Justice of India Designate, commended the PLVs and Panel Lawyers for translating the policies and programmes of NALSA and SLSAs into action. While doing so, he also emphasized the need for pre-litigation mediation in all disputes. Justice N.V.

Ramana also appreciated the work being done by Legal Services Authorities across the nation.

On the occasion, NALSA's report on 'Campaign for Legal Assistance to the Family Members of Prisoners' was released, as was a compendium of Prisoner's rights.

(R) WINTER INTERNSHIP 2019 PROGRAMME OF NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY :

Each year NALSA provides the opportunity to law students to get a real-life experience on the functioning of jails, observation homes, mental hospitals, district courts, mediation centres, JJBs, etc. through its internship programme. This three-tier programme is conducted twice a year for a period of 21 – 23 days. In the first 2 weeks, the students are

required to work with the DLSA, in the third week the law students are required to work for the Delhi SLSA and for the remaining 3 days, the students get an experience to intern with NALSA.

(S) CONSULTATION WITH MEMBER SECRETARIES OF STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES ON 31 JANUARY 2020 :

In order to assess the progress of various initiatives taken in the 17th All India Meet held on 17 and 18 August 2019, for improving the quality of court-based services and emphasizing on improving organisational practices to increase responsiveness, NALSA organised Consultation with Member Secretaries of State Legal Services Authorities on 31 January 2020.

(T) LOCAL LEVEL CONSULTATIONS:

For assessment of organizational activities, practices and implementation, the National Legal Services Authority organized two Consultation with Member Secretaries and Secretaries of District Legal Services Authorities, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana on 23 January 2020 at Hyderabad and 24 January 2020 at Vijayawada. The objective was to identify challenges at the local level and the possible solutions to strengthen the legal aid programmes and to plug the identified steps. The consultations addressed the following topics, namely, (i) quality of legal aid / advice; (ii) strengthening of basic units; (iii) legal services in prisons; (iv) strengthening ADR mechanism; (v) outreach programmes and (vi) utilisation of funds.

(U) RELEASE OF NALSA'S - HANDBOOK OF FORMATS : ENSURING EFFECTIVE LEGAL SERVICES" THROUGH WEBINAR - 4 JUNE 2020 :

Hon'ble Justice N.V. Ramana, Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) released

a 'Handbook of Formats: Ensuring Effective Legal Services' at a webinar on 4 June 2020. The Handbook, prepared by NALSA in collaboration with CHRI, consists of two sections. The first section contains formats for legal aid providers i.e. panel lawyers, retainer lawyers, remand lawyers, jail visiting lawyers and lawyers attached to police stations and for community and convict paralegal volunteers. The second section includes formats for Legal Services Institutions including registers for the Front Office, attendance registers, clinics and for the Monitoring and Mentoring Committees. This handbook contains formats that will enhance data collection, enabling NALSA to analyse trends and patterns emanating from data, and identification of issues at the micro level.

(V) NEW INITIATIVES

- (i) **Legal Aid Defence Counsel System:** Adopted in the 17th All India Meet on 17 -18 August 2019, the Legal Aid Defence Council System was implemented in 17 districts on a pilot basis. At present, the Assigned Counsel System of delivery of Legal Aid is being followed in India. Under the said system, cases are assigned to panel lawyers by LSIs. These panel lawyers also have private cases to attend to, and consequently, their availability remains a concern for timely client consultations, as well as for regular monitoring of the cases. In order to address these concerns, NALSA has envisaged a legal aid delivery based model on the lines of the Public Defender System. The Legal Aid Defence Council system will involve salaried lawyers with assistants who will be dealing exclusively with legal aid cases in criminal matters at the first instance in Sessions courts. It will not be dealing with

Civil matters. Primarily, it will be providing legal aid through legal advice and assistance, conducting trials and appeals in sessions courts, handling bail applications in sessions courts, apart from handling any other legal aid work in the sessions court. This system will ensure (i) Availability and accessibility of Legal Aid Defence Counsel; (ii) Adequate time to commit to legal aided cases; (iii) Efficient representation by seasoned lawyers; (iv) Timely and effective client consultation; (v) Active monitoring of legal aided cases and enhanced accountability of legal aid providers; (vi) Professional management of legal aid work in criminal matters and (vii) Regular updates provided to legal aid seekers about the progress of their cases.

- (ii) **Legal Assistance at Pre-Arrest, Arrest and Remand Stages:** The Right to Free Legal Aid and Assistance is an indispensable component of a reasonable, free, and fair trial for an accused person. Access to legal aid, therefore, becomes essential at all stages of the criminal process. The legal aid at pre-trial stages, i.e., at the pre-arrest, arrest, and remand stages holds its own importance as it upholds the rights of the people when they are most vulnerable. The access to legal aid at all stages of the trial process is underlined in the United Nations Principles Guidelines on Access to Legal Aid in Criminal Justice Systems, and also implicit in Article 21 and 22 (1) of our Constitution. Keeping these in mind, the 31st Central Authority Meet held on 20 September 2019 stressed the importance of strengthening a protocol for ensuring early access to justice at the pre-arrest, arrest, and remand stages. In 2019, a total of 6,323 suspects were provided legal assistance at at pre-arrest stage at police station. 1,546 of these suspects were not

arrested by the police. Similarly, the number of arrestees provided legal assistance at the police station before producing them before courts was 11,356. A further 72,915 people were provided legal assistance at the remand stage with 20,745 bail applications being filed. 12,456 of these bails were granted.

- (iii) **Strengthening the Monitoring and Mentoring Guidelines:** Regulation 10 of the National Legal Services Authority (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations, 2010 provides for the Legal Services Authorities to establish Monitoring and Mentoring Committees (hereinafter referred to as the Committee) at each level. It was felt desirable that some broad uniform guidelines be framed at the initial stage, for constitution and functioning of the monitoring committees in DLSAs, which have 100 or more pending legal aided cases. Accordingly, NALSA Guidelines for functioning of Monitoring and Mentoring Committees at District Level was devised and formulated. The primary functions of these Committees are to guide the panel lawyers in conducting their cases on behalf of the Legal Services Institutions and also to monitor their performance. The panel lawyer can seek advice from the Committee of the DLSA/SLSA in case of any difficulty in handling the case at any stage or in complicated issues. The NALSA guidelines also prescribe that the Committee may develop suitable questionnaire for the parties who have been assigned panel lawyers and obtain their feedback from time to time. The Secretary, DLSA and the sitting Judicial Officer member of the monitoring committee may have interaction with the presiding officers of the courts in the district to obtain their opinion about the performance of panel lawyers appearing in their Courts.

(iv) **Campaign For Legal Assistance To Family Members Of The Prisoners:** In 2019, NALSA launched a pan-India campaign to undertake Preventive and Strategic Programmes to ameliorate the conditions of family members of jail inmates. This was undertaken in conjunction with all the State Legal Services Authorities to address the legal, socio-legal, and psychological issues of the family members of the prisoners who

were in prison for a considerable amount of time. The target population of the campaign was – (a) Convicts who had a period of imprisonment of 6 months or more and (b) Under Trial Prisoners who had a period of detention for continuous one year or more. The campaign successfully reached out to 1,57,206 prisoners, suggesting that 80% of the prisoners were impacted throughout the country.

Outcome Of The Campaign (STAGE I)		
S. No.	Description	Total
1	No. of prisoners under the scope of campaign	195949
2	No. of prisoners interacted with	157206
3	No. of prisoners who expressed need of legal assistance to themselves or their family members	55985
4	No. of families which resided within the jurisdiction of DLSAs interacting with prisoners	33542
5	No. of families which resided within jurisdiction of the parent SLSA	17904
6	No. of families which resided outside the jurisdiction of parent SLSA	4727

Outcome Of The Campaign (STAGE II)		
S. No.	Description	Total
1	No. of families for which interaction sheets had been received for providing legal aid / other services / assistance	50329
2	No. of families with whom interaction was carried out	32783
3	No. of families who were in need of legal aid or other services /assistance	19999
4	No. of family members who were in need of legal aid	12850
5	No. of family members who were provided legal aid	4151
6	No. of family members who needed other services /assistance	24132
7	No. of family members who were provided other services /assistance	14866

- (v) **Legal Literacy Clubs in Schools:** With the aim of sensitizing students about the laws of the country as well as their rights and duties under such law, Legal Literacy Clubs were established in schools. The State Legal Services Authorities were provided with a target to pen at least 5 Legal Literacy Clubs in each district. Approximately 50,000 such clubs are functioning in schools and colleges across the country.



Legal Literacy Club sensitizing school students

- (w) **CHALLENGES IN THE OUTBREAK OF COVID 19:** The world continues to face grave challenges in the outbreak of COVID 19. Rising to address these challenges, the Legal Services Institutions (LSIs) in India are relentlessly working to meet the justice needs of people.

Work done during pandemic 25 March 2020 to 30 June 2020 by LSIs Legal Awareness Programmes

Number of micro-level Legal Awareness Programmes	44,995
Number of person provided legal assistance	2,24,569

Legal Aid in Domestic Violence Cases

No. of cases relating to domestic violence dealt by Legal Services Institutions	3,689
No. of petitions filed in courts through Legal aid under DV Act	447
No. of cases resolved through counselling/ mediation	678

Legal advice and information provided through legal aid Helpline Number

Legal aid and assistance provided through the National Legal Aid Helpline Number and State Helpline Number	6,26,369
--	----------

Awareness programmes through Radio , TV and You Tube

No of programmes conducted through Radio including community radios	93
No. of programmes conducted through TV	79
No. of programmes conducted through other social media tools including You Tube	2,573

Arrested persons represented at Remand Stage

No. of persons provided legal representation at remand stage	19,184
No. of bail applications filed of such persons at remand stage	8,779
No of such bail applications allowed	6,113

Assistance provided to Undertrials

No. of Undertrials represented during trial through legal assistance	22,024
--	--------

Assistance provided to Convicts

No. of convicts provided legal assistance in filing of appeals	513
No. of convicts provided legal assistance in Parole / Furlough	6,311

Assistance provided to migrant labours

No. of cases in which assistance was provided to migrants in coordination with District Administration in terms of transit, food etc.	63,32,168
---	-----------

Assistance provided to Senior Citizens

No. of senior citizens assisted through legal services	1,03,859
--	----------

Victim Compensation

Number of matter disposed off	1,205
Amount of compensation awarded	19,14,58,850

4. SUPREME COURT LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEE (SCLSC):

The Supreme Court Legal Services Committee [SCLSC] is a Statutory Body constituted under Section 3A of the Legal Services Authority Act, 1987. It came into existence w.e.f. 01.01.1996, on which date a notification in this regard was issued by the Government of India. The functions of the

Committee are regulated by the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee Regulations, 1996 and Supreme Court Legal Services Committee Rules, 2000. It is headed by a sitting Hon'ble Judge of the Supreme Court as its Chairman and has nine other distinguished members in its Executive Body.

The Committee provides legal aid free of cost to eligible litigants whose income does not exceed Rs.5,00,000/- per annum (for general public). There is, however, no income bar for litigants belonging to SC/ST, women, children, handicapped and litigants engaged in matters relating to Industrial Disputes, etc. as defined in the Act. The SCLSC provides legal aid to the persons as mentioned under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. The grant of legal aid to the litigants is subject to eligibility and merits of the case.

As per Regulation 10 of the SCLSC Regulations, 1996 the Committee is maintaining a fund to be called SCLSC Fund in which the following funds are credited :

- Such amounts as may be allocated and granted to it by the Central Authority.
- All such amount received by the Committee by way of donation.
- All such amount by way of costs, charges and expenses recovered from the persons to whom legal service is provided or the opposite party.
- The Secretary of the Committee and one member of the Committee designated by the Chairman for this purpose shall jointly operate the Bank account of the Committee in accordance with the directions of the Chairman.

SCLSC has two types of funds, one is being operated from the Grant-in-Aid being received from NALSA and the other is with the PAO, Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law & Justice i.e. budgetary allocations through which expenditure on establishment and office expenses etc. are being met.

As per Regulation 11(1) of the SCLSC Regulations, 1996, any person deserving legal service for bringing or defending any action in the Supreme Court may prefer an application in writing to the Secretary, SCLSC in the prescribed form available in the office and also on the website of the SCLSC. The applicant is further required to attach documents viz. certified copy of the High Court order/judgment, High Court paper book and other relevant documents along with the application form. As per Regulation 12 (1) of SCLSC Regulations, 1996, on receipt of an application for legal service mentioned in Regulation 11, the Secretary shall first cause the eligibility of the applicant as per the provisions of the Act read with the rules, examined and determined. Regulation 12(2) of the SCLSC Regulations, 1996, provides that if the applicant satisfies the eligibility criteria, the Secretary shall proceed to examine the merits of his application. While examining the merits of the application, the Secretary may take the assistance of Legal Services Advocates or other advocates willing to provide free legal advice. The Secretary may also take the advice of the Legal Services Counsel-cum-Consultant employed by the Committee. The Secretary shall not be precluded from seeking more than one opinion if any particular case requires any in-depth examination. In the spirit of the above regulation, SCLSC has the mechanism of examining the merits of the legal service applications by a senior advocate called as "Screening Committee". At present, SCLSC has 56 Screening Committees to examine the merits of the application.

Regulation 12(3) provides that in case the applicant satisfies the eligibility criteria and also has merits in his application, the Secretary shall proceed to decide the mode of legal services i.e. the Secretary shall refer the case of the applicant to one of our panel Advocates for filing an appropriate petition before the Hon'ble Supreme Court. Regulation 12(4) provides that an application for the grant of legal services in any matter if it is not found fit may be rejected, for the reasons to be recorded in writing, by the Secretary. Regulation 12(5) provides that in case of refusal for the grant of legal services, the Secretary shall inform the applicant in writing of such refusal. Regulation 12(6) gives the right to the applicant whose application for grant of legal services has been rejected, to prefer an appeal before the Chairman for a decision.

Regulation 13 of the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee Regulations, 1996, provides for the modes of legal service, which are as under:-

- (a) payment of court-fees, process fees and all other charges payable or incurred in connection with any legal proceedings;
- (b) charges for drafting, preparing and filing of any legal proceedings and representation by a legal practitioner in legal proceedings;
- (c) cost of obtaining and supply of certified copies of judgment, order and other documents in legal proceedings;
- (d) cost of preparation of paper book (including paper, printing and translation of documents) in legal proceedings and expenses incidental thereto.

No court fee or process fee or copying fee is chargeable in respect of matters filed through the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee.

To facilitate direct contact between the panel advocate and the applicant who is a convict in prison, there is a video conferencing facility provided by SCLSC.

Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the year 2020 presented many challenges before the SCLSC, the first and foremost being of the litigants/applicants failing to reach the office of SCLSC seeking redressal of their grievances. To overcome this challenge, SCLSC has conceived establishing an online counseling facility at its front office to provide an opportunity to the applicants to seek legal opinion from the safe environs of their respective State either through mobile application facility or through the video conferencing facility available at the taluk/district/state legal service authorities.

Another step which the SCLSC proposes to take

to curb the delay in filing of the SLP's for the convicts who are in jail, is of establishing a help desk-cum-facilitation chair facility in each of the High Courts with the mandate to facilitate and streamline the flow of information to and from the prisons, the HCLSC's and the SCLSC. Besides this, steps have been taken to streamline the duties of the staff of SCLSC to bring in more transparency and accountability in the discharge of duties. Work assessments are regularly carried out to keep a check on delay, if any in the processing of legal services applications. Lastly, updation of data and correction of records has also been done in the website of SCLSC to make it more informative and accessible.

Statistical information pertaining to legal aid applications dealt in the Main Office of the SCLSC is as under:-

Month	Diary	New Application	Legal Aid Granted	Rejected	Cases Filed	Cases Disposed
July, 2019	1013	270	62	184	111	166
August, 2019	1574	236	167	155	132	91
September, 2019	1154	301	93	205	112	121
October, 2019	698	213	96	126	60	69
November, 2019	900	240	128	120	118	99
December, 2019	698	170	57	90	64	73
January, 2020	997	329	142	215	89	78
February, 2020	811	280	90	149	79	63
March, 2020	575	228	69	92	48	14
April, 2020	NIL*					
May, 2020	147	61	30	66	2	25
June, 2020	395	153	28	89	20	43

- * Due to COVID-19 pandemic, SCLSC office remained closed with effect from 23 March 2020 to 3 May 2020.

The statistical information of Front Office of the SCLSC is presented in the tabulated form as under:-

Month	Particulars	Number
1	Total Opinion given	342
2	Total Matters Assigned	64
3	Legal Advise/counseling provided	340
4	Number of litigants approached	1718

14

CONFERENCES AND MEETS

PROGRAMMES/MEETINGS/ CONFERENCES/ CHAIRED OR ATTENDED BY HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA AND HON'BLE JUDGES IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

1. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sharad A. Bobde, Chief Justice Of India (i) participated in the Commonwealth Magistrates' and Judges' Association's 2019 Conference on "Parliamentary Democracy and the Role of the Judiciary" held from 8 to 12 September 2019 in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea and delivered speech on the topic "A Judicial Career from Appointment to Post-Retirement Assignment"; (ii) participated in the Secretaries General and Board of Members Meetings of the Association of Asian Constitutional Court and Equivalent Institutions (AACC) held in Bali, Indonesia from 2 to 3 November, 2019.
2. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abhay Manohar Sapre (since retired) participated in the X International Conference on Compulsory Execution organized by Federal Bailiffs' Service of the Russian Federation in Moscow, Russia from 31 July to 3 August 2019.
3. Hon'ble Ms. Justice Indu Malhotra

participated in the 1st International Expert Meeting held in Jakarta, Indonesia from 20 to 22 September 2019 on the theme "Constitutional Dialogue: The Role of the Judiciary to Promote Social Justice – the Protection of Socio-Economic Rights" and delivered speech on "The Role of the Supreme Court of India to Give Content to Directive Principles of State Policy".

4. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vineet Saran participated in the Golden Anniversary Celebrations of the Supreme Constitutional Court of Egypt and a one day Seminar on Recent Developments in Constitutional Adjudication held in Cairo, Egypt from 18 to 22 October 2019.

PROGRAMMES/MEETINGS/ CONFERENCES/ CHAIRED OR ATTENDED BY HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA AND HON'BLE JUDGES IN INDIA

1. Hon'ble Shri Ranjan Gogoi, (the then Chief Justice of India) visited Hyderabad to deliver the 33rd Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Memorial Lecture on 10 August 2019.
2. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sharad A. Bobde, The Chief Justice of India (i) attended 88th Executive Council Meeting of National Law

School of India University, Bengaluru on 6 July 2019; (ii) attended Special Convocation Ceremony at the Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai on 13 July 2019; (iii) attended a function of State Legal Services Authority, West Bengal in Kolkata on 26 July 2019; (iv) attended General Council Meeting of MNLU, Nagpur on 27 July 2019; (v) attended 5th Meeting of the General Council of Maharashtra National Law University, Mumbai on 3 August 2019; (vi) visited Ahmedabad for Inauguration of Building of Gujarat State Legal Service Authority at Gujarat High Court Complex on 12 August 2019; (vii) visited Nagpur to attend 17th All India Meet of State Legal Services Authorities on 17 & 18 August 2019 and Bhoomi Pujan of permanent campus of Maharashtra National Law University on 18 August 2019; (viii) visited Guwahati to attend "First National Judicial Conclave" to discuss and deliberate upon the topic "Challenges facing the Indian Judiciary- Roadmap for the Future" on 21 September, 2019; (ix) visited Bengaluru to attend the Executive Council and General Council Meetings and Annual Convocation of National Law School of India University on 28 and 29 September 2019 respectively; (x) visited Guwahati to attend Book Release Function "Courts of India: Past to Present (Assamese)" on 10 November 2019; (xi) inaugurated the New Building of Rajasthan High Court at Jodhpur on 7 December 2019; (xii) attended a Felicitation Function of High Court Bar Association, Nagpur on 14 December 2019; (xiii) attended Felicitation Function by Bar Council of India at New Delhi on 16 December 2019; (xiv) inaugurated the New Building of Karnataka Judicial Academy, Bengaluru on 11 January 2020; (xv) delivered the Convocation Address of the Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur

University and attended Nagpur Municipal Corporation Felicitation Function at Nagpur on 18 January 2020; (xvi) attended 79th Foundation Day of the Income Tax Appellate Tribunal at New Delhi on 24 January 2020; (xvii) attended Bombay High Court Bar Association Felicitation Function at Mumbai on 24 January 2020; (xviii) attended the International Conference organized by Bar Council of Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh on 1 February 2020; (xix) attended a Felicitation Function and Meet of the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa at Nashik on 15 February 2020; and (xx) visited an Artificial Limb and Hand Fitments Camp at Nagpur on 1 March 2020.

3. Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.V Ramana (i) visited Nagpur to participate in the 17th All India Meet of State Legal Services Authorities on 17 August 2019; (ii) participated in the Groundbreaking Ceremony (Bhoomi Puja) of Permanent Campus of Maharashtra National Law University, at Warangal on 18 August 2019; (iii) visited Ranchi to be the Chief Guest at the 1st Regional Training Programme, for Sensitization of Family Court Judges at Judicial Academy Jharkhand, on 21 September 2019; (iv) delivered Speech at Commendation Ceremony of BEST PLVS, PANEL LAWYERS, DLSAS AND SLSAS held at Supreme Court of India on 9 November 2019; (v) delivered Welcome Address at Constitution Day Celebrations held at Supreme Court of India on 26 November 2019; (vi) visited Jodhpur to take part in the inauguration of the new building of the High Court on 7 December 2019; (vii) chaired Video Conferencing with Executive Chairmen and Member Secretaries of all SLSAs and discussed plan of action for 2020 on 16 December 2019; (viii) delivered the Valedictory Address and was Chief Guest

for the XVI edition K. K. Luthra Memorial Moot Court Competition – Prize distribution 2020 held at Campus Law Centre, University of Delhi on 19 January 2020; (ix) attended Round Table Conference with Member Secretaries of State Legal Services Authorities at New Delhi on 31 January 2020; (x) visited Hyderabad to participate in the South Zone-I Regional Conference organized by the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal in collaboration with the High Court for the State of Telangana and Telangana State Judicial Academy, Hyderabad on 1 February 2020; (xi) addressed the All India Conference of the Central Administrative Tribunal – 2020 held at New Delhi on 16 February 2020; (xii) delivered Introductory Address at International Judicial Conference 2020 held at Supreme Court of India from 21 to 23 February 2020; (xiii) Inaugurated the foundation stone laying ceremony of multi storeyed court building at Chittor on 29 May 2020 as a Chief Guest through video conferencing; and (xiv) released NALSA's handbook of formats: ensuring effective legal services on 4 June 2020 through video conferencing.

4. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Mishra (since retired) (i) visited Cuttack to Inaugurate Air Café at Orissa High Court and Odisha Judicial Academy on 26 July 2019; (ii) visited Puri to attend Foundation stone laying ceremony of High Court Guest House on 27 July 2019; (iii) attended Meeting of the Executive Council, W.B. National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata on 10 August 2019; (iv) attended a Book Launch Programme at Guwahati High Court on 10 November 2019; (v) inaugurated new building of Rajasthan High Court on 7 December 2019; and (vi) visited Kolkata to participate in a seminar organized by West

Bengal Judicial Academy and attended a meeting of the Executive Council, W.B. National University of Juridical Sciences on 21 December 2019.

5. Hon'ble Mrs. Justice R. Banumathi (since retired) (i) visited Aurangabad for "Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony at MNLU" on 27 July 2019; and (ii) visited Ranchi to attend Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority programme "Training of Family Court Judges of India" on 21 September 2019.
6. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Uday Umesh Lalit (i) attended 88th Executive Council Meeting of National Law School of India University, Bengaluru on 6 July 2019; (ii) visited Sonapat to attend the Function of Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram University of Science and Technology, Murthal, Sonapat on 10 August 2019; (iii) attended the Fifth Convocation of Rajiv Gandhi National University of Law, Punjab on 7 September 2019; (iv) delivered the Eighth Lal Amar Chand Sood Memorial Lecture at H.P. High Court, Shimla on 9 September 2019; and (v) visited Bengaluru to attend the 89th Executive Council Meeting of National Law School of India University, Bengaluru on 28 September 2019.
7. Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. M. Khanwilkar (i) attended Tenth General Council Meeting at NLU, Odisha, Cuttack on 10 August 2019; (ii) attended Eleventh General Council Meeting at NLU, Odisha, Cuttack on 19 October 2019; and (iii) attended Inaugural Ceremony of CAN Foundation at Madhya Pradesh Vidhan Sabha on 7 December 2019.
8. Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y Chandrachud (i) delivered a public lecture under the auspices of Dr B R Ambedkar Chair at the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda on "Constitutional Law: New Challenges"

at Vadodara on 27 July 2019; (ii) delivered the Independence Day Lecture 2019 on "Imagining Freedom Through Art" organized by Literature Live! The Mumbai LitFest, Mumbai on 17 August 2019; (iii) delivered the theme address on Human Rights Day Celebration on "Adding Nuance to Human Rights Discourse" at the India International Centre, New Delhi on 10 December 2019; (iv) delivered the 15th PD Desai Memorial Lecture on "The Hues that make India: From Plurality to Pluralism" and attended Meeting of the 19th General Council at Gujarat National Law University on 15 February 2020; (v) attended Panel discussion on "He for She: The Role of Men in Women Empowerment" organized by Aambra Foundation at New Delhi on 20 February 2020; (vi) delivered Introductory remarks on "Role of Judiciary in Protecting Privacy of Citizen in the Internet Age" and Welcome Address on "Judiciary and the Changing World" at the valedictory session of the International Judicial Conference 2020 at the Supreme Court of India on 23 February 2020; (vii) attended the Inaugural Ceremony of Dr Rajendra Prasad Law Institute as Chief Guest organized by Kumaun University, Nainital on 6 March 2020; (viii) inaugurated Virtual Courts 2.0 at Delhi through Video Conferencing on 13 May 2020; (ix) delivered a lecture in the Webinar organized by NALSAR University of Law (NYAYA) on "The Future of Virtual Courts and Access to Justice in India" on 24 May 2020; (x) inaugurated Virtual Courts at Madras through Video Conferencing on 26 May 2020; (xi) voiced on "The Role of Technology in Expanding the Access to Justice at the Webinar organized by NITI Ayog on 6 June 2020; (xii) inaugurated Interoperable Bail Module, e-filing in High Court and District Judiciary, & Virtual Court at Kerala through Video Conferencing on 15

June 2020; and (xiii) delivered presentation at the World Bank Webinar on "The Courts and Covid-19: Adopting IT Solutions for Judicial Efficiency" through Video Conferencing on 17 June 2020.

9. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Bhushan (i) visited Cuttack to attend 28th Meeting of the Executive Council and 10th General Meeting of National Law University Odisha on 10 August 2019; (ii) visited Cuttack to attend 29th Meeting of Executive Council of NLU, Odisha on 31 August 2019; (iii) presided over – speech on "The Pillars of Indian Democracy" at Virendra Bhatia Memorial Lecture at New Delhi on 8 December 2019; (iv) delivered Speech (Chief Guest) – at "The Tenth Annual Prakash Mehrotra Memorial Lecture on the subject "Spiritual Excellence in Contemporary Life" at New Delhi on 10 December 2019; (v) attended Inaugural Session of International Judicial Conference- 2020 on "Judiciary and the Changing World" at Supreme Court of India on 22 February 2020; (vi) chaired the Session on "Role of Judiciary in harmonizing Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development at International Judicial Conference-2020 at Supreme Court of India, on 22 February 2020; (vii) delivered the Inaugural Address of Fifth Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon SAARC LAW mooted Competition, Law Students' Conference & South Asian Colloquium 2019-2020 at Greater Noida, U.P. on 22 February 2020; and (viii) delivered the Valedictory Address at International Judicial Conference-2020 at Supreme Court of India on 23 February 2020.
10. Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. Nageswara Rao (i) visited Secunderabad to discuss "the legal services programmes with Hon'ble the Executive Chairpersons and Member Secretaries of both the SLSAs and Hon'ble Chairmen and

Secretaries of both the High Court Legal Services Committees at Judicial Academy on 27 July 2019; (ii) inaugurated City Civil Court Complex, Phase-II, Secunderabad on 28 July 2019; (iii) attended Prof. S. Venkataraman Endowment Lecture on 'Rule of Law and Indian Constitution' by Justice Jasti Chelameswar (Retd.) organised by Andhra University Law College on 3 August 2019; (iv) delivered Justice Jasti Chelameswar Second Endowment lecture on "Enlarging Life and Liberty- Judicial Experiments and reflection on Constitutional Values" organized by Andhra University Law College on 4 August 2019; (v) attended inauguration of the Platinum Jubilee Year Celebrations of Andhra University Law College on 4 August 2019; (vi) presided over as Chief Guest and delivered Nani Palkhivala Lecture organized by the Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University on 21 September 2019; (vii) inaugurated the 4th Symbiosis Law School, Hyderabad – National Moot Court Competition- 2019 and delivered (Late) Mr. M. Nageswara Rao, Adv. Memorial Lecture at Hyderabad on 28 September 2019; (viii) delivered the Third G.L. Sanghi Memorial Lecture organized by the Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur on 19 October 2019; (ix) visited Kochi to deliver lecture at Indian Law Institute, Kerala on 30 November 2019; (x) attended the "Felicitation function of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India" organized by Advocates Association of Western India (AIA), Mumbai on 24 January 2020; (xi) participated in cricket match between Hon'ble Judges and Senior Counsels, High Court at Mumbai on 25 January 2020; (xii) visited Hyderabad to address in Session 1 "Constitutional vision of Justice" in the South Zone-I Regional Conference on Optimizing Quality Efficiency in Justice Delivery; Challenges & Opportunities

on 1 February 2020.

11. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul (i) attended a function organized by the Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority, Chennai on 10 August 2019; (ii) delivered a lecture on 'Jurisprudence – Emerging Perspectives on Recovery vs. Resolution and Bracing up to the new Insolvency Regime' at Legal Symposium on 'Recovery & Resolution – Emerging Challenges before Recovery Tribunals & NCLTs' organized by 'Law 85 Trust', Chennai on 31 August 2019; (iii) attended IDFC Institute Artha Dialogues, 2019 in Kochi on 19 October 2019; (iv) visited Mumbai to speak on a panel of Judges at the 10th Emerging Markets Finance Conference organized by the Finance research group at Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR), a University founded by the Reserve Bank of India on 14 December 2019; and (v) attended the National Convention for Senior High Court Justices: Strengthening Fiscal and Administrative protocols in High Courts conducted by the National Judicial Academy, Bhopal on 15 and 16 February 2019.
12. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mohan M. Shantana-goudar (i) participated in the 88th Executive Council Meeting of NLSIU, Bengaluru on 6 July 2019; (ii) participated in the National Flag Hoisting Ceremony on the occasion of the Independence Day at Dharwad High Court Bench on 15 August 2019; (iii) inaugurated the newly constructed annexe building at Magistrates' Court Complex, Nrupathunga Road, Bengaluru on 9 September 2019; (iv) attended the Meeting of the 89th Executive Council and 32nd General Council of National Law School of India University, Bengaluru on 28 September 2019; (v) attended 29th Annual Convocation of National Law School of India University, Bengaluru on 29 September

2019; (vi) participated in the Golden Jubilee Function of Rajanahalli Lakshmanasetty College, Davangere, Karnataka on 2 November 2019; (vii) attended a seminar at Karnataka Judicial Academy, Bengaluru on 7 December 2019; (viii) participated in the inauguration of Phase-I the new building of Karnataka Judicial Academy, Bengaluru and participated in the Inaugural function of 19th Biennial State Level Conference of Judicial Officers on 11 January 2020; (viii) participated in Legal Workshop organized by Karnataka State Legal Services Authority to deal Road Safety & Provisions of Motor Vehicles Act at Kalaburagi, Karnataka on 29 February 2020; (ix) participated in the felicitation function organized by the High Court Unit and District Court Unit of Gulbarga Bar Association at High Court of Karnataka, Kalaburagi premises on 29 February 2020; (x) was Guest of Honour in a function celebrating Platinum Jubilee of Bengaluru Advocates' Co-operative Society Limited on 13 March 2020; (xi) visited Dharwad to deliver 4th Annual Convocation of Karnataka State Law University, Hubballi on 14 March 2020; (xii) visited Bengaluru for meeting with Officers of the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority on 20 June 2020.

13. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Navin Sinha (i) visited Jaipur to inaugurate the 5th Manipal-Ranka National Moot Court Competition, 2019 at Manipal University on 28 September 2019; (ii) presided Sessions of the Training Programme for Bangladesh Judicial Officers at National Judicial Academy, Bhopal on 2 November 2019; (iii) guided deliberations in the Seminar for Principal District and Sessions Judges on Constitutional and Administrative Law conducted by National Judicial Academy, Bhopal on 9 November 2019; (iv) participated as Guest of Honour,

in the Inaugural Function of new building of Rajasthan High Court on 7 December 2019; (v) delivered the Inaugural Lecture on "Different Facets of Indian Constitution" in the lecture series jointly conducted by Patna High Court, Bihar Legal Services Authority and Bihar Judicial Academy on 14 December 2019; (vi) participated in the West Zone-II Regional Conference on Optimizing Quality and Efficiency in Justice Delivery: Challenges & Opportunities at Uttan, Thane, organized by National Judicial Academy in collaboration with the Bombay High Court and the Maharashtra Judicial Academy and Indian Mediation Centre & Training Institute, on 29 February 2020; and (vii) visited Bilaspur to inaugurate the Law Lecture organized by the Law Officers of State of Chhattisgarh on 7 March 2020.

14. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Gupta (since retired) (i) attended meeting of the 88th Executive Council of National Law School of India University at NLSIU, Nagarbhavi on 6 July 2019; (ii) attended the Meeting of Search Committee at Hidayatullah National Law University Campus, Raipur and another Meeting regarding implementation of legal services programmes in the State of Chhattisgarh on 28 July 2019; (iii) attended function organized by Praleen Public Charitable Trust and Lecture Committee and delivered Justice P. D. Desai Valedictory Address on "Humane Side of Justice" at the Gujarat Law Society Campus, Ellisbridge on 7 September 2019; (iv) attended "One Day State Level Consultation on the issues pertaining to Juvenile Justice" at Jaipur on 21 September 2019; (v) attended the Annual Convocation and meeting of the Governing Councils of NLSIU, Nagarbhavi, Bengaluru on 28 September 2019; (vi) attended West Zone-I Regional Conference on Optimizing

and Efficiency in Justice Delivery at National Judicial Academy, Jodhpur on 20 October 2019; (vii) attended the training programme for Bangladesh Judicial Officers organized by National Judicial Academy, Bhopal on 3 November 2019 (viii) attended “Global Law Conference on Environmental Laws organized by Chandigarh University on 16 November 2019; (ix) attended “Third J&K Round-Table Conference on Implementation of Juvenile Justice System at Jammu, organized by Juvenile Justice Committee, Supreme Court of India, Juvenile Justice Committee, High Court of J&K in collaboration with Government of Jammu & Kashmir on 23 November 2019; (x) attended the Executive Committee meeting of the Hidayatullah National Law University, Naya Raipur (C.G.) on 7 December 2019; and (xi) attended a programme for release of ‘Training Manuals for Judicial Officers on Psycho-Social Perspectives on the Child and Law’ organized by the High Court of Karnataka and Karnataka Judicial Academy in association with NIMHANS and Department of Women & Child Development, Govt. of Karnataka on 8 February 2020.

15. Hon’ble Ms. Justice Indira Banerjee (i) addressed “Consultation on Child Protection and Implementation of Juvenile Justice Act” at Kolkata organised by the State Legal Services Authority, West Bengal in collaboration with Bachpan Bachao Andolan on 27 July 2019; (ii) chaired Sessions on “Criminal and Civil Justice Administration – Appellate and Revision Jurisdiction of District Judges” as Resource Person at the “Workshop for Additional District Judges” organised by National Judicial Academy, Bhopal on 8 September 2019; (iii) delivered Key Note Address as Chief Guest at the awards ceremony of “A Comparative US-India

Constitutional Law Debate” organized by U.S. Consultate, Chennai in collaboration with Loyola College, Chennai on 14 September 2019; (iv) delivered Inaugural Address at “1st Regional Training Programme of Family Court Judges at National level” organized by Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority jointly with Jharkhand Judicial Academy on 21 September 2019 at Ranchi; (v) delivered Inaugural Address as Chief Guest at “State Level Meet of DLSAs of Jharkhand” organized by Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority, Ranchi on 22 September 2019 at Ranchi; (vi) chaired sessions at the “Workshop for High Court Justices on Intellectual Property Rights” organized by National Judicial Academy, Bhopal on 2 November 2019 at Bhopal; (vii) delivered Key Note Address as Chief Guest at “Training Programme for the Principal Magistrates of Juvenile Justice Boards of West Bengal & Special Prosecutors on “Psychosocial & Mental Health Considerations in Juvenile Justice: a Framework for Judicial Response to Children in Conflict with the Law” organized by State Legal Services Authority, West Bengal on 15 December 2019 at West Bengal Judicial Academy, Kolkata; (viii) chaired sessions on “Law relating to Cyber Crimes: Advances and Bottlenecks, Electronic Evidence: Collection, Preservation and Appreciation and Forensic Evidence in Civil and Criminal Trials” at the “Orientation Programme for Junior Division Judges” organized by National Judicial Academy, Bhopal on 12 January 2020 at Bhopal; (viii) was Resource Faculty in sessions on “Constitutional vision of Justice 7 Theories of Judicial Review and Fundamental Rights and Restrictions on Entrenched rights & Theory of Basic Features: Contours” at the “Workshop for Newly Elevated High Court Justices”, and Chaired session on “IPR

Disputes relating to Trademarks and Design" organized by National Judicial Academy, Bhopal on 18 January 2020 at Bhopal; (ix) was Chief Guest at Valedictory Session of the "International Conference in the wake of 550th Birth Anniversary of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji" organized by the Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana in collaboration with Bar Council of India at Chandigarh; (x) inaugurated "National Conference on Speedy and Effective Trial of Offences Against Women and Children" organized by the High Court of Judicature at Madras and Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy on 15 and 16 February 2020; (xi) was Chief Guest at the Inaugural Session of "Justice Dipak Misra National Moot Court Competition" organized by Geeta Institute of Law, Samalkha, Panipat, Haryana on 29 February 2020; and (xii) was Chief Guest in the International Webinar "Online Mediation as a future in Dispute Settlement" organized by Law Centre-II, Faculty of Law, Delhi University on 7 June 2020.

16. Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. M. Joseph attended "Thirteenth Annual Convocation" at National University of Advanced Legal Studies at NUALS Campus, Kalamassery, Kochi, Kerala on 1 February 2020 as Chief Guest.
17. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hemant Gupta visited Chandigarh to attend the Global Law Conference held on 16 & 17 November 2019 at Chandigarh University, Mohali, Punjab.
18. Hon'ble Mr. Justice R. Subhash Reddy (i) participated in a Meeting organized by Telangana State Legal Services Authority, Secunderabad on 27 July 2019; (ii) attended the Inauguration of the newly constructed building of Gujarat State Legal Services Authority, Ahmedabad on 11 August 2019; (iii) attended the Inauguration Ceremony of the

new building of "Kayda Bhavan", High Court of Gujarat", Ahmedabad on 9 September 2019; (iv) attended a Conference jointly organized by PG College of Law, Osmania University and The Institute of Company Secretaries of India, Southern India Regional at Hyderabad on 23 November 2019; (v) attended the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of Government Polytechnic, Nizamabad on 24 November 2019. (vi) attended the "South Zone-I Regional Conference on Optimizing Quality and Efficiency in Justice Delivery: Challenges & Opportunities" organized by National Judicial Academy in collaboration with the High Court of Telangana and Telangana State Judicial Academy, Hyderabad on 1 and 2 February 2020.

19. Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. R. Shah (i) chaired the meeting of the Gujarat State Legal Services Authority at Ahmedabad on 28 July 2019; (ii) visited Ahmedabad to attend the inauguration ceremony of Building of Gujarat State Legal Services Authority at Gujarat High Court Complex on 12 August 2019; (iii) attended the Inaugural function of the new building of "Kayda Bhavan", High Court of Gujarat, Ahmedabad on 9 September 2019; (iv) chaired the Valedictory Function of "Surana and Surana National Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition on Criminal Law" organized by Bhartiya Vidyapeeth Deemed to be University, Pune on 22 September 2019; (v) attended the General Council Meeting of National Law School of India University on 28 September 2019 and the Convocation Programme of National Law School of India University, Bengaluru on 29 September 2019; (vi) visited Bharuch to attend the Mega Legal Services Camp, organized by Gujarat State Legal Services Authority on 20 October 2019; (vii) delivered lecture in the Institute

- of Law, Nirma University, Ahmedabad on 17 November 2019; (viii) inaugurated function organized by the Advocates' Association, Patna High Court on 23 November 2019; (ix) inaugurated one day consultation programme on Juvenile Justice organized by Bihar Judicial Academy, Patna on 30 November 2019; (x) attended the Executive Council Meeting for Hidayatullah National Law University at HNLU Campus, Raipur on 7 December 2019; (xi) visited Ahmedabad to attend function at Sri Sathya Sai Heart Hospital, Kasindra on 14 December 2019; (xii) attended a function at Vidya Mandir Banquet Hall, Mumbai on 29 December 2019 (xiii) attended a function and delivered Lecture at Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar on 11 January 2020; (xiv) attended 19th General Council meeting of the Gujarat National Law University and 10th Convocation of the Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar on 15 February 2020; (xv) visited Rajkot to attend function on 1 March 2020; (xvi) attended Inaugural Session of the Covid-19 Pandemic National Online Moot Court Competition, 2020, organized by Lloyd Law College, Greater Noida on 30 April 2020; (xvii) attended valedictory Ceremony of 2nd Smt. Nirmala Devi Bam Memorial Online International Moot Court Competition, 2020, held on 17 May 2020.
20. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajay Rastogi (i) was Chief Guest on the occasion of the 9th UFYLC – Ranka National Moot Court – 2019 at University of Rajasthan, Jaipur on 14 September 2019; (ii) was Chief Guest on the occasion of the Inaugural Ceremony of the New Building of the Rajasthan High Court at Jodhpur on 7 December 2019; (iii) was Chief Guest on the occasion of Valedictory Function of 4th C.L. Agrawal Memorial Moot Court Competition at Raffles University, Neemrana, District-Alwar, Rajasthan on 1 March 2020; and (iv) was Guest of Honour on the occasion of Rajasthan State Legal Service Authority Online Lok Adalat Workflow under National Legal Services Authority, New Delhi on 22 August 2020.
21. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dinesh Maheshwari (i) attended a meeting with State Legal Services Authority, Assam on 8 September 2019; (ii) inaugurated front office of District Legal Services Authority and meeting with Secretaries of the District Legal Services Authority and meeting with Judicial officers on 9 September 2019; (iii) participated in Inauguration of new building of the Rajasthan High Court on 6 December 2019; (iv) attended 13th Convocation of National Law University, Jodhpur on 18 January 2020; (v) attended South Zone Regional Conference of National Judicial Academy on Optimizing Quality and efficiency in Justice Delivery: Challenges at Hyderabad on 1 February 2020; (vi) was Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker- on the theme "Different facets of Indian Constitution" at Bihar Judicial Academy, Patna on 8 February 2020; and (vii) was Chief Guest in Valedictory Ceremony of Trainee Civil Judges at Rajasthan State Judicial Academy, Jodhpur on 6 March 2020.
22. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjiv Khanna (i) attended inauguration of Legal Services Clinic and Oasis Centre for Learning in Tihar Jail on 25 September 2019; (ii) attended Regional Conference on Optimizing Quality and Efficiency in Justice Delivery at Delhi High Court on 29 November 2019; and (iii) attended Virtual Discussion (webinar) organized by Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana on "Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races one after the other:

Lessons for A Young Lawyer" along with Mr. Geoffrey Robertson Q.C. author and founder of Doughty Street Chamber U.K. on 27 June 2020.

23. Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai (i) attended meeting at Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur on 13 July, 2019; (ii) inaugurated Akola District Court Building on 14 July 2019; (iii) attended meeting of the General Council of Maharashtra National Law University, Nagpur on 27 July 2019; (iv) attended the Inaugural programme of 17th All India Meet of State Legal Services Authorities organized by the National Legal Services Authority and Maharashtra State Legal Services Authority on 17 and 18 August 2019; (iv) inaugurated the Surana & Surana National Trial Advocacy Moot Court Competition on Criminal Law at Bharti Vidyapeeth New Law College on 21 September 2019; (v) attended the Meeting of the Academic Council of NLSIU on 28 September 2019 and attended 27th Annual Convocation of NLSIU on 29 September 2019; (vi) visited Nagpur to attend 3rd G.L. Sanghi Memorial Lecture on 19 October 2019 and attended Building Committee Meeting of MNLU on 19 October 2019; (vii) inaugurated Continuous Legal Education Programme at Y. B. Chavan Auditorium, General Jagannath Bhosale Marg, Mumbai on 9 November 2019; (viii) attended two days "DEV DEEPAWALI" National Tax Conference, Varanasi on 11 & 12 November 2019; (ix) attended Global Conference on International Commercial Arbitration at New Delhi on 7 December 2019; (x) attended Inaugural Ceremony of Mega Legal Services Camp at Goa on 11 January 2020; (xi) attended felicitation of Hon'ble Shri S. A. Bobde, Chief Justice of India and Meeting of the Executive Council, Mah. NLU, Nagpur on 18 January 2020; (xii) attended felicitation of Hon'ble Shri S. A. Bobde, Chief Justice of India by Bombay Bar Association on 24 January 2020; (xiii) delivered Lecture organized by the Advocates' Association of Bombay High Court at Aurangabad on 26 January 2020; (xiv) attended 10th Annual Convocation of the T.N. Dr. Ambedkar Law University and 1st Justice S. Sivasubramaniam Memorial Lecture at Chennai on 1 February 2020; (xv) attended Inauguration Ceremony of B-Wing by Sangli District Bar Association on 8 February 2020; (xvi) attended State Level Conference 2020 on the theme 'Marching towards Speedy Modern Judiciary' held by the Bar Council of Maharashtra & Goa in association with Nashik Bar Association at Nashik on 15 February 2020.; (xvii) attended programme at Akola Law College on 29 February, 2020; and (xviii) attended the Artificial limb fitment camp at MLA Hostel, Civil Lines, Nagpur on 1 March 2020.
24. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant (i) attended a function at Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram University of Science and Technology, Murthal, Haryana on 10 August 2019; (ii) attended 17th All India Meet of the State Legal Services Authorities, Nagpur on 17 and 18 August 2019; (iii) attended Inaugural Function of Additional Block of Judicial Court Complex, Ludhiana on 21 September 2019; (iv) attended Annual Law Convocation at Punjab University, Chandigarh on 23 November 2019; (v) attended the Selection Committee Meeting of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Mumbai from 27 to 29 December 2019; (vi) attended the Selection Committee Meeting of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Hyderabad from 10 - 11 January 2020; (vii) attended the Selection Committee

Meeting of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Bhubaneswar from 24 - 25 January 2020; (viii) attended International Conference in the wake of 550th Birth Anniversary of Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji, organized by Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana from 31 January 2020 to 1 February 2020; (ix) attended the Selection Committee Meeting of National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), Chandigarh from 14 to 16 February 2020.

25. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aniruddha Bose (i) attended Judicial Colloquium "A Perspective on access to justice for women and children: Constitutional & contemporary Role" at Taj Bengal Kolkata on 21 July 2019; (ii) attended Implementation of Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 with specific focus on Rehabilitation of Children at West Bengal Judicial Academy, Kolkata in collaboration with Bachpan Bachao Andolan on 27 July 2019; (iii) attended programme of Launch of theme song for State Legal Services Authority, West Bengal on 28 September 2019 at Kolkata; (iv) visited Jharkhand Judicial Academy as Chief Guest to attend programme on "Cyber Crimes-Issues and Challenges, remedies under the Present Law: A critical study in the State of Jharkhand" on 19 October 2019; (v) attended programme on "Justicing in the Modern Era: the Core Values and new techniques" organized by West Bengal Judicial Academy, Kolkata on 21 December 2019; (vi) attended East Zone-I Regional conference on Optimizing Quality and Efficiency in Justice Delivery: Challenges & Opportunities organized by Orissa High Court and the Odisha Judicial Academy, Cuttack; on 22 December 2019 (vii) as a Chief Guest attended programme titled 'National Youth Day, 2020: Life after Acid Attack' organized by State Legal Services Authority,

West Bengal at the High Court of Calcutta on 12 January 2020; (viii) attended the inaugural edition of the Professor N.R. Madhavan Menon Legal Conclave on 1 February 2020; (ix) attended National Convention for Senior High Court Justices: Strengthening Fiscal and Administrative Protocols in High Courts - National Judicial Academy, Bhopal, on 15 February 2020; (x) attended International Judicial Conference under the theme "Judiciary and the Changing World" organized by Supreme Court of India on 21 February to 23 February 2020 and delivered a speech on "Dynamic Interpretations of the Constitution in a Changing World"; and (xi) as a Chief Guest attended programme of Indian Law Institute & National Human Rights Commission for judicial officers on "Human Rights: Issues and Challenges" at New Delhi on 14 March 2020.

26. Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat (i) attended the inaugural ceremony of New Building of District Courts, Chittorgarh on 3 November, 2019. (ii) launch the translated Assamese version of the book titled "The Courts of India : Past to Present" organized by Gauhati High Court, Guwahati on 10 November, 2019. (iii) attended the inaugural ceremony of Rajasthan High Court new building, Jodhpur on 7 December, 2019. (iv) Chaired the third Technical Session of the Panel Discussion on "Contemporary Developments in Fiscal & Allied Laws – their impact on tax assessments" organized by ITAT on 25 January, 2020. (v) Attended as Chair and Keynote Speaker in the international conference on "Efficacy of Investment Treaty Arbitrations" organized by FICCI, New Delhi on 8 February, 2020. (vi) Attended the Working Sessions of the International Judicial Conference 2020 organized at the

Supreme Court of India, New Delhi on 22 February 2020. (vii) Panelist in the webinar - "Judiciary and ADR – Embracing Mediation for Justice Post COVID-19" organised jointly by the Centre for Mediation and Conciliation (CMC) and Asian International Centre for Arbitration (AIAC) on 27 June 2020.

27. Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Ramasubramanian (i) attended the 3rd Conference of the Central Government Standing Counsel of the Southern States 2019 at the Madras High Court on 19 October 2019; (ii) delivered a lecture in National Law University on "Human Rights, Democracy and Human Dignity: 70 Years of Universal Declaration on Human Rights" on 9 November 2019; (iii) attended Arbitration Summit-Berkeley Global Society at IHC, New Delhi on 16 November 2019; (iv) attended Seminar on "Role of Bankers, Advocates and Guidance of Judiciary in recovery of NPAs – Laws relating to recovery of NPAs in theory and Practice" on 23 November 2019 at Vijayawada; (v) attended "Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer Fifth Memorial Law Lecture" at Kerala High Court on 14 December 2019; (vi) attended D.V. Subba Rao Memorial Lecture organized by Centre for Policy Studies and Visakhapatnam Public Library in Andhra Pradesh on 21 December 2019; (vii) attended an Enrolment function at High Court, Chennai on 1 February 2020; (viii) attended National Conference on Speedy and Effective Trial of Offences at TNSJA Headquarters, Chennai on 15 February 2020; (ix) attended International Judicial Conference in New Delhi at Supreme Court from 21 to 23 February 2020; (x) gave inaugural speech on the topic "Government, Government departments and statutory corporations in Arbitration" for the web lecture series of the MBA Academy, the Madras Bar Association on 20 April 2020; and (xi) inaugurated webinar organized

by Jurists wing of Rajyoga Education and research foundation & Brahma Kumaris on the topic 'Strengthening the inner self in present situation' on 23 May 2020.

28. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hrishikesh Roy attended a Book Launching Programme at Pragjyotishita Centre, Machkhowa, Guwahati on 10 November 2019.

VISIT OF FOREIGN DELEGATIONS TO SUPREME COURT:

Meeting of Hon'ble Shri Ranjan Gogoi, the then Chief Justice of India with Ambassador of the Republic of the Sudan to India on 4 July 2019 in the Chamber of His Lordship.

CONSTITUTION DAY CELEBRATIONS-2019:

The Supreme Court of India organized a function on 26 November 2019 in its newly inaugurated premises i.e. the Auditorium, Additional Building Complex, Supreme Court of India, Mathura Road, New Delhi to celebrate the Constitution Day. Hon'ble Shri Ram Nath Kovind, President of India inaugurated the function in the august presence of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Judges of Supreme Court of India, former Chief Justices/ Judges of Supreme Court of India, Chief Justices/ Judges of High Courts, Hon'ble Union Minister for Law and Justice, Presidents of Bar Associations, Judicial Officers and other dignitaries. Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.V. Ramana, Judge, Supreme Court of India delivered the welcome address. There were addresses by Hon'ble the President of India, Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Union Minister for Law and Justice, Attorney General for India and President, Supreme Court Bar Association. On this occasion, Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India released the 'Annual Report of Indian Judiciary 2018-2019', launched



Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sharad A. Bobde, Chief Justice of India, and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hrishikesh Roy participating in the BRICS Chief Justices Forum via Video Conferencing

'Supreme Court Mobile App' and introduced 'Artificial Intelligence in Judicial Domain'. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Mishra, Judge, Supreme Court of India presented vote of thanks followed by National Anthem of India.

PARTICIPATION OF HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA AND HON'BLE JUDGES IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND MEETS VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING

1. Hon'ble Dr. Justice Dhananjaya Y. Chandrachud and Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. Nageswara Rao, Judges, alongwith Mr. Sanjeev S. Kalgaonkar, Secretary General and Mr. Rajesh Kumar Goel, Registrar participated in Board of Members Meetings, IV Congress (International Conference) and Meeting of Secretaries General respectively of Association of Asian Constitutional Courts

and Equivalent Institutions organized by the Constitutional Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan on 26th and 27th August, 2020. The topics discussed during the aforesaid Congress were: (a) Constitution and the Rule of Law Challenges and Ways of Solutions; (b) Protection of Constitutional Human Rights and Democratic Values in the Digital Transformation Era; (c) Constitutional Principles of Modernization of the Modern and Efficient State. Hon'ble Dr. Dhananjaya Y. Chandrachud delivered the speech on the topic "Response of Constitutional Courts to Accelerated Digitisation Post COVID-19: Addressing Issues of Access and Inequity" during the Congress.

2. Indian Delegation comprising Hon'ble Shri Sharad Arvind Bobde, Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hrishikesh Roy, Judges



Online participants at the XV Meeting of Supreme Court Chief Justices of the SCO Member States

- participated in the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Chief Justices Forum organized by the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation on 8th September, 2020. During the Conference, Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India delivered Opening and Closing Remarks while Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hrishikesh Roy delivered speeches on the topics "Protection of Interests of Economic Actors and the Business Environment through Measures of Administrative Judicial Procedure" and "Consumer Rights Protection in the Modern Economic Environment" respectively.
3. Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India participated in "Commonwealth Chief Justice Virtual Roundtable - Justice systems response to the pandemic – learning lessons and future opportunities" hosted by Rt. Hon'ble the Lord Burnett of Maldon, Lord Chief Justice of England & Wales on 29th September, 2020. Hon'ble Chief Justices/Presidents of Federal / Supreme Court of Australia, Gambia, Malawi, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Northern Ireland, Rwanda, Scotland, Singapore, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia also participated in the meeting. Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India presented a brief on the topic "Covid-19 Pandemic: Navigating through the crisis and Responses by the Indian Courts" during this Virtual Roundtable.
 4. Indian Delegation comprising Hon'ble Mr. Justice Uday Umesh Lalit, Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. Nageswara Rao and Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Ramasubramanian, Judges participated in the XV Meeting of the Chief Justices of the Supreme Courts of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Member States held online on 30th October, 2020. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Uday Umesh Lalit delivered welcome speech and closing remarks during the Meeting and Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. Nageswara Rao and Hon'ble

Mr. Justice V. Ramasubramanian, Judges delivered speeches on the topics “Role of Courts in Promoting Constitutional Values” and “Focussing on Human Duties for the Promotion of Human Rights” respectively”.

PARTICIPATION OF REGISTRARS IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND MEETS VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING

Indian Delegation comprising Mr. Anil Laxman Pansare and Mr. Rajesh Kumar Goel, Registrars, Supreme Court of India participated in the 2nd Research Conference under the theme “Freedom of Expression: Experience of AACC Members” organized by Association of Asian Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Institutions, Secretariat for Research and Development, Constitutional Court of Korea from 23rd to 25th September, 2020. Speeches were delivered by Mr. Anil Laxman Pansare and Mr. Rajesh Kumar Goel on the topics “Freedom of expression: Impact of Internet” and “Freedom of expression: Indian's Intrinsic right” respectively.



Inaugural Session of International Judicial Conference 2020

15

INTERNATIONAL JUDICIAL CONFERENCE-2020

The International Judicial Conference 2020 was held from 21 to 23 February 2020 in Supreme Court of India, New Delhi. The theme of the Conference was 'Judiciary and the Changing World'. It was the first ever international conference hosted by India under the aegis of the Supreme Court of India. The idea of an International Initiative was envisaged to deliberate upon issues, share best practices and find solutions for increasing the role of judiciary in the changing world. The Conference was an attempt to bring together Judges and Jurists from across the world, to deliberate and take stock of advancements in various jurisdictions which may be useful and may be effectively used in the justice administration.

The International Judicial Conference consisted of an inaugural session which was held on 22 February 2020 followed by a Keynote Address session on the same date, and then five working sessions on the role of judiciary on various aspects of contemporary relevance spread over two days, 22 February and 23 February 2020, while the Valedictory Session was held on 23 February 2020.

The Inaugural Session was held at the Auditorium, Additional Building Complex, Supreme Court of India. Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India inaugurated the Conference in the presence of Hon'ble Shri Sharad A. Bobde, Chief Justice of India, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union



**Address by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sharad A. Bobde,
Chief Justice of India**

Minister for Law & Justice and Communications, Electronics & Information Technology, Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court of India, Shri K.K. Venugopal, Attorney General for India, Hon'ble Chief Justices of U.K., Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe,

Afghanistan, Australia, Jamaica, Maldives, and Bangladesh, President of East African Court of Justice, Hon'ble Judge of International Court of Justice, Hon'ble Judges/representatives of Russian Federation, Australia, Afghanistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Jamaica, Maldives, Spain, Thailand, Malaysia, France, Tanzania, Kingdom of Morocco, Peru, Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya, Indonesia and Union of Myanmar, Hon'ble Chief Justices and Judges of High Courts, Solicitor General of India, Law Officers, Chairman Bar Council of India, President and Members of the Executive Committee of Supreme Court Bar Association, Vice-Chancellors of Law Universities, Advocates, Directors of Judicial Academies, Member Secretaries of Legal Service Authorities and other dignitaries. Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. Nageswara Rao, Judge, Supreme Court of India delivered the welcome address and Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.V. Ramana, Judge, Supreme Court of India delivered the Introductory Address. There were addresses by Shri K.K. Venugopal, Attorney General for India, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Union Minister for Law & Justice and Communications, Electronics & Information Technology and Hon'ble Shri Sharad A. Bobde, Chief Justice of India. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Mishra, Judge, Supreme Court of India presented Vote of Thanks during the Inaugural Session.

The Inaugural Session was followed by Keynote Address session. Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. Nageswara Rao, Judge, Supreme Court of India delivered the Welcome Address. The Right Hon'ble Lord Robert John Reed, President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom delivered the Keynote Address. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Gupta, Judge, Supreme Court of India delivered the concluding remarks.

This was subsequently followed by five Working Sessions- the first four held on 22 February 2020 and the fifth held on 23 February 2020, as per the following details:



Inaugural Address by Shri Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India

WORKING SESSION- 1

22 February 2020

TOPIC: ROLE OF THE JUDICIARY IN MAINTAINING A GENDER JUST WORLD

Introductory remarks by Chair, Hon'ble Ms. Justice Indira Banerjee, Judge, Supreme Court of India

Joint Presentation by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jayantha Jayasuriya PC, Chief Justice and Hon'ble Mrs. Justice MNB Fernando PC, Judge, Supreme Court of Sri Lanka

Speech by Hon'ble Ms. Justice Aisha Shujune Muhammad, Judge, Supreme Court of Maldives

Speech by Hon'ble Dr. Justice Dalveer Bhandari, Judge, International Court of Justice, the Hague, Netherlands

Speech by Hon'ble Dr. Justice Pyotr Serkov, First Deputy Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Russian Federation

Speech by Mr. Juan Manuel Fernández Martínez, Member of the General Council for the Judiciary, Spain

Open discussion

WORKING SESSION -2

22 February 2020

TOPIC: JUDICIARY AS A GUARDIAN AGAINST POPULISM: COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES ON PROTECTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL VALUES

Introductory remarks by Chair, Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Ramasubramanian, Judge, Supreme Court of India

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Luke Malaba, Chief Justice of Zimbabwe

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Said Yousuf Halem, Chief Justice of Afghanistan

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Soros Suwannett, President, Criminal Case Division for Persons Holding Political Positions of the Supreme Court of Thailand

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ghazali Cha, Judge, High Court of Malaya, Malaysia

Open discussion

WORKING SESSION -3

22 February 2020

TOPIC: CONSTITUTION IN A CHANGING WORLD: STATIC OR DYNAMIC INTERPRETATION?

Introductory remarks by Chair, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aniruddha Bose, Judge, Supreme Court of India

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aswanto, Deputy Chief Justice, Constitutional Court of the Republic of Indonesia

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Geoffrey Nettle AC, Justice, High Court of Australia

Speech by Hon'ble Dr. Justice Ananda Mohan Bhattarai, Judge, Supreme Court of Nepal

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Olukayode Ariwoola, Judge, Supreme Court of Nigeria

Open discussion

WORKING SESSION-4

22 February 2020

TOPIC: ROLE OF JUDICIARY IN HARMONIZING ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Introductory remarks by Chair, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Bhushan, Judge, Supreme Court of India

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain, Chief Justice of Bangladesh

Speech by Hon'ble Dr. Justice Emmanuel Ugirashebuja, President, East African Court of Justice, Tanzania

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Soe Naing, Judge, Supreme Court of the Union of Myanmar

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dahman Ahmed, Justice at the Court of Cassation of the Kingdom of Morocco

Open discussion

WORKING SESSION – 5

23 February 2020

TOPIC: ROLE OF JUDICIARY IN PROTECTING PRIVACY OF CITIZENS IN THE INTERNET AGE

Introductory remarks by Chair, Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Judge, Supreme Court of India

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bryan Sykes, Chief Justice of Jamaica

Speech by Sir Patrick MATET, Honorary Dean at the First Civil Chamber, Court of Cassation, France

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Gabriel Pwamang, Judge, Supreme Court of Ghana

Speech by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jouse Pariona Patrana, President of Permanent Constitutional and Social Law Chamber of the Supreme Court of Peru

Open discussion

Shri Ram Nath Kovind, Hon'ble President of India delivered the Valedictory address. Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Judge, Supreme Court of India delivered Welcome Address. Hon. Susan Kiefel AC, Chief Justice of Australia delivered address on the topic "Constitutional Principles in a Comparative Perspective". Hon'ble Shri Sharad A. Bobde, Chief Justice of India also addressed the gathering. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Judge, Supreme Court of India delivered Vote of Thanks.

SUMMARY OF THE INAUGURAL SESSION

In the inaugural session of the Conference, the welcome address was given by Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. Nageswara Rao. He spoke of the Indian ethos, with its intermingling of various legal cultures, and its values of "Atithi Devo Bhava" (A guest is equivalent to God). He commended the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India for organizing and conceptualizing the International Judicial Conference. He stated that a vital role is played by the judges in accommodating social, economic and technological advancements in law. His Lordship remarked that the conference would serve as a market place of ideas and provide opportunity to participants to engage in informal discussions.

The next address by the Ld. Attorney General for India Shri K.K. Venugopal, emphasized on the role of law in poverty eradication, and noted India's achievements in reducing absolute poverty at great levels since independence, through various welfare schemes taken up by the government. The Ld. Attorney General remarked that India's priorities as a democratic country were different from a developed country, and commended several lawyers and mechanism of Public Interest Litigation for bringing the courts to the doors of the lowest of the low. He said that the Supreme Court has interpreted the Right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution as not mere animal existence but, to a full right to dignified human existence.

The introductory address was given by Hon'ble Justice N.V. Ramana who spoke of how in a globalized world, issues are common, and solutions need to be unanimous. He said that the major issues plaguing the world, including the Indian subcontinent, are terrorism, cyber-crimes, environmental degradation and health. After referring to contribution of India to jurisprudence,



Keynote Address by The Right Hon'ble Lord Robert John Reed, President of The Supreme Court of The United Kingdom

His Lordship commended India's free legal aid programme under the aegis of NALSA, elaborated on the five topics chosen for the conference, and then invited inputs from all the delegates.

The Law Minister of India talked about three elements of rule of law: fairness, justice and certainty. While emphasizing upon balance between privacy and innovation, and privacy and national security, he said that the judiciary can play a major role in deliberating and finding a right balance. Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India talked about how India has assimilated legal cultures of all civilizations. By highlighting the diversity of India and its ancient form of legal system, His

Lordship stated that such diverse knowledge had been the bedrock of Indian legal system. He flagged the importance of fundamental duties and the influence of cross border jurisprudence in development of Indian law. He concluded by saying that the conference would give better expression to the challenges that the judiciary across the world faces.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Mr. Narendra Modi welcomed all the delegates to the gathering, and noted how rule of law was a concept that was embodied in India's legal culture. He commended the judiciary, and widespread public acceptance of the same, despite concerns. Quoting B.R. Ambedkar who said "Constitution is not a mere lawyer's document, it is a vehicle of life, and its spirit is always a spirit of age", he said this spirit has been taken forward by the three branches of the government, by respecting each other's jurisdiction and dignity. He noted India's achievements in Gender Justice, and legal reforms taken up by the government such as abolition of Triple Talaq, right of transgenders, and repeal of over 1500 archaic laws. Concentrating on the challenges of providing speedy justice, he said technology could be of assistance, and that internet-based technologies such as the National Judicial Data Grid could benefit procedural management and the justice delivery system.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Mishra, Judge, Sureme Court of India said that togetherness will pave the way for global development by evolving common standards and judiciary is the protector and guardian of grundnorms of the respective countries; and concluded the session with a vote of thanks.

SUMMARY OF THE KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The session began with Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. Nageswara Rao welcoming the guests and

audience to the keynote session. He introduced the keynote speaker - Hon'ble Lord Robert John Reed, President of the Supreme Court of United Kingdom to the International Judicial Conference. Highlighting Lord Reed's admirable contributions, Justice Rao informed the audience that Lord Reed's contribution extended beyond the Scottish Courts or Courts of the United Kingdom. Justice Rao highlighted Lord Reed's interest in the theme of the conference, 'Judiciary as a Changing World', and also elaborated on his contributions to the field of human rights.

The Keynote address was delivered by the Right Hon'ble Lord Robert John Reed, President of the Supreme Court of the United Kingdom. Lord Reed began by observing that India, with its age-old civilisation has had a considerable impact on British society, which continues to this day, with about 10% of the staff in his Court having Indian backgrounds. He further endorsed Prime Minister Modi's view that the Indian diaspora in the United Kingdom has been a living bridge between the two countries. He said that likewise, Britain also had an impact on Indian society and culture, not least in the use of the English language, and in a legal system based on the common law, a system committed to constitutional government, of which the rule of law and an independent judiciary are essential components.

Commenting on the first topic, 'Role of the Judiciary in maintaining a gender just world', Lord Reed remarked that men and women, whether as judges or not, could have different perspectives on issues because of their different experiences in life, due to the different ways in which culture treats them and expects them to behave. He said it was valuable to have those different perspectives on various problems courts had to adjudicate upon, so that judgments could reflect a range of experience. For His Lordship a gender imbalance in courts could understandably affect

public confidence, and encourage a stereotyped view of the judiciary as old-fashioned and out of touch.

While speaking on the second topic, 'Judiciary as a guardian against Populism: Comparative Perspective on the protection of Constitutional Values' Lord Reed commented on two crucial areas within this topic, namely 'accessibility of the courts to the public' and 'communication between the courts and the public'. While apprising the audience of the efforts made by the Supreme Court of United Kingdom to improve physical access, Lord Reed highlighted three crucial practices adopted by the court, namely: (i) practice of having the Court sit outside London for a week each year, which shows that they were a court of the UK as a whole, and not only of England or London; (ii) informative and interactive website, through which the Court could communicate with the public especially through live-streaming of hearings; and (iii) a scheme under which pupils of various schools could have a discussion with one of the judges of the Court using Skype directly from their classroom.

Addressing the third topic, 'Constitution in a Changing World: Static or Dynamic Interpretation?', Lord Reed observed that engaging in meaningful constitutional interpretation was particularly important and difficult for the courts in the present times. Lord Reed observed that modern courts were called upon to adjudicate on a variety of concerns including balancing freedom of speech with respect to religious and other beliefs; privacy and respect for civil liberties with the requirements of national security and the prevention of terrorism; to cope with issues of changing habits in attitudes towards family life and sexual behaviour; technological developments in genetics, biotechnology and artificial intelligence; challenges posed by global trade and investment; and immigration on an

unprecedented scale. While adjudicating upon such issues, Lord Reed indicated that it was imperative for the court to maintain confidence in its impartiality and independence, by constantly seeking to demonstrate to the public that the courts were staffed by judges who were politically neutral, who adhered to the highest standards of integrity and who were well-informed and sensitive to the concerns of all sections of the society.

In his observations on the topic for the fourth session, 'Role of Judiciary in Harmonizing Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development', Lord Reed emphasized upon the need to tackle climate change, observing that it was an issue on which Britain and India shared a commitment, reflected in the UK's membership of the Indian-led International Solar Alliance and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, and also in the UK and India being the only G20 countries to be in the highest category in the 2020 Climate Change Performance Index. He further highlighted the active role of Indian judiciary, especially the Supreme Court of India in addressing environmental concerns.

While commenting on the last topic 'Role of Judiciary in protecting privacy of citizens in the internet age', Lord Reed called for development of methods for enabling responsible use of personal data without unacceptably encroaching on the rights of individuals to enjoy a private life. Elaborating on the situation in United Kingdom, he observed that the UK law on data protection had mainly emerged from the EU approach, which while attaching great importance to the protection of privacy, also permitted the proportionate use of personal data for important social purposes provided adequate safeguards exist.

Lord Reed concluded his address by urging the courts to be courageous in upholding the Rule of

Law, to constantly endeavor to maintain public trust in its working, and respecting constitutional boundaries by not straying into matters which properly fell within the responsibility of institutions that are democratically accountable.

Justice Deepak Gupta, Judge, Supreme Court of India, began by noting that an increasingly interconnected world generated common concerns across the world, and these common concerns in turn fueled the need for a dialogue between global judiciaries in a search for common solutions. Acknowledging International Judicial Conference 2020 as an important initiative in this regard, His Lordship thanked the international delegates from over 20 nations for participating in the conference. In his observations on the topics identified for discussion, Justice Gupta observed that justice would be incomplete if seats of justice were occupied only by the majority, and this was true for gender issues also. Gender Justice according to him were no longer binary concerns of male and females, it included concerns of the third gender as well. Highlighting efforts of the Indian judiciary, Justice Gupta elaborated on the efforts of the Supreme Court of India to ensure accessibility of the courts to general public, in particular through allowing Public Interest Litigation (PIL) and in the process virtually abolishing the principle of locus standi in social interest matters. His Lordship concluded his address by noting that with passage of time and multifarious increase in technology and its applications, more profound challenges threatening the social fabric of human kind are likely to arise, and it would require a global response, in crafting of which judiciaries across the globe have an important role to play.

SUMMARY OF WORKING SESSION 1

The speakers of the session recognized the need to entrench substantive equality, with respect to



Working Session -1, Role of the Judiciary in Maintaining a Gender Just World

the issue of gender equality across jurisdictions. A bird's eye view of all the papers conveys that each jurisdiction does have formal provisions for ensuring gender justice, however, in many jurisdictions that has not been translated to actual equality. The speaker from Maldives, was in fact, very emphatic about the prevailing inequality in the country, despite the formal presence of provisions regarding gender equality. Another aspect that was identified was that the issue of gender justice does not relate to a female v. male notion of justice, alone. In the wider question of gender, there are many stakeholders who need to be given protection. These include transgender persons, etc., some of whom have not been provided very formalised protection either.

Judicial leaps and judgment of various jurisdictions were also discussed where the Courts played an even greater role in equalising the level playing field. However, issues like commercial surrogacy, the question of abortion (choice v. life) were noted to be areas, especially in India, where much legal attention has not developed, the former especially being in the nascent stages

of jurisprudence, in the nation. At the same time, it was noted, especially with respect to India, that laws in certain newly developing areas and the execution thereof, are questions that should be dealt with, by the legislature and executive, before being tested by the judiciary. A crucial aspect for judicial intervention and for ensuring that the judiciary plays a positive role with respect to the issue of gender was recognised to be the need to have more female judges. The minority of female judges in a large number of jurisdictions was noted, though in Spain, at least, the ratio was not found to be disheartening. Education and judicial training, too, were seen as key manners in which the judiciary could play a more evolved and revolutionary role, with respect to gender.

SUMMARY OF WORKING SESSION 2:

The second session chaired by Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Ramasubramanian, Judge, Supreme Court of India, saw the coming together of judicial minds from different jurisdictions for a discussion on the topic, 'Judiciary as a Guardian Against Populism: Comparative Perspectives on

Protection of Constitutional Values.’ The panelists comprised of Justice Luke Malaba, Chief Justice of Zimbabwe; Justice Said Yousuf Halem, Chief Justice of Afghanistan; Justice Soros Suwannett, President Criminal Case Division, Supreme Court of Thailand; and Justice Ghazali Cha, Judge, High Court of Malaya, Malaysia. In his introductory remarks, His Lordship opined that the topic for the session was of immense relevance in contemporary times, as most jurisdictions had witnessed infringement of constitutional values due to overreach of various state functionaries, hence, highlighting the need of a strong independent judiciary that uphold constitutional values. As a trigger to set the discussion in motion he referred to a news piece carried by the British tabloid Daily Mail reporting as ‘the enemies of the people,’ the three judges who rendered a decision on the 3rd November 2016, which impacted the referendum voting in favour of Brexit. Justice Ramasubramanian hailed this judgment as a stand of the judiciary against populism.

Justice Luke Malaba, Chief Justice of Zimbabwe in his address observed that his country had a lot

in common with India, both from a cultural as well as a constitutional perspective, sharing common universal values like human dignity and viewing constitutions as the most fundamental means of achieving social justice. Elaborating on the topic he observed that populism was an ideology, a kind of an appeal to the gullible; and as a result, populism did not benefit those it appealed to, instead it only benefited those who utilized it. He further observed that in recent times populism had also targeted judiciary, especially when unfavourable judgments were rendered against vested interests. He identified public scrutiny, transparency and accountability as the key measures to tackle the populist agenda against the judiciary.

Reminding those present, that judiciaries played a crucial role in strengthening the rule of law, Justice Said Yousuf Halem, Chief Justice of Afghanistan, observed that it must, regardless of the political system, ensure adherence to and protection of human rights. Judiciary, he observed, had a duty to defend rule of law, deliver justice, and protect freedom of the people, however, in equal measure,



Working Session-2, Judiciary as a Guardian Against Populism: Comparative Perspectives on Protection of Constitutional Values

judiciary must work towards winning public trust, which in turn would enhance prestige of the judiciary. He said that judiciaries must make a concerted effort to assess on an ongoing basis public satisfaction with the working of the court system.

Addressing the gathering, Justice Soros Suwannett of Supreme Court of Thailand discussed how populism was used as a political instrument by governments to gain political legitimacy for its policies, plans, and projects. He observed that such populist policymaking could have both positive as well as negative effects. Some positive aspects included enhancement of overall income, decrease in expenditure; while the negative effects concerned the burden on the government's budget and inability to effectively tackle social inequalities that they purport to address. Sharing the experience of Thailand, he observed that the Constitution of Thailand contained safeguards against populist policymaking such as striking a balance between development and the well-being of the people, focusing on sustainable economic policies,

introducing checks on working of political parties, and ensuring fair elections. He further observed that the judiciary had a crucial role to play in countering populist tendencies; and in equal measure, the judiciary must engage with and respect the sentiments of the people to instill greater confidence in the institution.

Elaborating on the experiences of the Malaysian judiciary, Justice Ghazali Cha, Judge, High Court of Malaya, Malaysia, drew attention to the Malaysian judicial crisis of 1988, when the Chief Justice and few judges of the Supreme Court were illegally removed from their office, by the ruling party purportedly acting pursuant to the wishes of the people. He observed that though the Malaysian courts had recovered, this action was a clear example of the adverse impact that populist tendencies could have on the courts. He reminded the members of the audience that an independent judiciary was one of the most effective defenses against the rising tides of populism. At the same time, he cautioned that populist ideologies could not per se be termed as antithetical to democracy provided, if they operated in a fair and democratic manner within



Working Session-3, Constitution in a Changing World : Static or Dynamic Interpretation?

the ambit of law.

SUMMARY OF WORKING SESSION 3:

The third Session on the topic 'Constitution in a Changing World: Static or Dynamic Interpretation?' was chaired by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aniruddha Bose, Judge, Supreme Court of India. The panelists included Justice Aswanto, Deputy Chief Justice, Constitutional Court of the Republic of Indonesia; Justice Geoffrey Nettle AC, Justice, High Court of Australia; Dr. Justice Ananda Mohan Bhattarai Judge, Supreme Court of Nepal; and Justice Olukayode Ariwoola, Judge, Supreme Court of Nigeria. The panelists in their presentations outlined approaches adopted by their respective judiciaries towards interpretation of constitutional provisions. The participants agreed that the manner of interpretation of constitutional provisions had a profound impact on the key role of judiciary as the guardian of individual liberties, and the effectiveness with which the role was discharged.

In his introductory remarks, Justice Bose pointed out while dynamic interpretation accorded a wide ambit to the court to expand the scope of the guarantees conferred by the Constitution, originalism ensured that the State did not shed its founders notions. He elaborated on the use of dynamic interpretation by the Supreme Court of India, most recently in the area of privacy rights, to highlight important strides taken by Indian Judiciary to protect and realise constitutional guarantees. He reminded everyone present on how imperative it was that the practice continued in order to meet the complexities that emerged from the working of a modern society.

Outlining the Indonesian scenario, Justice Aswanto in his address informed the gathering about the Indonesian Constitution which over the years had witnessed numerous amendments

aimed at transforming the social, political, economic and legal system of Indonesia. He further observed that how Constitutions react to the changing world depends on how judges interpret its provisions. It was, therefore, important that judges try and maintain the Constitution as a source of power adequate to meet the present challenges and needs of the state and people. At the same time, he cautioned, that it was important for a judge to be vigilant in not imposing or letting his personal beliefs influence the understanding and interpretation of the constitution.

Justice Geoffrey Nettle of Australia in his address elaborated upon the structure and working of the Constitution of Australia, noting the inspirations it had drawn from the British parliamentary system and the American federal system. He cautioned that a judge must remember that the purpose of interpreting the Constitution was to remove ambiguities and not create confusion, and the function of the judge was not to create boundaries, but rather expand them for the betterment of all. Such must be the approach of a judge while interpreting the Constitution, he said.

Elaborating upon the socio-legal transitions witnessed by Nepal in the recent years, Dr. Justice Ananda Mohan Bhattarai, Judge, Supreme Court of Nepal discussed various decisions of the Supreme Court of Nepal, to highlight the proactive role played by it in protecting public interest and individual rights. He pointed out that judiciary in Nepal had adopted a dynamic approach when it came to interpreting the provisions of the Constitution. He outlined three strategies that the Constitutional Court of Nepal had adopted while interpreting the Constitution of Nepal – (1) originalism - while examining the horizontal and vertical division of powers with regard to the State, (2) analysing the Constitution as an organic document – when interpreting rights; and (3) exploring its transformative potential - in



Working Session-4, Role of Judiciary in Harmonizing Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development

determining the 'future direction' of the Nepali Constitution.

Justice Olukayode Ariwoola, Judge of the Supreme Court of Nigeria in his address informed the gathering that it was the judiciary which bore the responsibility of safeguarding individual rights and liberties without bias or fear of political encroachments. While elaborating on the idea of originalism and dynamic interpretation, he observed that judges would do well to understand that people want to have a Constitution that is at once living, adaptive, and yet simultaneously, invincibly stable and impervious to human manipulation.

SUMMARY OF WORKING SESSION 4:

Session 4 addressed one of the most pressing issues of our time, 'Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development' and was chaired by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Bhushan, Judge, Supreme Court of India. The panelists included the Chief Justice of Bangladesh, President of the East African Court of Justice of Tanzania,

and Hon'ble Justices from the Supreme Court of Union of Myanmar and the Court of Cassation of Kingdom of Morocco.

The panelists presented various perspectives on the topic with consistent references to reports, anecdotes, books and court decisions. The members of the panel not only highlighted the work done by the judiciaries of their respective countries on environmental protection but also demonstrated the urgency of action required for environment conservation.

The Chairman, Justice Ashok Bhushan, in his speech welcomed all the panelists and introduced the topic for the session. Justice Bhushan elaborated on the terms 'sustainable development' and 'inter-generational equity' and how the Supreme Court of India had developed jurisprudence on these concepts over the years. Justice Bhushan, discussed various case laws, particularly in the context of public interest litigation, where the Supreme Court had utilized its powers as a Constitutional Court to deal with cases regarding environmental degradation.

Justice Bhushan then invited the speakers to deliver their speech. The first speaker from the panel was Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain, the Chief Justice of Bangladesh. He opened his speech by sharing his personal experience on dealing with a case on illegal earthing which was brought before the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court by an organization of the environmental activist lawyers in 2004. Justice Hossain also elaborated on how courts in Bangladesh had liberalized the concept of 'locus standi' to give wider access to environmental justice to its citizens. Justice Hossain further shared his concerns regarding the impending planet crisis in the coming decade and how it could lead to displacement of more than 10 million people from Bangladesh. He also spoke about the importance of coordination between the executive and the judiciary for environmental protection and the judiciary's responsibility as a Constitutional Court if the executive fails to carry out its duties towards environmental protection. Justice Hossain discussed several cases where the Supreme Court of Bangladesh through judicial activism had been the impetus for various environment conservation legislations.

The second speaker from the panel, Dr. Justice Emmanuel Ugirashebuja, President of the East African Court of Justice, Tanzania, began by apprising the participants of statistics regarding starvation, access to necessities, and environmental realities in today's world. He explained Kate Raworth's conception of 'doughnut economics', and raised the question of what the judiciary can do to ensure just and safe living conditions. He stressed on the importance of adherence to the Rule of Law. Justice Ugirashebuja concluded by making observations regarding the expansion of locus standi to broaden the jurisdiction of courts in environmental cases, and the widened scope

of application of the principle of forum non-conveniens in recent times, to affix responsibility for environmental harm.

The third speaker from the panel, Justice Soe Naing, Judge of the Supreme Court of Myanmar started by talking about a 2017 report of the German Watch which stated that Myanmar was one of the top 3 countries worst affected by climate change in 20 years. He added that Climate Change was a global epidemic and could only be tackled when all countries joined hands and worked together. He highlighted the new 2012 Environmental Conservation Law of Myanmar which is aimed to coordinate systematic environment conservation in sustainable development. Justice Naing stressed that Myanmar's Judiciary is very keen to contribute to a sustainable healthy environment. He spoke of a recent conference hosted by the Supreme Court of Myanmar from October 29th to 30th of 2018 called 'Asia Pacific Judicial Conference on Environmental and Climate Change Adjudication' to exchange the expertise and experiences among participants in environmental adjudication, application of environmental laws and the case law development. He emphasized the lack of environmental cases before Myanmar's courts but also said that the same does not mean that the judiciary in Myanmar has not taken any action for environmental preservation. He concluded by saying that Myanmar is fully equipped with powers under statutes to combat climate change and the only area they need is adequate management plans, adequate numbers of staff and basic infrastructure as well as needs to enact rules and regulations for new laws. He added that his Government was trying to fill these gaps and the Judiciary was trying to support environmental issues from the judiciary perspective for environmental rule of law.

Justice Dahman Ahmed, Justice at the Court



Working Session-5, Role of Judiciary in Protecting Privacy of Citizens in the Internet Age

of Cassation, of the Kingdom of Morocco in his presentation covered all aspects of Environmental Degradation from the shockingly extreme climate, record high temperatures till the overuse, exploitation of resources and leakage of industrial waste into the environment which leads to mass degradation. He remarked that the hunger and race for accumulating resources had led to Colonialism; and held commercialization, advent of industries, companies and their projects accountable for the mass degradation of the environment on an unprecedented level. Justice Ahmed traced how environmental law as we know it came about and emphasised how the legislators of olden time had thought it absurd for the rules, they enacted to protect the irrigation system, ensure private animal property etc, to become a global demand – a need. He spoke about two major conferences held in Morocco aimed at the Environment – one by the United Nations and the second by Islamic Countries to utilize the Paris Agreement. He highlighted the renewed 2011 Constitution of Morocco which contains provisions for environmental protection.

He spoke of steps taken by the Court of Cassation, Kingdom of Morocco laying out guidelines concerning compensation. He concluded by speaking of the initiatives of His Majesty, King of Morocco meant for the betterment of the environment.

SUMMARY OF WORKING SESSION 5:

In Session 5, the members of the panel attempted to outline how judiciaries in their respective jurisdictions had balanced the right to privacy with other rights. In particular they attempted to address how courts had applied various standards, including proportionality, which had been formulated in a pre-digital age to the complexities that arose in a digital age.

In his introductory remarks, Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Judge, Supreme Court of India, highlighted the pace at which the digital era had been ushered in. The consequence of this, he observed, was that an individual today was viewed as a collection of data. He identified two new horizons for development of privacy

jurisprudence – big data and artificial intelligence, which was being increasingly utilised by three key actors whose operations posed a challenge to privacy - (i) hackers; (ii) private companies; and (iii) the government. This, in turn led to three notable concerns which modern societies had to urgently address - first, there was a possibility of serious data breach and misuse of personal information. Second, vast data may be utilised to profile people and to discriminate against vulnerable groups. Third, lack of privacy had a chilling effect on free speech.

Discussing concerns ushered in by the digital age, Justice Bryan Sykes, Chief Justice of Jamaica, observed that the concern pertained not merely to collection of individuals' data but also its storage. He cautioned that given the speed with which such data could be disseminated over information networks, there was an urgent need to have a zero-breach standard; and unless the same could be assured, the right to privacy could not be guaranteed. Significantly, Chief Justice Bryan noted the need to read the right to privacy in a horizontal manner i.e. applicable as safeguards between citizens and not just limited to a citizen-state paradigm. He observed that the need for recognition of privacy's horizontal application was all the more important given the increasing nature of complex communications between private entities. Highlighting the role of judiciary as the protector of the right to privacy, he observed that when dealing with concerns of privacy, judiciary must consider the circumstances under which data collection was possible; how the data was stored; access to the data and the conditions of access; where the data was being collected by the state; presence of strong oversight of the entity storing the data, and whether there were effective sanctioning mechanisms for state and private actors for breaches.

Elaborating upon the French experience, Sir

Patrick Matet in his address observed that the right to protection of personal data was an extension of the right to privacy. In France, courts had implemented the protection of personal data backed by the right to respect for private life. He however expressed concerns over data aggregation that took simple unrelated data and compiled them into structured sets of personal data. He informed the gathering that the French Courts had established the principle of non-automatic dereference. Sir Patrick further highlighted the need for balancing the right to freedom of expression and information of internet users and the right to be forgotten. At the same time, he cautioned, that in certain cases, public interest in free speech and disclosure outweighed the individual's right to be forgotten; but sensitive data relating to health, sexual life, political opinions, and religious convictions must be given special protection.

Acknowledging the sheer pace and spread of the digital revolution, Justice Gabriel Pwamang of Ghana observed that statute law hardly ever kept pace with technological advancements; and consequently, judges must interpret the law in a progressive manner, not only taking into account statute law, but also developing avenues for the law to deal with multifarious challenges of the digital age. Justice Gabriel further highlighted the importance of judicial review in the protection of the right to privacy, observing that judges must ensure that any collection and use of data was done strictly in accordance with the law. He outlined three questions judges must ask when issuing warrants for interception of communications – (i) what the grounds were, and had they been clearly set out; (ii) the alleged individuals with respect to whom the warrant had been issued were named, and the particular communication which was intended to be intercepted was clearly stated; and (iii) the warrant must not be general



in nature. He stressed the need to employ the proportionality doctrine as well as the principle of minimal interference when balancing the public interest in the disclosure of information and the individual's right to privacy.

Justice Jouse Pariona Patrana of Peru in his address outlined the various spheres wherein protection had been afforded to the right to privacy in Peru. In particular he highlighted the use of the Writ of Habeas Data by Peruvian courts for securing access to information as well as safeguarding of informational self-determination. He elaborated on queries that courts seeking to weigh competing claims must pose, which included reasons for collecting information, the

time for which it would be held, the proposed purpose for its use, who was the holder of such information and whether the individual whose information had been collected was aware of the purposes for which it was to be used i.e. whether he had provided an informed consent. Justice Jouse concluded his address with three recommendations for users of digital technology: (i) individuals must undertake necessary measures for self-protection of personal data; (ii) exact terms and purposes for which the data of individuals was used and the limits of the protection of their privacy be disseminated among users in simple language; and (iii) while policy framers must promote development of electronic tools which are beneficial for society,



Valedictory Session of International Judicial Conference 2020

such as internet, they must also protect citizens against the improper use of these tools and the violation of their privacy from such usage.

VALEDICTORY CEREMONY

The welcome address of the Valedictory Ceremony was delivered by Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Judge, Supreme Court of India. His Lordship's address emphasised on the significance of the presence of the Hon'ble President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind. Thereafter, His Lordship threw light on the fact that the Judges are entrusted to uphold the Constitutional values. Justice Chandrachud cited exciting developments across the globe,

which has reshaped the universe of judging in recent times. He was hopeful that this Judicial Conference will be a symbol of new beginning.

Justice Susan Kiefel, Chief Justice of Australia in her address emphasised on the value of comparing global legal traditions. Thereafter, she mentioned about the Constitutional principles based on the experiences in the United Kingdom, Australia and India. She was hopeful that the Judges can learn from the approaches taken by Judges in other jurisdictions around the globe.

Hon'ble Mr. Sharad A Bobde, Chief Justice of India, highlighted that creation of transnational judicial network can take place through increase in diversity in judiciary. His Lordship threw light



Valedictory Address by Shri Ram Nath Kovind, Hon'ble President of India



Address by Ms. Susan Kiefel AC, Hon'ble Chief Justice of Australia

on the importance of inclusion of women in judiciary through which gender justice could be achieved. The Chief Justice also emphasised on the importance of globalisation in the legal fraternity. His Lordship pointed out that the judiciary should be using artificial technology for better administration of justice. Further, The Chief Justice went on to state about the challenges in form of (i) global supply chains and (ii) information technology which the Courts in India as well as in other jurisdictions have to deal with. He was hopeful that the judicial conference becomes a regular feature in the future.

Hon'ble the President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind delivered the valedictory address.

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the theme chosen for the conference is timely and apt: "Judiciary and the Changing World". He said that in recent years, however, the world has been changing very fast, and in unforeseeable ways; and the role of the judiciary is bound to be pivotal amid these dramatic transformations. The President said that the Supreme Court of India deserves admiration for carrying out many radical reforms that made justice more accessible to common people. He said that Landmark judgments passed by the Supreme Court of India have strengthened the legal and constitutional framework of our country; and its' Bench and bar are known for their legal scholarship and intellectual wisdom. Referring to the service rendered by the Supreme Court in making the higher courts' judgments available in regional languages, Hon'ble the President of India said that this is indeed an extraordinary achievement given the linguistic diversity of India. After noting that as of now, the judgments of the Supreme Court get translated in up to nine Indian languages to make them accessible to common people, he expressed confidence that its scope would further widen with the passage of time.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Judge, Supreme Court of India, delivered the vote of thanks. His Lordship highlighted the importance of a gender just world. Justice Kaul acknowledged the appointment of the first female Chief Justice of Australia, Hon'ble Ms. Susan Kiefel as a fine example of women empowerment.

All the distinguished speakers were hopeful that the judges around the globe will take note of developments which reshape the judicial world and incorporate them while dispensing justice. The speakers were more than confident that in the future, events like these will be a regular feature.



1. **Hindustan Construction Company Ltd. & Anr. v. Union of India & Ors.** [Writ Petition (Civil) No. 1074 of 2019; 27 November 2019]: The Supreme Court struck down the insertion of Section 87 into the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 by the 2019 Amendment Act as being manifestly arbitrary under Article 14 of the Constitution of India. It held that introduction of Section 87 was wholly without justification and contrary to the object sought to be achieved by the 2015 Amendment Act, which was enacted pursuant to a detailed Law Commission report which found various infirmities in the working of the original 1996 statute.
2. **Anokhilal v. State of Madhya Pradesh** [Criminal Appeal Nos.62-63 of 2014; 18 December 2019]: The Supreme Court examined the issue whether, while being granted free Legal Aid, the accused-appellant was extended real and meaningful assistance or not, and thereafter laid down certain norms with regard to appointment of Advocates as Amicus Curiae.

It directed that in all cases where there is a possibility of life sentence or death sentence, Advocates who have put in minimum of 10 years practice at the Bar alone be considered to be appointed as Amicus Curiae or through legal services to represent an accused. It

further directed that in all matters dealt with by the High Court concerning confirmation of death sentence, Senior Advocates of the Court must first be considered to be appointed as Amicus Curiae and whenever any counsel is appointed as Amicus Curiae, some reasonable time may be provided to enable the counsel to prepare the matter. It was directed that any counsel, who is appointed as Amicus Curiae on behalf of the accused must normally be granted to have meetings and discussion with the concerned accused.

3. **Sk. Md. Rafique v. Managing Committee, Contai Rahamania High Madrasah & Ors.** [Civil Appeal No. 5808 of 2017; 6 January 2020]: The Supreme Court held Sections 8, 10, 11 and 12 of the West Bengal Madrasah Service Commission Act, 2008 to be valid and operative. It held that the provisions of the Commission Act are not violative of the rights of the minority educational institutions on any count; and selection of the teachers and their nomination by the Commission constituted under the provisions of the Commission Act satisfied the national interest as well as the interest of the minority educational institutions.
4. **Anuradha Bhasin v. Union of India & Ors.** [Writ Petition (Civil) No. 1031 of 2019; 10 January

2020]: The Supreme Court directed the Respondent State/ competent authorities to publish all orders in force and any future orders under Section 144, Cr.P.C and for suspension of telecom services, including internet, to enable the affected persons to challenge it before the High Court or appropriate forum. It was declared that the freedom of speech and expression and the freedom to practice any profession or carry on any trade, business or occupation over the medium of internet enjoys constitutional protection under Article 19(1)(a) and Article 19(1)(g). The restriction upon such fundamental rights should be in consonance with the mandate under Article 19 (2) and (6) of the Constitution, inclusive of the test of proportionality.

It was further held that an order suspending internet services indefinitely is impermissible under the Temporary Suspension of Telecom Services (Public Emergency or Public Service) Rules, 2017 and suspension can be utilized for temporary duration only. The Supreme Court held that the power under Section 144, Cr.P.C., being remedial as well as preventive, is exercisable not only where there exists present danger, but also when there is an apprehension of danger. However, the danger contemplated should be in the nature of an "emergency" and for the purpose of preventing obstruction and annoyance or injury to any person lawfully employed. It was held that the power under Section 144, Cr.P.C cannot be used to suppress legitimate expression of opinion or grievance or exercise of any democratic rights. The Supreme Court held that while exercising the power under Section 144, Cr.P.C., the Magistrate is duty bound to balance the rights and restrictions based on the principles of proportionality and thereafter, apply the least intrusive measure.

It was held that repetitive orders under Section 144, Cr.P.C. would be an abuse of power.

5. Sushila Aggarwal & Others v. State (NCT of Delhi) & Another [Special Leave Petition (Criminal) Nos.7281-7282 of 2017; 29 January 2020]: The Supreme Court held that the protection granted to a person under Section 438 CrPC should not invariably be limited to a fixed period; it should inure in favour of the accused without any restriction on time.

The Court held that normal conditions under Section 437 (3) read with Section 438 (2) should be imposed and if there are specific facts or features in regard to any offence, it is open for the court to impose any appropriate condition (including fixed nature of relief, or its being tied to an event) etc. It was held that the life or duration of an anticipatory bail order does not end normally at the time and stage when the accused is summoned by the court, or when charges are framed, but can continue till the end of the trial. However, if there are any special or peculiar features necessitating the court to limit the tenure of anticipatory bail, it is open for it to do so.

6. Rambabu Singh Thakur v. Sunil Arora & Ors. [Contempt Petition (C) 2192 of 2018 in Writ Petition (C) No.536 of 2011; 13 February, 2020]: Noting "an alarming increase in the incidence of criminals in politics"; and also that "the political parties offer no explanation as to why candidates with pending criminal cases are selected as candidates in the first place", the Supreme Court issue various directions in exercise of its' constitutional powers under Articles 129 and 142 of the Constitution of India.

The Supreme Court directed that "it shall

be mandatory for political parties [at the Central and State election level] to upload on their website detailed information regarding individuals with pending criminal cases (including the nature of the offences, and relevant particulars such as whether charges have been framed, the concerned Court, the case number etc.) who have been selected as candidates, along with the reasons for such selection, as also as to why other individuals without criminal antecedents could not be selected as candidates." It was however clarified that "the reasons as to selection shall be with reference to the qualifications, achievements and merit of the candidate concerned, and not mere "winnability" at the polls." The Supreme Court directed that the "information shall also be published in: (a) One local vernacular newspaper and one national newspaper; (b) On the official social media platforms of the political party, including Facebook & Twitter." It was further directed that the "details shall be published within 48 hours of the selection of the candidate or not less than two weeks before the first date for filing of nominations, whichever is earlier."

7. The Secretary, Ministry of Defence v. Babita Puniya & Ors [Civil Appeal Nos. 9367-9369 of 2011; 17 February 2020]: The Supreme Court examined the issue of equality of opportunity for women seeking Permanent Commissions (PCs) in the Indian Army.

It was held that an absolute bar on women seeking criteria or command appointments would not comport with the guarantee of equality under Article 14 of the Constitution. An absolute prohibition of women SSC officers to obtain anything but staff appointments evidently does not fulfill the purpose of granting PCs as a means of career advancement in the Army. The policy

decision which has been taken by the Union Government allowing for grant of Permanent Commissions (PCs) to Short Service Commission (SSC) women officers in all the ten streams where women were granted SSC in the Indian Army was accepted, *inter alia* subject to the following conditions, namely, (i) all serving women officers on SSC shall be considered for the grant of PCs irrespective of any of them having crossed fourteen years or, as the case may be, twenty years of service; (ii) option shall be granted to all women presently in service as SSC officers; and (iii) At the stage of opting for the grant of PC, all the choices for specialisation shall be available to women officers on the same terms as for the male SSC officers. Women SSC officers shall be entitled to exercise their options for being considered for the grant of PCs on the same terms as their male counterparts.

8. Dheeraj Mor v. Hon'ble High Court of Delhi [Civil Appeal No. 1698 of 2020; 19 February, 2020]: The Supreme Court examined question in regard to eligibility of members of the subordinate judicial service for appointment as District Judge as against the quota reserved for the Bar by way of direct recruitment. The central issue was whether a person in judicial service with experience of 7 years practice at the Bar, before joining service (or combined with service as a judicial officer), can stake a claim as against the posts reserved for those having experience of 7 years as an advocate/ pleader.

The Court held that for direct recruitment as District Judge as against the quota fixed for the advocates/pleaders, incumbent has to be practicing advocate and must be in practice as on the cut-off date and at the time of appointment he must not be in judicial

service or other services of the Union or State. The Court held that that the purpose is recruitment from bar of a practicing advocate having minimum 7 years' experience, and for constituting experience of 7 years of practice as advocate, experience obtained in judicial service cannot be equated/ combined and advocate/ pleader should be in practice in the immediate past for 7 years and must be in practice while applying on the cut-off date fixed under the rules and should be in practice as an advocate on the date of appointment. It was held that the members in the judicial service of the State can be appointed as District Judges by way of promotion or limited competitive examination.

- 9. Chief Information Commissioner v. High Court of Gujarat and Anr.** [Civil Appeal Nos.1966-1967 of 2020; 4 March 2020]: The Supreme Court examined the issue of right of a third party to apply for certified copies from the Gujarat High Court by invoking the provisions of Right to Information Act without resorting to Gujarat High Court Rules prescribed by the High Court.

The Supreme Court held that Rule 151 of the Gujarat High Court Rules stipulating that a third party to have access to the information /obtaining the certified copies of the documents or orders requires to file an application /affidavit stating the reasons for seeking the information, is not inconsistent with the provisions of the RTI Act; but merely lays down a different procedure as the practice or payment of fees, etc. for obtaining information. In the absence of inherent inconsistency between the provisions of the RTI Act and other law, overriding effect of RTI Act would not apply. It was held that for the information to be accessed / certified copies on the judicial side to be obtained through the

mechanism provided under the High Court Rules, the provisions of the RTI Act shall not be resorted to.

- 10. Internet and Mobile Association of India v. Reserve Bank of India** [Writ Petition (Civil) No. 528 of 2018; 4 March 2020]: The Supreme Court set aside a RBI circular which directed entities regulated by RBI not to deal in virtual currencies (VCs) nor provide services for facilitating any person or entity in dealing with or settling virtual currencies.

The Supreme Court observed that trading in VCs and functioning of VC exchanges were sent to comatose by the impugned circular by disconnecting their lifeline namely, the interface with the regular banking sector; and this was done (i) despite RBI not finding anything wrong about the way in which these exchanges functioned and (ii) despite the fact that VCs were not banned. It was held that when the consistent stand of RBI is that they have not banned VCs and when the Government of India is unable to take a call despite several committees coming up with several proposals including two draft bills, both of which advocated exactly opposite positions, the impugned circular cannot be held to be proportionate.

- 11. Indian Social Action Forum v. Union of India** [Civil Appeal No. 1510 of 2020; 6 March 2020]: The Supreme Court, examined the guidelines contained in Rule 3 of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Rules, 2011.

It held that a balance has to be drawn between the object sought to be achieved by the legislation and the rights of the voluntary organisations to have access to foreign funds. The purpose for which the statute prevents organisations of a political nature from receiving foreign funds is to ensure that

the administration is not influenced by foreign funds. Prohibition from receiving foreign aid, either directly or indirectly, by those who are involved in active politics is to ensure that the values of a sovereign democratic republic are protected. On the other hand, such of those voluntary organisations which have absolutely no connection with either party politics or active politics cannot be denied access to foreign contributions. Accordingly, such of those organisations which are working for the social and economic welfare of the society cannot be brought within the purview of the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 or the Rules by enlarging the scope of the term 'political interests'. It was held that the expression 'political interests' in Rule 3 (v) has to be construed to be in connection with active politics or party politics.

Further, the Supreme Court held that support to public causes by resorting to legitimate means of dissent like bandh, hartal etc. cannot deprive an organisation of its legitimate right of receiving foreign contribution. Any organisation which supports the cause of a group of citizens agitating for their rights without a political goal or objective cannot be penalized by being declared as an organisation of a political nature. It was held that it is only those organisations which have connection with active politics or take part in party politics, that are covered by Rule 3 (vi).

However, the Supreme Court also made it clear that organisations used for channelling foreign funds by political parties cannot escape the rigour of the Act provided there is concrete material. In that event, the Central Government shall follow the procedure prescribed in the Act and Rules strictly before depriving such organisation the right to receive foreign contributions.

12. Indore Development Authority v. Manoharlal & Ors. etc. [Special Leave Petition (Civil) Nos. 9036-9038 of 2016; 6 March 2020]: The Supreme Court held that under the provisions of Section 24(1)(a) of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 in case the award is not made as on 1.1.2014 the date of commencement of Act of 2013, there is no lapse of proceedings and compensation has to be determined under the provisions of Act of 2013. In case the award has been passed within the window period of five years excluding the period covered by an interim order of the court, then proceedings shall continue as provided under Section 24(1)(b) of the Act of 2013 under the Land Acquisition Act of 1894 as if it has not been repealed. The word 'or' used in Section 24(2) between possession and compensation has to be read as 'nor' or as 'and'. The deemed lapse of land acquisition proceedings under Section 24(2) of the Act of 2013 takes place where due to inaction of authorities for five years or more prior to commencement of the said Act, the possession of land has not been taken nor compensation has been paid.

It was further held that the expression 'paid' in the main part of Section 24(2) of the Act of 2013 does not include a deposit of compensation in court. Non-deposit of compensation (in court) does not result in the lapse of land acquisition proceedings. In case of non-deposit with respect to the majority of holdings for five years or more, compensation under the Act of 2013 has to be paid to the "landowners" as on the date of notification for land acquisition under Section 4 of the Act of 1894. In case a person has been tendered the compensation as provided under Section 31(1) of the Act of 1894, it is not open to him

to claim that acquisition has lapsed under Section 24(2) due to non-payment or non-deposit of compensation in court. Section 24(2) of the Act of 2013 does not give rise to new cause of action to question the legality of concluded proceedings of land acquisition. Section 24 applies to a proceeding pending on the date of enforcement of the Act of 2013, i.e., 1.1.2014. It does not revive stale and time-barred claims and does not reopen concluded proceedings nor allow landowners to question the legality of mode of taking possession to reopen proceedings or mode of deposit of compensation in the treasury instead of court to invalidate acquisition.

13. Union of India & Ors. v. Lt Cdr Annie Nagaraja & Ors. [Civil Appeal Nos 2182-87 of 2020; 17 March 2020]: The Supreme Court examined the issue pertaining to engagement or enrolment of women in the Indian Navy. It held that to deprive serving women officers of the opportunity to work as equals with men on Permanent Commissions (PCs) in the Indian Navy is plainly discriminatory, and furthermore, to contend that women officers are ill-suited to certain avocations which involve them being aboard ships is contrary to the equal worth of the women officers who dedicate their lives to serving in the cause of the nation.

Accordingly, the statutory bar on the engagement or enrolment of women in the Indian Navy was lifted to the extent envisaged in the notifications issued by the Union Government on 9 October 1991 and 6 November 1998 under Section 9(2) of the Navy Act 1957. Further, it was inter alia held that by and as a result of the policy decision of the Union Government in the Ministry of Defence dated 25 February 1999, the terms and conditions of service of Short Service

Commissioned (SSC) officers, including women in regard to the grant of PCs are governed by Regulation 203, Chapter IX, Part III of the Naval Ceremonial, Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous Regulations 1963; and that the stipulation in the policy letter dated 26 September 2008 making it prospective and restricting its application to specified cadres/branches of the Indian Navy shall not be enforced.

14. Chebrolu Leela Prasad Rao & Ors. v. State of A.P. & Ors. [Civil Appeal No. 3609 of 2002; 22 April, 2020]: A three Judge Bench of the Supreme Court quashed G.O.Ms. No.3 dated 10.1.2000 issued by the erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh providing 100% reservation to Scheduled Tribe candidates for the post of teachers in the schools in scheduled areas in the State of Andhra Pradesh, holding it to be arbitrary, illegal, impermissible, and unconstitutional. It was held that G.O.Ms. No.3/2000 providing for 100 per cent reservation is not permissible under the Constitution, since the outer limit is 50 per cent as specified in Indra Sawhney case. The Supreme Court held that “the notification in question cannot be treated as classification made under Article 16(1). Once the reservation has been provided to Scheduled Tribes under Article 16(4), no such power can be exercised under Article 16(1). The notification is violative of Articles 14 and 16(4) of the Constitution of India.”

15. Christian Medical College Vellore Association v. Union of India [Transferred Case (Civil) No. 98 of 2012; 29 April 2020]: The Supreme Court held that that there is no violation of the rights of the unaided/ aided minority to administer institutions under Articles 19(1) (g) and 30 read with Articles 25, 26 and 29(1) of the Constitution of India

by prescribing the uniform examination of National Eligibility--cum--Entrance Test (NEET) for admissions in the graduate and postgraduate professional courses of medical as well as dental science.

It was held that the rights to administer an institution under Article 30 of the Constitution are not above the law and other Constitutional provisions. Reasonable regulatory measures can be provided without violating such rights available under Article 30 of the Constitution to administer an institution. Professional educational institutions constitute a class by themselves. Specific measures to make the administration of such institutions transparent can be imposed. The rights available under Article 30 are not violated by provisions carved out in Section 10D of the Medical Council of India (MCI) Act and the Dental Council of India (DCI) Act and Regulations framed by MCI/DCI. It was held that the regulatory measures by prescribing NEET is to bring the education within the realm of charity which character it has lost and in no way interfere with the rights to administer the institution by the religious or linguistic minorities. The Supreme Court held that the provisions of the Act and regulation cannot be said to be ultra vires or taking away the rights guaranteed under the Constitution of India under Article 30(1) read with Articles 19(1)(g), 14, 25, 26 and 29(1).

- 16. Pandurang Ganpati v. Vishwasrao Patil Murgud Sahakari Bank Ltd. [Civil Appeal No. 5674 of 2009; 05 May, 2020]:** A five Judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court examined the applicability of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) to the co-operative banks.

It was held that "the cooperative banks under the State legislation and multiState cooperative banks are 'banks' under section 2(1)(c) of the SARFAESI Act" and recovery being an essential part of banking; as such, "the recovery procedure prescribed under section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, a legislation relatable to Entry 45 List I of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, is applicable." The Supreme Court held that "the cooperative banks involved in the activities related to banking are covered within the meaning of 'Banking Company' defined under Section 5(c) read with Section 56(a) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949, which is a legislation relatable to Entry 45 of List I."

- 17. Sri Marthanda Varma v. State of Kerala [Civil Appeal No. 2732 of 2020; 13 July 2020]:** The Supreme Court considered the issue pertaining to shebaitship or managership of the ancient Sree PadmanabhaSwamy Temple located in Trivandrum, Kerala, and held that since the Shebaitship had vested in the Ruler of Travancore, not in his official capacity, the normal incident of heritability must get attached to the office of such Shebaitship in accordance with governing principles of succession and custom.

In May 1949, Sree Chithira Thirunal Balarama Varma, older brother of appellant no.1, and the then Ruler of Travancore had entered into a Covenant with the Government of India leading to the formation of the United State of Travancore and Cochin. The Supreme Court held that the death of Sree Chithira Thirunal Balarama Varma did not in any way affect the Shebaitship of the Temple held by the royal family of Travancore; that after such death, the Shebaitship must devolve in accordance with the applicable law and custom upon his successor; that the expression "Ruler

of Travancore" as appearing in Chapter III of Part I of the Travancore-Cochin Hindu Religious Institutions Act, 1950 (TC Act) must include his natural successors according to law and custom; and that the Shebaitship did not lapse in favour of the State by principle of escheat.

However consistent with their stand that the Sree PadmanabhaSwamy Temple is a public Temple, the appellants suggested the composition of an Administrative Committee, and an Advisory Committee for the administration of the temple. The Supreme Court found the suggestion to be quite balanced, and accordingly, directed that the powers of "the Ruler of Travancore" under Section 18(2) of the TC Act shall stand delegated to a five member Administrative Committee chaired by the District Judge, Thiruvananthapuram while the Advisory Committee shall be deemed to be the Committee constituted in terms of Section 20 of the TC Act. The Administrative Committee and the Advisory Committee were directed to discharge all their functions including performance of the worship of the deity, maintenance of its properties, diligently and in the best interest of the Temple, and provide adequate and requisite facilities to the worshippers. It was directed that appellant No.1 and his successors shall not be entitled to draw any remuneration for his or their services as the Manager or Trustee.

18. Vineeta Sharma v. Rakesh Sharma & Ors

[Civil Appeal Diary No.32601 of 2018; 11 August 2020] The Supreme Court interpreted section 6 of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 as amended by Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act, 2005. It held that the provisions contained in substituted Section 6 of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 confer

status of coparcener on the daughter born before or after amendment in the same manner as son with same rights and liabilities. The Supreme Court held that the rights can be claimed by the daughter born earlier with effect from 9.9.2005 with savings as provided in Section 6(1) as to the disposition or alienation, partition or testamentary disposition which had taken place before 20th day of December, 2004 and since the right in coparcenary is by birth, it is not necessary that father coparcener should be living as on 9.9.2005.

It was held that the statutory fiction of partition created by proviso to Section 6 of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 as originally enacted did not bring about the actual partition or disruption of coparcenary. The fiction was only for the purpose of ascertaining share of deceased coparcener when he was survived by a female heir, of Class -I as specified in the Schedule to the Act of 1956 or male relative of such female. The provisions of the substituted Section 6 are required to be given full effect. Notwithstanding that a preliminary decree has been passed the daughters are to be given share in coparcenary equal to that of a son in pending proceedings for final decree or in an appeal.

It was further held that in view of the rigor of provisions of Explanation to Section 6(5) of the Act of 1956, a plea of oral partition cannot be accepted as the statutory recognised mode of partition effected by a deed of partition duly registered under the provisions of the Registration Act, 1908 or effected by a decree of a court. However, in exceptional cases where plea of oral partition is supported by public documents and partition is finally evinced in the same manner as if it had been affected by a decree of a court, it

may be accepted. A plea of partition based on oral evidence alone cannot be accepted and to be rejected outrightly.

19. Centre for Public Interest Litigation v. Union of India [Writ Petition (Civil) No. 546 of 2020; 18 August 2020]: The Supreme Court declined the prayer to direct the Union of India to prepare, notify and implement a fresh National Disaster Management Plan for COVID-19. It was held that National Plan, 2019 was already in place supplemented by various orders and measures taken by competent authorities under Disaster Management Act, 2005, and there was no occasion or need to issue any direction to Union of India to prepare a fresh National Plan for COVID-19. It was further held that Union of India was not obliged to lay down minimum standards of relief under Section 12 of the Act, 2005 for COVID-19 and the guidelines issued under Section 12 providing for minimum standards of relief holds good for pandemic COVID-19 also.

The Supreme Court further held that National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF) and PM CARES Fund are two entirely different funds with different object and purpose. It was held that the Union of India can very well utilize the NDRF for providing assistance in the fight of COVID-19 pandemic by way of releasing fund on the request of the States as per new guidelines. Any contribution, grant of any individual or institution is not prohibited to be credited into the NDRF and it is still open for any person or institution to make contribution to the NDRF in terms of Section 46(1)(b) of the Act, 2005. The contribution by any person or by any institution in PM CARES Fund is voluntary and it is open for any person or institution to make contribution to the PM CARES Fund. It was held that the funds

collected in the PM CARES Fund are entirely different funds which are funds of a public charitable trust and there is no occasion for issuing any direction to transfer the said funds to the NDRF.

20. Mukesh Singh v. State (Narcotic Branch of Delhi) [SLP (Crl.) Dairy No. 39528 of 2018; 31 August, 2020]: The issue for consideration before a five Judge Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court was: whether in case the investigation is conducted by the informant/police officer who himself is the complainant, the trial is vitiated and in such a situation, the accused is entitled to acquittal. The Court held that "the matter has to be decided on a case to case basis without any universal generalization" and "there is no bar against the informant police officer to investigate the case.

Considering that the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (NDPS Act) is "a special Act with special procedure to be followed under Chapter V", and as "there is no specific bar against conducting the investigation by the informant himself and in view of the safeguard provided under the Act itself, namely, Section 58", the Supreme Court held that "there cannot be any general proposition of law to be laid down that in every case where the informant is the investigator, the trial is vitiated and the accused is entitled to acquittal. The Supreme Court held that, similarly, even with respect to offences under the IPC, "there is no specific bar against the informant/complainant investigating the case."

21. Gujarat Mazdoor Sabha & Anr. v. The State of Gujarat [Writ Petition (C) 708 of 2020; 01 October, 2020]: Invoking its powers under Section 5 of the Factories Act, 1948, the State of Gujarat had issued notifications

dated 17 April 2020 and 20 July 2020 exempting factories from observing some of the obligations which employers have to fulfil towards the workmen employed by them on the ground that industrial employers were faced with financial stringency in the economic downturn resulting from the outbreak of COVID -19.

A three Judge Bench of the Supreme Court quashed the notifications reasoning that “financial losses cannot be offset on the weary shoulders of the laboring worker, who provides the backbone of the economy.” It was held that “Section 5 of the Factories Act could not have been invoked to issue a blanket notification that exempted all factories from complying with humane working conditions and adequate compensation for overtime, as a response to a pandemic that did not result in an ‘internal disturbance’ of a nature that posed a ‘grave emergency’ whereby the security of India is threatened.” The Court said that “in any event, no factory/ classes of factories could have been exempted from compliance with provisions of the Factories Act, unless an ‘internal disturbance’ causes a grave emergency that threatens the security of the state, so as to constitute a ‘public emergency’ within the meaning of Section 5 of the Factories Act”

22. Amit Sahni v. Commissioner of Police, Delhi & Ors. [Civil Appeal No. 3282 of 2020; 7 October 2020]: The Supreme Court examined the issue of encroachment of public road by persons opposing the Citizenship Amendment Act and the National Register of Citizens, who adopted a method of protest which resulted in the closure of the Kalindi Kunj - Shaheen Bagh stretch, including the Okhla underpass in Delhi for a long period of time.

While appreciating the existence of the right to peaceful protest against a legislation, the Supreme Court made it unequivocally clear that public ways and public spaces cannot be occupied in such a manner and that too indefinitely. It was held that democracy and dissent go hand in hand, but then the demonstrations expressing dissent have to be in designated places alone. The present case was not even one of protests taking place in an undesignated area, but was a blockage of a public way which caused grave inconvenience to commuters.

The Supreme Court did not accept the plea of the applicants that an indeterminable number of people can assemble whenever they choose to protest. It held that such kind of occupation of public ways, whether at the site in question or anywhere else for protests is not acceptable and the administration ought to take action to keep the areas clear of encroachments or obstructions.

23. Tofan Singh v. The State Of Tamil Nadu

[Criminal Appeal No.152 of 2013; 29 October, 2020] The Supreme Court per majority held that the officers invested with powers under section 53 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances, Act, 1985 (NDPS Act) are “police officers” within the meaning of section 25 of the Evidence Act, as a result of which any confessional statement made to them would be barred under the provisions of section 25 of the Evidence Act, and cannot be taken into account in order to convict an accused under the NDPS Act. It further held that a statement recorded under section 67 of the NDPS Act cannot be used as a confessional statement in the trial of an offence under the NDPS Act.

24. Rajnesh v. Neha & Anr. [Criminal Appeal No. 730 of 2020; 4 November 2020] For addressing issues arising for consideration in applications for grant of maintenance / interim maintenance in matrimonial matters, the Supreme Court framed guidelines to ensure uniformity and consistency in adjudication.

To overcome the issue of overlapping jurisdiction, and avoid conflicting orders being passed in different proceedings, the Supreme Court directed that: (i) where successive claims for maintenance are made by a party under different statutes, the Court would consider an adjustment or setoff, of the amount awarded in the previous proceeding/s, while determining whether any further amount is to be awarded in the subsequent proceeding; (ii) the applicant shall mandatorily disclose the previous proceeding and the orders passed therein, in the subsequent proceeding; and (iii) if the order passed in the previous proceeding/s requires any modification or variation, it would be required to be done in the same proceeding.

For purpose of payment of interim maintenance, the Affidavit of Disclosure of Assets and Liabilities (annexed as Enclosures I, II and III with the judgment), as may be applicable, was directed to be filed by both parties in all maintenance proceedings, including pending proceedings before the concerned Family Court / District Court / Magistrates Court, as the case may be, throughout the country. For determining the quantum of maintenance payable to an applicant, it was directed that the Court shall take into account the various criterias enumerated in the judgment. However, it was clarified that such factors were not

exhaustive, and the concerned Court may exercise its discretion to consider any other factor/s which may be necessary or of relevance in the facts and circumstances of a case.

The Supreme Court also made it clear that maintenance in all cases will be awarded from the date of filing the application for maintenance. For enforcement / execution of orders of maintenance, the Supreme Court directed that an order or decree of maintenance may be enforced under Section 28A of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1956; Section 20(6) of the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005; and Section 128 of Cr.P.C., as may be applicable. The order of maintenance may be enforced as a money decree of a civil court as per the provisions of the CPC, more particularly Sections 51, 55, 58, 60 r.w. Order XXI.



I. Supreme Court Reports:

Supreme Court Reports (SCR) is the official journal of reportable Supreme Court decisions, which is published under the authority of the Supreme Court of India by the Controller of Publications, Govt. of India, Delhi. Each part of SCR contains the full text of reportable decisions with Head Notes, a Subject Index and a Nominal Index. The Head Notes are approved by the Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court who delivered the judgment. Further, the important decisions published in each part of SCR are highlighted on the front cover page for the ease and convenience of the users. Besides circulation within the country, SCR is also sent on reciprocal basis to certain Commonwealth and other countries. Process of digitization and scanning of back volumes of SCR from 1950 to 2017 and preservation of same as a digitized soft copy, has been initiated. The preservation of these back volumes in digitized format will help in creating a digital repository in the Supreme Court. From the year 2018 onwards, SCRs are being prepared in-house in the Editorial Branch, and stored as digitized soft copies in PDF. Process is also underway for e-publication of Supreme Court Reports (SCR) in addition to physical publication of printed copies of SCR. Modalities are being worked out for early release of e-SCR on the official website as well as the official Mobile App of the Supreme Court of India.

II. Court News:

"Court News"- the quarterly newsletter of the Supreme Court of India, is being published since 2006. Apart from statistics regarding the institution, pendency and disposal of cases as well as the vacancy position in the Courts at all levels, each issue of the newsletter also contains the gist of important decisions delivered by the Supreme Court during the relevant quarter for current awareness purpose. Initiatives and important events, if any, during the relevant quarter, are covered in the newsletter. Information relating to appointments and transfers in superior judiciary, and important activities of National Judicial Academy (NJA) and National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) are also incorporated in the newsletter. The printed hard copies of the "Court News" are sent free of cost to all High Courts and to the Bar Associations, Law Colleges and the Government Departments. It is also sent to the Chief Justice / Head of Judiciary in 18 countries – Australia, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, China, Egypt, France, Ireland, Israel, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Philippines, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, UAE, United Kingdom and USA. The "Court News" is also available on the official website of the Supreme Court of India.

III. Publication of Full Court References:

The Supreme Court Registry is entrusted with

the solemn task of holding Full Court References in the memory of Former Hon'ble Judges and Senior Advocates of Supreme Court of India, upon their unfortunate demise, and among others, the family members of the deceased Hon'ble Judge/ Senior Advocate are intimated about such reference and arrangements are made to facilitate their presence during such Reference ceremony. As per tradition and practice, memorial speeches are delivered by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, the Attorney General for India, and the President of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) during the aforesaid Full Court References. Keeping in view the dignity and decorum of the occasion, speeches and other relevant documents generated in connection with Full Court References held in memory of deceased Hon'ble Judges/ Senior Advocates, are now being compiled and got printed and bound, in the form of booklets for better preservation and for the sake of posterity. The Full Court Reference booklets are also uploaded on the official website of the Supreme Court of India.



2

HIGH COURTS



1 High Court of Judicature at **ALLAHABAD**



Principal Seat at Allahabad

Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Govind Mathur, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Mithal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ved Prakash Vaish	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dinesh Kumar Singh-I
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Munishwar Nath Bhandari	Hon'ble Dr. Justice K.J. Thaker	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajiv Joshi
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shashi Kant Gupta	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.C. Tripathi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rahul Chaturvedi
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abhinava Upadhya	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Suneet Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Salil Kumar Rai
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pritinkar Diwaker	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Kumar Birla	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jayant Banerji
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Naheed Ara Moonis	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Attau Rahman Masoodi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajesh Singh Chauhan
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashwani Kumar Mishra	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Irshad Ali
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajan Roy	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Saral Srivastava
Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. Amit Sthalekar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arvind Kumar Mishra-I	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jahangir Jamshed Munir
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Naqvi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Om Prakash-VII	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajiv Gupta
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Misra	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Yashwant Varma	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Siddharth
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ramesh Sinha	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Agarwal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajit Kumar
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Sunita Agarwal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajul Bhargava	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajnish Kumar
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Siddhartha Varma	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abdul Moin
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bachchoo Lal	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Sangeeta Chandra	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dinesh Kumar Singh
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rakesh Srivastava	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Virendra Kumar-II	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajeev Misra
Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.P. Kesarwani	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Rekha Dikshit	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Kumar Singh
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Gupta	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Chaudhary	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chandra Dhari Singh
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anjani Kumar Mishra	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Saumitra Dayal Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajay Bhanot

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Neeraj Tiwari	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rohit Ranjan Agarwal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shekhar Kumar Yadav
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prakash Padia	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ram Krishna Gautam	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravi Nath Tilhari
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Mathur	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Umesh Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Verma
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Bhatia	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Gautam Chowdhary
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Saurabh Lavania	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil Kumar-IX	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shamim Ahmed
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Varma	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajendra Kumar-IV	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dinesh Pathak
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kumar Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mohd. Faiz Alam Khan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manish Kumar
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Piyush Agrawal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikas Kunvar Srivastav	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Samit Gopal
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Saurabh Shyam Shamsbery	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Virendra Kumar Srivastava	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kumar Pachori
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jaspreet Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Suresh Kumar Gupta	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Subhash Chandra Sharma
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajeev Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Narendra Kumar Johari	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Subhash Chand
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Manju Rani Chauhan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Raj Beer Singh	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Saroj Yadav
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Karunesh Singh Pawar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajit Singh	
Hon'ble Dr. Justice Yogendra Kumar Srivastava	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ali Zamin	
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manish Mathur	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vipin Chandra Dixit	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The Indian High Courts Act, 1861 established the High Courts of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay in 1862. It vested power in the Queen of England to issue Letters Patent to establish other high courts like the High Courts of the Presidency Towns with similar powers. In exercise of this power, a High Court of Judicature for the North Western Provinces was established at Agra on 17 March 1866, which was subsequently shifted to Allahabad in 1869. By

a supplementary Letters Patent dated 11 March 1919, the nomenclature of the high court was changed to 'the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad'. The United Provinces High Court (Amalgamation) Order, 1948, issued by the Governor-General amalgamated the Chief Court for Oudh with "the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad". The Allahabad High Court has a permanent bench at Lucknow, the administrative capital of the State of Uttar Pradesh.

The foundation stone of the present building of the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad was laid in 1911 by Sir John Stanley, the then Hon'ble Chief Justice. The court was shifted to the present building on 27 November 1916. Presently, there are 91 court rooms and 96 chambers besides the Court and the Chamber of the Hon'ble Chief Justice. A museum was inaugurated during the High Court's Centenary celebrations held in 1966, making it the first high court to have its own museum. The Museum has a rich collection of judgments, deeds, photographs, dress, furniture and also the Original Charter of Her Majesty the Queen Victoria of 17 March 1866 by which the high court was created and established. There is a separate building for digitization of records, known as the Centre for Information Technology which stands out as one of the most impressive and modern state-of-the-art Information Technology Centre building in the country. A new high court building equipped with all modern facilities has been constructed at Gomti Nagar, Lucknow on 40 acres land, in which there are 57 court rooms.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

The High Court took several preventive steps for containing spread of Covid-19. The High Court got established a BSL-3 Laboratory at Allahabad for conducting pathological test for Coronavirus. Only lawyers having urgent cases were permitted to appear before the Court to avoid crowding in the Courts. Personal presence of parties was dispensed with, unless unavoidable. All the

mediation proceedings were suspended. The Advocates' Canteen, Bar Association Meeting Halls, and Advocates' Chambers inside the premises of the High Court were closed. Vendors were not permitted to bring any beverages and food items inside the court premises. Doctors/ Medical Personnel in adequate numbers were deployed at each entry point along with thermal scanning devices to ensure that no person having

fever/symptoms of coronavirus enters the high court premises. The Museum of the High Court was closed for the visitors. The Judges and their supporting staff (private secretary, bench secretary, etc.) were asked to attend the High Court in minimum required number. Sections of the Court were opened with Roster-System. Arrangements for filing of cases/documents/petitions/applications in the Stamp Reporting Section and the Application Section were made outside the premises of the High Court. The files were sent from the Sections to the Courts after proper sanitization. Wearing of Robes prescribed for the Judges and the lawyers was suspended till further orders. Advocates appearing in the Court were asked to wear face cover/mask and to adhere to all necessary conditions prescribed for social and physical distancing. Not more than six advocates were permitted to remain in the court room at any given time. Advocates residing in hot spot areas/containment zones were not allowed to enter in the court campus and no document (except through e-mode) were accepted from them. No person was allowed to enter in the High Court campus without observing the necessary protocol for maintaining social and physical distancing. Consumption of paan, gutka, tobacco inside the premises of the high court was prohibited and consumption of the same made punishable. Spitting in the premises of the high court was strictly prohibited. Provision for thermal scanning, handwash, and sanitizer were made at entry and exit points and in the common area. Facility of hearing through video conferencing was provided on the request of the advocates.

A new building consisting of 30 Courts and 20 Chambers at Allahabad has been made fully functional. All the 30 Courts have been prepared in such a way that they can be used as e-Courts as and when required. Construction work of a High Court Museum, a 200 person Conference

Hall and two VVIP suits has been commenced. A project consisting of Multilevel parking (for approximately 3000 cars & 1500 bikes) and Advocates Chambers (1400 Chambers) along with huge Advocates' Library has been sanctioned by the State Government and work has been commenced. For the convenience of Senior Advocates and Litigants, work on installation of four escalators has been commenced.

During the judicial year, the Uttar Pradesh State Legal Services Authority (UPSLSA) organized a camp on 26 November 2019 to commemorate "70th Constitution Day". On the same day i.e. 26 November 2019, a conference was also organized in the High Court over the issue of "Development of India as a nation and our constitutional values". A Legal Awareness Camp was organized on 3 December 2019 at Aminabad Inter College, Lucknow on the occasion of Birth Anniversary of first President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, who was also the Chairman of the Drafting Committee of Indian Constitution. UPSLSA in collaboration with JSV foundation organized a camp at Nari Bandi Grih, District Jail, Lucknow. 2,524 prisoners availed legal aid through panel lawyers. 566 camps and programmes were organized in different jails of U.P. by which 74,081 prisoners were benefited. A Plantation Programme was organized by the UPSLSA on 17 August 2019. 49,571 saplings were planted in the premises of district courts, residential colonies of judicial officers and other premises of the State of Uttar Pradesh. A campaign was organized in the premises of Treasury, Jawahar Bhawan, Lucknow during the month of November and December 2019 for awareness of senior citizens about their rights in various legislations and government schemes. PLVs and Panel lawyers were deputed from 1 November 2019 to 31 December 2019 to help pensioners for filling up their life certificate forms.

On 3 November 2019, a Mega Legal Awareness Camp was organized at “Baldev Vaidic Inter College” Tehsil Palia, District Lakhimpur to sensitize the “Tharu” tribals and farmers residing in the vicinity of Palia, Nepal Border and other adjoining areas about the hazards of excessive use of fertilizers. Free Mega Health Camp for health checkup of “Tharu” Tribals and farmers was also organized. The UPSLSA organized a Mega Limb Fitment Camp with the assistance and support of “Bhagwan Mahavir Viklang Sahayata Samiti”, Jaipur, and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities Department, U.P. and Dr. Shakuntala Mishra National Rehabilitation University from 21 to 25 December 2019. 1,239

beneficiaries were provided artificial limbs, calipers, hearing aids, blind sticks, wheel chairs and tricycles.

The Judicial Training & Research Institute (JTRI), Lucknow conducted three distinct induction/foundation trainings for 368 Civil Judges (Junior Division), with each of those trainings spread over a period of two months. In addition, two months induction/foundation training for 48 Additional District Judges (DHJS) cadre was also organized. Special Training Programme for newly promoted Additional District Judges was organized for 282 judicial officers. The JTRI also organized three distinct workshops for the District Judges, MACT



Presiding Officers and Family Court Judges, on Anticipatory Bail, MACT Matters and Family Court Matters, respectively. The JTRI conducted 18 programmes of Advanced CIS 3.1 Training for 893 judicial officers. The JTRI, in continuation of the five days Management Development Programme, initiated in partnership with Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi, organized 21 programmes for 776 judicial officers. Besides, the JTRI also facilitated a four & half months, Special Training Programme for 71 Deputy Registrars of the High Court on "Law, Procedure, Practice and Rules of Business of High Court". The JTRI conducted in coordination with the UPSLSA, a 40 hours Mediation Training for

114 advocate mediators of the district courts.. A one-week training programme on legal subjects, was also organized for the officers of the Indian Defence Account Service and the Judge Advocate General Cadre Officers of the Eastern Command of the Indian Navy. The JTRI organized two rounds of cluster training in decentralized format at the district level in terms of which around 4000 judicial officers participated in 43 programmes. The JTRI also published a diglot edition of 'Guide for the Working of Civil and Criminal Courts Subordinate to the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad' for distribution amongst all judicial officers. Besides, during course of the year, the Annual JTRI Journal', bi-annual 'JTRI-



Landscape view of the New Building of High Court of Allahabad at Lucknow

Newsletter' Quarterly Digests' and Brochures were also published.

On account of the Covid-19 pandemic, the JTRI was forced to defer all training programmes, scheduled for mid-March 2020. But with the objective of continuing the process, from 22 June 2020, induction training for around 450 Civil Judges (J.D.) and around 50 Additional District Judges (DHJS) was initiated. In order to make people aware of different schemes of Government, the UPSLSA has published pamphlet on the topics of Right of Senior Citizens, Right to Education Act, Prevention of Drug Abuse, Right to Vote, Mental Illness etc. For spreading awareness amongst the targeted group and publicizing the State Legal Services activities, the mobile van of UPSLSA visited remote districts like Azamgarh, Ballia, Hathras, Kanpur Dehat, Auraiya. National Lok Adalats were held across the State. Seven Mediator Training Programmes were conducted in IJTR, Lucknow through which, 252 advocate mediators got trained by MCPC trainers. The UPSLSA rehabilitated two mentally challenged children of an inmate of "Nari Bandi Niketan" (Prison for women) who were languishing in prison along with their mother for 10 years.

Technological Accomplishments

To provide maximum reachability of case related information and court functionality, the High Court developed various IT based services. Daily operations of the Courts are now functional over various in-house developed software applications. Substantial ICT infrastructure has been deployed from time to time. The High Court has developed several web based application as well as Mobile based application which are very useful for the lawyers/litigants in accessing various online services provided by the High Court on day to day basis relating to cases. To cope up with the emergent situation arising due

to Covid-19 pandemic, video conferencing facility has been implemented for the lawyers/ litigants and the Judges for online/virtual hearing of the Court. A leased line of 100 Mbps bandwidth was installed exclusively for court proceedings through video conferencing/ virtual mode during the Covid-19 pandemic. The proposal of a new separate leased line of 100 Mbps for Lucknow Bench is in the pipeline.

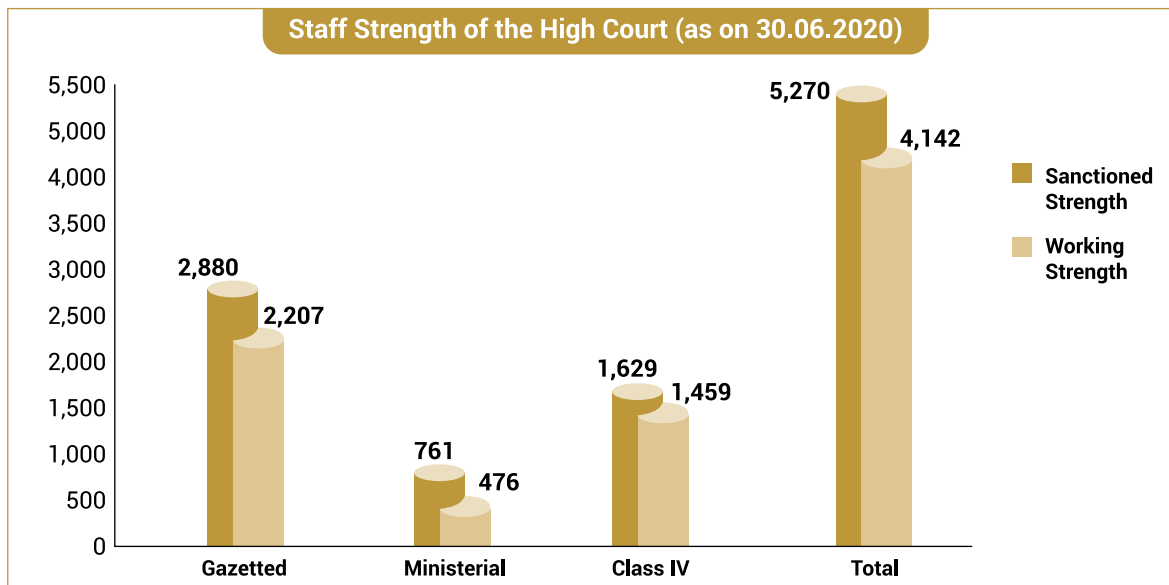
e-Court (paperless courts) have been gradually increased at Allahabad and Lucknow Bench. Various peripheral applications (software module) were developed in-house and deployed as per the local requirement of the Court and Registry. A software module was developed for allotment of urgency numbers to lawyers/ litigants prior to filing/hearing of cases, as an urgent matter, during the Covid-19 pandemic. Some additional modules in eCourt software (DMS) i.e. modules for transferring of cases from one court to another, re-reporting over case files etc. were also developed and deployed. About 88,829 e-gate passes (86,852 at Allahabad and 1,977 at Lucknow Bench) were issued. The existing bandwidth of 100 Mbps of the High Court Wi-Fi network has been recently upgraded to 200 Mbps to provide high speed internet connectivity to lawyers/ litigants and Judges of the Court. Procurement of servers/SAN storage with Disaster Recovery Site (DR/DC) at Allahabad and Lucknow Bench is under process.

164 district and outlying court complex have been connected through VPNoBB. All the districts of Uttar Pradesh have DRUPAL based websites. 516 establishments which cover 74 district courts, 78 outlying courts, and 18 railways courts have been migrated to CIS 3.2 during Covid-19 pandemic situation. As on 30 June 2020, 79,05,980 pending cases and 39,18,558 orders and judgments have been uploaded on the NJDG server. SMS push facility has been started through a module

developed by NIC to facilitate the advocates and litigants. So far 71 district courts and 69 jails have been provided with studio based video conferencing (VC) facility. Desktop based video conferencing has been made functional in 121 court complexes and 65 jails. During Covid-19 pandemic, upto 30 June 2020, 86,205 cases were heard through video conferencing using in-house open source software JITSI (LAN edition) by all the district courts. Initiatives were taken for working out the modalities for digitization of district court records and online payment of court fees, process fees and fines/compensation. A web-based eServices Portal <http://dc.allahabadhighcourt.in> for the judicial officers of Uttar Pradesh has been inaugurated which is one of the major initiatives for achieving the vision of paperless courts.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020**	2020-2021***
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	9,26,18,04,293	12,12,79,01,520	6,43,94,10,000
Total	9,26,18,04,293	12,12,79,01,520	6,43,94,10,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** Data revised by the High Court

*** Budget sanctioned till 30 August 2020

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges **160**

Working Strength of Judges **102**

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest **99**

Highest **109**

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old **3,75,610**

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

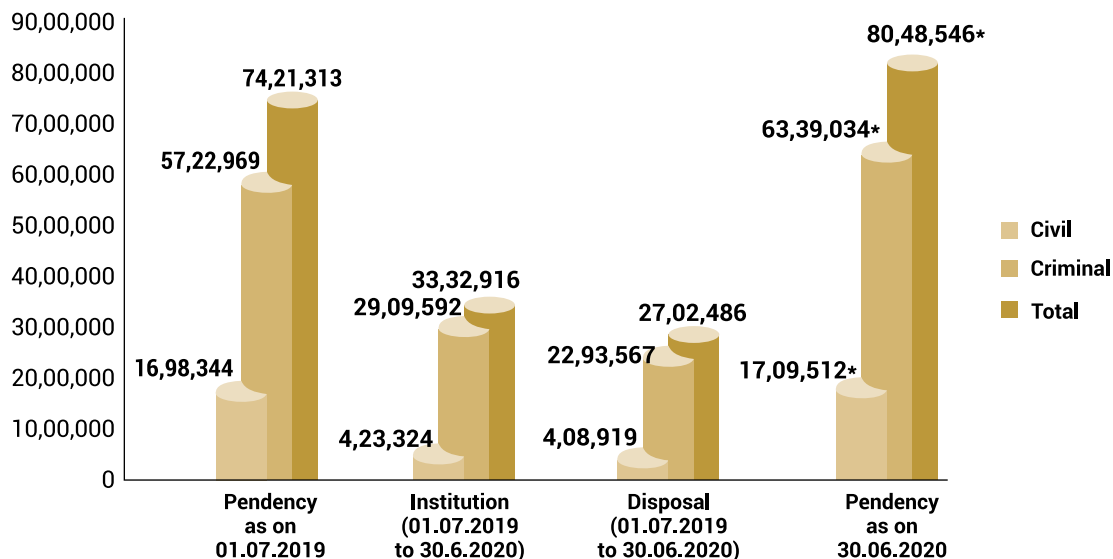
Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	3,39,401	82,451	80,571	3,41,281
Company Matters	150	08	21	137
Contempt (Civil)	2,74,39	9,727	9,914	27,252
Review Petition*	4,445	13	111	4,347
Matrimonial Matters	2,705	940	609	3,036
Arbitration Matters	194	301	239	256
Civil Revisions	3,734	454	481	3,707
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	5,742	832	1,748	4,826
Civil Appeals	30,268	1,250	2,981	28,537
Land Acquisition Matters	5,577	1,534	1,332	5,779
MACT Matters	62,275	1,749	2,875	61,149
Civil Suits (Original Side)	188	70	58	200
Other than above	54,356	3,669	3,323	54,702
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	19,966	23,846	25,376	18,436
Criminal Revisions	42,210	5,709	5,624	42,295
Bail Applications	19,752	65,052	64,888	19,916
Criminal Appeals	1,89,649	9,279	4,425	1,94,503**
Death Sentence Reference	43	13	12	44
Contempt (Criminal)	98	06	14	90
Misc. Criminal Applications	1,38,737	41,659	38,720	1,41,676
Other than above	1,808	131	60	1,879

* The figure includes both Civil and Criminal cases

** Closing balance modified by the High Court

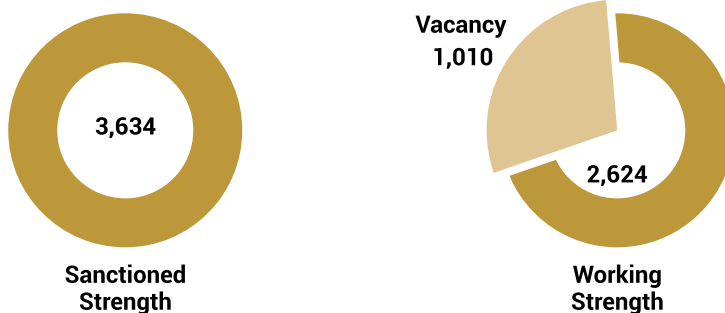
SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

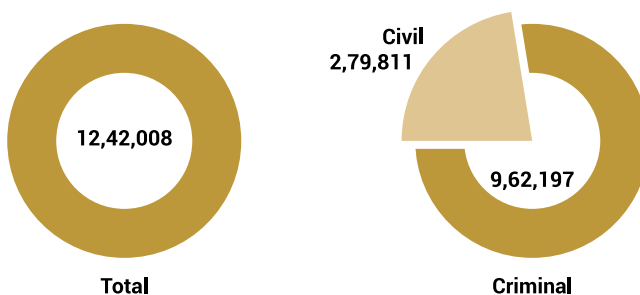


* Closing balance modified by the High Court

Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



2 High Court of **ANDHRA PRADESH**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Andhra Pradesh*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.K. Maheshwari, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rakesh Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.V.S.S. Somayajulu	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D. Ramesh
Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Praveen Kumar	Hon'ble Ms. Justice K.Vijaya Lakshmi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Jayasurya
Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.V. Sessa Sai	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manthoj Ganga Rao	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Boppudi Krishna Mohan
Hon'ble Mr. Justice U. Durga Prasad Rao	Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Manavendranath Roy	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kanchireddy Suresh Reddy
Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Satyanarayana Murthy	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Venkata Ramana	Hon'ble Ms. Justice K.L. Kumari alias Lalitha
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Javalakar Uma Devi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R. Raghunandan Rao	
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Telaprolu Rajani	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Battu Devanand	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

As per the Government of India Order dated 26 December 2018, the Common High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for the State of Telangana and the State of Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated and a new high court for the State of Andhra Pradesh was established which started functioning from 1 January 2019. The High Court of Andhra Pradesh is located at Nelapadu in Amaravati, Guntur District.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

When the State Government declared lockdown in the State due to Covid-19, the High Court restricted the judicial and administrative functioning of the high court and subordinate courts, confining the hearing to extremely urgent matters. The High Court purchased masks, sanitizer and

other protective equipment, and allowed entry to the High Court building from one entry gate only after thermal screening. The other three gates were not made operational. Homeopathic preventive medicines were distributed. Hearing of the cases through video conferencing was started on software application with effect from 31 March 2020. The High Court imparted training

to the advocates for online / e-filing of the cases in the High Court and subordinate courts. The High Court worked with one-third staff of the sanctioned strength, and the Summer Vacation was curtailed from five weeks to two weeks. During summer vacation also, urgent vacation matters were heard by the Vacation Benches. The High Court also constituted a Covid-19 team to deal with all problems relating to staff and to provide adequate medical facilities in coordination with the Government. All the principal district judges were directed to constitute the team to look after and supervise the staff at district level also. By way of precautionary measure and to boost the immunity and morale, with the help of the Legal Services Authority, two types of qwath (Kaada) were distributed twice a day in the High Court premises to the Judges, Registry officers and staff.

In order to have a smooth functioning of the High Court on the administrative side, 24 committees were constituted to attend all types of subjects. On account of bifurcation of the erstwhile Common High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for the State of Telangana and the State of Andhra Pradesh and on account of administrative needs, a need to reframe the existing Rules in the High Court of Andhra Pradesh has arisen. Sub-committees were constituted to draft Higher Judicial Service Rules, Subordinate Judicial Service Rules, Writ Rules, High Court Rules and Orders, High Court Service Rules, High Court Service Rules (Contingent), Judicial Ministerial and Subordinate Service Rules, Subordinate Rules (Contingent) and Gender Sensitization Rules. The sub-committees submitted Reports and the process of Drafting Rules is under progress. Steps have been taken for filling up of various posts. The High Court decided almost all pending departmental appeals filed by the staff members of subordinate courts by amending High Court Standing Order No.113. Though Covid-19

Pandemic became impediment to attend all types of recruitments and administrative functions, notification for recruiting District Judges (Entry Level) was issued and issuance of notification with regard to the post of Junior Civil Judges is in process.

On the initiative taken by the High Court, Government has sanctioned 30 posts of Law Clerks. A team has been constituted by deputing four junior civil judges to identify the infructuous matters. Vigilance Policy guidelines have been framed and maximum number of vigilance files have been cleared by the High Court.

The Arrears Committee took stringent steps, particularly to reduce pendency in the subordinate courts, by issuing appropriate circulars. The High Court has achieved reduction of pendency in subordinate courts by adopting on daily basis monitoring of disposals in the subordinate judiciary. As on 30 June 2019, the pendency of pre-2015 matters was 41,142 and by 1 July 2020 the High Court reduced pendency to 36,179 matters.

Technological Accomplishments

The High Court has been conducting the paperless Committee Meetings. All the Judges and the Registrars have been provided with Apple iPad Pro 10.5 devices for attending the meetings and using the "slack" web application. In the High Court, scanning, indexing, and book-marking of a large number of cases have been completed.

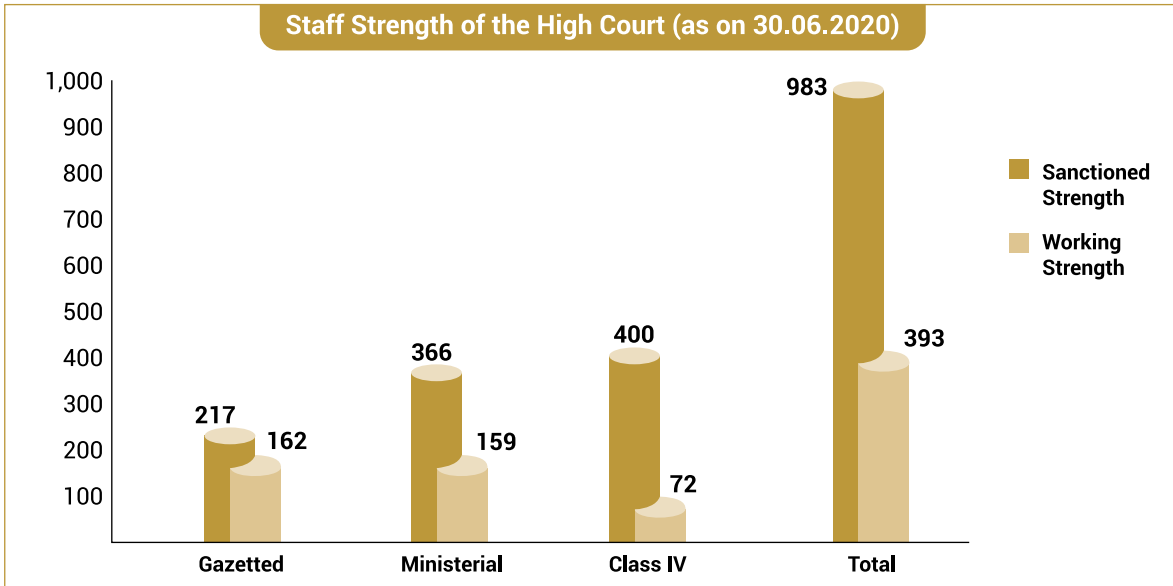
The High Court has successfully migrated to the HC CIS 1.0 software. Personalized emails are being sent to advocates with regard to Advocate Customized Cause-list Generation through HC CIS 1.0 Display Boards are provided to each of the Court and centralized locations of the High Court to display the case hearing status in the court hall. SMS alerts are being sent to the

advocates informing about case hearing status. All the subordinate courts have successfully migrated to NC CIS 3.1 software. VPN digital certificates have been implemented in each subordinate court complex for uploading NC CIS 3.1 case data to NJDG through any independent internet service provider. The High Court has converted all the VPNoBBs in the subordinate courts to regular Broadband connections and all the court complexes and courts are given BSNL broadband connections with 10 MBPS band width. If there is a connectivity issue with BSNL at the locations, the users can upload the Data to

NJDG even by using their Mobile Internet and this is the Unique feature adopted by the High Court. The High Court has also developed a web based application where every judicial officer is required to enter the disposals. The reports are generated through this web application by the high court and district courts to supervise the disposals of judicial officers more particularly to supervise the Pre-2013 cases.

The High Court developed 'e-filing module' for online filing of the cases in the high court and subordinate courts. The functioning of the courts are continuing through video conferencing.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Plan	95,00,00,000	70,00,00,000	1,20,00,00,000
Non-Plan	40,51,00,000	42,51,83,383	47,84,84,000
Total	1,35,51,00,000	1,12,51,83,383	1,67,84,84,000

*For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	37
Working Strength of Judges	21

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	13
Highest	21

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	27,690
------------------------------	--------

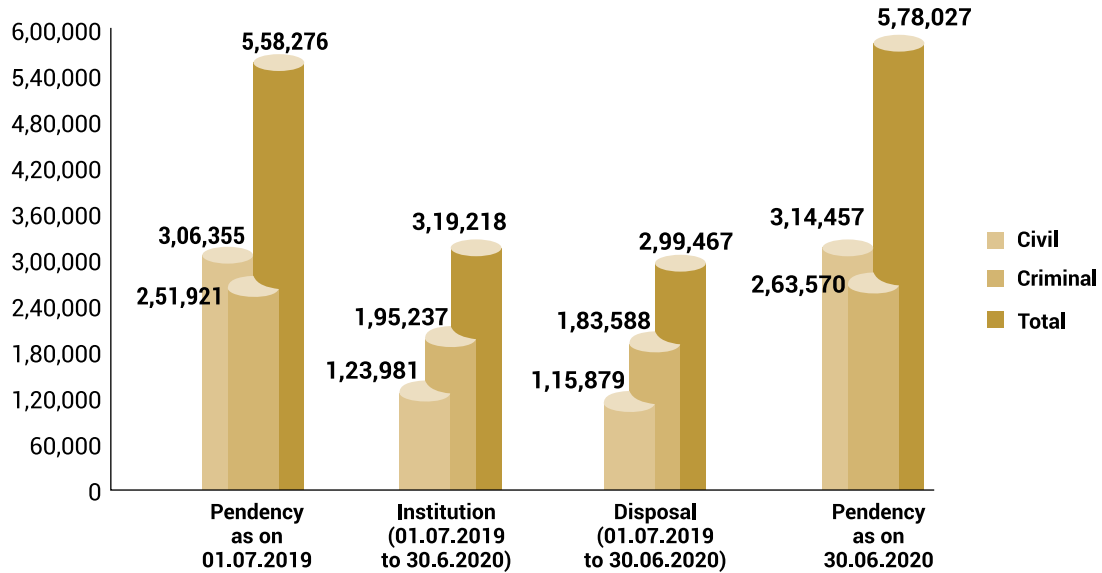
HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

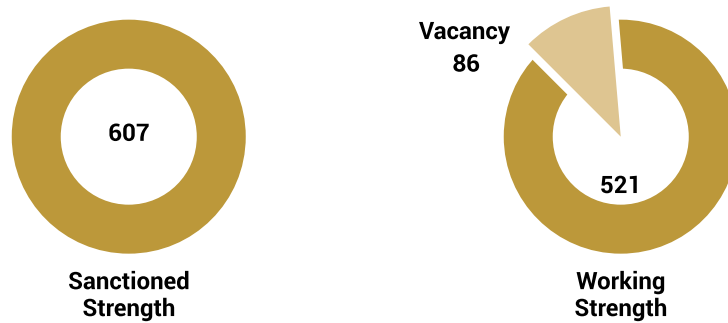
Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	89,412	24,443	14,296	99,559
Company Matters	29	21	15	35
Contempt (Civil)	5,147	1,294	252	6,189
Review (Civil)	0	0	0	0
Matrimonial Matters	1,465	115	61	1,519
Arbitration Matters	62	30	21	71
Civil Revisions	10,296	3,144	1,687	11,753
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	1,404	169	286	1,287
Civil Appeals	29,543	2,488	1,092	30,939
Land Acquisition Matters	2,305	78	49	2,334
MACT Matters	15,023	1,061	666	15,418
Civil Suits (Original Side)	07	04	01	10
Other than above	528	241	163	606
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	-	-	-	-
Criminal Revisions	9,754	973	414	10,313
Bail Applications	92	1,966	1,969	89
Criminal Appeals	7,013	851	215	7,649
Death Sentence Reference	01	02	2	01
Contempt (Criminal)	0	0	0	0
Misc. Criminal Applications	0	0	0	0
Other than above	10,928	4,911	2,870	12,969

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

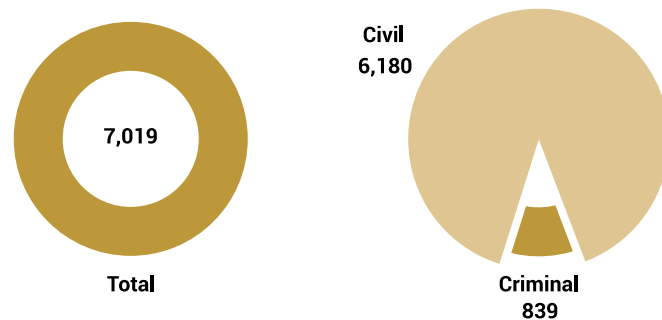
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



3 High Court of **BOMBAY**



Principal Seat at Mumbai

Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Bombay*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dipankar Datta, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Amjad Ahtesham Sayed	Hon'ble Ms. Justice R.P. Mohite Dere	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Bharati H.Dangre
Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.S. Shinde	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.S. Sonak	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sarang V. Kotwal
Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.K. Tated	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.V. Ghuge	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Riyaz I. Chagla
Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.B. Varale	Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.S. Naidu	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manish Pitale
Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.J. Kathawalla	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.L. Achliya	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mangesh S. Patil
Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.K. Deshpande	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vinay Manohar Deshpande	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.K. Chavan
Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.V. Gangapurwala	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajey Shrikant Gadkari	Hon'ble Ms. Justice V.V. Kankanwadi
Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.V. Nalawade	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nitin Wasudeo Sambre	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.M. Modak
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ujjal Bhuyan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Girish Sharadchandra Kulkarni	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jamadar N. Jahiroddin
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ramesh Deokinandan Dhanuka	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Burgess Pesi Colabawalla	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vinay G. Joshi
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sunil Prabhakar Rao Deshmukh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil K. Menon	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Avachat R.Govind
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nitin Madhukar Jamdar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice C.V. Bhadang	Hon'ble Ms. Justice P.V. Genediwala
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Sadhana Sanjay Jadhav	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.K. Jadhav	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Avinash Gunwant Gharote
Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.B. Shukre	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Anuja Prabhudessai	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nitin Bhagawantrao Suryawanshi
Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.C. Gupte	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prakash Deu Naik	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil Satyavijay Kilor
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Zaka Azizul Haq	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Makarand Subhash Karnik	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Milind Narendra Jadhav
Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.R. Shiram	Hon'ble Ms. Justice S.S. Joshi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.G. Sewlikar
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Gautam Shirish Patel	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sandeep K. Shinde	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.G. Bisht
Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.S. Chandurkar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rohit Baban Deo	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Debadwar Bhalchandra Ugrasen

Hon'ble Ms. Justice M.S. Jawalkar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madhav J. Jamdar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abhay Ahuja
Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.P. Tavade	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Amit B. Borkar	
Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.R. Borkar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.D. Kulkarni	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The Bombay High Court is one of the three High Courts in India which was established under the Indian High Courts Act, 1861. Sir Mathew Richard Sausse was the first Chief Justice of Bombay High Court. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mahommedali Currim Chagla was the first Indian Chief Justice of Bombay High Court. The High Court has Civil Original, Civil, and Criminal Appellate Jurisdiction over States of Maharashtra and Goa and Union Territories of Daman, Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli. It has its Principal Seat at Bombay and Benches at Nagpur, Aurangabad, and Panaji (Goa). The present building of Bombay High Court was designed by a British Engineer Lieutenant-Colonel John Augustus Fuller of the Royal Engineers. The structure is a crucial ensemble of a Gothic revival architecture dating back to the early English style. Along the west of the central tower, there are two octagonal towers and statues of 'Justice' and 'Mercy' on the top of this building which serve as a source of inspiration to law abiding citizens. The Bombay High Court building is protected and is listed as a Grade II-A heritage building under the Heritage Regulations enacted by the Government of Maharashtra in 1995.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

In order to address the issues relating to the Covid-19 pandemic, various measures including free distribution of sanitizers and providing masks to the court staff were undertaken. The security staff was provided with temperature instruments

('guns') at all checkpoints/entry-exit points. Additional portable/temporary washbasins with liquid soap were placed at key points in the campus. The entire High Court complex was taken up for sanitization in phases. Entry and exit points were controlled and restricted. An existing ground-floor court room was



Nagpur Bench of the High Court of Bombay

adapted as a physical filing area with separate counters/desks for Appellate Side and Original Side matters. Further, filing was permitted by prior appointment only, for limited hours, and a special system of online booking and obtaining appointment tokens was rapidly deployed. The physical filing was kept optional (to minimize crowding). Standard Operating Protocols (SOPs) were issued periodically covering Registry staff, personnel, and advocates. Arrangements were made with the local authority for special buses to ensure staff attendance in keeping with the state government mandated guidelines while, at the same time, affording sufficient protection to the employees. This system continued till the time the local train services were made operational. The frequency of online courts was also increased. On trial basis, four courts hearing criminal appeals, commenced physical hearings in dedicated courts. For these courts, special provisions were

made including Plexiglass separator screens, AV equipment and limited seating. Additional waiting areas were accommodated in the adjacent or nearby court halls that were not in use.

The Maharashtra State Legal Services Authority (MSLSA) organizes “Maha Lok Adalat” in all Courts and Tribunals throughout the State on one fixed date with the interval of 6 months, in addition to Regular Lok Adalats. During the year 2019-2020, 4,83,281 cases were disposed of through settlement/compromise in these Maha Lok Adalats with 9,66,562 beneficiaries. A scheme of “Mobile Legal Services-cum-Lok Adalats” was introduced by designing a Mobile Van with inbuilt infrastructure for holding Lok Adalats as well as Legal Awareness Camps. Presently four mobile Vans are plying in three Regions i.e. Mumbai, Nagpur, Aurangabad and one van in Thane district. Between January and December 2019, 491 Lok Adalats were held and



Aurangabad Bench of the High Court of Bombay

4,299 cases were settled and between January and July 2020, 93 Lok Adalats were held and 467 cases were settled. There are five Permanent Lok Adalats functioning at four Districts viz. Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur, and Aurangabad. The MSLSA also organizes Legal Literacy Camps at remote places across the State regularly. Between April 2019 and March 2020, 8,537 Legal Literacy Camps were organized which benefitted 9,55,199 persons. Between April 2020 and July 2020, 73 camps were organized which benefitted 5,069 persons. 784 Legal Aid Clinics have been established in the State of Maharashtra. The MSLSA organized Legal Services Camp which provided benefits to about 85,000 beneficiaries on various schemes framed by the State or Central Government. The MSLSA also organized Awareness Camps in 50 places to highlight and explain the various schemes introduced by the National Legal Services Authority. 3,50,562 people attended and

1,00,756 people were benefitted by these camps. The MSLSA publishes a quarterly Magazine "Jus Aditum" giving information about various activities and legal awareness programmes. The National Legal Services Authority booklets titled as 'Kanoon Ko Jane' were translated in Marathi language titled as 'Kaidyachi Olakh -Part 1 to 4'. About 20,000 copies of each book were distributed to Legal Services Authorities and Committees functioning in the State. The MSLSA has established 'Pre-litigation Counselling Centres for matrimonial matters' at Mumbai, Aurangabad, Pune, and Nagpur wherein an attempt to resolve disputes is made at both, the pre and post litigation stage. Project Bharati: a legal aid clinic for victims of child trafficking has been initiated in collaboration with International Justice Mission at Kalyan Sessions Court.

The Maharashtra Judicial Academy conducted online training for newly appointed nine CJJD and



Goa Bench of the High Court of Bombay

JMFC in the State of Maharashtra and Goa. The Judicial Officer Training (JOTI), Nagpur organized 9 batches of induction, refresher as well as other training programmes for Assistant/Additional Public Prosecutors in which 326 participants were benefitted. 12 webinars were also organized in various subjects. The Maharashtra Judicial Academy and Indian Mediation Centre and Training Institute Uttan, Thane organized 47 training programmes with 3412 participants for newly recruited and in-service judicial officers, marriage counsellors, law students, public prosecutors, police officers, central and state government probationary officers. Western Zone Regional Conference was organized on "Optimizing Quality and Efficiency in Justice Delivery: Challenges and Opportunities". Judges from Sri Lanka also visited the Academy and attended training programmes.

Technological Accomplishments

Courts are equipped with hardware and connectivity for the purpose of hearing matters through Video Conferencing. To ensure smooth progress of e-Courts in the State, the High Court has provided latest hardware such as Laptops, Printers, Scanners, All-in-One Computers,

Desktops, Information Kiosks, Display Board Units, UPS, Diesel Generator Sets, Video Conferencing Units to the district and subordinate courts in the State of Maharashtra, Goa, and, Union territory of Diu, Daman, and Dadra Nagar Haveli at Silvassa. Under the e-Courts Project, several digital initiatives have been taken at Bombay High Court and in District and Taluka Courts under Bombay High Court. Citizen Centric Services are provided to advocates and litigants through SMS, email and on websites. On 26 August 2020, the data and software of the Bombay High Court, Principal Seat at Bombay migrated to Case Information System (CIS) HC 1.0. The data of Bombay High Court, Principal Seat at Bombay and statistical reports about institution, pendency and disposal can be viewed on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG). On 25 July 2020, India's first e-facility centre was virtually inaugurated at Nashik District Court. With a view to help the needy litigants and advocates, eSeva Kendra was started in District Nagpur, Sangli, and Dhule. The eSeva Kendra is a bridge between the judiciary and the lesser privileged sections of society who have no access to IT tools or are not acquainted with their usage.

Maharashtra State's first virtual court for online adjudication of traffic challans and petty cases



Judges' Entrance, High Court of Bombay at Mumbai

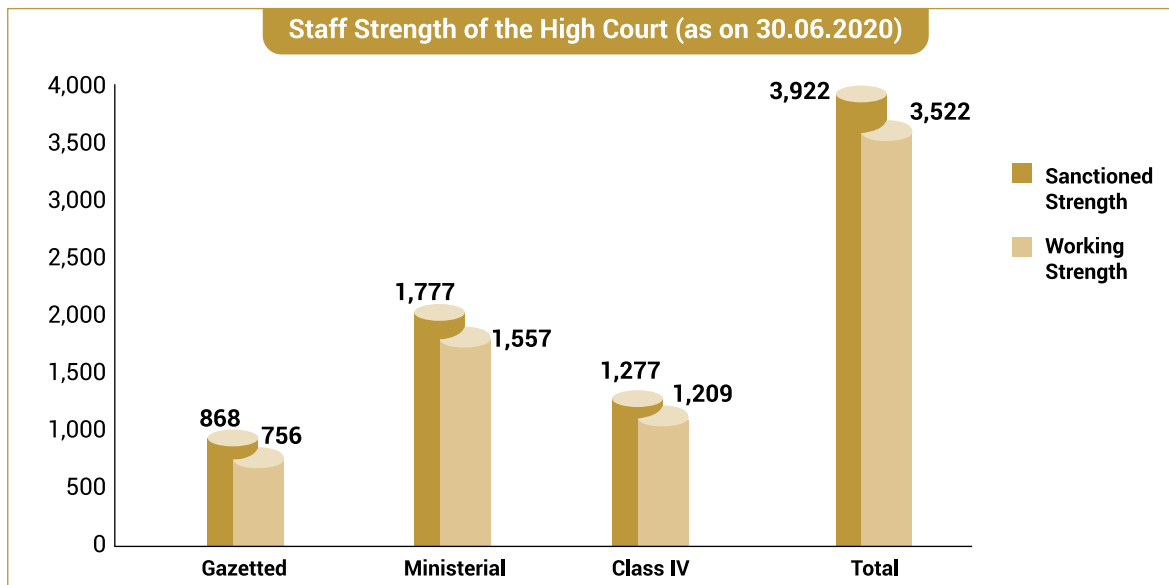
is set up at Pune. To bring transparency to cash transactions, e-payment facility has been started at the Pune District Court. Lawyers and litigants are able to make online payments of court fees, fines, penalties, judicial deposits, rent, maintenance, etc. This facility will eventually be available across all the courts in the state. Interoperable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) has been introduced to facilitate speedy justice through data-exchange between the Courts and Police Station. The ICJS integration is completed in 456 court establishments in Maharashtra. Using this facility, the Courts can directly pull FIR and charge sheet details from the records of Police Station. E-filing facility is functional in more than 500 court establishments in the State of Maharashtra. Advocates and litigants after registration on the e-filing portal, can file their cases online from their offices or houses. This facility is functional 24x7 and is available free of cost. 449 Court complexes are connected through the MPLS connectivity provided by the

DoJ. It ensures that data of the local court servers reaches to NJDG so that correct information can be provided to the public at large.

E-filing counters are available at the e-Governance Centre to facilitate e-filing for Advocates. The facilities made available include six sound-proof cabins from where lawyers can conduct Virtual Court proceedings. Counters, equipped with computers and scanners are set up at the e-Governance Centre for lawyers and litigants to file their cases online. Projectors are installed for training purposes. A digital library stacked with the latest legal software is available for Advocates. Litigants can also use the e-Governance Centre for e-filing of cases and appearance before the Court through video conferencing.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021**
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	4,94,25,26,000	4,91,81,65,200***	2,84,73,17,500
Total	4,94,25,26,000	4,91,81,65,200	2,84,73,17,500

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st August]

*** Data revised by the High Court

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	94
Working Strength of Judges	67

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	65
Highest	73

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	92,959
------------------------------	--------

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
----------	---------------------------	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------

CIVIL

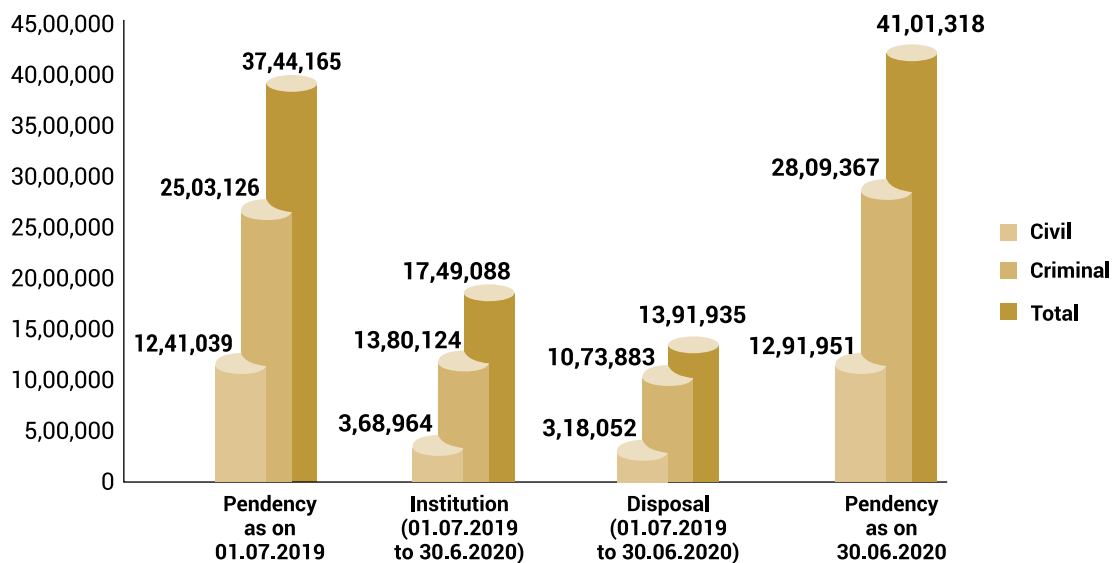
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	1,09,954	30,177	20,823	1,19,308
Company Matters	1,015	243	295	963
Contempt (Civil)	5,675	2,132	12,88	6,519
Review (Civil)	24	87	25	86
Matrimonial Matters	1,183	702	166	1,719
Arbitration Matters	184	2,178	201	2,161
Civil Revisions	3,458	741	259	3,940
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	1,455	575	329	1,701
Civil Appeals	73,960	13,207	24,436	62,731
Land Acquisition Matters	31,395	1,727	3,485	29,637
MACT Matters	13,310	1,086	907	13,489
Civil Suits (Original Side)	5,175	370	263	5,282
Other than above	-	-	-	-

CRIMINAL

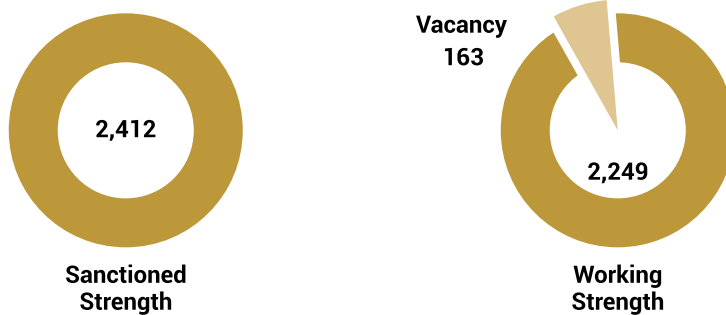
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	19,812	7,229	7,345	19,696
Criminal Revisions	6,016	1,010	432	6,594
Bail Applications	4,098	9,077	9,040	4,135
Criminal Appeals	26,087	3,636	1,472	28,251
Death Sentence Reference	18	5	8	15
Contempt (Criminal)	64	9	13	60
Misc. Criminal Applications	-	-	-	-
Other than above	-	-	-	-

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

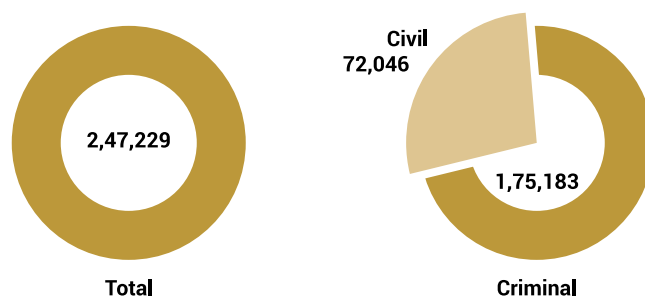
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



4 CALCUTTA

High Court



Principal Seat at Kolkata

Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the Calcutta High Court*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.B.N. Radhakrishnan, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjib Banerjee	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shivakant Prasad	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jay Sengupta
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Indra Prasanna Mukerji	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajasekhar Mantha	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bibek Chaudhuri
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harish Tandon	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sabyasachi Bhattacharyya	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Subhasis Dasgupta
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Soumen Sen	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Suvra Ghosh
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Joymalya Bagchi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shekhar B. Saraf	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Md. Nizamuddin
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Samapti Chatterjee	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajarshi Bharadwaj	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tirthankar Ghosh
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Subrata Talukdar	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Shampa Sarkar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharyya
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tapabrata Chakraborty	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravi Krishan Kapur	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Saugata Bhattacharyya
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arindam Sinha	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arindam Mukherjee	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kausik Chanda
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arijit Banerjee	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Biswajit Basu	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aniruddha Roy
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Debangsu Basak	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Amrita Sinha	
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashis Kumar Chakraborty	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The High Court of Calcutta is one of the three pioneer High Courts of Judicature of India at the three Presidency Towns – Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, following the implementation of the Indian High Courts Act, 1861. The High Court, which was created under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom and Ireland on 14 May 1862, was rechristened as 'The High Court at Calcutta' with the adoption of Constitution of India on 26 January 1950. The Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar Islands was included within the jurisdiction

of the High Court in 1950. Inauguration as well as functioning of Circuit Bench of this Court at Jalpaiguri in the year 2019 has glorified and glamourised the treasure of this High court.

Situated on the eastern bank of the river Hooghly and designed by Mr. Walter B. Granville, the grand sandstone edifice is built on the neo-Gothic style of architecture and is said to be a perfect replica of the 'Stadt Haus' or 'Cloth Hall' at Ypres in Belgium. On 2 April 1977, marking the august occasion of the Court's Centenary, a new building of the High Court (now called the Centenary Building) was opened. The third building of the High Court, a 10 storied high rise adjacent to the Centenary building, was formally inaugurated on 2 April 2012, and is called the Sesquicentenary Building. This great palladium and 'Temple of Justice' celebrated its hundred years of glory in 1962 and in 1987 celebrated its Platinum Jubilee. On 14 May 2012, the High Court at Calcutta completed one hundred fifty years, paving way for its sesquicentenary celebrations.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

In order to check the spread of Covid-19, Notifications/Orders/Advisories were issued containing the modalities of the functioning of Court, from time to time. Wearing of masks was made mandatory in court premises. Distancing norms were directed to be adhered to. Liquid soap or equivalent was kept in dispensers in all washrooms open to the advocates, staff of the Court and others. Medical personnel were deployed at the gates of High Court with temperature/thermal guns. In keeping with the government advisories, circles were marked in the corridors of the Main Building, for monitoring proper distance among the people. Arrangements were made for sanitization of the entire premises

of the High Court including all the court rooms, Judges' Chambers, Chambers of the Registrars, different departments and other concerned places at regular intervals. As per directions of the Chief Justice, the Government of West Bengal has been moved towards incorporation of 'Covid-19' in the list of diseases specified under the relevant provision of "Quarantine leave", as contained in the West Bengal Service Rules and for issuance of appropriate order accordingly in respect of the officers of the West Bengal Judicial Service together with the members of the staff and officers attached to the High Court, Calcutta, West Bengal Judicial Academy, the Judges' Guest House at Bijan Bhawan, Kolkata and also the staff attached to the subordinate judiciary in West



Circuit Bench, Jalpaiguri of Calcutta High Court

Bengal. Steps were also taken for arrangement of beds for treatment of the judicial officers in hospitals across the State. The Judicial Secretary, Government of West Bengal was directed that if any employee of the High Court or his/her family inmate, is tested Covid-19 positive, he/she should be paid 80% of the estimated cost of treatment in advance in accordance with the prevalent rules.

Since all Advocates did not seem to be able to access the video-link facilities, physical courts have been resumed on a very restricted scale, subject to strict maintaining of all Covid norms of distancing, hygiene and wearing of masks. Hybrid hearings have also been introduced and made permissible, in the sense that, one or more

parties may be represented by video-link and one or more other parties may be represented in physical manner or vice versa in a simultaneous manner.

Members of the Juvenile Justice Committee visited the juvenile homes during the Covid-19 pandemic period in order to ensure that proper Covid protocol is maintained in all the Homes. All the JJBs and CCIs were directed by the High Court to have video conferencing facilities.

Four Commercial Courts were inaugurated in July 2019 in the State of West Bengal. Work of two Commercial Courts at Calcutta within the territorial jurisdiction of the City Civil Court at Calcutta is in progress. One Child Friendly Court



Circuit Bench, Port Blair of Calcutta High Court

each at Alipore, South 24 Parganas; Chinsurah, Hooghly; Howrah Sadar and also at Andaman & Nicobar Islands have been inaugurated.

During the period April 2019 to March 2020, 7,611 Legal Literacy Programmes were organized in which 5,10,611 persons were benefited. 9,147 cases were referred to mediation out of which 2,664 cases were settled. During the said period, 27,753 cases were disposed of through Lok Adalat and 1,31,052 cases through National Lok Adalat. 204 victims of acid attack/ POCISO/ trafficking/ rape/ sexual assault etc. were disbursed compensation of Rs. 5,93,80,000/-. During the judicial year, 179 cases were settled in National Lok Adalat organized by the High

Court Legal Services Committee, Calcutta. The High Court Legal Services Committee engaged advocates for High Court matters (including several Jail Appeals) in 260 cases, excluding few more engagements on account of change of advocates. The High Court Legal Services Committee also allotted advocates to 14 litigants, who sought legal aid for Supreme Court matters.

A Seminar was held on 18 July 2019 on "effectiveness of Mediation in India" at Mediation Centre, High Court, Calcutta. On 5-6 August 2019, a Residential Mediation training programme for the Secretaries of the DLSAs was organized. From 15-18 November 2019, a Mediation Awareness cum Workshop programme was organized in

association with FSRI, California, USA & CAMP Bengaluru, Karnataka. From 6-17 January 2020, a one day Pre-litigation Mediation Training for Commercial Disputes was held. On 11 January 2020, a Regional Conference on Mediation was held at Bankura. On 9 February 2020, another Regional Conference on Mediation was held at Burdwan. From 25-27 February 2020, a 20 hours Refresher Course training programme was held at the Mediation Centre, High Court, Calcutta. In 2019, 3,771 cases were settled through mediation in the State of West Bengal.

Technological Accomplishments

CIS 1.0 has been successfully implemented in both the appellate side and original side of the High Court. The existing data from LOBIS (oracle driven system) from old servers have been migrated. The NIC High Court unit, with the aid of High Court developers have developed multiple applications in order to make the CIS more user friendly. Work of integration of the e-pay services with the State Government revenue collection portal (GRIPS) has been done successfully. The defacement facility of e-court fees collected has been tested successfully and the work of e-filing of cases is in the final stage. Out of 275 establishments in the State, 192 establishments have already migrated their data to CIS 3.2 and the courts are uploading the orders and judgments to National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG).

Several softwares have been developed by the developers of the High Court Calcutta. Software for monitoring Drug Disposal has been developed and deployed to take note of real time seizure and disposal of various narcotics substances. Judicial officers and stakeholders viz., Police, DRI, Customs etc. have been trained to use the reporting tool. An improved database to take note of the postings, promotions and other details has been developed. The software has been deployed

and the data is being accessed for various administrative functions. Software has been developed for taking note of various statements pertaining to Fast Track Court. Another software has been developed to keep note of the Agendas, Committee papers and Resolutions and has been named as Agenda Management System (AMS).

During the pandemic situation, High Court handled numerous litigations through Video Conference. Microsoft Teams has been deployed to cater to the needs of video conference. A VCourt module has been developed enabling the lawyers to fill in their details to get link to the video conference prior to the litigation. A module has also been developed to apply for online certified copy and track the progress of issuance of certified copies. Digitization of High Court's record is being carried out at the West Bengal Judicial Academy. Till March 2020, about 71 lakh pages had been scanned and processed.

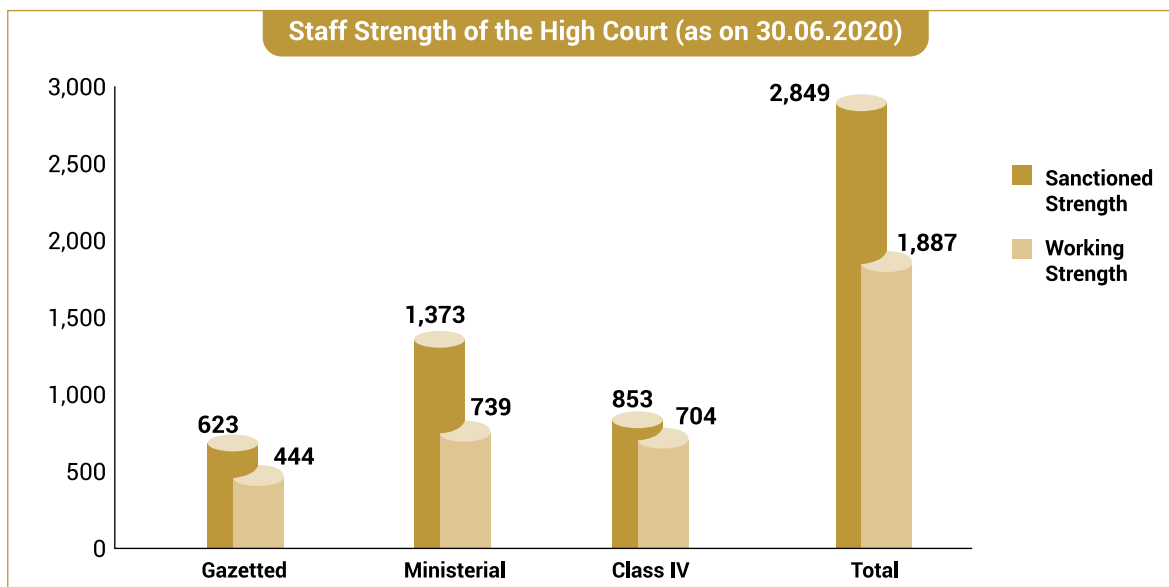
22 district court complexes and 54 sub-divisional court complexes have been equipped with information kiosks through which a litigant and lawyer can check their case status. Installation of kiosks in remaining district and sub-divisional courts is under process. An outdoor electronic display board "Justice Clock" has already been installed and started functioning at the High Court. Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) has been initiated in State of West Bengal. The High Court and all the 25 district courts in the State of West Bengal have started giving the services of eSewa Kendra on temporary basis. Initiative has been taken to set up permanent eSewa Kendra in the High Court as well as district courts.

e-Filing has been tested in the High Court as well as in district courts in the State. Framing of e-Filing Rules is under process. For online payment of court fees through e-Payment

portal of the e-Committee, steps have been taken for integration of e-Payment portal of the e-Committee with GRIPS portal of the Government of West Bengal, a portal for online collection of State revenue. Testing of software for defacement of court fees is being carried out by the NIC authorities of the State. The High Court has also taken initiative for providing Digital Signature Certificates for the judicial officers of the subordinate judiciary. The High Court has procured 805 licenses of Microsoft Teams (video conferencing software) for the judicial officers of subordinate courts for the purpose of hearing of cases through video conferencing.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Plan**	2,11,83,50,000	1,80,15,46,000	2,67,43,06,000
Non-Plan**			
Total	2,11,83,50,000	1,80,15,46,000	2,67,43,06,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]
 **The State Government has done away with Plan-Non Plan classification from the Financial Year 2018-19.

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges **72**

Working Strength of Judges **38**

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest **38**

Highest **41**

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old **94,737**

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
----------	---------------------------	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------

CIVIL

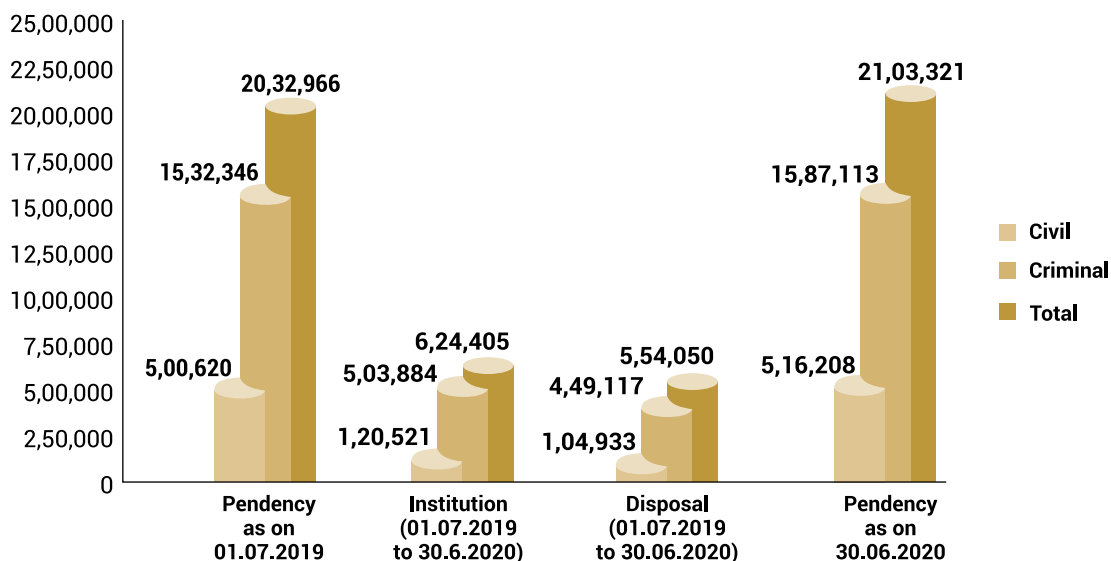
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	82,822	20,457	19,281	83,998
Company Matters	1,058	13	417	654
Contempt (Civil)	33,130	1,334	809	33,655
Review (Civil)	00	233	131	102
Matrimonial Matters	25	4	2	27
Arbitration Matters	1,623	689	846	1,466
Civil Revisions	8,490	3,689	4,698	7,481
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	557	168	571	154
Civil Appeals	53,690	4,050	4,676	53,064
Land Acquisition Matters	00	2	1	1
MACT Matters	00	64	27	37
Civil Suits (Original Side)	3,376	245	218	3,403
Other than above	5,135	1,160	971	5,324

CRIMINAL

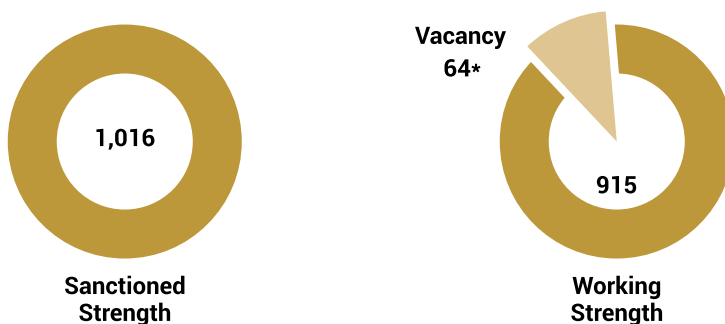
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	00	0	0	0
Criminal Revisions	21,535	4,192	4,549	21,178
Bail Applications	5,288	11,412	11,229	5471
Criminal Appeals	12,270	764	315	12,719
Death Sentence Reference	10	8	2	16
Contempt (Criminal)	91	5	12	84
Misc. Criminal Applications	00	66	41	25
Other than above	00	0	0	0

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

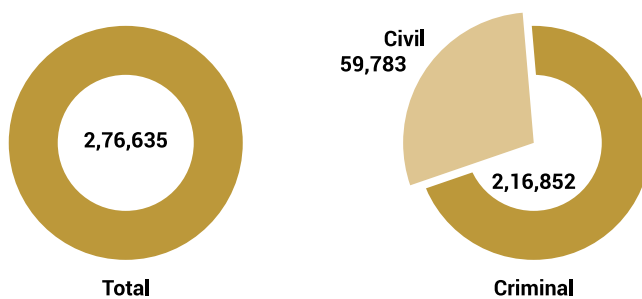


Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



* Vacancy is calculated to be the margin between the accommodating strength (actual number of berths available for posting) and the working strength (actual number of officers as on particular date) in the respective cadres of the WBJS.

Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



5 High Court of **CHHATTISGARH**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Chhattisgarh*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.R. Ramachandra Menon, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Agrawal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Gautam Chourdiya
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manindra Mohan Shrivastava	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajendra Chandra Singh Samant	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Vimla Singh Kapoor
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Goutam Bhaduri	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sharad Kumar Gupta	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Rajani Dubey
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay K Agrawal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arvind Singh Chandel	
Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Sam Koshy	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Parth Prateem Sahu	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The State of Chhattisgarh came into existence on 1 November 2000 by virtue of Madhya Pradesh Re-organization Act, 2000 and the High Court of Chhattisgarh was established having its jurisdiction over the territories of the State of Chhattisgarh with seat at Bilaspur. The new building of High Court of Chhattisgarh is the Asia's largest High Court in terms of area. It is equipped with banking, postal, medical and canteen facilities and having solar power plant installed in the premises to meet its own requirements. In addition to existing 15 court rooms, the construction work of 7 more court rooms with all necessary facilities has commenced in the High Court of Chhattisgarh.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

Keeping in view the Covid-19 pandemic, the High Court premises were sanitized from time to time and functioning of the High Court was conducted through video conferencing with necessary restrictions on physical presence by following all the guidelines issued by the central government

as well as the state government. Sanitization and thermal checking facilities at all the entrances and hand sanitization facilities in all Sections of the High Court were installed. Covid-19 testing of the High Court officers and employees was carried out from time to time.

During the judicial year, three Special Mega Lok Adalats in addition to four National Lok Adalats and 12 continuous Lok Adalats were organized. The 1st Special Mega Lok Adalat held on 20 April 2019 relating to matters under Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, wherein 1,386 cases were disposed of. The 2nd Special Mega Lok Adalat was held on 31 August 2019 in regard to revenue matters wherein 84,685 cases were disposed of. The 3rd Special Mega Lok Adalat held on 16 November 2019 in regard to matters pertaining to Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act and matrimonial disputes, in which 1,022 cases were disposed of. NALSA's Legal Aid Defence Counsel System was established in District Court, Bilaspur on 13 February 2020.

During the judicial year, the Chhattisgarh State Judicial Academy organized various Workshops / Training Programmes for Class-I & Class-II Civil Judges and Members of Higher Judicial Services. During the period April-2019 to March-2020, 78 Trainings/Workshops were organized by the Academy. On 21 September 2019, Sixth Round of State Level Conference on "De-institutionalisation and Working and Functioning of Homes Under Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015" was organized. A State Level Judicial Seminar on "Enhancing Tools & Techniques for Speedy Civil and Criminal Trial" was held on 8 December 2019. Further, a State Level Conference of Judicial Officers was organized on the topic "Challenges before Judiciary in the Twenty-First Century: Fair Trial-Role of a Judge" on 8 March 2020.



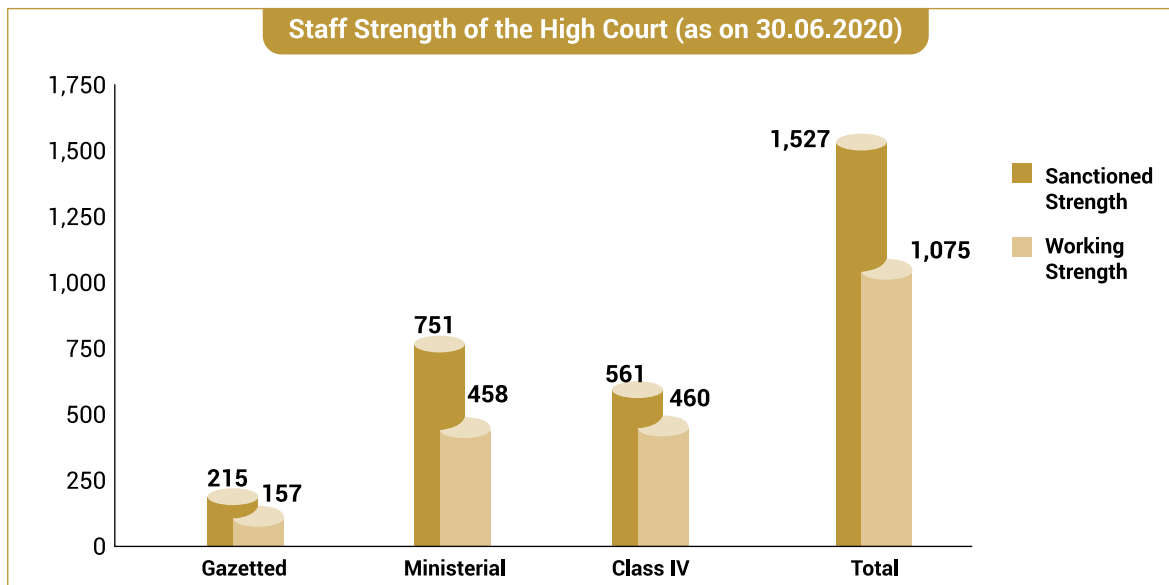
Chief Justice's Court, High Court of Chhattisgarh

Technological Accomplishments

Technical hardware with higher specifications was provided to all the District & Sessions Courts of the State. Local Area Network system, Display Systems were upgraded. New print technology i.e. ink tank printing in place of Laser Printing was adopted. CIS Software was implemented in High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur and all District & Taluka Courts of the State. The data of high court and subordinate courts was migrated in CIS NC 1.0 and 3.2 respectively. Process for implementation of virtual courts has been initiated and District Court Raipur was identified as pilot location. e-Sewa Kendra was established in the High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur and one pilot location of District & Sessions Court, Rajnandgaon by utilizing the existing hardware of the Courts. E-payment facility was implemented at pilot location District & Sessions Court, Raipur. E-filing facilities were started in the High Court of Chhattisgarh and district and sessions courts of the State. Issuance of summons/notices to parties through NSTEP software was initiated in the district and subordinate courts of the State. Process for implementation of ICJS was continued.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	66,05,70,000	81,28,60,000	93,05,60,000
Total	66,05,70,000	81,28,60,000	93,05,60,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	22
Working Strength of Judges	14

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	14
Highest	15

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	4,252
------------------------------	-------

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
----------	---------------------------	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------

CIVIL

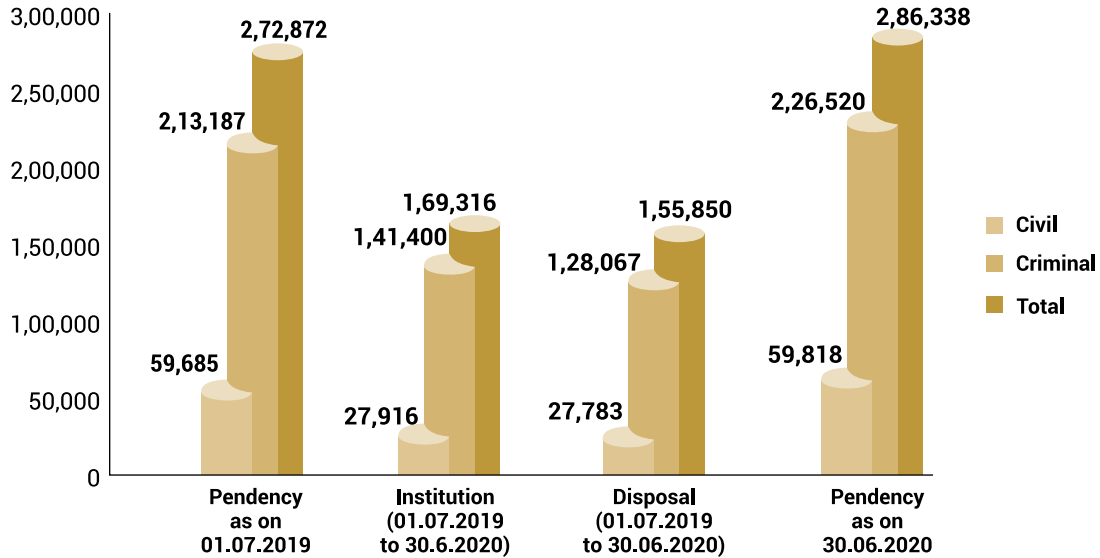
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	18,271	13,492	10,913	20,850
Company Matters	22	0	3	19
Contempt (Civil)	770	1,258	869	1,159
Review (Civil)	161	257	277	141
Matrimonial Matters	703	307	221	789
Arbitration Matters	171	102	47	226
Civil Revisions	247	111	75	283
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	544	230	247	527
Civil Appeals	9,689	1,948	2,309	9,328
Land Acquisition Matters	795	602	356	1,041
MACT Matters	6,769	2,086	734	8,121
Civil Suits (Original Side)	0	0	0	0
Other than above	518	1,046	903	661

CRIMINAL

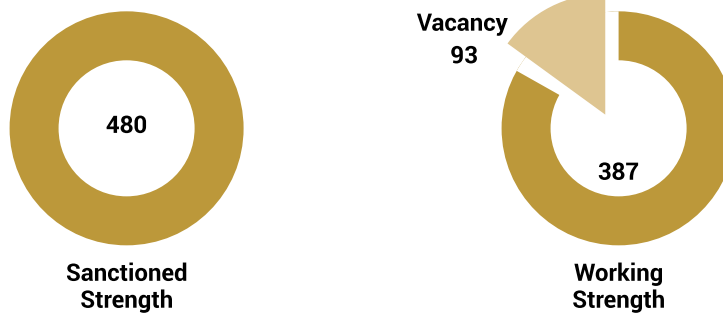
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	1,023	1,168	486	1,705
Criminal Revisions	4,886	1,420	1,169	5,137
Bail Applications	1,145	10,353	9,894	1,604
Criminal Appeals	14,256	1,573	1,295	14,534
Death Sentence Reference	5	0	2	3
Contempt (Criminal)	7	2	2	7
Misc. Criminal Applications	3,017	2,133	1,768	3,382
Other than above	2,293	567	152	2,708

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

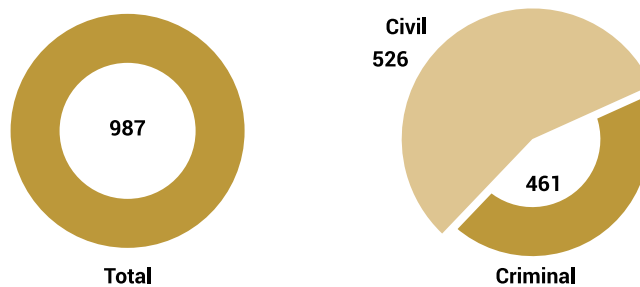
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



6 High Court of **DELHI**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Delhi*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.N.Patel, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Hima Kohli	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Najmussahar Waziri @ Najmi Waziri	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Subramonium Prasad
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vipin Sanghi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Jyoti Singh
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Siddharth Mridul	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vibhu Bakhru	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prateek Jalan
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manmohan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Kameswar Rao	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anup Jairam Bhambhani
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajiv Sahai Endlaw	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Anu Malhotra	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjeev Narula
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jag Jivan Ram Midha	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Yogesh Khanna	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Ohri
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajiv Shakhder	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Rekha Palli	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Talwant Singh
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Suresh Kumar Kait	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Pratibha M. Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajnish Bhatnagar
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Mukta Gupta	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Navin Chawla	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Asha Menon
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jayant Nath	Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Hari Shankar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Brijesh Sethi

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The High Court of Delhi was established on 31 October 1966. It was initially housed in a residential bungalow, then shifted to 'Travancore House', Kasturba Gandhi Marg and thereafter to 'Patiala House' in the vicinity of India Gate. The permanent abode was finally acquired by the High Court when it moved to its own building at Sher Shah Road, which was inaugurated on 25 September 1976. Originally, the High Court had three buildings – one main court building ('A' Block) and two adjacent but integrated administrative blocks. The facade of the main court building ('A' Block) has murals made by Sh. Satish Gujral, the renowned painter, sculptor and muralist. Subsequently, keeping in

view the increased infrastructural requirements, two more buildings were constructed – an 'Extension Block', which became operational in December 2005; and an 'Administrative Block', which became operational in March 2012. A state-of-the-art four-storey building namely 'New Courts Block' was inaugurated on 25 July 2018. Pursuant to resolution passed in the Chief Justices conference held on 20 August 2018, a retired Judges Cell has been formed to provide facilities to retired/former Judges of this Court. The High Court has jurisdiction over the National Capital Territory of Delhi. It is one of the only four High Courts in India with Ordinary Original Civil Jurisdiction. By virtue of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015, Commercial Divisions have also been established at the High Court.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

During the initial outbreak of Covid-19, the High Court permitted filing of urgent matters with application seeking exemption from filing duly affirmed affidavits and court fees and undertaking to do the same immediately upon resumption of regular functioning of court. Subsequently, the High Court enabled filing of non-urgent matters also with effect from 8 May 2020 through a web link. By Notification dated 01 June 2020, High Court of Delhi Rules for Video Conferencing of Courts, were notified for the High Court and District Courts.

To make the High Court premises user-friendly during pandemic, measures were taken by the Delhi High Court with respect to heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) and MEP (Mechanical, electrical and plumbing) points. Carpets were removed from the court rooms and vitrified tiles/wooden flooring laid wherever required. Furniture was re-adjusted in all court-rooms and waiting area seats/benches

were re-arranged in accordance with social distancing. Separate entry and exit were made for each building to ensure one-way movement. Automatic sanitization machines were installed at every entry point. High Volume Low Velocity fans, ceiling, pedestal and wall fans were added, wherever possible. Foot paddle taps were installed in all washrooms. UV devices were purchased for sanitization. Face-shield, sanitizer, gloves were made available for all concerned. Free Covid testing camps and facilities were extended both in the High Court complex as well as the district courts. A permanent additional ambulance has been stationed in the High Court Complex.

During the judicial year, the Delhi Judicial Academy conducted 67 Judicial Education and Training programmes. Induction training of two batches comprising of 157 newly appointed officers of Delhi Judicial Services was one of the achievements of the Academy. An orientation course of the newly promoted officers of the Delhi Higher Judicial Services was conducted by the

academy. An Orientation Programme was also organized by the Judicial Academy for the newly inducted Judges of Assam. Training for principal magistrates of Juvenile Justice Board, Jammu & Kashmir was conducted by the Academy. Experiential Training of Judges of Jammu & Kashmir was organized by the Academy. Even during the Lockdown caused due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, all the programmes were conducted by the Academy through video conferencing on Cisco Webex Platform. Hands-on training for the use of video conferencing platforms was imparted by the Academy to all the judicial officers of district courts.

During the judicial year, out of 287 References, 261 matters were disposed of under the aegis of Delhi International Arbitration Centre (DIAC). For the judicial year, the Delhi High Court Legal Services Committee (DHCLSC) provided legal aid to 1,848 persons, and 330 cases were settled by the Mediators of DHCLSC.

A one day awareness programme for mediators on Samadhan (Delhi High Court Mediation and Conciliation Centre) panel for conducting pre-institution mediation and writing settlement under the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division based on Standard Operating Procedure and new guidelines, was held on 20 July 2019 at India International Centre, New Delhi. An Induction Training Workshop was conducted to train 66 advocate/members of the High Court Bar Association by in-house advocate/mediators, trainers of Samadhan from 31 January to 2 February, 2020 at Manesar, Gurgaon. 1,005 cases along with connected cases were successfully settled out of 1,929 cases referred to Samadhan from various courts/ tribunals. 97 cases were settled out of 364 cases, filed by the parties directly with Samadhan at pre-litigation stage and/or for Conciliation. Two cases were settled

out of 11 cases received from DHCLSC under the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division for pre-institution mediation, since February, 2019.

The State Court Management Systems Committee (SCMSC) has been monitoring the 50 oldest civil and criminal cases (year-wise) pending in Delhi subordinate Courts on weekly basis. Substantial progress has been made in disposal of these cases and 60% of these cases were disposed till 31 December 2019. In compliance of directions of the Committee, e-filing has been implemented across Commercial Courts in all judicial districts for all case types i.e. arbitration, civil suits and other matters of commercial nature with effect from 1 March 2020.

Technological Accomplishments

The Delhi High Court launched its Mobile App (Android & iOS) on 26 September 2019, which is very useful to citizens, litigants and advocates. The total number of e-Courts has increased from 16 to 19. About 80 Lakh pages of pending and decided cases has been scanned and digitized by the High Court. A new judgment uploading software has been developed for uploading judgments. Braille Printer has been installed at Copy Appellate Branch.

After the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic and in order to contain the spread of the virus, the High Court of Delhi started hearing of urgent matters through video conferencing using Cisco Webex technology. With the objective of ensuring smooth e-filing of cases from anywhere, 'Online e-Filing System of Delhi High Court' was e-inaugurated on 13 June 2020. A separate web link has also been developed for the purpose of mentioning of urgent matters and obtaining 'Reference Number' for urgent listing of matters. A dedicated Helpline Number '14611' has been started to ensure quick

resolution of any complaint or query from the advocates/litigants related to Online e-Filing as also video conferencing. 7,83,568 traffic challans were disposed of. 2,19,735 challans/notices pertaining to Notice Branch, Delhi Traffic Police generated against violations captured through Camera/RLVD were disposed of.

A dedicated link was created for mentioning/ listing of urgent matters in th High Court. By this facility, during forenoon session itself, all the urgent matters are duly attended by the Mentioning Officers and the dates of hearings are allocated immediately. The software has inbuilt facility of auto-generated SMS so that information is received by the concerned counsel/party forthwith. Designated counters were created for e-filing in the High Court and the district court complexes with scanning services to facilitate the process for lawyers and litigants. The High Court enhanced access to video-conference hearings by establishing infrastructure to facilitate the same within the court premises for lawyers and litigants. Video conferencing rooms were created in High Court and district courts. The High Court inaugurated a dedicated Online e-Filing Management System on 13 June 2020 for filing in pending and fresh matters.

The district courts also adopted e-filing and video-conference hearings. The filing before the district courts through the e-filing mode, was initially made available only for Family Court and Commercial Court matters. E-filing facility was thereafter extended to all civil courts to enable filing of fresh matters to be heard through video-conferencing mode. All the courts were directed to take up all matters through video conferencing. However, the evidence was directed to be recorded in ex parte and uncontested matters where the same was required to be tendered by way of Affidavit. Regular evidence could also be recorded where there was a direction to that

effect by the Superior Courts

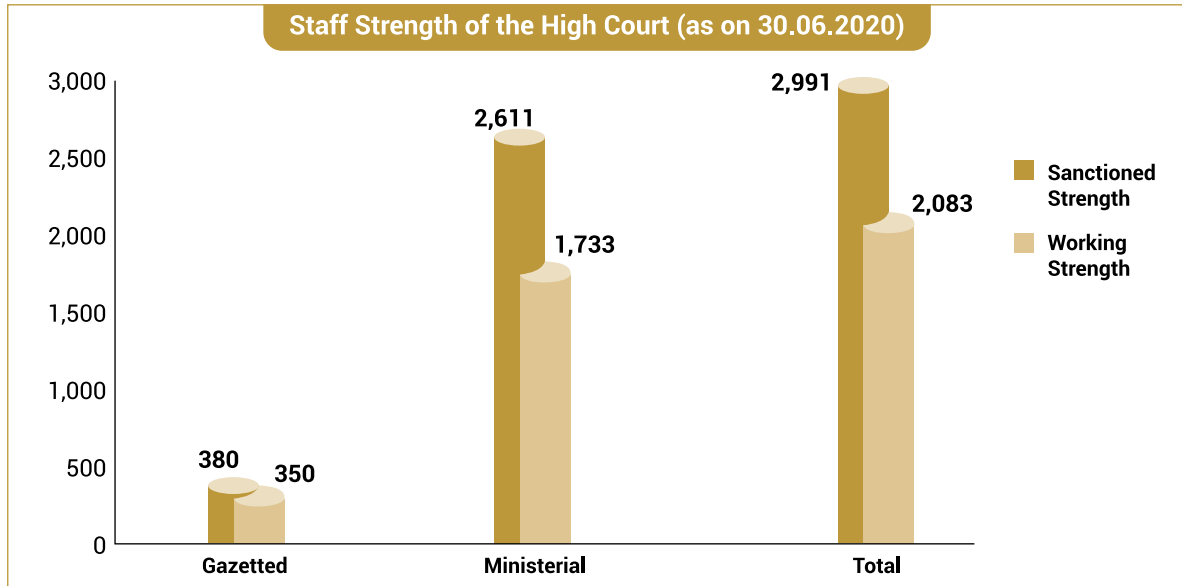
The facilitation counters in almost all the district courts were converted to e-Sewa Kendras (eSKs). The e-Sewa Kendras assist lawyers and litigants to register themselves in the database of the district courts to enable them to access e-filing and other related facilities as per step by step eSK Project Implementation Guidelines issued by e-Committee of Supreme Court. Two virtual courts for dealing with Notice Branch Challans (captured by Speed and Stop Line Violation Cameras) were made operative. Audio-Video recording of the court proceedings was started on pilot basis in one Magisterial Court in Tis Hazari. Item Display Board regarding physical and virtual hearings by the High Court Benches were made operational, which is easily accessible from the website of the High Court. All the Administrative meetings including Full Court/Committee meetings and official functions like retirement references were conducted online. Live-webcast was conducted of the Independence Day function, inauguration of the online filing facility of the High Court, Retirement references and inauguration of the virtual courts. Inaugural function of the Online training module for the advocates regarding CIS was conducted by the eCommittee using CISCO Tele-presence facility located at the High Court, which was also streamed on YouTube. ICJS was made functional in all district courts. NSTEP was made functional in Tis Hazari Courts for Digital Service of Summons.



Chief Justice's Court, High Court of Delhi

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019**	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	2,84,90,17,000	3,21,13,00,000	3,07,00,00,000
Total	2,84,90,17,000	3,21,13,00,000	3,07,00,00,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** Data revised by the High Court

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges **60**

Working Strength of Judges **32**

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest **32**

Highest **40**

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old **9,039**

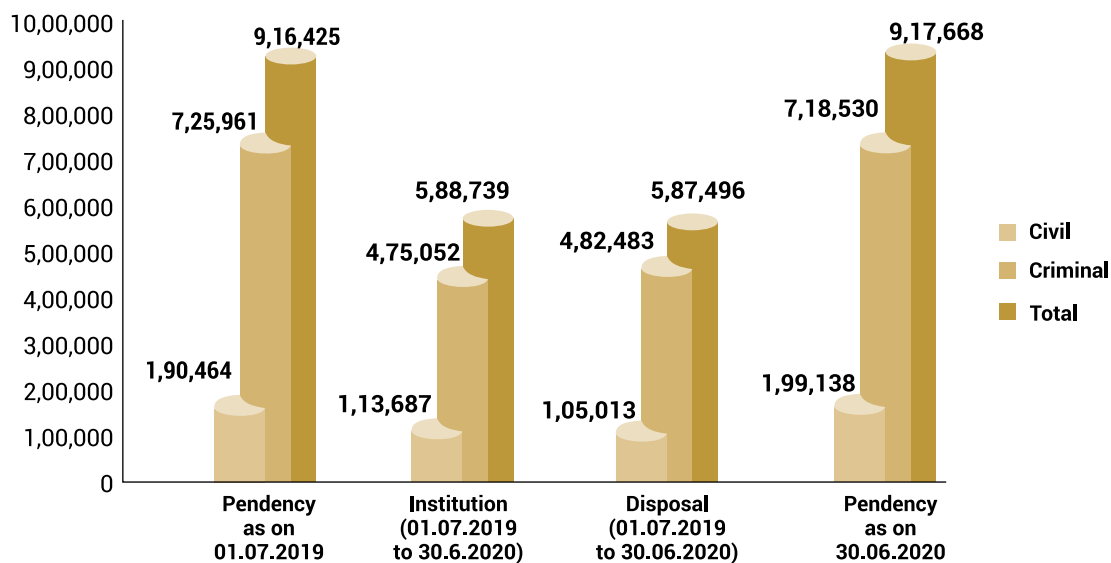
HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

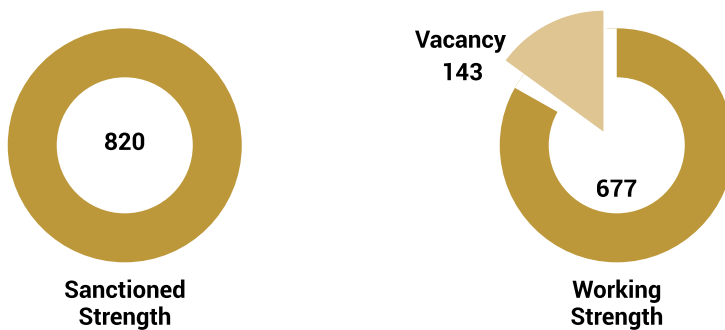
Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	24,272	11,079	9,972	25,379
Company Matters	1,506	35	83	1,458
Contempt (Civil)	1,790	1,007	611	2,186
Review (Civil)	-	-	-	-
Matrimonial Matters	395	268	172	491
Arbitration Matters	2,338	2,749	2,201	2,886
Civil Revisions	1,602	706	682	1,626
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	3,351	749	999	3,101
Civil Appeals	9,569	3,837	3,093	10,313
Land Acquisition Matters	2,255	152	32	2,375
MACT Matters	4,186	503	894	3,795
Civil Suits (Original Side)	5,329	1,169	1,011	5,487
Other than above	1,359	516	502	1,373
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	1,603	2,849	3,124	1,328
Criminal Revisions	2,979	909	715	3,173
Bail Applications	852	3,163	3,077	938
Criminal Appeals	10,110	1,078	536	10,652
Death Sentence Reference	1	0	0	1
Contempt (Criminal)	25	12	14	23
Misc. Criminal Applications	4,429	5,223	4,364	5,288
Other than above	1,438	681	512	1,607

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

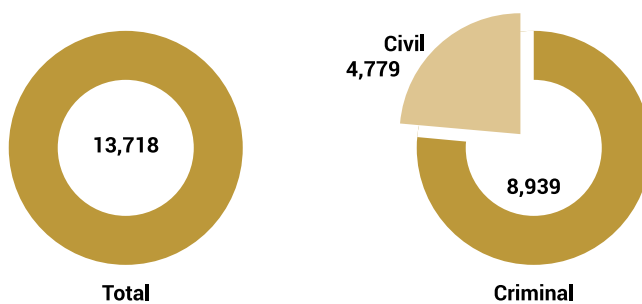
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



7 GAUHATI High Court



Principal Seat at Guwahati

Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the Gauhati High Court*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Acting Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manash Ranjan Pathak	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kalyan Rai Surana	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nani Tagia
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manojit Bhuyan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prasanta Kumar Deka	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manish Choudhury
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Michael Zothankhuma	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nelson Sailo	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Soumitra Saikia
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Suman Shyam	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajit Borthakur	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Parthivjyoti Saikia
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Rumi Kumari Phukan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hitesh Kumar Sarma	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Hukato Swu
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Songkhupchung Serto	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mir Alfaz Ali	
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Achintya Malla Bujur Barua	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kumar Medhi	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The history of the Gauhati High Court dates back to the resolution of the Assam Legislative Assembly as adopted on 9 September 1947, for the then province of Assam. Accordingly, the High Court of Assam (the old nomenclature of the Gauhati High Court) was established on 5 April 1948. The High Court of Assam was originally functioning in the then capital of Assam, i.e., Shillong but was later shifted to Gauhati on 14 August 1948. With the constitution of the State of Nagaland on 1 December 1963, the Assam High Court came to be known as the High Court of Assam and Nagaland. Further, by dint of North Eastern Area (Re-organization) Act, 1971, the jurisdiction of the High Court of Assam and Nagaland increased to five North-Eastern States of Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur, and Tripura as well as to the two Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram. With this expansion of jurisdiction of the Assam High Court, it also got its new name, namely the Gauhati High Court. Later, this High Court got jurisdiction over the seven

North-Eastern States popularly known as seven sisters, after the attainment of statehood by Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram on 20 February 1987. Subsequently, on 23 March 2013, the jurisdiction of the Gauhati High Court got curtailed on establishment of new High Courts in Meghalaya, Manipur, and Tripura. Thus, the ambit of the jurisdiction of the present Gauhati High Court lies with a Permanent Bench in Gauhati and three outlying Benches in Kohima, Aizawl, and Itanagar respectively.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

In order to contain Covid-19, all the Courts falling within the jurisdiction of the Gauhati High Court, maintained 'Restricted Court Functioning' with 'Staggered Roster'. In the Principal Seat at Gauhati High Court, only cases of utmost urgent nature were taken up in the court rooms equipped with video conferencing facilities. In the High Court complex, separate facility was arranged for

the advocates to make their submission while the Judges sat at remote locations.

Applications "VidyoMobile" (for mobile phone user) and "VidyoDesktop" (for desktop or laptop user) were made available to advocates for availing the facility of video conferencing. To check the restricted entry in the court premises, officers and staff of the Registry were deputed to attend the gate duty. A 'Supervisory Team' was



Old High Court Building at Guwahati



Itanagar Bench of the Gauhati High Court

also constituted to monitor the gate duties. The bar rooms and canteens in all the court premises remained closed to avoid mass gatherings. Accumulation of persons in court rooms, corridors and court complexes was regularly monitored and restricted and unnecessary movement of staff was strictly avoided. Chewing of tobacco, gutkha, paan and spitting was strictly prohibited in the court premises. To prevent the spread of Covid-19 pandemic, Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) were conducted in the high court premises. Further, the Registry staff was asked to attend their duties as per roster arrangement following the social distancing norms. Wearing of mask and use of hand sanitizers was made mandatory. Glass cabins were also installed by the Registry in some Sections for restricting direct contact between individuals.

On 26 November 2019, a programme was organized by Assam State Legal Services Authority (ASLSA) in collaboration with Don

Bosco Institute, Kharghuli on occasion of the Constitution Day. On 27 December 2019, an interactive session by Justice Hrishikesh Roy, the then Chief Justice, High Court of Kerala and now Judge, Supreme Court of India, with the trainee Judicial Officers of Assam and Nagaland Judicial Service was held at the Judicial Academy, Assam. On 25 November 2019, a Legal Aid Clinic at BRM Law College, Guwahati was inaugurated. A Legal Awareness Programme was held at Mangaldai on 4 January 2020. The programme was organized by the ASLSA and the District Legal Services Authority, Darrang. On 4-5 January, 2020, the Judicial Academy, Assam, organized a Skill Development Programme on Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act and Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act. The programme had the participation of the Grade-I Judicial Officers of Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, and Arunachal Pradesh. A 40-hour Mediation Training Programme, 2020(Second Batch), was held from 7-11 February, 2020 at



Kohima Bench of the Gauhati High Court

Don Bosco Institute, Kharghuli. The programme was organized by the ASLSA under the aegis of Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC), Supreme Court of India.

An Awareness Programme against witchcraft belief and superstition and child marriage was held at Lakhipur, Goalpara on 12 November 2019. The Programme was jointly organized by the District Legal Services Authority, Goalpara, the Assam Police, Goalpara, the Mission Birubala, Goalpara and the Law College, Goalpara.

On 14-15 and 28-29 February 2020, the Judicial Academy, Assam, organized a Skill Development Training for Deputy Superintendent of Police in-charge of Special Juvenile Police Unit. On 19-20 February 2020, the Judicial Academy, Assam organized a Skill Development Programme for the staff of subordinate courts of Assam. The Judicial Academy, Assam also introduced an innovative Skill Development Training Programme for Investigating Officers of Assam

Police from 24 February to 21 March 2020. The Judicial Academy, Assam and NEJOTI in collaboration with Administrative Training Institute (ATI), Naharlagun organized a Judicial Knowledge Enhancement Programme on 2-3 November 2019 at ATI, Naharlagun. The Grade-II and Grade-III Judicial Officers of Arunachal Pradesh Judicial Service participated in the programme. On 9-10 November 2019, the Judicial Academy, Assam and NEJOTI, organized a Judicial Knowledge Enhancement Programme at the Judicial Academy, Assam. The programme had the participation of the Grade-III Judicial Officers of Assam Judicial Service.

To ensure continued and uninterrupted training for the officers undergoing Induction Training in the Academy during the challenging lockdown scenario in the country, due to threat of Covid-19 pandemic, continuous online (Institutional) training was undertaken for the newly recruited judicial officers of Assam Judicial Service and



Aizawl Bench of the Gauhati High Court

Arunachal Pradesh Judicial Service as part of Induction Training, which began as early April, 2020.

The Judicial Academy, Assam implemented an innovative project of preparing “templates” of important judgments of the Supreme Court of India and circulating the same amongst all the Judicial Officers. The prepared templates along with PDF file of the judgment are sent to the Judicial Officers on their personal mails. The Judicial Academy, Assam, also adopted a “Go Green” initiative by procuring eco-friendly plantable pen made of bio-degradable substances like recycled newspaper, hardboard for use in various Training Programmes. An innovative payment mechanism for purchase of fuel through HPCL Drive Track Plus prepaid card was adopted by the Judicial Academy, Assam, for efficient fuel management and greater control

over fuel consumption envisaged for use in official bus for commuting of trainee Judicial Officers during induction training.

On 29 November 2019, the Court of Sub-divisional Judicial Magistrate (M) and Munsiff-cum-Judicial Magistrate First Class, at Naharkatia, Dibrugarh (Assam) was inaugurated. On 23 January 2020, the Family Court Complex, Kamrup (Metro) was inaugurated at the erstwhile NEJOTI Building Ulubari, Guwahati, Assam. On 7 February 2020, the Family Court Building, at Barpeta was inaugurated. The Court of Additional District & Sessions Judge, Nalbari, started functioning from 27 March 2020. On 27 April 2020, the Court of Munsiff at Bilasipara was inaugurated.

On 4 March 2020, a short film of half an hour duration titled “Ghore Ghore e-Courts” was released by the Chief Justice of the High Court.

The purpose of the production made in Assamese with English sub-titles was to popularize and publicize the utility of the e-Court Services among the masses and legal practitioners.

At the initiative of the Gauhati High Court, the Court Fees Act was amended by means of 'the Court Fees (Assam Amendment) Act, 2020' to provide the mode and procedure for payment and receipt of e-Court fees by Courts. "Gauhati High Court Rules for Video Conferencing of Courts" was also framed and notified for functioning of Courts through Video Conferencing in the High Court and District Courts. On 27 August 2020, the Gauhati High Court notified "the Gauhati High Court Electronic Filing (e-Filing) Rules, 2020" which contains modes and methods of e-filing.

Technological Accomplishments

Video conferencing between District Courts and Jails was started in the State of Assam. All the 31 Jails of Assam are connected to the District Courts via the Assam Judicial Network. Solar energy panels are already installed in 12 District Courts of Assam and installation work is in process in 54 court complexes. These solar energy panels help in backing up the network/server rooms. Installation of Solar energy panels is also underway in some court complexes of Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh. The work is being carried out under the Phase-II of the e-Courts Project.

In all the Courts under the jurisdiction of Gauhati High Court, the court rooms are connected to the Judges' Chambers with 'Jitsi' video conferencing application over Local Area Network (LAN). Jitsi is used for seamless streaming of video and audio without consumption of internet. Counsels, who do not wish to come to the VC Studios of the court complex for conducting cases through virtual means, have the option of using Vidyo

Desktop / Mobile or Google Meet, which are the notified platforms for holding Virtual Courts remotely.

The Judicial Academy, Assam purchased through e-tendering, laptops and printers and distributed them amongst the newly recruited Grade-I and III Judicial Officers of Assam Judicial Service (85 each) under direction of Gauhati High Court. 100 Dragon Voice speech recognition software were procured and distributed amongst the newly recruited Judicial Officers of Assam Judicial Service. The premises of Academic Building of Judicial Academy has been converted into Wi-Fi campus Zone.

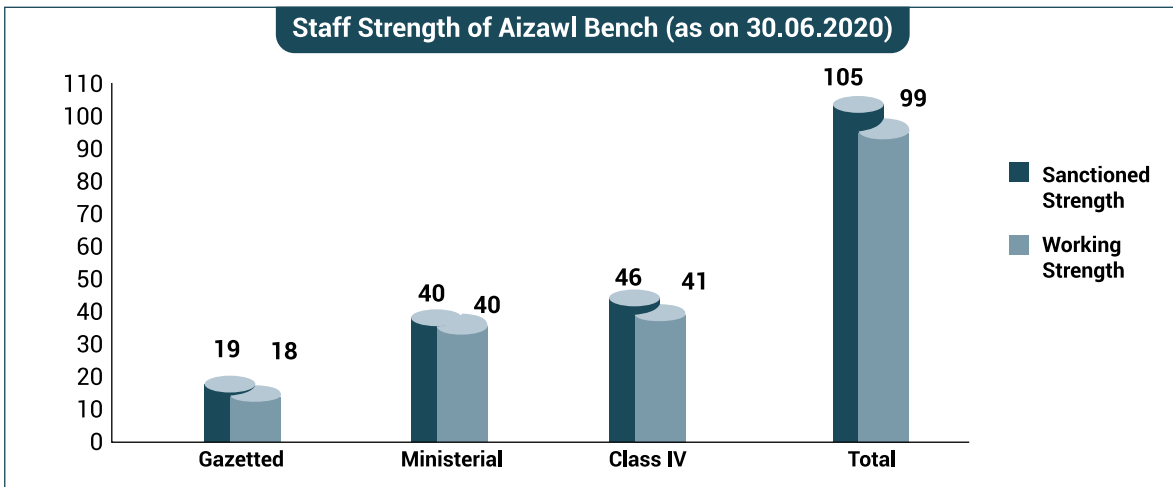
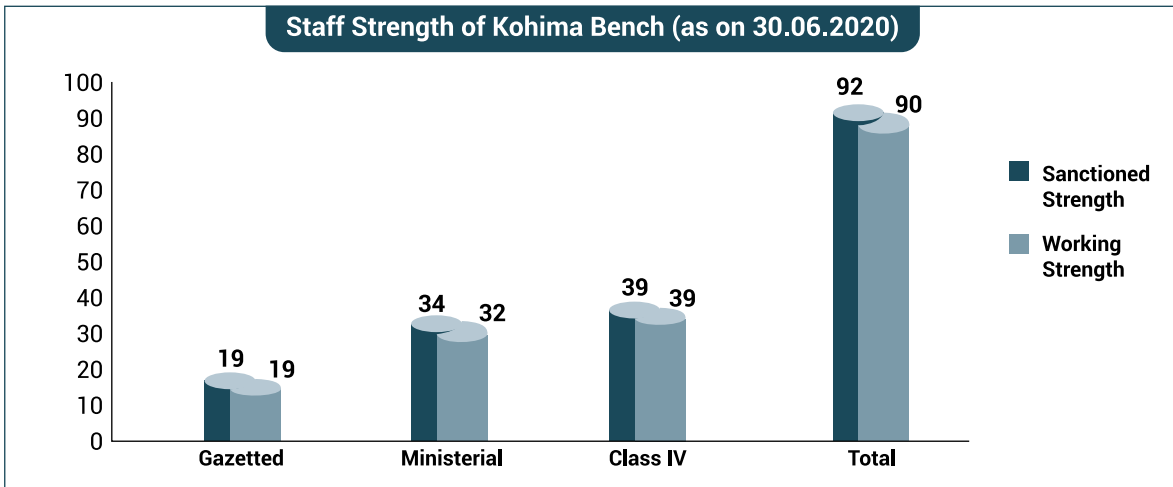
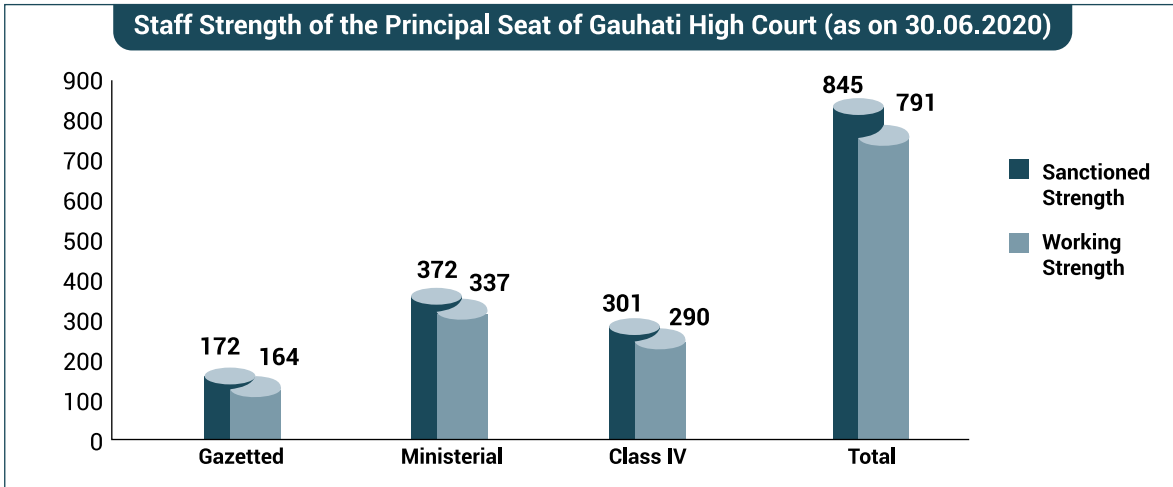
CIS NC 3.0 has been upgraded to CIS NC 3.2 in all the District and Sub-divisional Courts of Assam. KIOSKs are provided in all the court complexes for dissemination of case information to the public, litigants, and advocates. The data is also replicated from the court complexes to National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG). Data of all the 27 Judicial District Courts comprising of 185 establishments and 463 courts is available at the NJDG. Automated SMS and e-mail services are also made functional for information dissemination. For the State of Mizoram, data of two Judicial District Courts comprising of eight establishments and 27 courts are available at the NJDG. Similarly, for the State of Nagaland, data of one Judicial District Court comprising of six establishments and six Courts are available at the NJDG.

CIS NC 1.0 is implemented in the High Court, Principal Seat. The data are also replicated to NJDG, to enable the public, litigants, and advocates to avail the services from www.ecourts.gov.in. KIOSKs are provided in the court premises for dissemination of case information to the public, litigants, and advocates. Periphery modules viz. consolidated cause-list, various reports, case

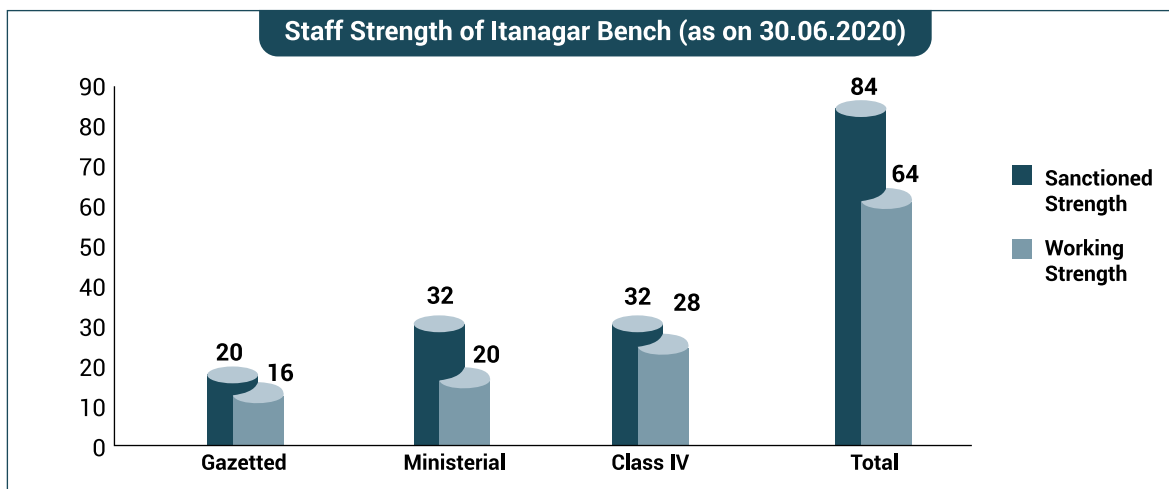
tracker, etc. developed by the Gauhati High Court are also integrated with the CIS NIC 1.0 for usage. CIS NC 1.0 is also implemented at the Kohima Bench, Aizawl Bench, and Itanagar Bench of Gauhati High Court and the Data of the Benches is also available at NJDG. Digitization of case records of Gauhati High Court, Principal Seat, and District Courts of Assam is in progress.

The High Court Registry successfully implemented the File Tracking System for all its Judicial Sections including court rooms. In the Gauhati High Court, paperless court was implemented as a pilot project in one of the court. A new website is being developed for the High Court which would have features like screen reader access, text to speech conversion, etc. to make the contents of the site easily accessible to visually challenged lawyers / litigant / public.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS



HIGH COURT STATISTICS



Budget of the Principal Seat of Gauhati High Court*

	2018-2019**	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	67,56,87,000	76,33,06,000	79,24,16,000
Total	67,56,87,000	76,33,06,000	79,24,16,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]
** Data revised by the High Court

Budget of the Kohima Bench*

	2018-2019	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	7,83,81,000	9,01,83,000	6,85,85,000
Total	7,83,81,000	9,01,83,000	6,85,85,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]
** Data revised by the High Court

Budget of the Aizawl Bench*

	2018-2019**	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	12,48,43,000	10,34,23,000	10,61,22,000
Total	12,48,43,000	10,34,23,000	10,61,22,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]
** Data revised by the High Court

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Budget of the Itanagar Bench*			
	2018-2019	2019-2020**	2020-2021#
Plan	–	–	–
Non-Plan	5,37,00,000	8,22,06,000	45,00,000
Total	5,37,00,000	8,22,06,000	45,00,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]
 ** Data revised by the High Court
 # (Fund released till 03.09.2020)

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases	
Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)	
Sanctioned Strength of Judges	24
Working Strength of Judges	21
Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)	
Lowest	18
Highest	21
Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)	
Cases more than 10 years old	340

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency of the Principal Seat of Gauhati High Court

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	16,872	7,793	5,690	18,975
Company Matters	21	02	02	21
Contempt (Civil)	968	685	378	1,275
Review (Civil)	150	185	114	221
Matrimonial Matters	82	55	55	82
Arbitration Matters	16	46	38	24
Civil Revisions	1,148	477	438	1,187
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	54	09	13	50
Civil Appeals	3,458	592	278	3,772
Land Acquisition Matters	137	07	08	136
MACT Matters	2,486	571	264	2,793
Civil Suits (Original Side)	-	-	-	-
Other than above*	5,685	5,068	4,130	6,623
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	25	21	08	38
Criminal Revisions	1,828	419	237	2,010
Bail Applications	511	7,733	8,113	131
Criminal Appeals	2,290	494	294	2,490
Death Sentence Reference	07	3	01	09
Contempt (Criminal)	02	01	01	02
Misc. Criminal Applications	766	1,014	839	941
Other than above	2,191	1,152	775	2,568

* 'Other than above' include Civil Misc. Cases

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency of the Kohima Bench

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	233	256	216	273
Company Matters	0	0	0	0
Contempt (Civil)	34	30	44	20
Review (Civil)	02	07	06	03
Matrimonial Matters	0	0	0	0
Arbitration Matters	01	0	0	01
Civil Revisions	04	11	06	09
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	0	0	0	0
Civil Appeals	15	12	11	16
Land Acquisition Matters	0	0	0	0
MACT Matters	22	14	18	18
Civil Suits (Original Side)	0	0	0	0
Other than above	124	275	186	213
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	02	06	07	01
Criminal Revisions	05	17	13	09
Bail Applications	01	21	18	04
Criminal Appeals	12	13	03	22
Death Sentence Reference	0	0	0	0
Contempt (Criminal)	03	0	01	02
Misc. Criminal Applications	06	19	12	13
Other than above*	27	09	08	28

* Opening balance modified by the High Court

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency of the Aizawl Bench

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	158	155	124	189
Company Matters	0	0	0	0
Contempt (Civil)	20	37	13	44
Review (Civil)	05	05	10	0
Matrimonial Matters	0	0	0	0
Arbitration Matters	02	05	05	02
Civil Revisions	05	13	08	10
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	0	0	0	0
Civil Appeals	75	46	27	94
Land Acquisition Matters	03	08	02	09
MACT Matters	31	06	20	17
Civil Suits (Original Side)	0	0	0	0
Other than above	67	124	114	77
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	0	02	0	02
Criminal Revisions	05	08	4	09
Bail Applications	1	17	14	04
Criminal Appeals	59	30	23	66
Death Sentence Reference	0	0	0	0
Contempt (Criminal)	0	0	0	0
Misc. Criminal Applications	13	12	22	03
Other than above	01	03	02	02

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

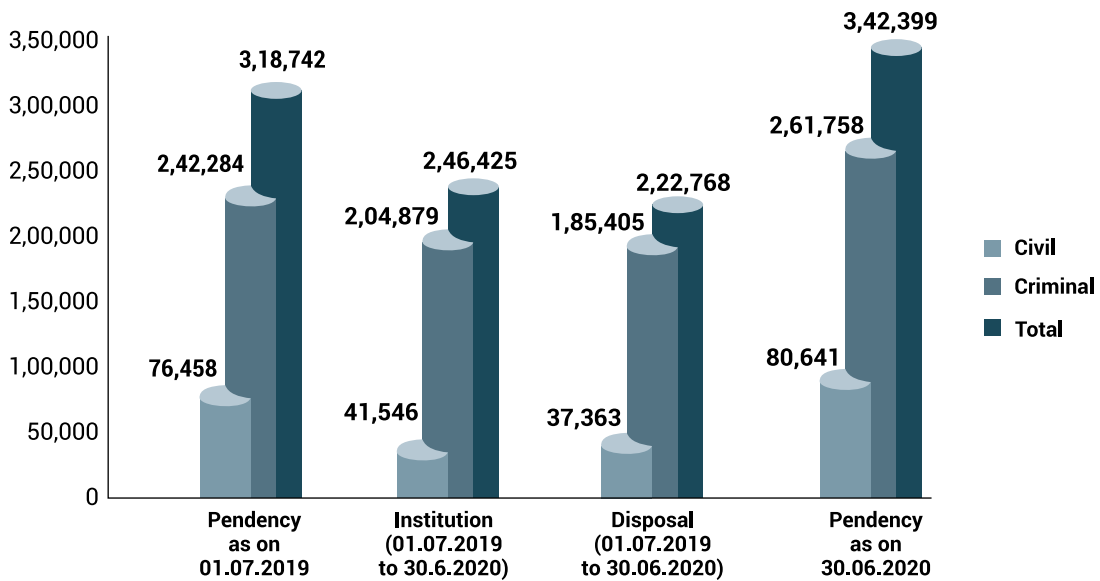
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of the Itanagar Bench

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	700	234	216	718
Company Matters	0	0	0	0
Contempt (Civil)	84	40	44	80
Review (Civil)*	11	04	6	09
Matrimonial Matters	01	0	0	1
Arbitration Matters	03	01	0	04
Civil Revisions	84	09	06	87
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	0	0	0	0
Civil Appeals*	56	22	11	67
Land Acquisition Matters	01	0	0	01
MACT Matters	35	02	18	19
Civil Suits (Original Side)	0	0	0	0
Other than above*	265	147	186	226
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	12	02	11	03
Criminal Revisions	29	14	13	30
Bail Applications	12	23	18	17
Criminal Appeals*	57	15	03	69
Death Sentence Reference	0	0	0	0
Contempt (Criminal)	01	0	0	01
Misc. Criminal Applications*	28	15	12	31
Other than above*	94	0	24	70

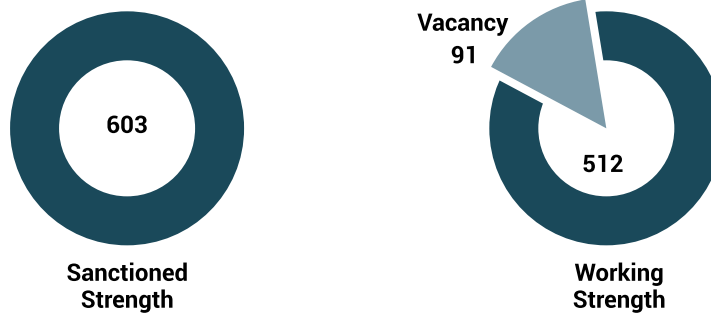
* Opening balance modified

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

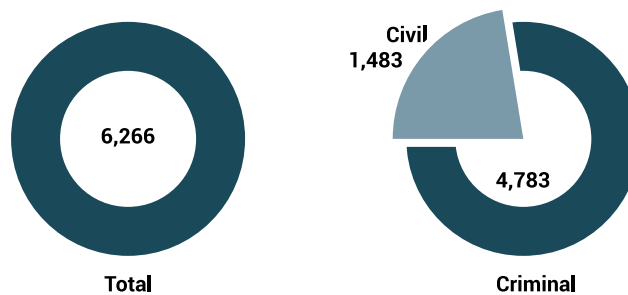
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



8 High Court of **GUJARAT**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Gujarat*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikram Nath, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rashmin M. Chhaya	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.P. Dholaria	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bhargav Dhirenbhai Karia
Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.B. Pardiwala	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vipul Manubhai Pancholi	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Sangeeta Kamalsingh Vishen
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Bela M. Trivedi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashutosh Jayantilal Shastri	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ilesh Jashvantrai Vora
Hon'ble Ms. Justice S.G. Gokani	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Biren Aniruddh Vaishnav	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Gita Gopi
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashish J. Desai	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alpesh Yeshvant Kogje	Hon'ble Dr. Justice Ashokkumar Chimanlal Joshi
Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.V. Anjaria	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arvindsingh Ishwarsingh Supehia	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajendra Meghraj Sareen
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Paresh R. Upadhyay	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Karia	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Vaibhavi Devang Nanavati
Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.H. Vora	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Umesh Amritlal Trivedi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nirzarkumar Sushilkumar Desai
Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.R. Udhvani	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajaykumar Chandulal Rao	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nikhil Shreedharan Kariel
Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.G. Uraizee	Hon'ble Dr. Justice Ashutosh P. Thaker	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The High Court for the State of Gujarat was established on 1 May 1960 under the Bombay Re-organization Act, 1960 after the bifurcation of the erstwhile State of Bombay into two States, Maharashtra and Gujarat. The new High Court building became accessible for judicial proceedings on 16 January 1999 at Sola, on SG Highway, Ahmedabad. It comprises of Main Court building and Judges Facility building. An additional building was constructed in the complex, which got completed in 2015. The complex now houses 41 court rooms, centrally air-conditioned Administrative building, Record Room building, Judges Library, Chief Justice Lounge, three common rooms, and Government Pleader's Office. Apart from the customary framework, the court complex also accommodates a dedicated Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Centre, facilities for Permanent Lok Adalat, and Free Legal Aid.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

Keeping in view the threat of Covid-19, the High Court issued various directions relating to safety measures such as regular distribution of masks and sanitizers. All subordinate courts were also instructed to take safety measures for the judicial officers and staff working in the respective courts. The High Court passed directions that urgent work in all courts within the State would be carried out with minimum staff and judicial proceedings through video conferencing only. The High Court directed to constitute a dedicated team comprising of senior judicial officers and senior ministerial staff in each district court complex for taking stock of the situation on a day-to-day basis and to take appropriate remedial steps to combat the Covid-19. Regular Rapid Antigen Tests were carried out for all the members of the High Court Registry, and subordinate courts were also instructed to carry out the same.

During the judicial year, four National Lok Adalats were held under the auspices of the High Court Legal Services Committee (HCLSC), wherein 218 cases were disposed off and compensation of Rs. 7 crores was awarded to 3,437 claimants/beneficiaries. The HCLSC received 2,249 applications, and legal assistance was made available in 1,623 applications. The Gujarat State Legal Services Authority (GSLSA) organized 7,074 continuous Lok Adalats wherein 11,734 cases were disposed of while 1,90,129 cases were disposed of in the National Lok Adalats. By holding Special Sittings of the Magistrates on the day of National Lok Adalats 2,29,390 cases were disposed of. 51 matters were settled in Permanent Lok Adalats functioning in Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara and Rajkot District. 963 matters were pending before ADR/Mediation Centre in the entire State and 5,296 matters were

referred to these ADR/Mediation Centres, out of which 512 matters were settled. Under the Victim Compensation Scheme, compensation of Rs. 8,53,08,836/- was paid to the victims in the various districts of the State of Gujarat. 7,350 Legal Literacy Camps were held in the different parts of the State to create awareness in the public which benefited 14,92,879 persons. On 12 August 2019, a new building of the Gujarat State Legal Service Authority was inaugurated. Mega Legal Awareness on NALSA Schemes was organized under the aegis of the Gujarat State Legal Service Authority.

The Gujarat State Judicial Academy imparted induction, orientation, and in-service training to 1,456 judicial officers, 1,327 advocates at District Head Quarters which includes the e-legal workshops conducted for 1,247 advocates, members of High Court and subordinate judiciary staff, and 898 executive magistrates and deputy mamlatdars.

In order to observe social distancing in true perception, the Gujarat State Judicial Academy conducted Web-Training for 47 newly appointed civil judges of the 2019 Batch during April-June 2020, instead of the physical mode.

On 1 May 2020, a Virtual Full Court Reference was held to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the High Court of Gujarat. This was live-streamed via YouTube with a view to have an active participation of all concerned. In all administrative works of the Registry of the High Court as well as the District Judiciary, double sided printing has been implemented.

10 new courts have been established under the supervision of the High Court of Gujarat including nine Additional District Judge Courts and one Senior Civil Judge Court. Sanction

has been accorded to establish 35 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) (24 Courts for POSCO Act Cases and 11 Courts for Rape Cases along with POSCO Act cases) in 12 different Districts of the State along with temporary posts of Judges and attendant staff initially for a period of one year.

In the Judicial Year, 29 Special Centres for Vulnerable Witnesses were set up in 28 various District Courts of the State of Gujarat including the establishment of City Civil Court, Ahmedabad.

Technological Accomplishments

A centre or a control room known as War Room has been established in High Court to facilitate instant statistics with ready to use analysis as an advanced MIS (Management Information System) and to cater to the needs of Higher Management Authorities as a Decision Support System (DSS). The war room is equipped with 5 large display monitors with thin client computers, LED projector and video conferencing setup with access to live streaming of the footage of CCTV network of the lower courts. The war room network is connected to the DJDG (District Judicial Data Grid) server updated daily and the High Court CIS server updated on real-time basis. While four of the screens are devoted for judicial statistics i.e. two each for subordinate courts and the High Court; one screen is used mainly for administrative data of infrastructure, finance, human resources etc. of the judiciary in the State. The sixth screen is setup for observing the footage of the CCTV network of the subordinate courts.

A Prisoner Information Module (PIM) in GUJLAM [Gujarat Legal Aid Management] Software has been launched. This module is integrated with two other servers i.e. District Judicial Data Grid (DJDG) server setup by the High Court of Gujarat and also the server of High Court Case

Information System. Thereby, the GUJLAM software has the benefit of integrated data of District Judiciary as well as the High Court at the same time. Conjointly from these servers, the GUJLAM software fetches the details of Under Trial Prisoners (UTP)/convicted prisoner cases of the district judiciary and then allows the jails to update the family details of the prisoner/accused of the said cases.

E-book type bookmarked PDF daily causelist is automatically transmitted to Judges' Community Portal and on Judges' Calendar every evening showing day wise case work load of upcoming four months. Notification of the matters disposed of on a particular day are auto transmitted to Judges at 7 pm on each working day so as to ensure complete and correct disposal updation by the Court Masters concerned. New functionality of online time-table and faculty updation and online feedback submission in the portal of Gujarat State Judicial Academy (GSJA) with next day time-table are auto-sent on email to participants.

Lower court case status and order/judgment access for High Court is enabled in the Registry from case status periphery software of the High Court helping the Registry officers and Judges to see on the system itself the order(s) passed in the lower court matter. Every month, emails are automatically sent to Judges, all officers and staff of the High Court Registry with PDF pay-slip with added information of TDS and EPF deduction.

All judicial officers of the State are mailed 100 oldest matters every week to emphasize the disposal of oldest cases on priority. Monthly Ranking Report of the court establishment of the State is done based on the proportion of 10 year old cases in the overall disposal of cases done by the court establishment taking into account the disposal per judicial officer serving in the



Chief Justice's Court, High Court of Gujarat

particular court establishment.

Online Mentioning Platform has been implemented for advocates to move before the court in case of urgency in the matter.

All the matters are taken up through Video Conferencing application Zoom Cloud Meeting and the links to join the hearings are sent through a specially developed VC Hearing SMS Link software, integrated with causelist for the day for the particular Bench. With the IT Cell of the High Court, mobile numbers of 5,196 advocates and email addresses of 4,289 advocates have been registered. The mobile numbers of registered advocates whose matters are listed on the day, are automatically fetched by this software from the database and the VC joining link as may be entered from the respective residence of the Judge presiding the Bench, are automatically sent through SMS to all the advocates of the particular matter.

The Chief Justice court has been using another useful feature of the video conferencing software called the Breakout Rooms wherein all the advocates are invited to join a common open Waiting Room at the commencement of the hearing for the day, from where they are shifted

to the Virtual Court as and when their matters are taken up. Till then, the advocates have the facility to interact with each other in the common open waiting area with their audio and videos connected.

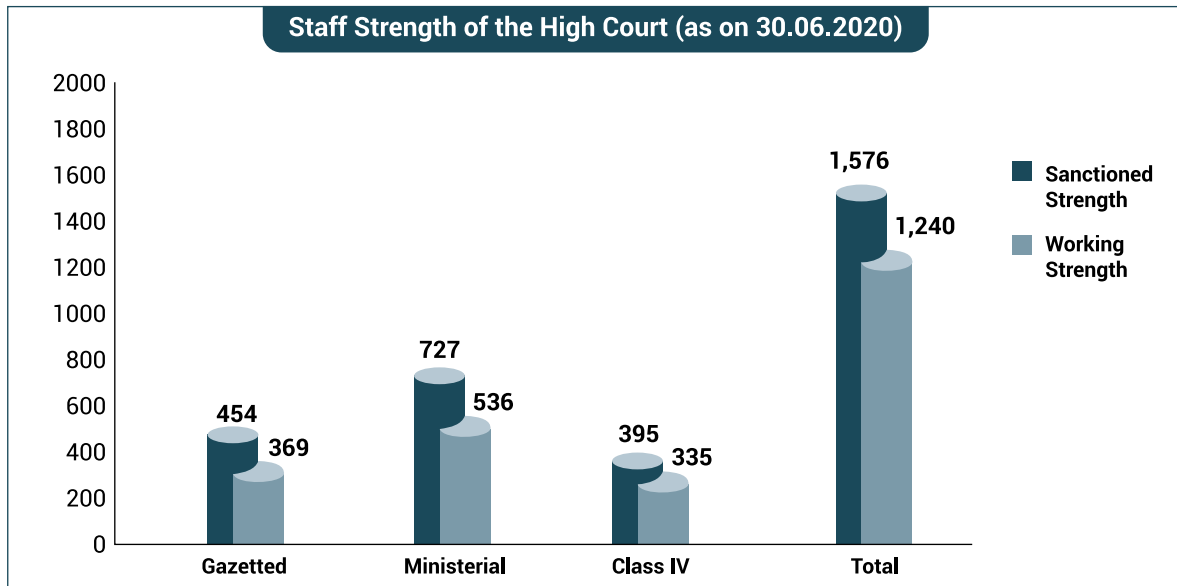
The software developed for the VC Hearing SMS Link also has a feature of sending the VC joining link to the GP and AGPs in the civil matters and the PP and APPs in the criminal matters. The mobile numbers of the AGPs and APPs deputed to the particular court, are updated in the software which facilitate automatic transmission of the VC link to the respective AGP and the APPs, facilitating their prompt joining in the VC hearing.

The VC Hearing SMS link software is also integrated with online display board of the high court website. The moment SMS for a particular matter is sent from the residence of the Judge of a particular Bench, the serial number of the case as per the causelist is displayed on the online display board of the website.

The Court Masters have been trained to assist the courts in handing the Zoom VC application and the VC Hearing SMS Link software of the High Court.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Plan**	2,60,40,21,000	1,94,48,46,000	1,82,95,96,000
Non-Plan**			
Total	2,60,40,21,000	1,94,48,46,000	1,82,95,96,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]
** Consolidated figures

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	52
Working Strength of Judges	27

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	26
Highest	30

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	12,707
------------------------------	--------

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
----------	---------------------------	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------

CIVIL

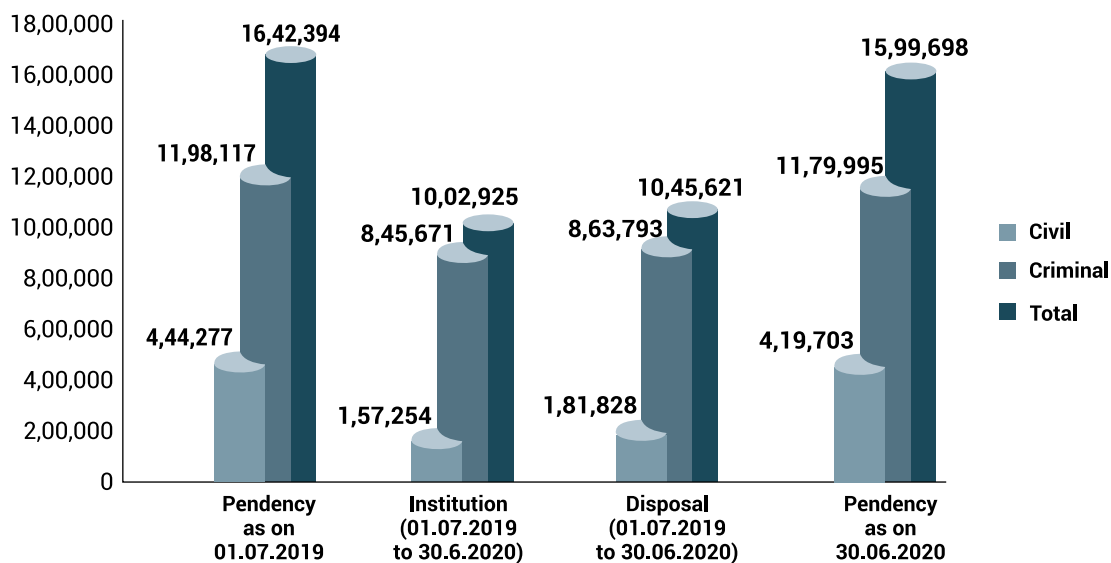
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	42,661	18,462	15,050	46,073
Company Matters	318	01	15	304
Contempt (Civil)	364	745	292	817
Review (Civil)	03	0	0	03
Matrimonial Matters	396	200	55	541
Arbitration Matters	437	156	145	448
Civil Revisions	1,841	387	216	2,012
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	5,343	1,815	1,793	5,365
Civil Appeals	10,105	2,275	1,679	10,701
Land Acquisition Matters	6,639	1,757	741	7,655
MACT Matters	12,966	2,368	768	14,566
Civil Suits (Original Side)	149	42	39	152
Other than above	1,978	5,524	3,638	3,864

CRIMINAL

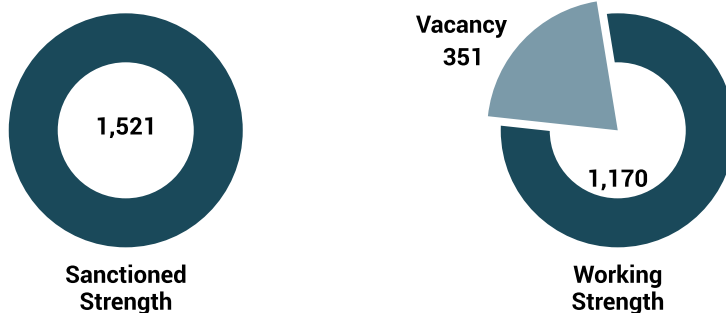
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	7,010	6,707	6,845	6,872
Criminal Revisions	4,339	1,457	625	5,171
Bail Applications	2,465	14,086	14,833	1,718
Criminal Appeals	17,827	1,885	1,311	18,401
Death Sentence Reference	03	03	03	03
Contempt (Criminal)	34	27	04	57
Misc. Criminal Applications	8,348	6,646	5,481	9,513
Other than above	149	73	160	62

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

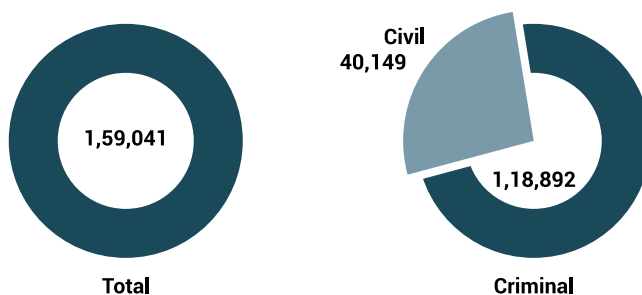
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



9 High Court of **HIMACHAL PRADESH**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Himachal Pradesh*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice L. Narayana Swamy, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tarlok Singh Chauhan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajay Mohan Goel	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anoop Chitkara
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sureshwar Thakur	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sandeep Sharma	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Jyotsna Rewal Dua
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Singh Thakur	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chander Bhusan	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

Himachal Pradesh came into existence on 15 April 1948 as a result of integration of 26 Shimla and four Punjab hill States. Later, on 1 April 1954, the State of Bilaspur was also merged with Himachal Pradesh having its Headquarters at Shimla. The Central Government promulgated the Himachal Pradesh (Courts) Order, 1948 on 15 August, 1948. As per Paragraph 3 of this Order, the Court of Judicial Commissioner was established for Himachal Pradesh and such Court was housed at "Harvingtan" (Kelston area, Shimla). It was vested with the powers of a High Court under the Judicial Commissioner's Court Act, 1950. In 1966, the Delhi High Court Act was enacted by the Government of India and with effect from 1 May 1967, the Government of India extended the operation of the said Act to the Union Territory of Himachal Pradesh, replacing the Court of Judicial Commissioner by the Himachal Bench of Delhi High Court, at Shimla and it started functioning in a building known as "Ravenswood". Himachal Pradesh attained Statehood in 1971, and its own High Court was established with Headquarters at 'Ravenswood', Shimla.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

In order to tackle Covid-19, wearing of face mask in all public places/work place and hand sanitization and thermal scanning before entering

the court/office premises was made mandatory. Instructions were issued for maintaining social distance, space of minimum 6 feet between the seats of the officials and prohibition of gathering

of more than four persons at one place. Use of gutka, tobacco was strictly banned and spitting in public places was made punishable. The standard operating procedure for infection control measures as issued by the authorities was directed to be followed by disinfecting the court premises/office premises, at least once a day. Entry of non-essential visitors in court/office premises was strictly prohibited. Only home-made food was allowed in court/office premises. Staff with morbid condition were exempted from attending office. Washable face masks and sanitizers were issued for staff of the High Court Registry.

The Himachal Pradesh State Legal Service Authority organized 1,339 Lok Adalats in which 65,516 cases were settled. 32 Permanent Lok Adalats were organized in which 77 cases were settled. Two mobile Lok Adalats were organized in which 70 cases were taken up out of which 12 cases were settled. 1,320 cases were referred to the Mediation Centres out of which 241 cases were settled. 2,993 persons benefitted from assistance by way of legal aid. The District Legal Services Authority of Solan and Kullu organized plantation drives. A Legal Literacy Camp was organized at Ghadiach. A Legal Literacy camp-cum-Plantation Drive was held in Gram Panchayat Baggi (Balh). Alternate Dispute Redressal (ADR) Centre which was constructed at a cost of 2.96 Crore at Hamirpur was inaugurated on 25 September 2019. Legal Literacy Camps were organized on "Legal Services to Tribal Community & Public Perception", at Losar, Komic, and Village Gondhla, District Lahul & Spiti. 56 Legal Awareness Camps were organized in the Jails by Judicial Officers. 9,753 prisoners were apprised about their legal rights/free legal services available to them. 3,594 persons were provided assistance through Legal Aid Clinics in Jail.

The District Legal Services Authorities and Sub

Divisional Legal Services Committees organized 2,401 Legal Literacy Camps in which 2,21,253 persons participated. 420 MNREGs camps were organized, benefiting 4,842 persons. An Awareness Programme was organized in Gram Panchayat Thunag at Thunag, Mandi on the occasion of the International Day of Girl Child. On the Human Rights Day, a Legal Literacy and Awareness Programme was organized for persons living in slums and labour colonies at BBNI Hall, Baddi. On 1 February 2020, a Legal Literacy Programme was organized on 'Constitutional Obligation and Role of Legal Services Institutions' in the upliftment of the weaker sections of society, people living in hard and difficult areas in the State and tribal areas at Salooni, Chamba. The District Legal Service Authority Mandi organized an Awareness Programme on Rising Materialism and Declining Moral Values, Drug Abuse, Children's Related Issues and Environment Protection on 7 February 2020, and after the programme, compensation amount of Rs 25 lakh was presented to two acid attack victims. Legal Literacy help desks were set up at the International Shivratri Fair at Mandi, and also at the State Level Holi Fair at Sujampur.

The Himachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority is implementing the Para Legal Volunteers Scheme introduced by the National Legal Services Authority, New Delhi. At present 80 Gram Panchayat/Village Care and Support Centres are functional in State of Himachal Pradesh and are being manned by Retainer Lawyers and Para Legal Volunteers. 43 Radio talks titled 'Kanoon Ki Baat' were aired from All India Radio Station, Shimla in which Judicial Officers and Senior Advocates apprised people about their legal rights. Seven ADR Centres were made functional. Several schemes launched by NALSA were implemented in the State of Himachal Pradesh by the District Legal Services

Authorities and Sub Divisional Legal Services Committees. 1306 Awareness Programmes/ Activities were undertaken under such schemes through which 1,06,074 people benefitted.

The Himachal Pradesh Judicial Academy organized 69 training programmes in which 1,717 participants were imparted training. The Academy conducted induction training programmes for Civil Judges and Additional District Judges, and also imparted training to officers of the Himachal Pradesh Administrative Services, functionaries of the Department of Cooperation, and officers and officials of Panchayati Raj Institutions. The Academy also organized six training programmes on "Juvenile Justice" for the Members of Juvenile Justice Boards, Chairmen and Members of CWCs, Probation Officers, Members of Child Protection Societies, Members of the District Child Protection Units, Special Juvenile Police Units and Child Welfare Police Officers and Managerial Staff of Child Care Institutions. Three training programmes were organized for Police Officers on "Investigation of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances cases". The Academy conducted Judicial Colloquium on "Prevention of Human Trafficking" for the Judicial Officers, Police Officers and Public Prosecutors on 20 October 2019. Training programmes were conducted on "Use of Video Conferencing Facilities" for the Judicial Officers and Police Officers. Courses were conducted on "PC&PNDT Act, NDPS Act and Mental Healthcare Act" for Senior Civil Judges and Civil Judges. Conference was also held on "Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act for the District and Sessions Judges, Additional District and Sessions Judges, Superintendents of Police and Public Prosecutors. Training Programme were organized on "Juvenile Justice" for Principal Magistrates of Juvenile Justice Boards and on "Mediation" for the Senior Civil Judges and Civil



Judges. 40 Civil Judges of Odisha were given a week-long training on "Sharing of Best Practices" in the Academy.

Technological Accomplishments

A free of cost Android based mobile application of Himachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority was launched on 16 December 2019. A Compliance SMS Module has been developed by the High Court. Whenever a file/letter is sent for compliance, its details including head, reference number compliance date and remarks are entered by the concerned branch user. One day before the compliance date, a SMS is sent automatically to the branch user reminding him/her about the compliance. Date wise compliance reports can also be viewed. The High Court also developed a Legal Aid Cases Cause List Module through which, Legal Aid cases of Subordinate



A view of the Auditorium, High Court of Himachal Pradesh

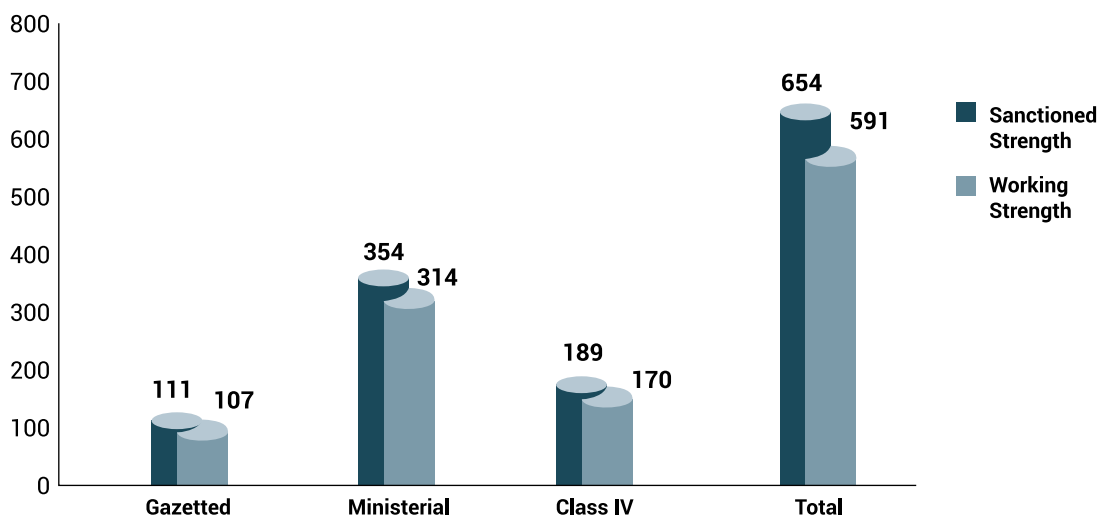
Courts can be separately added to a particular court and thereafter a separate Cause List can be generated for Legal Aid Cases and displayed separately. A Compensation SMS Module has been also developed by the High Court wherein SMS is sent to beneficiary party/ claimant about the money being deposited/ released to his/her account.

e-Payment has been made live for all the Subordinate Courts of Himachal Pradesh. ePayment deals with payment of Court Fee, Fine Penalty and Judicial Deposits. Payment of court fee is integrated with Stock Holding Corporation of India whereas the other payments are directly integrated with HIMKOSH (Himachal Treasury). The High Court has prepared a script/ program for auto generation of SMS to offender. The offenders whose Mobile number are available in CIS can be informed of the proposed fine by

way of SMS. It also has a link of ePay portal where the offender can pay proposed fine and get the challan disposed. e-Filing Application has been made live for all the Subordinate Courts of Himachal Pradesh for e-Filing of cases under Section 138 of the Negotiable instruments Act. e-Filing Application has been also made live for High court for e-Filing of Criminal Appeals by the State of Himachal Pradesh (Acquittal and Enhancement of Sentence) and Income Tax Appeals (ITA). An Online module has been developed and integrated with High Court Website which facilitates advocates to online apply for Certified Copy. Further, new software has been developed by the High Court which generates reports related to construction and infrastructure status of various Courts in the Subordinate Judiciary.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019**	2019-2020**	2020-2021***
Plan	27,47,87,000	13,15,07,000	12,06,93,000
Non-Plan	41,60,32,000	51,37,25,000	50,65,56,000
Total	69,08,19,000	64,52,32,000	62,72,49,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** Budget figures modified by the High Court.

*** Budget allocated by State upto 30.06.2020.

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	13
Working Strength of Judges	09

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	08
Highest	09

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	9,635
------------------------------	-------

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
----------	---------------------------	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------

CIVIL

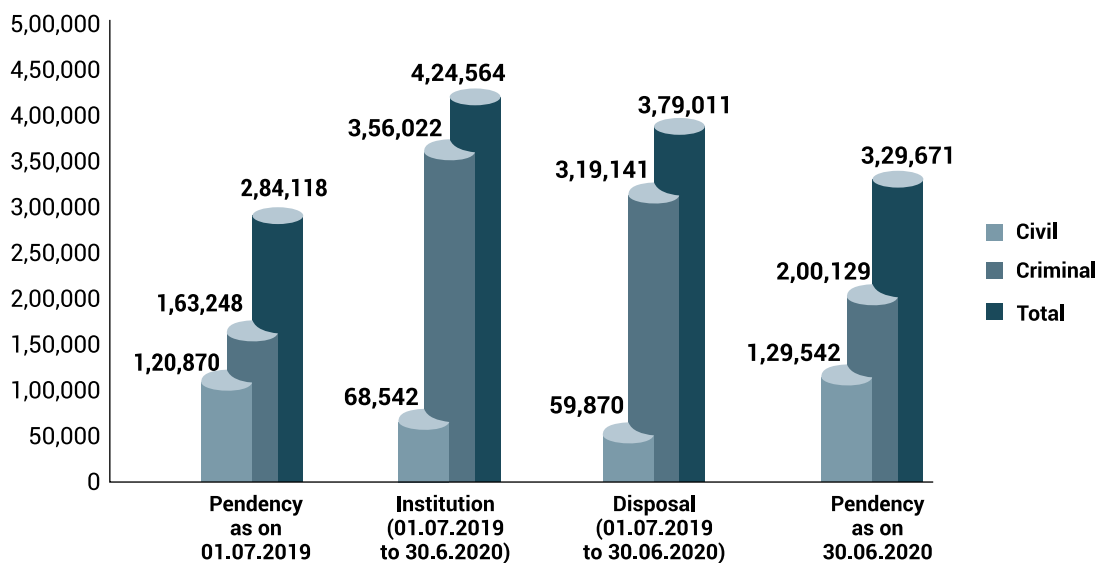
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	6,125	21,424	3,516	24,033
Company Matters	27	-	5	22
Contempt (Civil)	205	1,446	495	1,156
Review (Civil)	66	108	53	121
Matrimonial Matters	249	89	23	315
Arbitration Matters	386	128	120	394
Civil Revisions	643	132	139	636
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	165	27	17	175
Civil Appeals	6,147	511	482	6,176
Land Acquisition Matters	2,041	300	375	1,966
MACT Matters	2,421	514	200	2,735
Civil Suits (Original Side)	696	103	30	769
Other than above	2,985	25,715	7,056	21,644

CRIMINAL

Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	4	20	17	7
Criminal Revisions	1,462	446	257	1,651
Bail Applications	434	2,285	1,935	784
Criminal Appeals	3,499	613	164	3,948
Death Sentence Reference	1	0	0	1
Contempt (Criminal)	3	0	0	3
Misc. Criminal Applications	991	2,331	1,725	1,597
Other than above	455	650	506	599

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

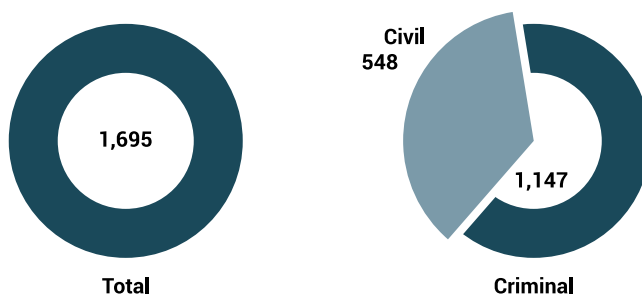
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



10 High Court of **JAMMU & KASHMIR**



High Court at Srinagar

Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir*

Hon'ble Ms. Justice Gita Mittal, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajesh Bindal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjeev Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Dhar
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ali Mohd. Magrey	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Sindhu Sharma	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Puneet Gupta
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dhiraj Singh Thakur	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajnesh Oswal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Javed Iqbal Wani
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tashi Rabstan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vinod Chatterji Koul	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

In 1928, a full fledged High Court of Jammu and Kashmir was established. The accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India in October, 1947 was followed by promulgation of the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 1950. In 1957, the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir came into force but a provision was made so that the High Court established in 1928 could continue to exercise jurisdiction in relation to the State. On 31 October 2019, the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganization Act, 2019 came into force whereby the State of Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated into two Union Territories, namely, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh. As per Section 75 of the 2019 Act, the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir is the common High Court for the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh. The High Court has two buildings, one at each wing of the High Court at Srinagar and Jammu. The headquarter of the Hon'ble Chief Justice remains at Srinagar from May to October and shifts to Jammu from November to April every year. The Judicial branches of the High Court remain functional in each wing of the High Court throughout the year.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

On 11 March 2020, the J&K Judicial Academy organized a Special Awareness Programme on Covid-19 for Judicial Officers, Trainee Munsiffs and the High Court staff, Advocates, Court Staff and PLVs. In view of Covid-19 pandemic, the Academy conducted online Training Programmes w.e.f. May 2020.

During the judicial year, J&K State Legal Services Authority (J&K SLSA) organized 138 Lok Adalats including four National Lok Adalats. A total of 55,938 cases were settled and compensation worth Rs. 173.50 Crores awarded / settled. 4,961 persons were provided Legal Advice and Panel Lawyers to redress their grievances. 3,766 Legal Awareness Camps were held on issues such as POCSO/Child Rights/Cyber Crime, Water Conservation/Avoid Plastic, Women Rights, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence and Solid Waste Management. Plantation drives were launched in each district/tehsil in the Union Territory of J&K. Besides this, people were educated on different Central/ State Government Welfare Schemes made for poor and marginalised sections of society. 68 Programmes on "Kanoon Ki Baat" were telecast/broadcast on Radio and TV in the State. The SLSA engaged 212 Retainer Lawyers at both wings of the High Court, District Level and at Tehsil Level. To inculcate legal education among children, 331 Legal Literacy Clubs (including 105 Model Legal Literacy Clubs) are functional in various High and Higher Secondary Schools of the Union Territory of J&K. 271 Legal Aid Clinics are functional which include 15 Legal Service Clinics in 15 Jails of the Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh. These clinics are manned by 630 PLVs on rotation basis. Under the banner "Ageing with Dignity" campaign, J&K SLSA established additional Day Care and Recreation

Centres for senior citizens "Ahata-e-Waqar" at Kathua, Leh and Jammu. In order to give impetus to the process of Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanism, a three days basic training course on mediation was organized for lawyers. Further, a training programme on "Advocacy Skills" was organized for lawyers in collaboration with Indian Institute of Legal & Professional Development on 8 - 9 February 2020.

J&K State Judicial Academy organized 55 Training Programmes during the judicial year. Two days Training Programme on 'Cyber Law including Cyber Crimes, Cyber Forensics, Cyber Security' were organized by the Academy in collaboration with Information Technology Department on 27- 28 July and 3 - 4 August 2019 respectively. The programmes were attended by judicial officers, investigators, prosecutors, law officers, and officers from Anti Corruption Bureau. Refresher Programmes were organized on "Appreciation of evidence with specific reference to Dying Declaration, Accomplice Statement and Confessional statement" and on "Management of Court Business, Use of ICT and Maintenance of File". A Special Programme was conducted on "Life Style Management". Besides, Orientation Programmes were held on "Remand and Bail: Practice and Procedure" and on "Registration Procedure and Process". A one day Workshop for Sessions Judges was held on "Revisional and Appellate Jurisdiction: Practice and Procedure". Training Programmes were conducted on "Expert Evidence with Specific Emphasis on Evidentiary Value of such evidence", on "Trial of Special Offences under Ranbir Penal Code: Special Procedural Requirement", and on "Admissions and Confessions Practice and Procedure". Special Training Programmes were organised on "Reproductive Rights and Transgender Rights" and on "Gender Justice, Juvenile Justice and



Chief Justice's Court at Srinagar

Judicial Ethics." Webinars were conducted on "Stress Management", "Role of Referral Judges in the Mediation Process", "Law of Bail", "Judicial Ethics and Bias", "Importance of Medical Evidence in Justice Delivery" and on "Environmental Talk". Further, a Special Awareness Programme on Government e-Marketplace (GeM) was organized by the Judicial Academy on 3 March 2020.

Technological Accomplishments

During the judicial year the High Court laid great thrust on uploading of daily and final orders/judgments of the High Court and of the subordinate courts on the portal. All uploaded orders/judgments were digitally signed. Copying Module was introduced and the same implemented with SMS service in the High Court. SMSs are sent to the litigants and advocates at various stages of copying like applying,

prepared/ ready for collection. Nomenclature of cases in the High Court was made more user-friendly and precise. Several Categories were created in the High Court as per the Revision of Scheme for rationalization of Nomenclature and Categorization of Cases. Generation of cause-list in the High Court was made fully automated.

CIS Core 1.0 has an in-built court proceedings module and through this module all the case proceedings are being done in the courts itself rather than by the data entry operators. Digital Display Board system is also being managed through this module. Litigants and advocates are receiving SMSs on daily basis at various stages of the case. Similar SMS service is operational in the district courts too. Cases on being heard through video conference in both the wings of the High Court. To strengthen this novel method, video conferencing equipment was upgraded in



Chief Justice's Court at Jammu

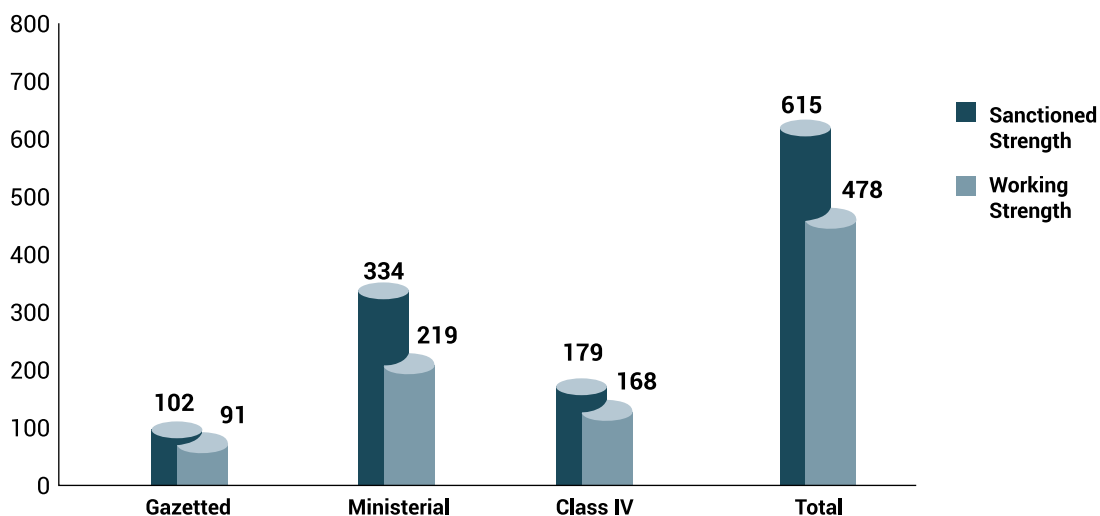
the Court Rooms in both the wings of the High Court. Each court room in both the wings is now equipped with state of the art video conferencing hardware to conduct the hearings without any technical glitches. Hardware Inventory Application was developed and deployed in the district courts. Website of the High Court has been upgraded and new and latest content added to it to make the website more usable.

Cloud implementation was started at District Court Srinagar as a pilot site. Various preliminary tasks like creation of IDs, creation of Database server and two web server VM's, creation of backup server, permission for firewall access, white listing for SMS etc were completed. In order to ensure that the transition from manual to mechanical/digital mode of working in the High Court and district and subordinate courts is seamless, various training programmes for the

judicial officers and court staff were conducted during the judicial year.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020**	2020-2021***
Plan	16,76,69,000	23,53,71,300	13,03,02,000
Non-Plan	56,08,51,000	92,39,38,300	65,13,41,400
Total	72,85,20,000	1,15,93,09,600	78,16,43,400

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** Data revised by the High Court

*** Budget allocated by State till September 2020.

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	17
Working Strength of Judges	13

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	08
Highest	13

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	6,427
------------------------------	-------

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
----------	---------------------------	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------

CIVIL

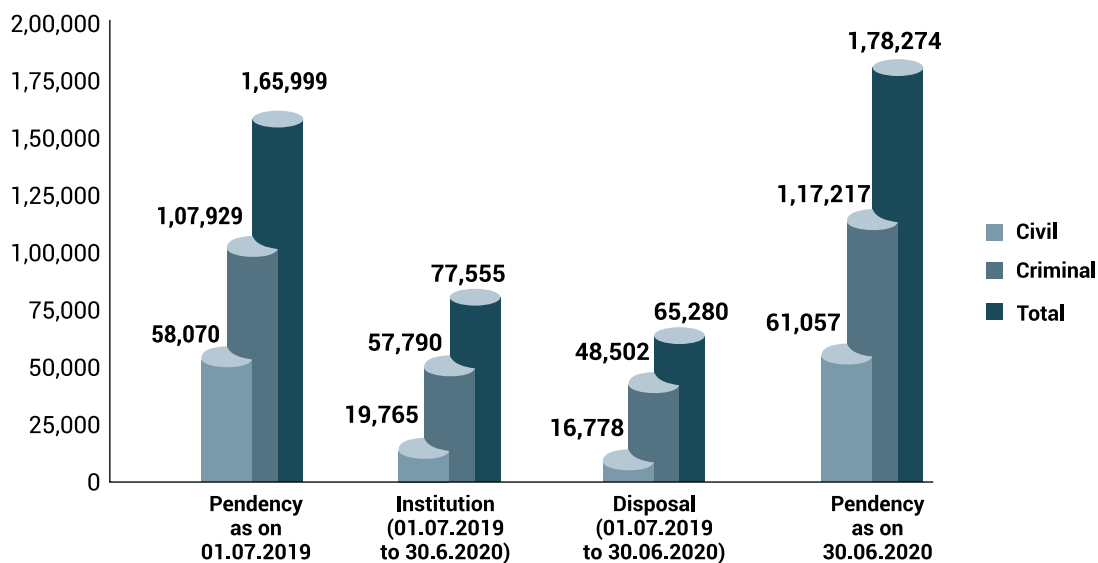
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	46,528	5,490	4,783	47,235
Company Matters	13	0	02	11
Contempt (Civil)	9,171	978	1,292	8,857
Review (Civil)	376	57	45	388
Matrimonial Matters	126	04	02	128
Arbitration Matters	377	102	71	408
Civil Revisions	410	138	103	445
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	640	58	379	319
Civil Appeals	1,702	201	257	1,646
Land Acquisition Matters	468	72	27	513
MACT Matters	2,082	05	372	1,715
Civil Suits (Original Side)	01	0	0	01
Other than above	1,990	76	179	1,887

CRIMINAL

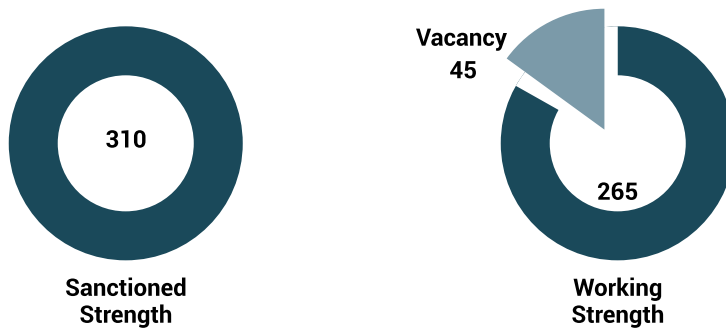
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	0	0	0	0
Criminal Revisions	451	56	49	458
Bail Applications	366	300	305	361
Criminal Appeals	1,320	146	71	1,395
Death Sentence Reference	04	0	0	04
Contempt (Criminal)	16	03	02	17
Misc. Criminal Applications	2,447	806	551	2,702
Other than above	4,903	1,341	782	5,462

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

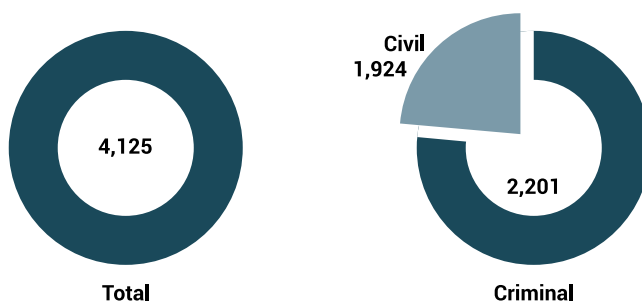
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



11

High Court of
JHARKHAND



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Jharkhand*

Hon'ble Dr. Justice Ravi Ranjan, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harish Chandra Mishra	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ratnaker Bhengra	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Anubha Rawat Choudhary
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ananda Sen	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kailash Prasad Deo
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shree Chandrashekhar	Hon'ble Dr. Justice S.N. Pathak	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kumar Dwivedi
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Amitav Kumar Gupta	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajesh Shankar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Roshan
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sujit Narayan Prasad	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil Kumar Choudhary	
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rongon Mukhopadhyay	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajesh Kumar	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

With the formation of the new State of Jharkhand on 15 November 2000, the erstwhile Ranchi Bench of Patna High Court was transformed into the High Court of the new State in terms of Section 25 of the Bihar Re-organization Act, 2000, referred to as the "High Court of Jharkhand". Since the inception of the High Court of Jharkhand, all its official activities have continued in the building formerly designated as the Ranchi Bench of the Patna High Court. Recognizing the need for space and modern amenities to keep up with the ever-increasing workload and staff, construction of a new High Court building is in process. The territorial jurisdiction of High Court of Jharkhand extends over the entire State of Jharkhand.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

Amidst Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown, hearing of cases in the district courts and sub-divisional courts was recommended to

be continued through video conferencing. The subordinate courts were directed to resume staggered functioning with limited subject matters requiring urgent or expedient hearing till

further orders. For fresh filing in the civil courts, a Drop-Box was kept outside the main gate. Production of jail inmates was made through video conferencing. Sanitization of entire campus including public area was ensured on day-to-day basis. The High Court of Jharkhand worked with full strength of Judges through video conferencing even during the Covid-19 pandemic period. Six video conferencing rooms were set-up in the high court premises for use by the advocates/parties. "High Court of Jharkhand Rules for Video Conferencing for Courts, 2020" were notified to consolidate, unify and streamline the procedure relating to use of video conferencing for courts. Lists of ready certified copies were uploaded on the website of the High Court for convenience of the advocates. Defects pointed out in cases after stamp reporting were also listed on website. Meetings of all the Judges Committees were held through Virtual Mode.

During the lockdown, the Judicial Academy, Jharkhand switched over to online training programmes, online examination, online submission of work assignments by the judicial officers, etc. The main event during this period was "Distance Participative Learning Programme" for all the judicial officers of the State of Jharkhand in which questionnaires were circulated on the basis of which assessment was done by the Academy. As part of corona relief activities, JHALSA (Effective Intervention for Assistance to the people during the pandemic Covid-19) Scheme 2020 and three projects (project Kartavya for Jail Inmates and their Family Members; project Shramev Vandate for Migrant Labourers Returning from Other States and project Manavata for Children in Need of Care and Protection, Single Women, Widows and Uncared Senior Citizens) were e-launched on 24 May 2020.

As a major drive for speedy and expeditious

disposal of cases, several targets were set by the High Court. First target is identification and disposal of important criminal cases. 501 cases were earmarked in consultation with the State Government for speedy disposal involving notorious criminals. Out of them 482 cases were disposed of, till 30 June 2020. Second target is to dispose of more than five years old cases which are monitored fortnightly through video conferencing. District-wise targets were also given. Out of Gross Target (2017-19) of 80,010 cases, there was Gross Disposal (2017-19) of 88,813 cases till 30 June 2020. Third target is a Special Drive to take up and dispose of cases under Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments Act throughout the State. Out of Gross Target (2017-19) of 19,162 cases, Gross Disposal (2017-19) was of 21,452 cases till 30 June 2020. Fourth target is speedy trial of 1001 cases in different Judgeships. 833 cases were disposed of till 30 June 2020. Fifth target is disposal of 2,477 cases before J.J. Board in the State of Jharkhand and it was achieved.

Based on pendency of rape and POCSO Act cases in the Jharkhand State, 22 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) in the State of Jharkhand were created by the State Government, temporarily, for a period of one year, spread over year (2019-20) & (2020-21). Due to Covid-19 restrictions, online mediation was carried out during the 2nd Special Drive of Mediation of Family Court cases in the Family Courts and District Courts of the State for the quarterly period April to June, 2020. Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Special Mediation Drive was prescribed for being uniformly followed by all the Family Courts.

The Jharkhand Civil Court Officers and Staff (Recruitment, Promotion, Transfer and other Service Conditions) Rules, 2018 were framed and notified. The court complex of "40 Court Building" of Ranchi Judgeships was handed over by the

Building Construction Department in February 2020. In the Judicial Academy Jharkhand, as part of the research project on “Cyber Crimes Issues and Challenges, Remedies under the Present Law : A Critical Study in the State of Jharkhand”, sponsored by the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India, Legal Awareness Programmes were held at Deoghar, Ranchi, Jamshedpur, Jamtara and Gridih. The target group in this legal awareness programmes included the judicial officers, lawyers, police officers, officers of bank, insurance companies and telecom sector etc. The final research report was submitted to the Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India.

Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority (JHALSA) in association with the High Court of Jharkhand organized the country's first Coal Lok Adalat on 26 November 2019 in the premises of the Judicial Academy Jharkhand. 9,650 matters were settled and Rs.3,74,01,41,887/- disbursed in a single day. The matters pending in the High Court of Jharkhand and district courts of Jharkhand were taken up in the Lok Adalat. India Book of Records certified the result of the Coal Lok Adalat as the new National Record whereas the World Records India certified the result as the new World Record. Jharkhand was awarded the Regional Best Award in SLSA and Panel Advocate Categories and National Best Award in DLSA Category on 9 November 2019.

Based on the 40 Hours Training Module for the Family Court Judges of India, JHALSA in association with the High Court of Jharkhand organized the Regional Training Programme for the Family Court Judges of 13 States (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Sikkim, Tripura and West Bengal) on 21-22 September 2019. During the judicial year, 34,476 pending cases were disposed of by Lok Adalat and

Mediation which accounted for more than 11% of total pendency.

With effect from March 2020, JHALSA commenced e-training programmes for the panel advocates, mediators and PLVs. A State Level Initiative for strengthening of Child Friendly Legal Services in Jharkhand was launched on 21 September 2019 at JHALSA. The 6th State Level Legal Services cum Empowerment Camp (for forest dwellers, tribals, widows, women, old aged persons & children) was organized on 16 February 2020 at Latehar in which 1,12,356 persons benefitted and an amount of Rs. 10.13 Crore disbursed. The 7th State Level Legal Services cum Empowerment Camp (for SC, ST, children, women & old aged persons) was organized on 1 March, 2020 at Simdega in which 1,05,449 persons were benefitted and an amount of Rs. 53.47 crore was disbursed.

Technological Accomplishments

E-Payment of court fee in the High Court of Jharkhand was made Live in view of Covid-19 pandemic, so that advocates/litigants avoid physical submission of Court Fee. An online e-court fee module/link was provided on the website of High Court of Jharkhand. For avoiding physical inspection of the Defective Cases, a software was developed for convenience of the advocates/litigants and a module for online view of defective filing was provided in the High Court's website to view the defects online. The HCNC 1.0 software has been installed and is currently operational in the High Court. Filing is being done through emails in the High Court. For filing through email, an advocate is not required to register separately. However, just like normal filing, the advocates are required to give their registered enrollment number in the CIS. ICJS has been rolled out in all the district courts of State of Jharkhand. Menu based system has

been developed for generating periphery reports of CIS Software of High Court. CIS 3.2 software has been implemented and is functional in all the 24 district courts of the State. Justice Clock is operational in the premises of the High Court which is facilitating display of cases and other useful information related to e-Courts project. After the introduction of Government e-Market Place, procurement of most of the Goods under e-Courts Project are being done through the GeM portal with great ease and transparency. All the judicial officers have been equipped with New Laptops with latest configuration, Tabs and Laserjet Printers which is in optimal use by the officers for virtual hearing of cases.

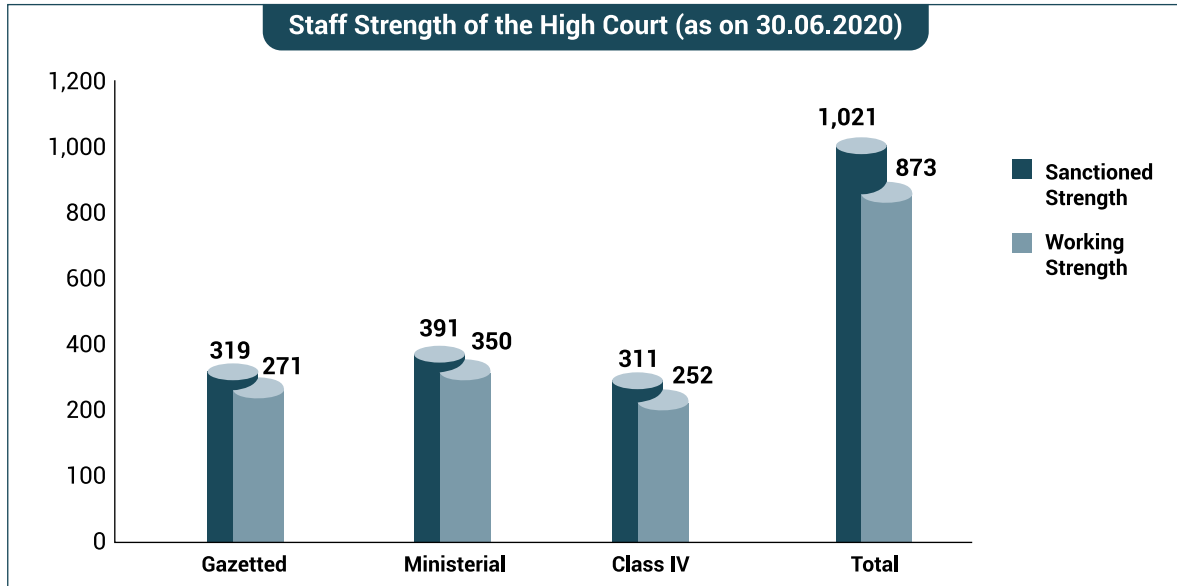
Smart TV/ Digital signage System based display monitors for display both inside and outside court rooms were installed in district & sub-divisional courts of Jharkhand. Also, customised software were developed for the district court display board. 249 Courts and 28 jails have been equipped with video conferencing system for speedy and hassle free trial of cases of under

trial prisoners beyond and within the districts. Altogether, 82 VC sets have been installed in jails of the Jharkhand. This has significantly reduced the security risk attached with the transportation of high end criminals. It has also curtailed the time required in transportation of criminals restrained in jails beyond the district. In order to extend the Citizen Centric Facilities to the common mass, 28 Information Kiosks have been installed in the district and sub-divisional court campuses.

All the district courts of the state including the High Court are providing information regarding the case status to the litigants and lawyers on the registered mobile numbers registered. Case status is being sent automatically to the registered Advocates and litigants through SMS. BSNL WAN, Lease line and VPN over broadband, connectivity have been provided to the various District and Sub-divisional Courts enabling them to update/upload judicial data on NGDG. eSewa Kendra has also been set up at High Court of Jharkhand and 21 district courts.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020**	2020-2021***
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	90,21,25,000	97,36,73,000	1,09,99,35,000
Total	90,21,25,000	97,36,73,000	1,09,99,35,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** Data revised by the High Court

*** Provisional figures

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	25
Working Strength of Judges	17

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	17
Highest	19

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	16,564
------------------------------	--------

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

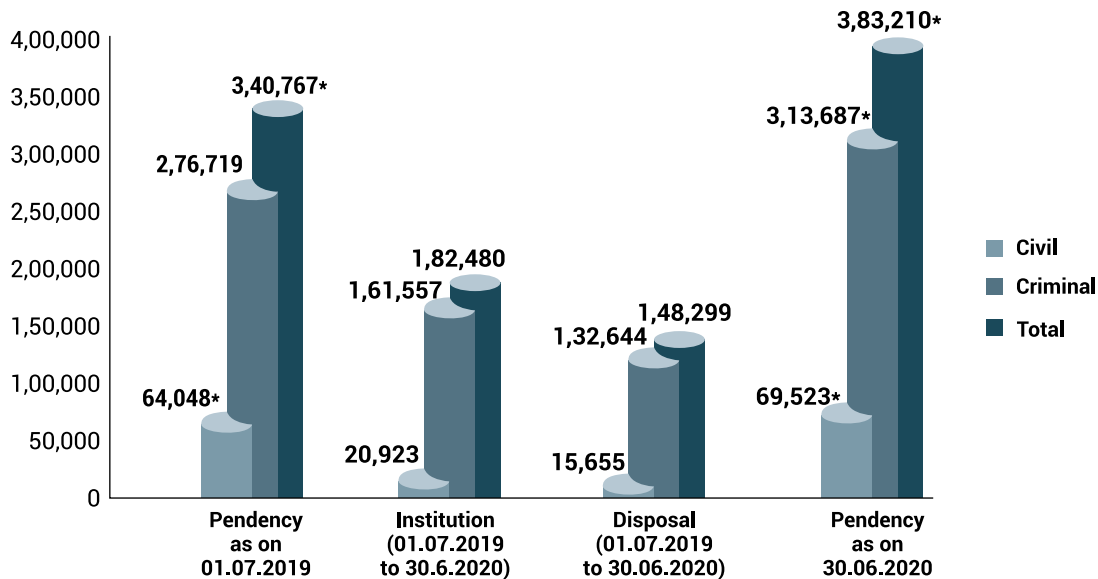
Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	25,969	6,106	7,363	24,712
Company Matters	4	0	0	4
Contempt (Civil)	1,304	983	614	1,673
Review (Civil)	145	114	63	196
Matrimonial Matters*	8	01	02	07
Arbitration Matters	144	36	51	129
Civil Revisions	196	49	68	177
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	209	65	49	225
Civil Appeals	92	375	341	126
Land Acquisition Matters*	4,362	09	243	4,128
MACT Matters*	3,782	531	347	3,966
Civil Suits (Original Side)	02	10	08	04
Other than above*	5,521	208	921	4,808
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	1,059	367	307	1,119
Criminal Revisions	6,768	1,357	1,392	6,733
Bail Applications	2,703	17,777	20,296	184
Criminal Appeals	21,732	1,979	770	22,941
Death Sentence Reference	12	06	01	17
Contempt (Criminal)	15	04	04	15
Misc. Criminal Applications	10,875	3,763	4,386	10,252
Other than above*	1,869	140	140	1,869

* Opening balance modified by the High Court

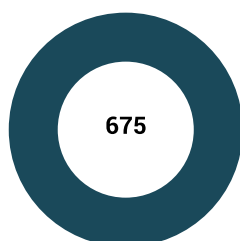
SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

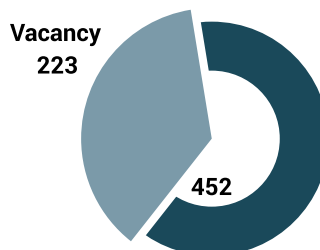


* Opening balance and Closing balance modified due to rectification of data by some judgeships

Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020

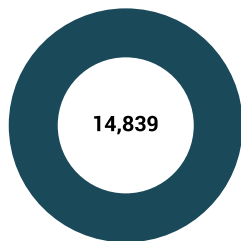


Sanctioned Strength

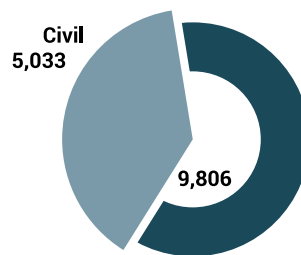


Working Strength

Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



Total



Criminal

12 High Court of **KARNATAKA**



Principal Seat at Bengaluru

Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Karnataka*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.S. Oka, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Ms. Justice B.V. Nagarathna	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dixit Krishna Shripad	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Jyoti Mulimani
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Aravind Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shankar Ganapathi Pandit	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nataraj Rangaswamy
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Aradhe	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ramakrishna Devdas	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hemant Chandangoudar
Hon'ble Ms. Justice S. Sujatha	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bhotanhosur Mallikarjuna Shyam Prasad	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pradeep Singh Yerur
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Byrareddy Veerapa	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Siddappa Sunil Dutt Yadav	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Maheshan Nagaprasanna
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Narendar G.	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mohammad Nawaz	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Maralur Indrakumar Arun
Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.S. Dinesh Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.T. Gowda Narendra Prasad	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Engalaguppe Seetharamaiah Indires
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pavankumar B. Bajanthri	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok G. Nijagannavar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravi Venkappa Hosmani
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kempaiah Somashekar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice H.P. Sandesh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Savanur Vishwajith Shetty
Hon'ble Ms. Justice K. Somappa Mudagal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Krishnan Natarajan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shivashankar Amarannavar
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sreenivas H. Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Singapuram Raghavachar Krishna Kumar	Hon'ble Ms. Justice M. Ganashaiah Uma
Hon'ble Mr. Justice John Michael Cunha	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Subhashchandra Kinagi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vedavyasachar Srishananda
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Basavaraj A. Patil	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Suraj Govindaraj	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hanchate Sanjeevkumar
Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.K. Sudhindrarao	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sachin Shankar Magadum	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Padmaraj Nemachandra Desai
Hon'ble Dr. Justice H.B.P. Sastry	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Neranahalli Srinivasan Sanjay Gowda	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Krishna Bhat

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

On the green, sprawling lawns of Cubbon Park is the 'Attara Kacheri', which is the home of the Principal Bench of High Court of Karnataka (formerly called the High Court of Mysore). It is in the heart of the City of Bangalore (now Bengaluru), opposite Vidhana Soudha, which houses the State Legislature, and the Secretariat. The road in between the pillars of democracy is aptly named 'Ambedkar Veedhi' in honour of Dr. B.R.Ambedkar, the architect of the Indian Constitution, clearly separating the executive from the judiciary. The Attara Kacheri is a two-storied building of stone, and brick, coloured in an earthy red hue, in Graeco-Roman style of classical form of architecture – a structure of vast expanse with iconic porticos at the centre, and at the two ends of the elevation. It covers an area of 1.95 lakh square feet. In early 1990s, a new construction was put up, parallel to, and as a replica of Attara Kacheri and attached to the Attara Kacheri.

In the erstwhile princely state of Mysore, initially, administration of justice graduated from the locally confined Sadar Munsiff to the judges of the Huzur Adalath and to the Judicial Commissioner of Mysore in 1856. The post was re-designated in 1881 as the Chief Judge, while the Court was renamed on 28 May 1884 as the Chief Court of Mysore. By order dated 30 January 1929, the Chief Court was designated as "The High Court of Mysore". Since then, High Court of Mysore exercised its jurisdiction over the former princely State of Mysore, and was continued as a High Court of Part-B State of Mysore till 26 January 1950, on which date, the Constitution of India was enforced. Thereafter, in 1956, on the re-organization of States, High Court of Mysore extended its jurisdiction to the entire State of Mysore which was re-named as State of Karnataka, with effect from 1 November 1973. The Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the High Court having a theme as "Justice for All: Real and Speedy" was held on 7 April 2006 on completion of fifty years of the High Court since the re-organization of the State in 1956.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

A number of Covid-19 safety measures were taken in High Court of Karnataka to ensure overall safety and wellness of stakeholders. The High Court in its Principal seat at Bengaluru and Benches at Dharwad and Kalaburagi decided to take up only urgent matters. The members of the Bar as well as staff were advised to wear mask and strictly follow the social distancing norms and hand wash advisories issued by the Government. Helpline was established to assist the advocates/ parties-in-person/ litigant for providing information about e-filing and video conferencing in the courts.

For convenience of the advocates/parties in-

person/advocates' clerks, special filing counters were opened in the High Court and at Dharwad and Kalaburagi Benches. Physical filing was permitted by prior appointment, slots were designed to prevent congregation at the filing counters. Notaries and Oath Commissioners were permitted to occupy the available parking open space. Certified copies were delivered at the designated special counters to avoid foot fall in the court premises. The staff was made aware to avoid close contact with anyone and maintain at least one meter distance and ensure frequent washing of their hands with soap and water or use alcohol based hand rub/sanitizer.

Common areas namely waiting room, verandah,

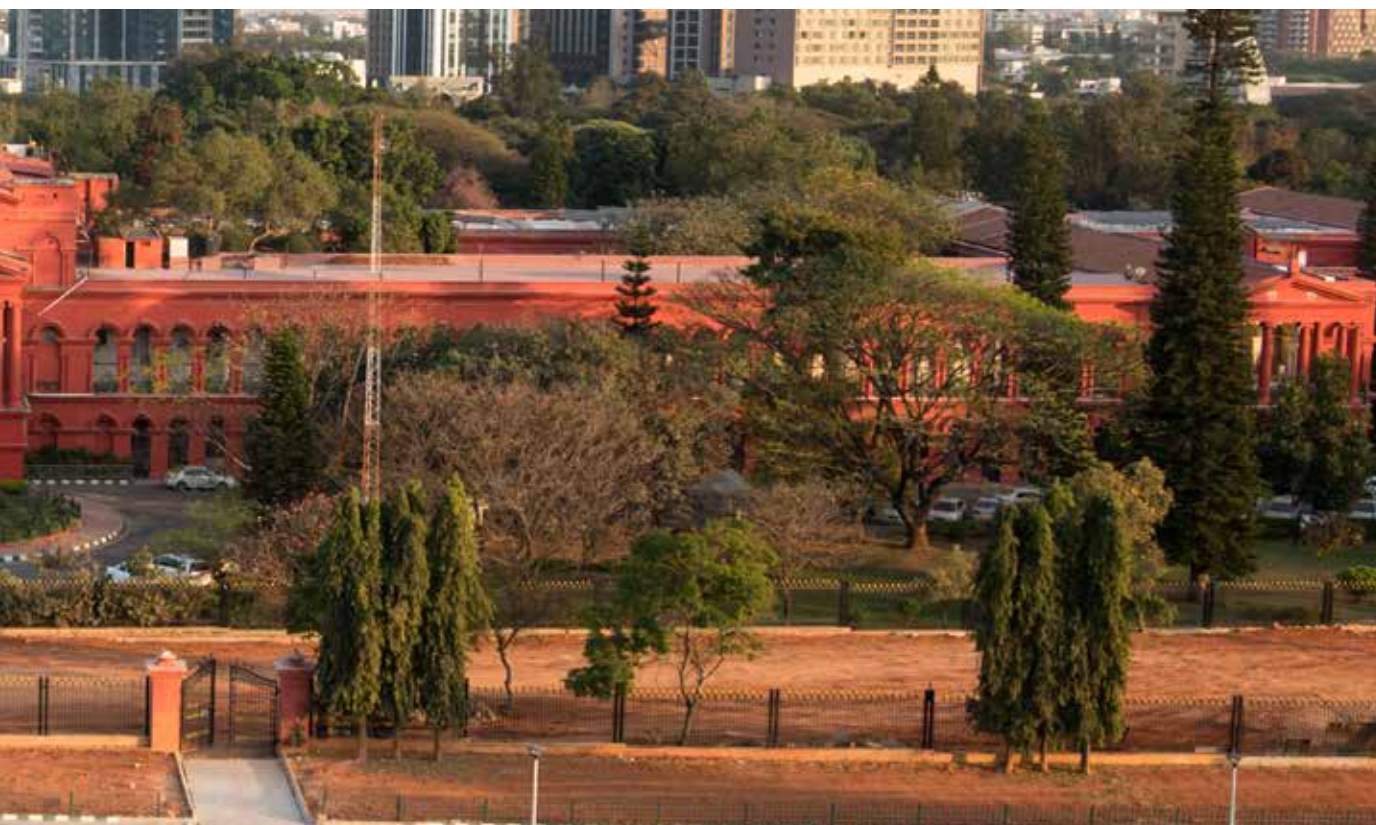


reception, office rooms, court halls, staff rooms, judges' rooms and floors were cleaned daily. Lifts, stairways, door handles, knobs, table tops, telephones, window shields, switches etc. were also cleaned regularly. In order to give wide range of publicity about precautionary measures, message of the Chief Justice and Senior Judges of the High Court was recorded, video gallery was created and web hosted on the official website of the High Court.

To facilitate the advocates/parties-in-person for moving the Court for urgent orders, Virtual Courts were created in the High Court, Principal Bench, Bengaluru. Having regard to difficulties faced in video conferencing, High Court shifted to Jitsi (Open Source) video conferencing platform and

issued separate Standard Operating procedure for video conferencing. In order to give wide range of publicity about virtual courts, virtual court gallery was created and web hosted in the official website of the High Court.

During the judicial year 7,528 cases were referred for mediation to the Bangalore Mediation Centre (BMC) [established under the aegis of the High Court of Karnataka] out of which 5,623 cases were mediated and 3,465 were settled. In addition to the regular mediation, Bombay Mediation Centre (BMC) conducted several Training Programmes. The High Court also took the initiative to establish an Arbitration Centre at Bengaluru for minimizing the cost of arbitration and for conclusion of proceedings on a timely basis, in respect of both



Aerial view of the High Court of Karnataka

domestic and international arbitrations. 213 cases were referred to arbitration centre, out of which 59 cases were adjudicated and final awards passed.

Lok Adalats were held at the High Court, District and Taluk levels on a regular basis in association with the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority as well as National Legal Services Authority. 2,77,937 cases pending before the courts and 25,153 pre-litigation cases were settled in the National Lok Adalats throughout the State. 33,858 cases pending before the courts and 1,256 pre-litigation cases were settled throughout the State through Janata Nyayalaya (Lok Adalat) sittings other than National Lok Adalats. During the judicial year, 5,669 Legal Literacy Programmes were organized and 5,056 persons were extended legal aid by the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority. 1,21,030 persons were given free legal advice. 6,031 cases were settled before the Permanent Lok Adalats.

One of the milestones of the Karnataka Judicial Academy was the inauguration of Phase-I of the new building of the Academy on 11 January 2020. 11, one day Workshops on "Electronic Evidence" was conducted by the Academy for the judicial officers, police officers, prosecutors and staff of district judiciary with the assistance of District Legal Services Authorities.

"Training Manuals for Judicial Officers on Psycho-Social Perspectives on the Child and Law" was released at a function held in association with the High Court, NIMHANS, Women and Child Development Department, Government of Karnataka on 8 February 2020 at Karnataka Judicial Academy. 150 district judges attended the function. Further, seminars for the Judges of the High Court were held in the field of Criminal Law and Arbitration in May and June 2020.

In February 2020, the Karnataka Judicial

Academy conducted Training Programmes on "POCSO Act" for the Presiding Officers of Special Courts under POCSO Act as well as for the special public prosecutors/public prosecutors dealing with POCSO cases. A two day State Level Training on "Commercial Courts Act, 2015" for the judicial officers in the cadre of district judges, senior civil judges and civil judges working in the State was conducted by the Karnataka Judicial Academy on 14-15 March 2020. 181 judicial officers participated in the said training.

Technological Accomplishments

The High Court procured and deployed Hardware worth more than Rs. 60 crore under Phase-II of e-Courts projects. With effect from 14 October 2019, High Court Case Information System (HCCIS) was rolled out and thereby era of open source technology was adopted, saving crores of rupees to the State exchequer.

Scanning and digitization of Autographs which was earlier outsourced till June 2019, was discontinued by adopting in-house scanning and digitization, thereby enhancing the accuracy and secrecy of court records. Under Phase-II of e-Courts projects, at a cost of Rs. 2.5 crore, old servers were replaced with 88 new servers with state-of-the-art technology. Digitization of legacy records was undertaken with in-house developed software. As a part of paperless initiative, Point of Sale (POS) machines were deployed in the cash branch enabling cashless transactions in the High Court. Online portal was developed and deployed for filing of copying applications, payment of copying charges online, receipt of court fee and process charges online for the pending and new cases.

The High Court on-boarded judicial deposits of High Courts and district courts to Khajane-II application of Government of Karnataka for receipt



Judges' Library, High Court of Karnataka

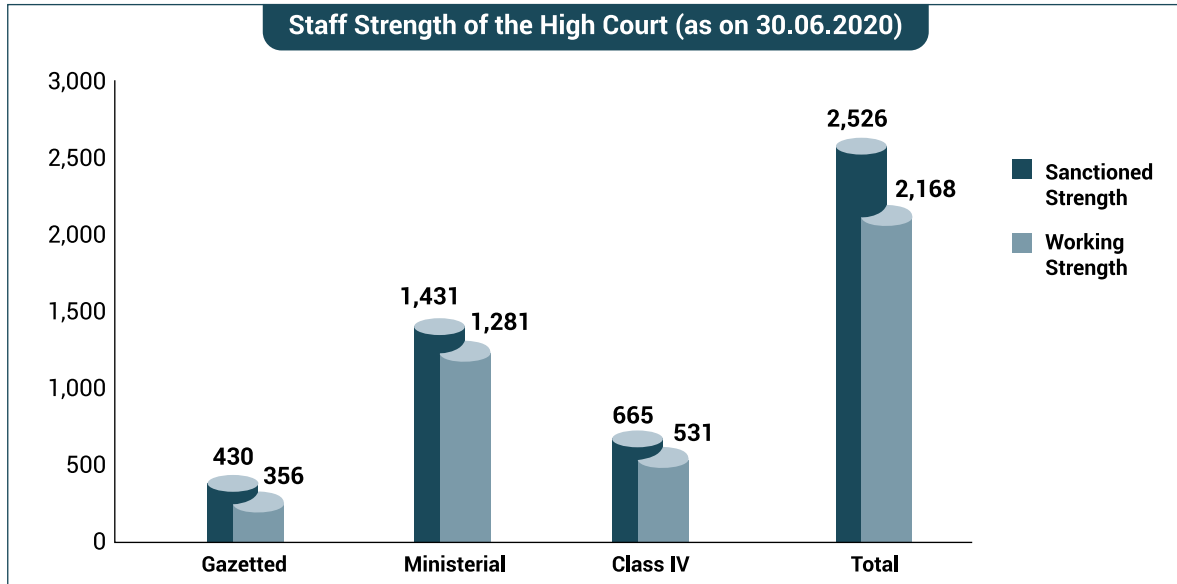
and online payment of judicial deposit. With this application, manual handling of cheques and cash is prevented and online payments are made directly to the bank account of the beneficiaries. Evidence, Judgments and Orders are being uploaded and data entered into CIS software is synchronized (Rsync) to NJDG (National Judicial Data Grid). The pending cases of High Court of Karnataka, Bengaluru, Benches at Dharwad and Kalaburagi is available on NJDG through web service. SMS Gateway has been already opened for 182 out of 200 court complexes across the State. At present, SMS service is available to registered mobile numbers of advocates and litigant public on the following stages of the case viz. when case is filed, registered, listed before Court and on disposal.

At present 1,92,488 decrees and 12,10,672 judgments pertaining to High Court of Karnataka

are scanned and uploaded to D-space which is now available in public domain with water mark with free text search. Interoperable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) was introduced to facilitate speedy justice through data-exchange between the courts, police, prosecution, prison, Women and Child Department and the Forensic Labs. In order to place the contents of establishment and progress of Commercial Courts and also to place the Judicial Statistics in real time in public domain, a dedicated Website exclusively for Commercial Courts in Karnataka was developed and inaugurated.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	6,63,76,38,000	2,54,23,04,000	2,57,67,23,000
Total	6,63,76,38,000	2,54,23,04,000	2,57,67,23,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** Data revised by the High Court

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	62
Working Strength of Judges	46

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	31
Highest	47

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	7,305
------------------------------	-------

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
----------	---------------------------	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------

CIVIL

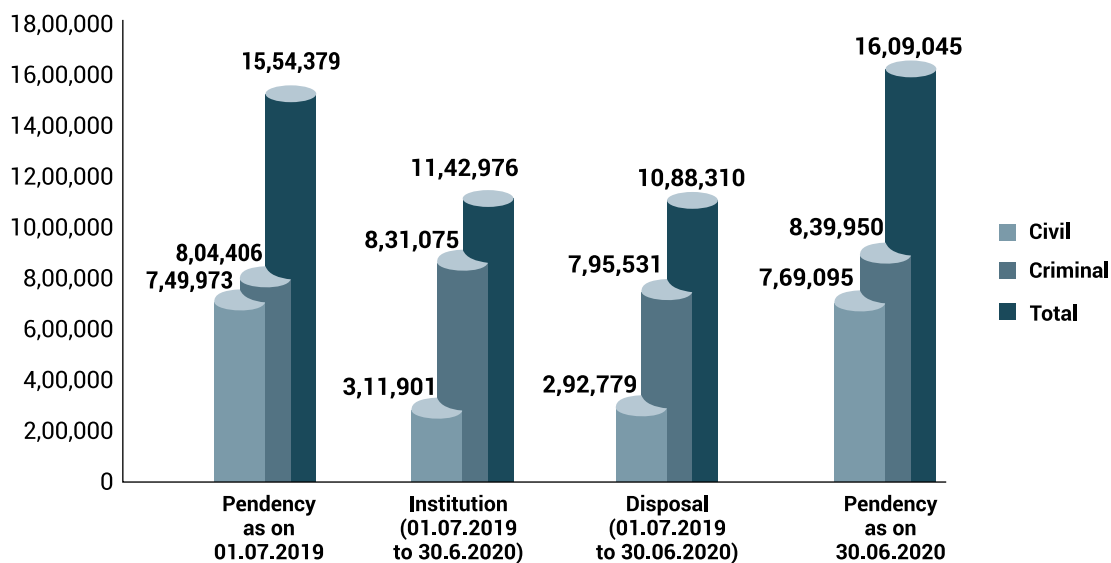
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	1,68,229	1,21,657	1,53,543	1,36,343
Company Matters	1,597	522	782	1,337
Contempt (Civil)	2,093	1,722	2,868	947
Review (Civil)	2,593	1,987	1,908	2,672
Matrimonial Matters	2,719	965	472	3,212
Arbitration Matters	1	1	1	1
Civil Revisions	3,750	1,167	1,042	3,875
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	4,153	666	2,509	2,310
Civil Appeals	60,725	10,722	10,345	61,102
Land Acquisition Matters	2,964	897	791	3,070
MACT Matters	58,740	12,621	11,708	59,653
Civil Suits (Original Side)	11	2	1	12
Other than above	18,372	3,521	17,894	3,999

CRIMINAL

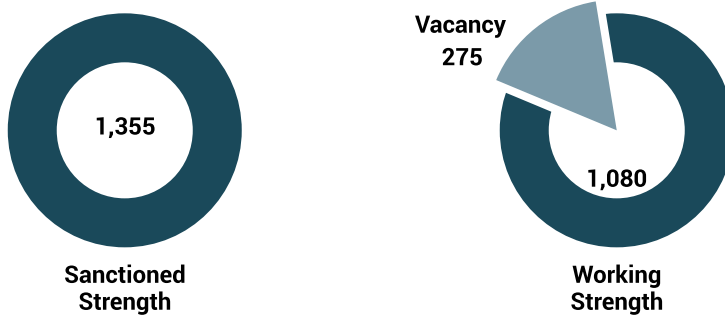
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	-	-	-	-
Criminal Revisions	7,384	1,830	1,339	7,875
Bail Applications	2,693	8,347	10,216	824
Criminal Appeals	14,300	2,788	1,791	15,297
Death Sentence Reference	12	12	3	21
Contempt (Criminal)	21	17	12	26
Misc. Criminal Applications	0	0	0	0
Other than above	9,681	3,450	1,877	11,254

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

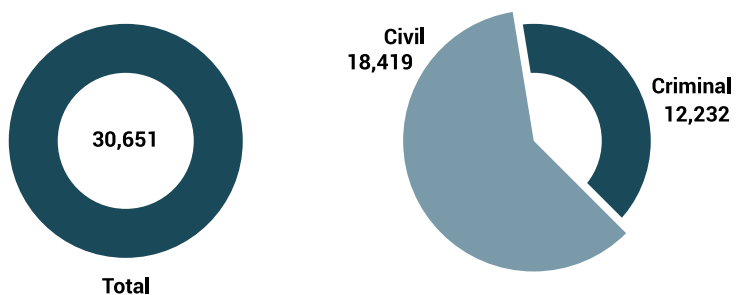
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



13 High Court of **KERALA**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Kerala*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Manikumar, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice C.T. Ravikumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Amit Rawal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R. Narayana Pisharadi
Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.M. Shaffique	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sunil Thomas	Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.G. Arun
Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Vinod Chandran	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shaji P. Chaly	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.Nagaresh
Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. Hariprasad	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Anu Sivaraman	Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.V. Anilkumar
Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Venkatanarayana Bhatti	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Raja Vijayaraghavan Valsala	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Anil Kumar
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alexander Thomas	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.P. Sudheendra Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Conrad Stansilaus Dias
Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. Muhamed Mustaque	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Mary Joseph	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.V. Kunhikrishnan
Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Jayasankaran Nambiar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sathish Ninan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.R. Ravi
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil K. Narendran	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Devan Ramachandran	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bechu Kurian Thomas
Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.M. Badar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Somarajan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Gopinath Puzhankara
Hon'ble Ms. Justice P.V. Asha	Hon'ble Ms. Justice V. Shircy	Hon'ble Ms. Justice M.R. Anitha
Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.B. Suresh Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Menon	Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Nair Haripal

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

On 1 November 1956, the High Court of Kerala came into existence, with its seat at Ernakulam. The High Court of Kerala exercises territorial jurisdiction over the entire State of Kerala and the Union Territory of Lakshadweep. The High Court has many unprecedented features to its credit. Hon'ble Ms. Justice Anna Chandy was the first woman in the history of the country to adorn the office of a High Court Judge when she was appointed to the Kerala High Court. Hon'ble Ms. Justice M. Fathima Beevi was the first woman High Court Judge to be elevated to the Supreme Court of India.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

As part of efforts to ensure overall safety and wellness of stakeholders, a series of steps were taken by the High Court, to contain the spread of Covid-19 pandemic. In tune with the Government restrictions regarding attendance, certain relaxations were given to the staff members of the High Court. The staff in the Sections of the Registry was reduced to 50% on a weekly roster basis. The officers and staff coming from 'hot spots' were asked to refrain from attending office, till the 'hot spot' status of the area was withdrawn. In order to avoid crowding and possibility of entry of high-risk persons coming in the High Court, unregistered clerks and persons coming from containment zones were not permitted to enter the High Court building.

During the judicial year 2019-20, four Munsiff-Magistrate Courts and 17 Fast Track Special Courts (for the trial of Rape and POCSO Act cases) were made functional in the State. Phase-II of Model Court project-II was implemented in 14 Civil Courts and 14 Criminal Courts in the State. Necessary furniture and modern equipment was supplied to the Subordinate Courts under the Modernization of Subordinate Courts Scheme-Phase-II. A new scheme "Basic Amenities to Public" was implemented to make courts litigant friendly by providing amenities for the public to visit the Courts.

An assessment of work done by the Subordinate Civil and Criminal Judicial Officers was made on the basis of Unit System, under which incentive points were given for the disposal of old matters, batch cases and bulky matters. In the Subordinate Courts, fixation of target was scrupulously followed to ensure better disposal of old cases. Target for disposal of cases,

especially matters which were old, was fixed for a period of one year by the District Judge or the Chief Judicial Magistrate, as the case may be, with the concurrence of the Judge-in-charge of the administration of the courts in the District. Subordinate Judicial Officers included all cases upto 2014 (5+ year old) in their target proposal for the year 2020 – 2021.

Special List System was also followed to ensure better disposal of old cases. Periodical Lok Adalats were conducted under the auspices of Kerala State Legal Services Authority (KeLSA), where large number of cases were settled. Similarly, Kerala High Court Legal Services Committee also conducted periodical Lok Adalats for speedy settlement of cases in the High Court. Periodical meetings of the SCMS Committee through Video Conference were held with the District Judge and Chief Judicial Magistrate of the all Districts and the pendency/reason for the pendency of long pending cases were closely monitored. Also, directions were given to identify the reasons for non-disposal of older matters and to take necessary steps to overcome the hurdles.

Kerala State Legal Services Authority (KeLSA) provided legal aid to 68,848 people during this year. The highlights of the activities were the legal literacy classes at Schools and Colleges, legal aid clinics in villages, Panchayats, legal aid to the Prisoners and migrant workers, training programmes to the Principals and Headmasters of schools to create awareness about violence against children, drug abuse and Cyber laws. District Legal Service Authority, Ernakulam entered the Guinness Books of World Records by conducting "HEART BEATS, 2019-Hands only CPR" wherein 28,523 students were trained to perform hands only cardiopulmonary resuscitation.



Chief Justice's Court, High Court of Kerala

The Kerala Judicial Academy conducted Knowledge Enhancement and Skill Enhancement Programmes for Judicial Officers, training for 57 trainee Judicial Officers and Faculty Members from Chandigarh Judicial Academy as part of their Bharat Darshan-cum-Knowledge Sharing Programme, Orientation workshop for the Chairpersons of District Juvenile Justice Committee and Chairpersons/ Members of Child Welfare Committee, Internship for law students from the National Law Schools and Law Colleges.

Technological Accomplishments

In view of the pandemic situation, the High Court tried to shift the work on the judicial side to online mode, to the maximum extent possible. As of now, six Division benches and eighteen Single Benches are sitting in the physical mode. Nine Single Judges are hearing admission matters by

video conferencing.

Facility for filing cases through email was adopted during the lockdown period. Orders/ Judgments issued during the lockdown period were digitally signed by the Judges and published on the High Court website. VPN access to Case Information System in the High Court was granted to Court Officers to ensure that the officials could work from home.

During the judicial year 2019-20, online filing solution for bail application matters was introduced which extended facility to Advocates to enter the required data for case analysis. The system has features of e-payment, online web editor for entry of synopsis, statement of facts, system generated docket and counter affidavit. Filing Scrutiny Officers are able to scrutinize the applications received and process them online

(reporting the defects and re-submission of the same after curing the defects). Public Prosecutor can upload statement of facts, instructions and annexures online. All the case files and documents can be viewed by Judges using the dashboard provided to them. During the period from 15-30 June 2020, 331 cases were filed through this e-filing portal and 1,224 users registered for the purpose. Further, an online application for issuance of Certified Copy was developed through which tasks such as copying, verification by Scrutiny Officers, reporting the defects, resubmitting the same after curing the defects, etc. were automated and digitally signed certified copies were to be delivered to the applicant's user dashboard and through email. During the period from 21 May 2019 to 30 June 2020, a total of 2,140 certified copies were issued online. Pre-scanning activities of the records was initiated and verification of 28,209 files (comprising of a total number of 13,33,948 pages) was completed as on 30 June 2020. A web application for managing duties and leave of chauffeurs of the High Court was developed and implemented.

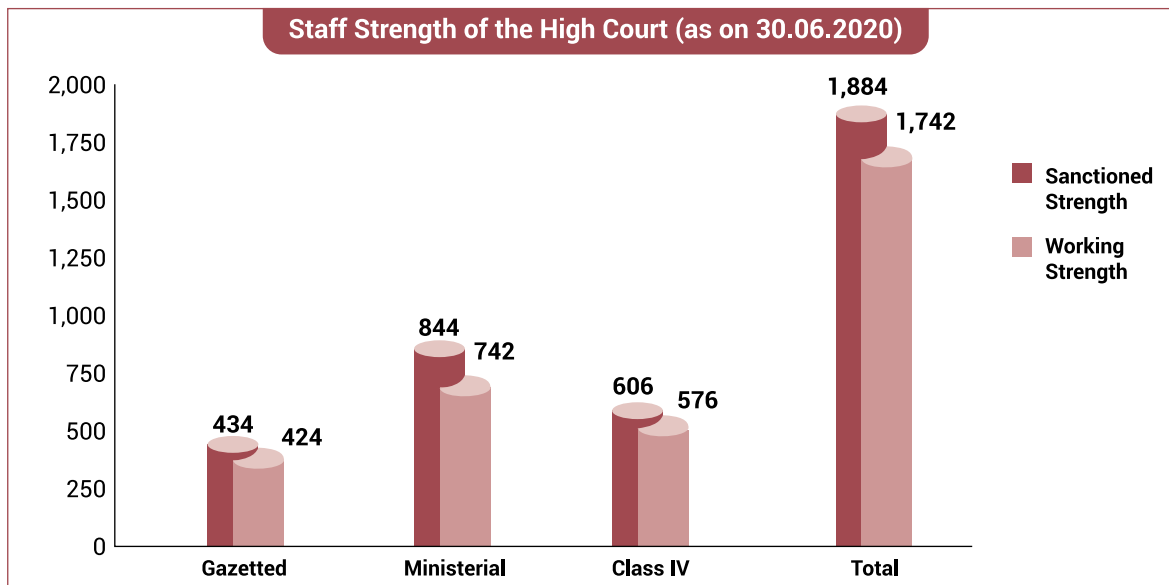
Migration to CIS 3.2 was completed in 447 establishments in the Subordinate Courts of Kerala and Lakshadweep. CIS 3.2 has the option to facilitate e-payment and e-filing and needs to be integrated with Treasury/Bank for commencing the application. Video Conferencing facility was implemented and completed in 343 locations (one studio each in 284 Courts and 59 studios in 39 Jails). Justice clock was installed and it started functioning in the High Court. ICJS(Inter-operable Criminal justice System) was implemented and is operational in all the criminal courts in the State. Steps were taken to provide smart phones to all Process servers and Bailiffs for implementing the NSTEP service that helps to track the movement and delivery of

Process. E-Courts Hub (HAMOSS) software was developed for monitoring Hardware systems & Accessories in Subordinate Courts.

The e-granthalaya software for retrieving details of books in the High Court Library was upgraded to online mode. The High Court Library also started digitization of Settlement Registers (a rare collection) comprising of Survey & Settlement Register-Cochin, Revenue Settlement Register-Travancore and Jenmikaram Settlement Register-Travancore.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	2,16,00,000	4,56,00,000	3,07,00,000
Non-Plan	1,37,71,16,000	1,40,85,67,000	1,34,64,93,000
Total	1,39,87,16,000	1,45,41,67,000	1,37,71,93,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** Data revised by the High Court

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	47
Working Strength of Judges	37

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	31
Highest	37

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	18,015
------------------------------	--------

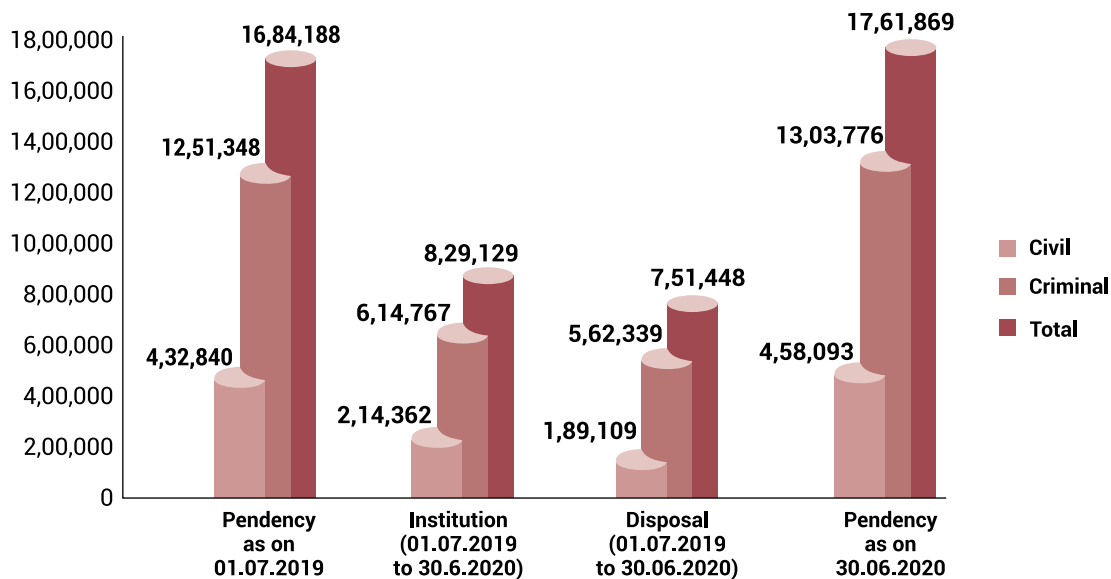
HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

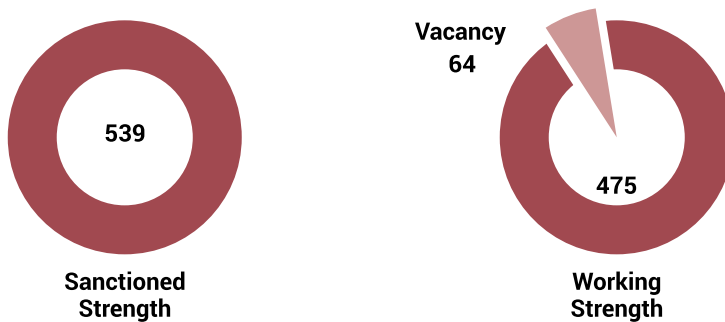
Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	75,164	35,888	31,586	79,466
Company Matters	5,216	555	673	5,098
Contempt (Civil)	3,447	2,375	1,857	3,965
Review (Civil)	1,791	1,158	1,102	1,847
Matrimonial Matters	6,222	951	1,359	5,814
Arbitration Matters	549	160	132	577
Civil Revisions	4,433	1,237	629	5,041
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	508	206	108	606
Civil Appeals	25,436	3,660	4,562	24,534
Land Acquisition Matters	1,815	312	353	1,774
MACT Matters	22,739	2,727	1,619	23,847
Civil Suits (Original Side)	32	5	2	35
Other than above	3,123	1,509	1,443	3,189
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	680	890	806	764
Criminal Revisions	13,988	1,477	1,177	14,288
Bail Applications	508	8,743	8,109	1,142
Criminal Appeals	18,038	1,312	1,226	18,124
Death Sentence Reference	15	0	3	12
Contempt (Criminal)	6	4	2	8
Misc. Criminal Applications	9,242	7,838	6,167	10,913
Other than above	186	530	459	257

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

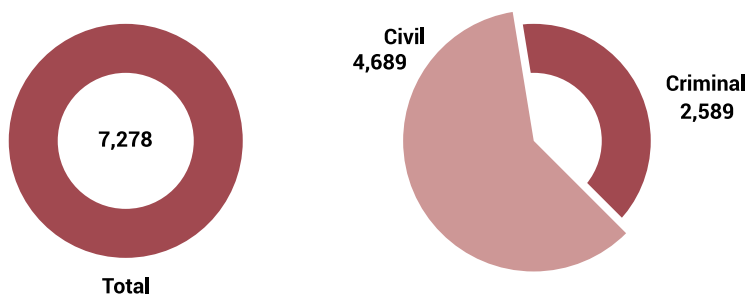
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



14 High Court of **MADHYA PRADESH**



Principal Seat at Jabalpur

Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Yadav, Acting Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Satish Chandra Sharma	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jagdish Prasad Gupta	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Akhil Kumar Srivastava
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prakash Shrivastava	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Nandita Dubey	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Brij Kishore Shrivastava
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sheel Nagu	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajeev Kumar Dubey	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajendra Kumar Srivastava
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sujoy Paul	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Anjali Palo	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mohd. Fahim Anwar
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rohit Arya	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Virender Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vishnu Pratap Singh Chauhan
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Vandana Kasrekar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.K. Awasthi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajeev Kumar Shrivastava
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Atul Sreedharan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vijay Kumar Shukla	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shailendra Shukla
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sushrut Arvind Dharmadhikari	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.S. Ahluwalia	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vishal Dhagat
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Rusia	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Subodh Abhyankar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vishal Mishra
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anand Pathak	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Dwivedi	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The State of Madhya Pradesh which came into existence on 1st November, 1956 under the State Reorganization Act, 1956, earlier formed part of "Central Province and Berar" and was within the jurisdiction of Nagpur. The Nagpur High Court was established for Central Province and Berar by virtue of the Letters Patent dated 2 January 1936, issued under Section 108 of the Government of India Act, 1915, by King Emperor, George the Fifth. The said Letters Patent continued in force even after adoption of the Constitution of India on 26 January 1950, by virtue of Article 225 and 372 thereof. After creation of the State of Madhya Pradesh, the Nagpur High Court was shifted

to Jabalpur with effect from 1 November 1956, and rechristened as High Court of Madhya Pradesh with its Principal Seat at Jabalpur. There are two permanent Benches of the High Court- one at Indore and the other at Gwalior. The High Court of Madhya Pradesh at Jabalpur is functional in the building which was designed by Henry Irwin, CIE, PWD, in 1886 and completed in 1889. The building is constructed in brick-lime with ornamental towers and cornices. The architecture of the building is mixed baroque and oriental.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

In view of Covid-19 pandemic, common areas of the court complex including rest rooms, corridors, stair cases etc. were sanitized regularly. Judges, Registry Officers and employees of the High Court were provided face masks and sanitizers. The functioning of the Registry started from 4 May 2020, initially with limited staff (30%), which was subsequently increased to 50%. Entry of vehicles was prohibited in the campus of the High Court. Entry of officers and employees was restricted to a single gate equipped with thermal scanning facility. Health check-up and Covid tests were arranged and conducted regularly for the officers and employees suffering from fever, cold and cough. Cases filed by e-filing were heard before the Benches as per Roster/Assignment through Video Conferencing. High Court of Madhya Pradesh conducted 69,552 number of video conferencing during lockdown till 31 August 2020. The District Judiciary conducted 2,01,074 number of video conferencing in the similar period. During the lockdown, 21,045 cases were filed at the High Court through e-filing and 114 cases filed at the District & Session Courts through e-filing. During COVID period, special Camps for migrants were organized by DLSAs to provide food items, water,

mask, sanitizer etc. to needy migrants. Camps at Jail & at the Panchayat level were held through virtual mode. Legal Literacy was disseminated through e-Modes including short duration audio/visual capsules, use of community radio and Doordarshan. Madhya Pradesh State Judicial Academy (MPSJA) in order to ensure the safety of Judges, resorted to online methods for carrying out training programmes in the months of May and June, 2020.

During judicial year, approximately 9,203 camps were held by the M.P. State Legal Services Authority (MPSLSA) through which 9,42,054 persons benefited at District & Taluka level. For entitlement of free legal aid, income limit was increased from Rs. 1 Lakh to Rs. 2 Lakh to enable more people to benefit from the scheme. Toll Free number 15,100 was made available for litigants, advocates and general public through which counselling and advice is given on 24x7 basis.

Four ADR Centres were setup and 14 Mediation Centres constructed in the said period. Community Mediation Programme was adopted to impart mediation skills. 46 Judges & five DLAOs were imparted Mediation Training. Mediation Refresher Training was imparted to 13 Advocates, Social Workers and Law Students.



Online mediation portal was also developed and made functional as "Project Saarthi" in coordination with NLIU wherein Pre-litigation matters are being taken up. 15,699 matters were settled through mediation during the judicial year. On account of Lok-Adalat, e-Lok Adalats and plea-bargaining, 2,41,140 matters were settled during the said period. Legal Aid was provided to 21,069 persons and Legal Advice provided to 2,10,126 others. 2,355 cases were referred under Scheme for remand advocates in Magistrate Courts. 557 applications were disposed through Matrimonial Dispute Resolution Centre and 6,083 others through District Counseling Centre. 164 applications were disposed through Crime against Labour Cell and 1,156 others through Women and Child Protection Unit. 22,677 persons benefited through PLVs deployed in Legal Services Clinics

established in the State. 872 applications were decided under M.P. Victim compensation scheme with a total award of Rs. 9,22,49,103/-.

In all, 60 educational programmes were conducted by the Madhya Pradesh State Judicial Academy (MPSJA) including Induction, Foundation/Orientation and Refresher Courses for newly appointed and in-service Judges of all cadres, Ministerial Staff of District Courts and other stakeholders of Justice Dispensation System. The Academy also conducted Special Training programme for Judicial Officers of Bangladesh: Phase-II from 21-28 February 2020. The Academy conducted six workshops for other stakeholders; one workshop for Presiding Officers of Labour Court, four workshops for Advocates and one programme for Panel Lawyers of the



A view of the High Court Building at Jabalpur

High Court Legal Services Committee, Jabalpur. Further, the Academy conducted 12 training programmes for the ministerial staff of District Courts at their respective district headquarters.

Technological Accomplishments

The High Court of Madhya Pradesh e-inaugurated several Court Buildings online with the use of Information Technology.

The entire records of the High Court are being digitized. Digitization & Elimination of Records Rules were framed by the High Court. Digitization of approximately 38.63 lakh files comprising of 15.40 crore pages was completed. Digitization of 9,229 Law books comprising of about 58.04 lakh pages was also undertaken. Approximately 56,561 files and 19,10,762 pages were scanned

from 1 December 2019 to 31 August 2020. Steps were taken for digitization of District Court Records and Rules were framed and notified by the High Court.

Facility of e-Filing was started at High Court and District Courts. 3,825 Advocates and 35 Litigants in person registered for e-filing process. The e-filing rules were published on 6 June 2020. Online Court Fee Module was started for making e-payment of Court Fees and other related fees. Other technological achievements included integration of Investigating Officer's database maintained in Crime and Criminal Tracking Networks System of Police Department (CCTNS) with the database of the District and Tehsil Courts; and digital signing of interim orders, final orders and judgments and availability of the same on



Gwalior Bench, High Court of Madhya Pradesh

intranet and website of the High Court.

From 01 January 2019 to 31 August 2020, 7,83,462 digitally signed Judgments/ Orders were uploaded on the website of the High Court. Latest Touch Screen Information KIOSK Machines was provided to Bar Association of the High Court. E-paper books of the meetings were provided to the respective committees through website of the High Court. Automatic email notification regarding disposal of cases by the High Court to District Courts is now in place. Directions of the High Court are also automatically sent to the District Courts for compliance via e-mail.

E-Auction services for disposal of old used/ obsolete items; and facility to Government Departments/Organizations to view Petition Copy,

Judgment/orders and other relevant data though login ID & password was provided on the website of the High Court. Also, Log-in ID and password was provided to Superintendents of Police to track the memo/summons/Non-Bailable warrant issued by the High Court and their service report. Citizen centric facilities such as Centralized Filing Centres, Digital Display System/Panels and touch screen based Information Kiosks Machine were installed in each Court Complex. 216 touch screen Information KIOSK machines were provided at all Jails/Sub-Jails in the State by the High Court in order to facilitate Jail inmates and other duty holders. 1481 Display Panels were provided at District Courts and Tehsil Courts in the State of Madhya Pradesh in order to display information pertaining to case number and status for Litigants



Indore Bench, High Court of Madhya Pradesh

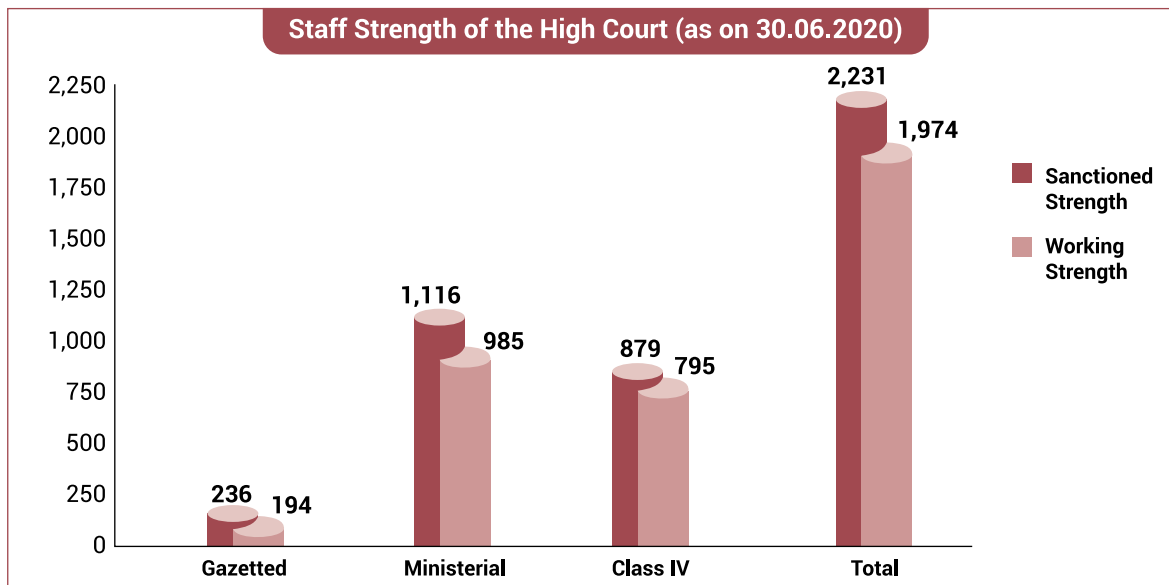
and other duty holders.

For the subordinate courts of Madhya Pradesh, the "District Courts of Madhya Pradesh Video Conferencing Rules, 2018" was notified in the official gazette. 1,668 video conferencing systems were purchased for all District and Tehsil Courts, Jails/Sub-Jails and Hospitals. At present, all the District Court complexes are equipped with Video Conferencing facility with Central Jails/ District Jails/Sub Jails. Such facility has also been extended to Civil/ District Hospitals by the High Court. Installation of CCTV cameras in the pilot phase was completed at the District Courts of Ujjain and Katni. State-of-the-Art Computer Lab and CCTV camera system were installed in the Judicial Academy. ICJS System has been

implemented at District Courts in the State of M.P. CIS 3.2 Version has been implemented in District Courts of the State. E-Seva Kendra was made functional at the Districts Courts of Bhopal, Dewas, Gwalior, Neemuch, Rajgarh, Shajapur, Shivpuri & Sagar.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	49,00,03,000	50,86,76,000	36,84,50,000
Non-Plan	1,68,51,95,100	1,88,01,90,000	1,75,61,31,000
Total	2,17,51,98,100	2,38,88,66,000	2,12,45,81,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** Data revised by the High Court

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	53
Working Strength of Judges	31

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	30
Highest	33

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	80,693
------------------------------	--------

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

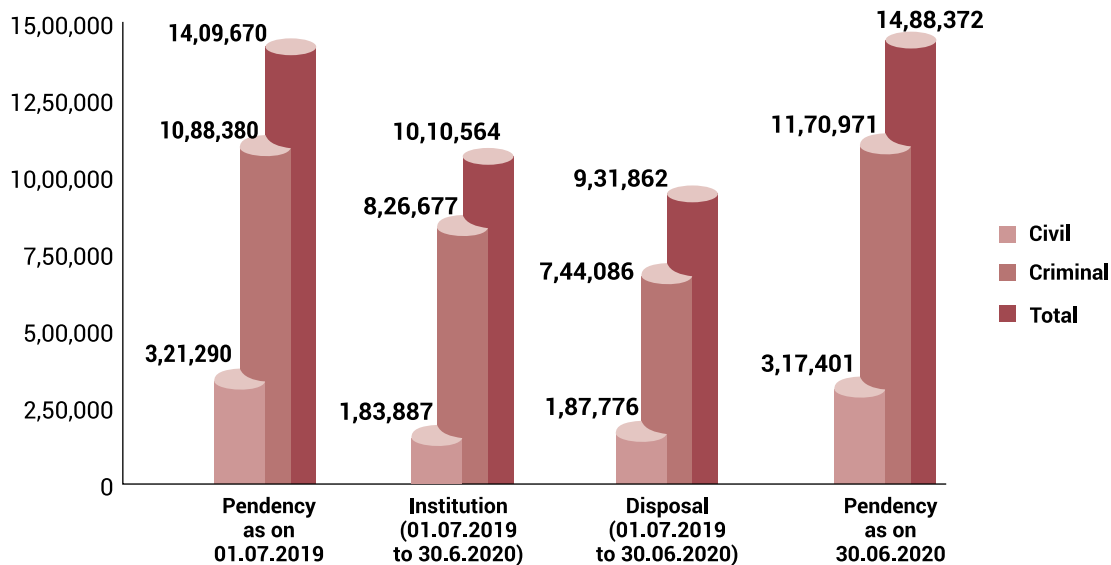
Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)*	92,999	30,756	23,141	1,00,614
Company Matters	207	17	21	203
Contempt (Civil)	8,154	2,900	2,389	8,665
Review (Civil)	1,090	1,679	1,502	1,267
Matrimonial Matters	3,446	1,397	427	4,416
Arbitration Matters	806	218	227	797
Civil Revisions	3,448	671	494	3,625
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	2,616	240	820	2,036
Civil Appeals	50,232	3,757	1,944	52,045
Land Acquisition Matters	5,992	1,086	656	6,422
MACT Matters	38,134	5,590	3,303	40,421
Civil Suits (Original Side)	0	0	0	0
Other than above*	7,094	4,723	4,856	6,961
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)*	1,380	1,060	872	1,568
Criminal Revisions	29,002	4,930	3,306	30,626
Bail Applications	4,531	44,595	41,242	7,884
Criminal Appeals	78,376	6,800	1,652	83,524
Death Sentence Reference	10	9	7	12
Contempt (Criminal)	31	10	8	33
Misc. Criminal Applications	18,745	8,768	7,692	19,821
Other than above	2	0	0	2

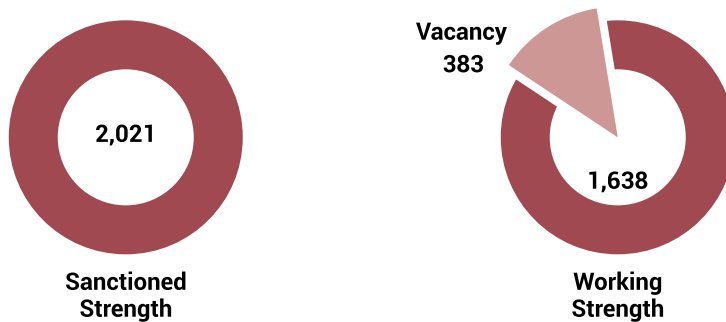
* Opening balance modified by the High Court

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

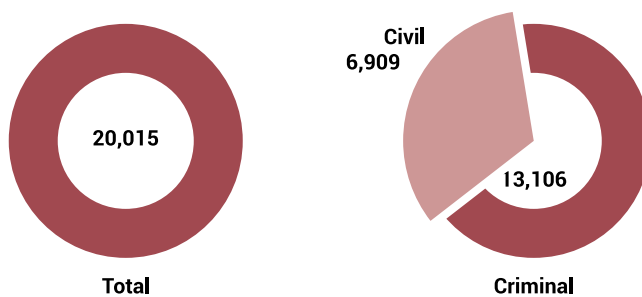
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



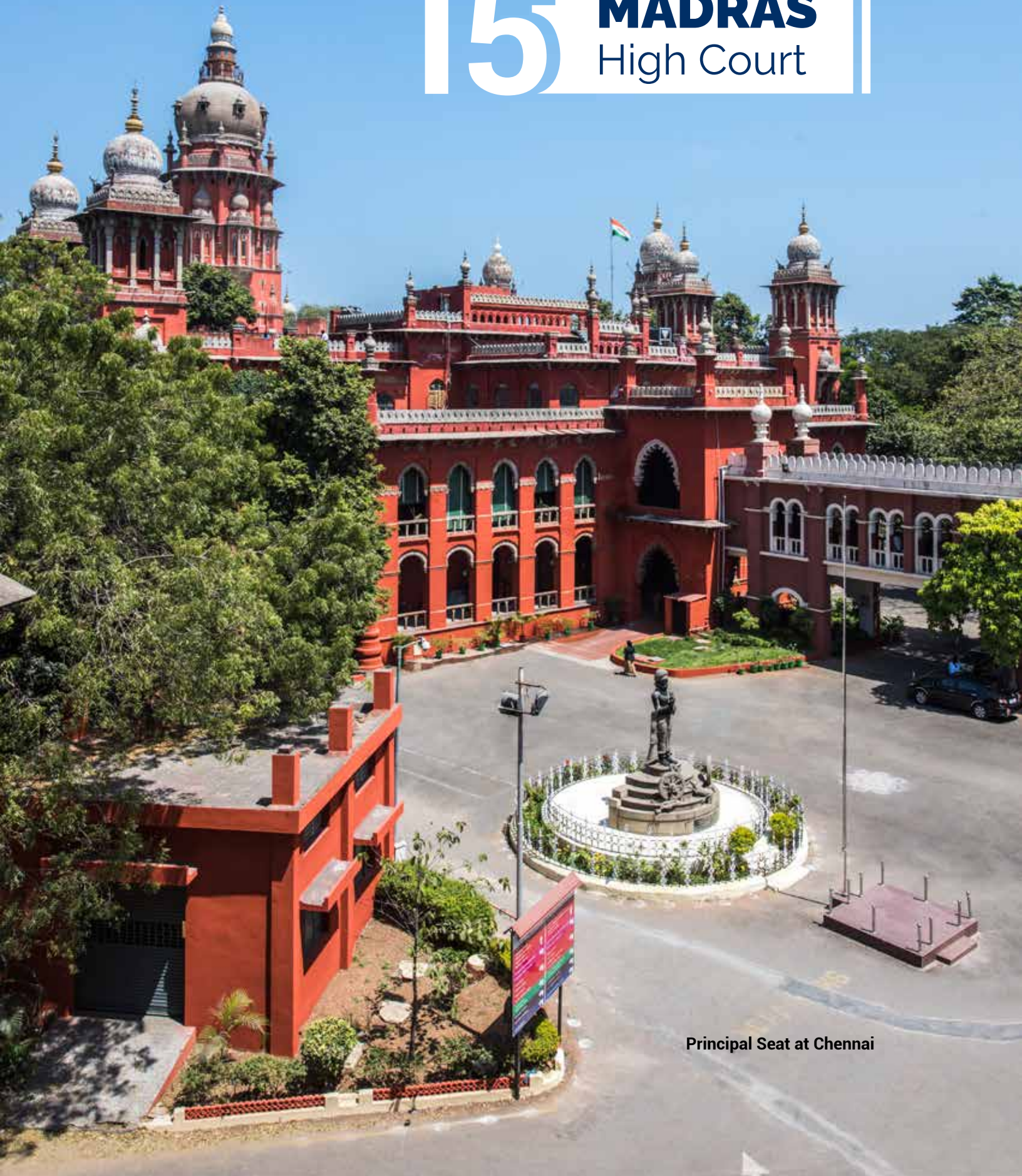
Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



15 MADRAS High Court



Principal Seat at Chennai

Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the Madras High Court*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.P. Sahi, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vineet Kothari	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R. Subramanian	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Abdul Quddhose
Hon'ble Mr. Justice R. Subbiah	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Govindaraj	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Dhandapani
Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Sathyanarayanan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Sundar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.D.Audikesavalu
Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.G. Kirubakaran	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R. Suresh Kumar	Hon'ble Ms. Justice R. Tharani
Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.M. Sundresh	Hon'ble Ms. Justice J.Nisha Banu	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Rajamanickam
Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Sivagnanam	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.S. Ramesh	Hon'ble Ms. Justice T. Krishnavalli
Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Duraiswamy	Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.M. Subramaniam	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R. Pongiappan
Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. Raja	Hon'ble Dr. Justice Anita Sumanth	Hon'ble Ms. Justice R. Hemalatha
Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.N. Prakash	Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. Ravindran	Hon'ble Ms. Justice P.T. Asha
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Velmurugan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M. Nirmal Kumar
Hon'ble Mr. Justice K. Kalyanasundaram	Hon'ble Dr. Justice G. Jayachandran	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Anand Venkatesh
Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Vaidyanathan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice C.V. Karthikeyan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.K. Ilanthiraiyan
Hon'ble Mr. Justice R. Mahadevan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.M.T. Teekaa Raman	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Krishnan Ramasamy
Hon'ble Ms. Justice V.M.Velumani	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Sathish Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice C. Saravanan
Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Bharathidasan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Seshasayee	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. Pugalendhi
Hon'ble Mr. Justice D. Krishnakumar	Hon'ble Ms. Justice V. Bhavani Subbaroyan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Senthilkumar Ramamoorthy
Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.S. Sundar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.D. Jagadish Chandira	
Hon'ble Mr. Justice V. Parthiban	Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.R. Swaminathan	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The High Court of Judicature at Madras for the Presidency of Madras was established by virtue of the Letters Patent dated 26 June 1862. In 1953, the erstwhile State of Madras was bifurcated and a separate High Court for Andhra Pradesh was established. Subsequently, the jurisdiction of the High Court got extended to Pondicherry with effect from 6 November 1962. The High Court of Madras has its Principal seat at Chennai and a Permanent Bench in Madurai. The High Court of Madras at Chennai is housed in an old building, built in 1892 in Indo-Saracenic architectural style.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

In view of Covid-19 pandemic, the entry and exit from the High Court premises was limited to two gates, and thermal scanning was done for all the entrants. Staff members attended office on rotation basis with bare minimum strength, not exceeding 50%. Homoeopathy and Allopathy medicines and health concoctions were distributed to Judges, Officers, and Staff Members on regular basis. A Siddha Clinic was inaugurated on 16 July 2020 inside the High Court campus. Various measures for containing and preventing the spread of the Covid-19 outbreak were undertaken by the subordinate courts including thermal screening of entrants, restrictions on entries and exits, sanitization, closure of common areas like canteens, eateries etc. Arrangements were made for the presence of Paramedical/Medical Staff through District Administration/ Chief Medical Officer, apart from availability of thermal scanners, sufficient quantity of sanitizing materials, to the Courts.

From 26 March to 15 September 2020, more than

42,000 cases were disposed of by the High Court, at the Principal Seat at Madras and the Madurai Bench, combined. More than 1,29,000 cases were disposed of in the subordinate courts throughout the State of Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Puducherry, in the same period.

During the judicial year, a number of initiatives were taken by the High Court. While the face lifting, conservation and restoration work of the 125 years old High Court Heritage Building is in progress, quarters were inaugurated to accommodate 54 Courts and 35 Judicial Officers. Further, foundation stone was laid for construction of 17 Court Halls, 16 Judicial Officer quarters, and 2 Vulnerable and Child witnesses Court Halls. 90 New Courts in various cadres were inaugurated in the judicial year. A child information system software was developed with the help of Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency, and a grand awareness programme was organized on 3 August 2019 with the aim of preventing child abuse. To promote awareness for protection of children from sexual abuse and assault, audio-video slogans were projected in Theatres across



Tamil Nadu from 15 - 24 July 2019 and 20 - 27 August 2019. Further, 16 Fast Track Special Courts in the cadre of District Judge were constituted for exclusive trial of cases under the POCSO Act, 2012.

The Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority, District Legal Services Authorities, and the Taluk Legal Services Committees organized 4,400 Lok Adalats during the judicial year. 9.27 lakh cases were taken up for settlement, and 3.67 lakh cases were settled successfully. In the Pre-Litigation Lok Adalats, 4.07 lakh cases were taken up, out of which 44,108 cases were settled successfully. 23 Prison Adalats were organized in which 177 prisoners were released, and in the nine pension

Lok Adalats conducted, 31 cases were settled successfully. 5,695 Legal Literacy and Awareness Camps were organized on various schemes launched by NALSA for the benefit of the villagers and the general public. 73 training programmes for panel lawyers and 58 Training Programmes for Para Legal Volunteers were conducted. 13 Workshops were conducted for Judicial Officers and Government Officials. The Legal Services Authority rendered legal assistance to 37,484 needy people. In various Lok Adalats conducted in Union Territory of Puducherry by Union Territory of Pondicherry Legal Services Authority (UTPLSA), 3,758 cases were settled, including 76 Motor Accident Claim cases. UTPLSA also organised 126 Legal Awareness Camps with



Madurai Bench, Madras High Court

8,735 participants. It also started a "Toll Free Help Line" for the general public to seek legal advice over phone.

The Tamil Nadu Mediation and Conciliation Centre organized a 40 Hours Mediation Training Programme for sitting Judges of the High Court of Madras in two spells, from 5 to 7 July 2019 and 12 to 14 July 2019. During the judicial year, in 11 districts, 40 Hours Mediation Training Programme was conducted and 343 Advocates were trained as Mediators. During the said period 12,398 cases were referred before the Mediation Centre, out of which, 1,872 cases were settled.

On 15-16 February 2020, a National Conference

on speedy and effective trial of offences against women and children was held at the Tamil Nadu State Judicial Academy. During the judicial year, 19 Induction Training programmes and 37 Refresher Training Programmes for the Judicial Officers and 23 Refresher Training programmes for the staff members of the High Court and subordinate courts were conducted at the Academy. 1,692 Advocates were imparted Refresher Training. Further, four webinar sessions were also conducted for the Civil Judges.

Technological Accomplishments

In order to clear the obsolete and non-usable IT products in Courts, e-Waste IT products disposal



Aerial view of Madurai Bench, Madras High Court

was undertaken with the help of the Recyclers and Dismantlers, registered with, and authorized by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai.

The High Court with the help of Tamil Nadu Energy Development Agency (TEDA) procured and installed solar panels in 14 selected Court Complexes in the State. The High Court formulated the "The Madras High Court Video-Conferencing in Courts Rules, 2020" and the same was published in the Tamil Nadu Government Gazette on 15 July 2020. The said Rules are also available in the Madras High Court Website (www.hcmadras.tn.nic.in).

During the lockdown, the Madras High Court, both at the Principal Seat and Madurai Bench, conducted virtual court hearings through Video Conferencing. The Tamil Nadu e-Governance Agency (TNeGA) provided Microsoft Teams

Software based video conferencing licences for 54 Judges, 1068 Judicial Officers in the State of Tamil Nadu and 15 Registrars at the Madras High Court and Madurai Bench to conduct the court proceedings/meetings in the High Court and the District Judiciary in the State. JITSI Open Source Video Conferencing software application was also installed at both the Benches and in the District and Taluk courts in the State, enabling the Judges and Judicial Officers to participate in Virtual Court hearings. An Awareness Webinar Programme for Advocates at the District Level was conducted on the topic "e-Filing and e-Courts Services" on 25 July 2020, with over 6000 participants. Under e-Courts project, the Audio Jingle prepared by the Department of Justice was shared for broadcasting through FM radios. The CCTV footage of the District Courts was aggregated at the Principal Seat of the High

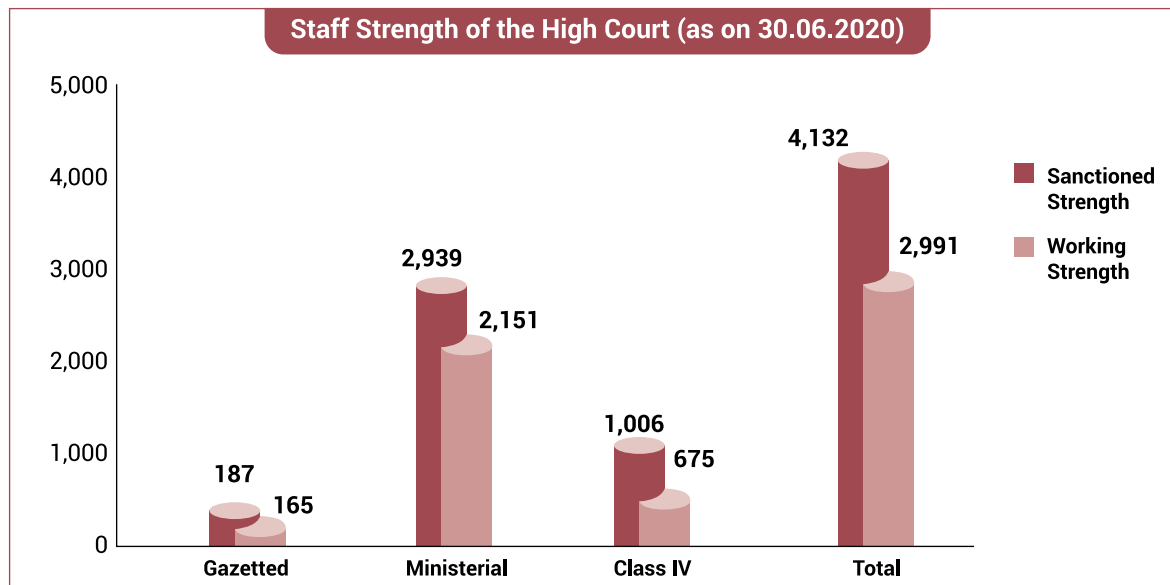
Court, ensuring a single terminal to view all the CCTV footages of District and Taluk Courts. This facility was extensively used by the High Court to assess and give instructions during the Covid-19 pandemic situation in the District Courts.

The High Court implemented e-Service Centre at both the Benches of the High Court. At Taluk level, Yercaud Taluk in Salem District was selected as a pilot location for implementation of e-Service Centre, and was inaugurated on 17 September 2020. The Virtual Court project was implemented in XXI and XXII Metropolitan Magistrate Courts of Chennai (Mobile Courts), whereby the offender/ violator is provided with an additional facility to pay the fine/penalty online. A total fine amount of Rs.15,76,000/- was collected in Chennai, during the period from 1 March 2020 to 17 August 2020 through Virtual Court. The High Court implemented the e-filing facility from 22 April 2020, for bail matters for the present.

The State Government amended the Tamil Nadu Court Fees and Suit Valuation Act, 1955, by promulgating an ordinance to enable e-payment of Court Fee on the request of the High Court. The High Court of Madras entered into an MoU with the State Bank of India on 6 September 2019 for enabling e-payment of Court fee, Fine, Penalty and Judicial deposits by integrating the Case Information System with SBI ePay payment gateway. The task of digitization of permanent case records and administrative records of the principal seat of the Madras High Court is being carried out, and 56,50,283 pages have been digitized so far.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	2,47,26,37,000	2,64,35,29,000	2,80,50,81,000
Total	2,47,26,37,000	2,64,35,29,000	2,80,50,81,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	75
Working Strength of Judges	54

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	54
Highest	58

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	30,088
------------------------------	--------

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

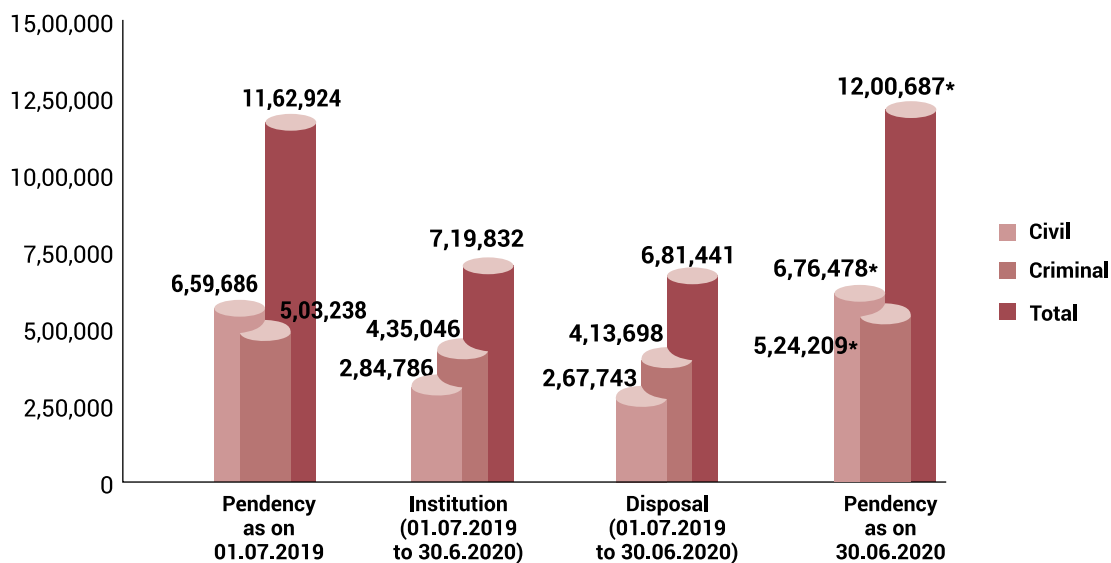
Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	1,33,187	44,031	50,564	1,26,654
Company Matters	925	06	16	915
Contempt (Civil)*	6,380	3,341	3,265	6,456
Review (Civil)	3,644	662	669	3,637
Matrimonial Matters	01	0	0	01
Arbitration Matters	858	394	685	567
Civil Revisions	18,479	5,387	6,384	17,482
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	6,870	953	1,641	6,182
Civil Appeals	6,294	2,131	1,937	6,488
Land Acquisition Matters	6,655	1,312	973	6,994
MACT Matters	9,904	2,218	3,585	8,537
Civil Suits (Original Side)	6,591	499	1,864	5,226
Other than above*	53,847	8,329	9,540	52,636
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	1,510	4,295	4,135	1,670
Criminal Revisions	4,976	2,448	2,530	4,894
Bail Applications	890	14,700	13,785	1,805
Criminal Appeals	4,947	1,390	1,612	4,725
Death Sentence Reference	02	05	0	07
Contempt (Criminal)	0	0	0	0
Misc. Criminal Applications	51,412	22,901	21,900	52,413
Other than above	17,792	31,774	34,895	14,671

* Opening balance modified by the High Court

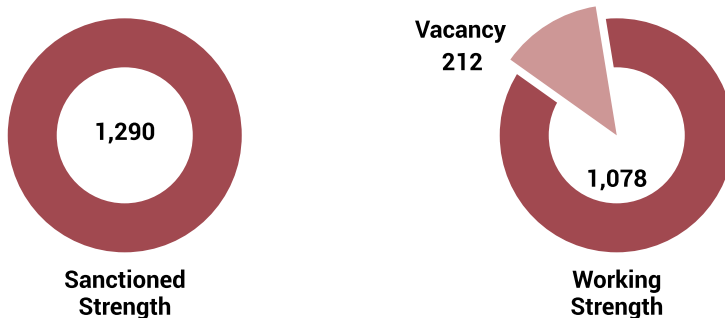
SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

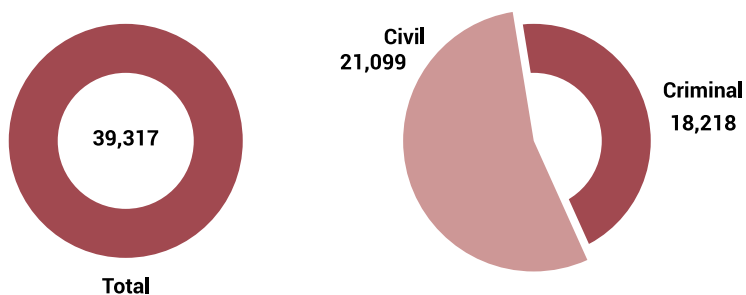


* Closing balance modified by the High Court

Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



16 High Court of **MANIPUR**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Manipur*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ramalingam Sudhakar, Chief Justice	
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Lanusungkum Jamir	Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.V. Muralidaran
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Khwairakpam Nobin Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ahanthem Bimol Singh

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The State of Manipur was merged with the Union of India in the year 1949 and became a Part C State and later on a Union Territory and subsequently a full-fledged State in the year 1972. The Manipur Courts Act, 1955 was enacted by the Parliament and the Court of Judicial Commissioner (equivalent to a High Court for certain purposes), and other courts were created. After attaining Statehood in 1972, the Court of Judicial Commissioner was abolished. Manipur was brought under the common Gauhati High Court. Later Imphal Bench of Gauhati High Court came into existence on 21 January 1972. A Permanent Bench of Gauhati High Court became functional from the year 1992 at Imphal. Finally, the separate High Court of Manipur came into existence on 23 March 2013 along with the High Courts of Tripura and Meghalaya. The new high court complex consists of seven court halls (inclusive of the Administrative Block) and is located at the foothill of Langol Hills. The complex has Sub-Post Office, a full-fledged bank branch with ATM facility, a Health Centre with permanent doctors, and supports staff. Offices of the High Court Bar Association, Bar Council of Manipur, and Government Advocates are situated in the high court complex. A state-of-the-art auditorium with a seating capacity of about 270 persons is also situated in the high court complex.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

In compliance with directions dated 6 April 2020 of Supreme Court of India for maintaining social distancing and for effective access to justice by conducting court proceeding through Video Conferencing for both high court and district courts during Covid-19 pandemic, the High Court of Manipur issued notification dated 8 April 2020 containing guidelines for filing of cases through email and hearing of court proceedings through video conferencing facility both in the high court and district courts. As far as possible, court proceedings were conducted through video conferencing but when not feasible, limited physical court hearings were conducted by adhering to strict Covid-19 protocol. To reduce crowding in court complexes, the High Court issued guidelines for listing of only urgent and motion matters. Entry of litigants and others to court complexes was restricted except with the permission of the court. Regular sanitization of the court complexes was done. Wearing of face masks was made compulsory.

During the Covid-19 lockdown period from 16 March 2020 to 31 August 2020, in the High Court, 212 cases were filed through email filing, 2,602 cases were heard in virtual courts through video conferencing and 250 cases were disposed of by virtual courts. During the same period, in the District Courts 153 cases were filed through email filing, 244 cases were heard by virtual courts and 173 cases were disposed of by virtual courts.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, the Manipur State Legal Services Authority (MASLSA) assisted stranded Manipuris in other States and also outsiders stranded in Manipur. More than 20,000 stranded Manipuris were assisted in form of supply of food items, help in transit

with the assistance of various SLSAs. Assistance was provided to 1500 persons for their return to Manipur. 2,654 migrants residing in Manipur were assisted in terms of food, transit, etc. in coordination with District Administration. 3,770 Frontline Warriors such as Health Workers, Police & Traffic Personnel, Newspaper Hawkers, Truck drivers and Sanitary workers, etc. were provided with face masks, sanitizers, gloves, leaflets as a token of appreciation for their invaluable service. Webinars were regularly conducted during pandemic for reaching out to the PLVs and public.

On the insistence and discussion with the High Court, the State Government has recently created 30 posts for High Court and 65 posts for District Courts of different grades of employees. In compliance of PIL order passed by the High Court, State Government created four posts of Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board to be manned by Manipur Judicial Service Grade-III Officer (i.e. Civil Judge, Jr. Div. grade) and creation of five more posts have been approved by the State Cabinet.

During the year 2019-20, three Mega and 11 Mini Legal Services Camps were organized in which more than 10,800 persons participated and 5,286 persons benefited from various welfare schemes such as, Chief Minister Health Scheme, Old Age Pension Scheme, Aadhar Card, etc. In four National Lok Adalats and one special Lok Adalat, 2,013 cases were amicably settled. On 2 September 2020, MASLSA conducted the first-ever online Lok Adalat and 12 MACT cases were listed keeping in mind the Covid-19 pandemic. Out of these, seven cases were amicably settled. During this period, 199 cases were referred for Mediation from various Courts, out of which 44 cases were settled amicably.



A view of the Manipur High Court

Manipur State Legal Services Rules, 1996 was amended by way of a State Government Notification dated 17 December 2019 to include "Transgenders", "Senior Citizens" and "Persons infected/affected by HIV" in the category of persons entitled to free legal aid irrespective of their income.

Around 23,900 persons visited various legal services clinics and 11,752 persons were provided legal advice and other services such as assisting in getting facilities of Food Security Act, the opening of bank account, etc. 473 UTPs were provided legal representations by Remand Lawyers and another 736 prisoners were provided legal assistance in form of advice, drafting of applications, etc. 387 eligible persons were provided court-based legal aid to conduct their cases. 329 prisoners interacted under NALSA's campaign for legal services to the family members of prisoners. 39 family members were assisted in availing of various welfare schemes.

During the judicial year, Manipur Judicial Academy (MJA) conducted 26 training programmes ranging from regular training of Judicial Officers to Prosecutors and members of JJBs and CWCs to Police Officers and other allied groups. A notable training programme was "Capacity Building of Law Graduates before their enrolment as Advocates". During Covid-19 pandemic, online trainings were also conducted.

Technological Accomplishments

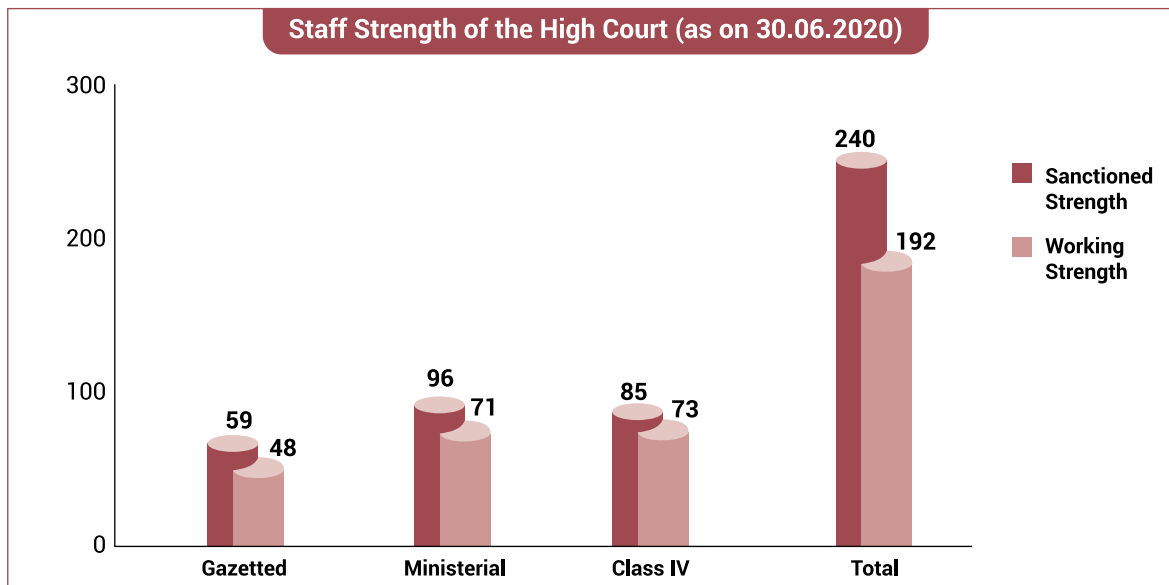
As a result of monitoring by the High Court in PIL No. 10 of 2013, State Wide Area Network (SWAN) connectivity reached all the 15 court complexes of the State. As on 7 September 2020, MPLS WAN connectivity under eCourt Project Phase-II reached 14 court complexes. Scanning and digitization work was started on 5 March 2019 and as on 7 September 2020, a total number of 14,73,136 pages were scanned and verified.

On 6 August 2019, High Court became the first bulk consumer in the State of Manipur to dispose of E-waste as per the E-Waste (Management) Rules 2016. On 28 September 2019, Digital Signature Certificates with Tokens were procured for all Judicial Officers for attaching digital signatures to the judgments, orders, communications, and other documents. Necessary training was given to use them. Regarding the implementation of the Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS), on 22 June 2020, consumption of FIR and Charge-sheet was successfully tested at one pilot location, ie. Cheirap Court, Imphal West.

On 25 July 2020, High Court successfully conducted training for advocates on e-Court services and e-Filing. Around 200 advocates participated in the programme and efforts were made to train them as Master Trainers to impart training to other advocates and advocate's clerks. High Court opened a dedicated bank account for receiving ecourt fees. Necessary amendment was made in the Court Fees Act by the State Government. On 5 September 2020, the High Court of Manipur went "LIVE" with regard to e-Filing.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019**	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	18,30,00,000	25,65,37,000	49,76,01,000
Total	18,30,00,000	25,65,37,000	49,76,01,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]
 ** Data revised by the High Court

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges **5**

Working Strength of Judges **5**

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest **4**

Highest **5**

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old **39**

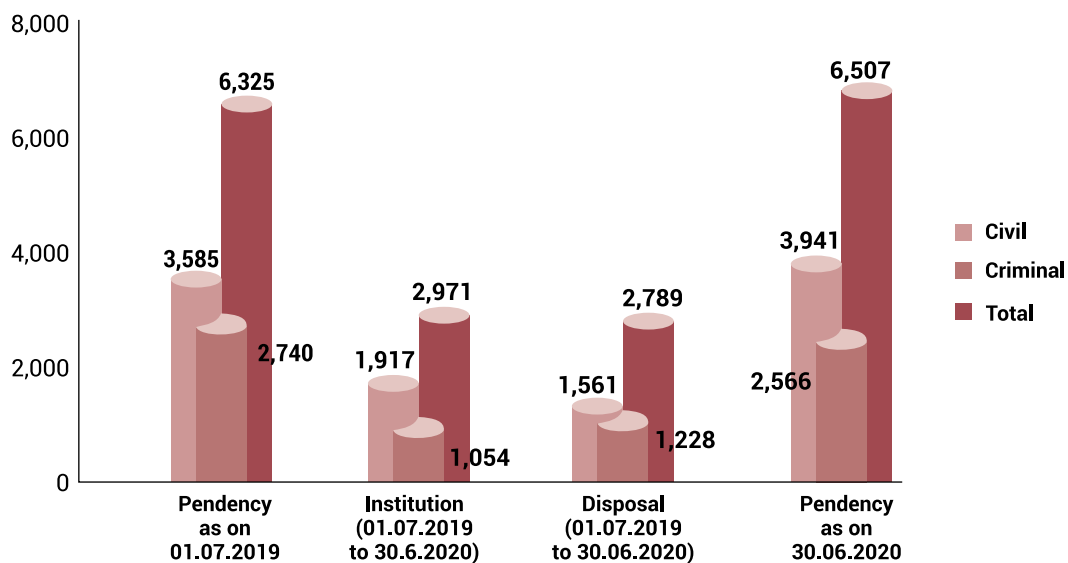
HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

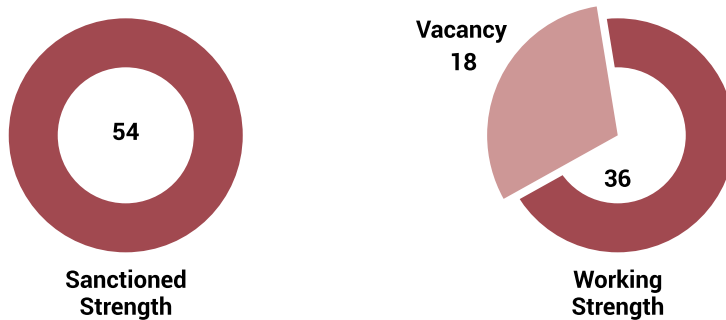
Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	1,606	872	812	1,666
Company Matters	0	0	0	0
Contempt (Civil)	266	178	181	263
Review (Civil)	31	15	22	24
Matrimonial Matters	17	8	4	21
Arbitration Matters	3	3	3	3
Civil Revisions	20	6	6	20
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	0	0	0	0
Civil Appeals	108	19	21	106
Land Acquisition Matters	4	0	0	4
MACT Matters	3	10	7	6
Civil Suits (Original Side)	0	0	0	0
Other than above	277	194	186	285
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	15	8	13	10
Criminal Revisions	43	17	31	29
Bail Applications	14	29	28	15
Criminal Appeals	58	18	3	73
Death Sentence Reference	2	0	0	2
Contempt (Criminal)	4	2	2	4
Misc. Criminal Applications	100	201	123	178
Other than above	60	51	36	75

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

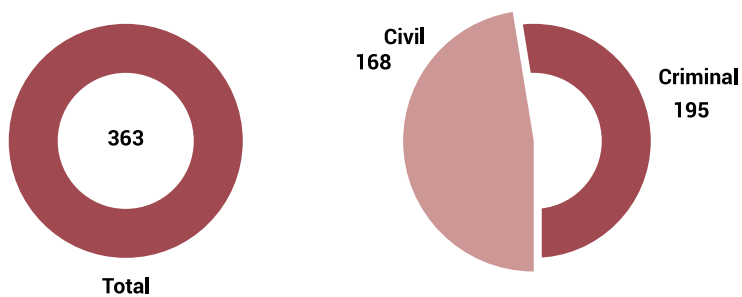
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



17 High Court of **MEGHALAYA**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Meghalaya*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Biswanath Somadder, Chief Justice

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ranjit Vasantryo More

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hamarsan Singh Thangkhiew

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Wanlura Diengdoh

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

Carved out of the erstwhile High Court of Gauhati, the High Court of Meghalaya was declared and established as a separate High Court on 23 March 2013 with its seat at Shillong. Within a space of a few years, the High Court has made its mark in the area of successful separation of the Judiciary from the Executive in almost all the 11 districts of the State except for one remaining district of South Garo Hills. With the establishment of the State Judicial Academy, the High Court is progressively keeping pace with the rest of the country in the field of Administration of Justice.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

In order to tackle the spread of virus during the Covid-19 outbreak, various safety and precautionary measures were taken up, and put in place by the Registry of the High Court keeping in view the safety and security of the officers and staff. Apart from mandatory thermal screening, sanitizer dispensers were provided at the entrance, and at different locations in the complex. Additionally, washbasins were installed in the high court complex to enable everyone to wash their hands before entering the building. Provision for sanitization of shoes was provided at the entrance of the complex.

The High Court Registry undertook frequent sanitization of court premises, common facilities, and all points which came into human contact. Compliance of all social distancing norms was further achieved through virtual functioning of the High Court, restricting physical functioning, and encouraging virtual function in the subordinate courts. To further augment the whole process of sanitization the movement of visitors was restricted and closely monitored.

The State of Meghalaya has a comparatively smaller cadre of judicial service. Judgeships were created in 10 Districts in the State of Meghalaya. In the judicial year segregation of the Judiciary from the Executive was completed at Khliehriat

in East Jaintia Hills District, and at Resubelpara in North Garo Hills District.

The construction work of the annexe building (which is to house an auditorium, banking accommodation, dispensary and other facilities etc.) continued at a fairly good pace despite the cessation of work during the national lockdown owing to Covid-19 pandemic.

Construction of the permanent court building was completed and were made functional in Ri-Bhoi District, Nongpoh; West Khasi Hills District, Nongpoh; West Garo Hills District, Tura and East Garo Hills District, Williamnagar. Construction work of permanent court buildings is in progress in West Jaintia Hills District, Jowai; South West Khasi Hills District, Mawkyrwat; South-West Garo Hills District, Ampati; West Jaintia hills District, Khliehriat; and North Garo Hills District, Resubelpara. Construction of the permanent court buildings in the Sub-Divisional Courts of Sohra, Mairang and Amlarem is also under progress. Construction of residential quarters started in Ri-Bhoi District at Nongpoh, South West Khasi Hills District at Mawkyrwat, North Garo Hills District at Resubelpara, South Garo Hills at Ampati and North Garo Hills District at Baghmara.

Technological Accomplishments

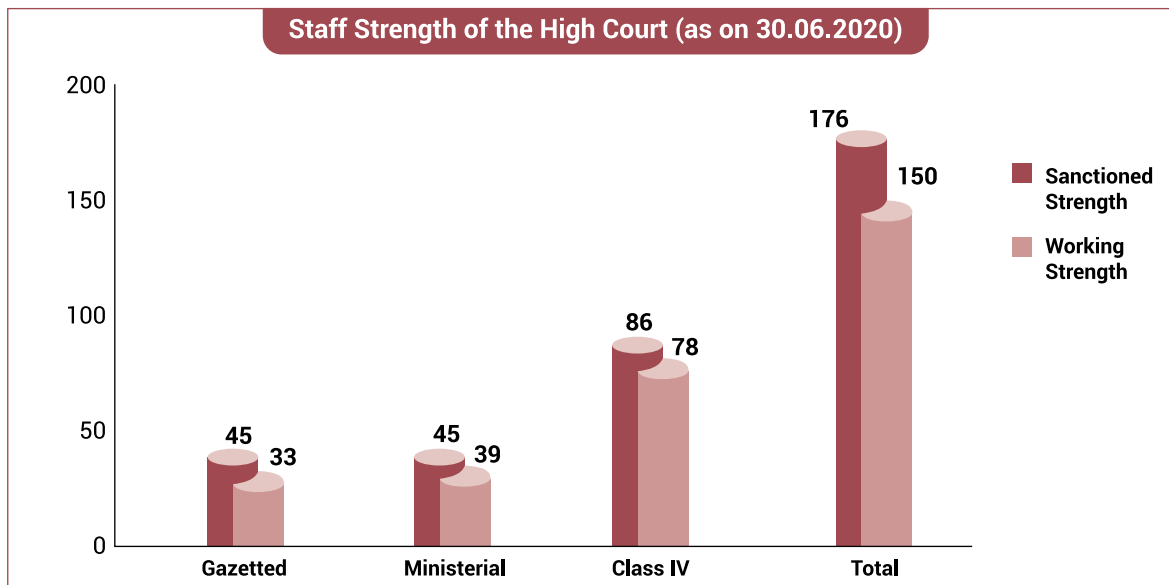
The High Court and the Sub-ordinate Courts are in the process of digitizing all their case records and a building for this purpose has been allocated by the State Government. For imparting ICT training,

the services of the District System Administrator (DSA), System Administrators (SA's), Technical Officers, Staff, Ubuntu-cum-CIS Master Trainer, CIS Master Trainers, VC Masters Trainers, and the Project management were utilized on regular basis by the Meghalaya State Judicial Academy. Training on e-filing and e-court services was also extended to the Bar. The services of Technical Officers/Staff in the High Court were utilized in developing/customizing In-House Software Applications for official purposes. An E-Seva Kendra has been set up in the High Court, and at State District Court complex at Shillong to function as a one stop centre for accessing all e-courts project related services, and utilities for the benefits of the litigants and members of the Bar.

ICJS (Interoperable Criminal Justice System) is in the process of implementation in the District Court, Shillong. The system is designed to ensure that all segments of the criminal justice administration - courts, jails, police, and forensic science laboratories are made part of one electronic platform. As part of E-Courts Projects, all court complexes except for Mawkyrwat and Resubelpara were provided the hardware for video conferencing including lease circuit connectivity. With the availability of video conferencing, the districts have been brought closer to the High Court and information is being shared in real time. Further, in few district courts, video conferencing was utilized for routine remand of under-trial prisoners, and recording evidence in some specific cases.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	19,56,08,174	15,63,34,000	24,42,30,000
Total	19,56,08,174	15,63,34,000	24,42,30,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]
 ** Data revised by the High Court

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	4
Working Strength of Judges	4

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	2
Highest	4

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	NIL
------------------------------	-----

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
----------	---------------------------	--------------------------------------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------

CIVIL

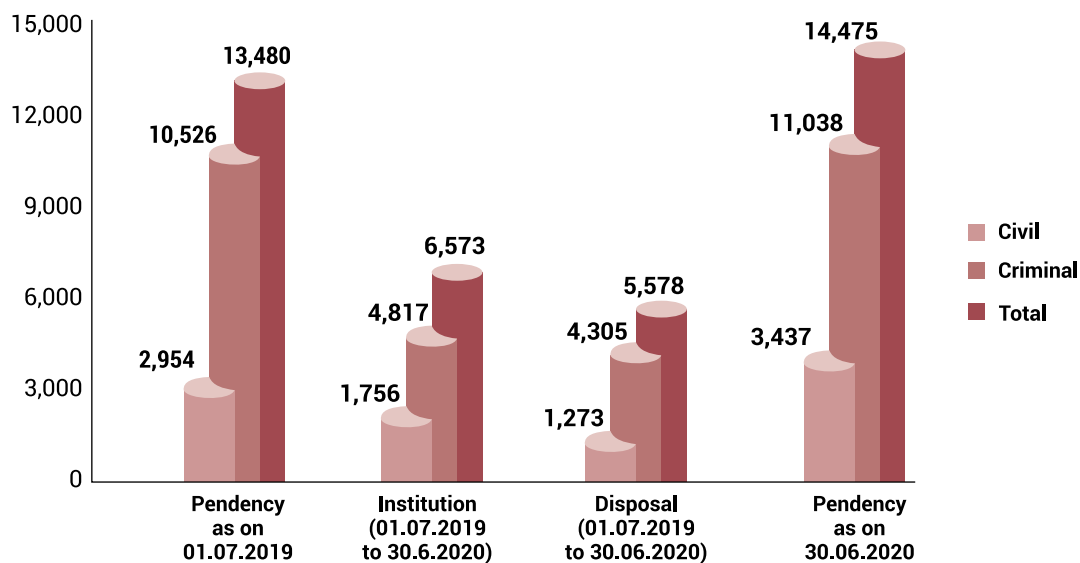
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	587	499	531	555
Company Matters	02	0	0	02
Contempt (Civil)	16	101	85	32
Review (Civil)	04	14	14	04
Matrimonial Matters	01	0	0	01
Arbitration Matters	03	10	12	01
Civil Revisions	35	39	28	46
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	0	0	0	0
Civil Appeals	61	71	28	104
Land Acquisition Matters	24	12	11	25
MACT Matters	4	08	10	02
Civil Suits (Original Side)	0	0	0	0
Other than above	30	21	16	35

CRIMINAL

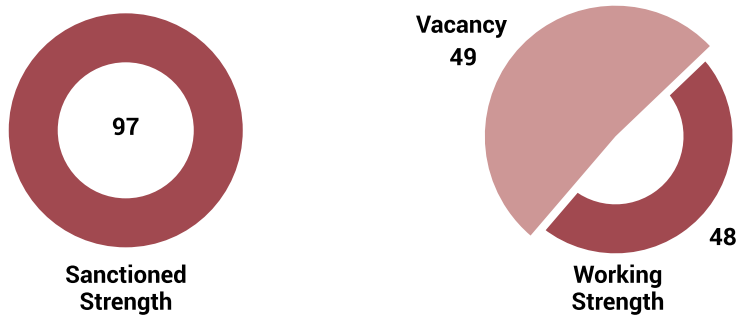
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	01	00	0	01
Criminal Revisions	17	10	21	06
Bail Applications	03	33	31	05
Criminal Appeals	17	25	05	37
Death Sentence Reference	0	0	0	0
Contempt (Criminal)	01	0	0	01
Misc. Criminal Applications	08	33	25	16
Other than above	25	23	23	25

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

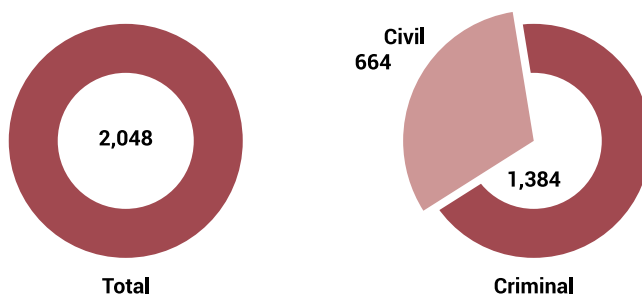
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



18 High Court of **ORISSA**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Orissa*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mohammad Rafiq, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Sanju Panda	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Debabrata Dash	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Krushna Ram Mohapatra
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjaya Kumar Mishra	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Satrugana Pujahari	Hon'ble Dr. Justice Akshaya Kumar Mishra
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chitta Ranjan Dash	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Biswanath Rath	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bibhu Prasad Routray
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Biswajit Mohanty	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sangam Kumar Sahoo	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjeeb Kumar Panigrahi
Hon'ble Dr. Justice Bidyut Ranjan Sarangi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pramath Patnaik	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Savitri Ratho

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

On 9 February 1916, in exercise of the powers under Section 113 of the Government of India Act, 1915, the King of England issued Letters Patent constituting High Court of Patna, and Orissa was placed under its jurisdiction. Though State of Orissa came into existence on 1 April 1936, but no separate High Court was created for the State. In 1948, a separate High Court of Orissa was inaugurated. Constructed in 1914, the old building of the High Court flaunts an idiosyncratic old school architectural design housing ten Court Halls and Chambers of the Hon'ble Judges. Tower along with Conference Hall in the Central wing of the building were constructed in 1967-68, surrounded by the fountains, lush green lawns and flower gardens present a picturesque panorama. Due to paucity of space, a multi storied building was erected in 2014 with provisions for 25 Court Halls with Chambers of Judges, Conference Hall; Judges Lounge etc. 2018 witnessed the completion of a new Block that accommodates the Administrative Sections, a Bank, Dispensaries, a Post office and eSewa Kendra. An Arbitration Centre along with a Mediation Centre have also been established in the premises.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

Several Administrative orders/ guidelines were issued by the High Court for strict adherence of Covid-19 protocol. Initially the Court was restricted to virtual mode only, but later, limited court rooms were started in physical mode too. E-filing of cases was permitted by sending scanned copies of applications and relevant documents through e-mail. The procedure relating to filing of cases and hearing of matters in High Court was adopted through e-Filing and Video Conferencing Scheme, 2020. The High Court issued directions that the lawyers and litigants could access and utilize the orders and judgments passed by the Hon'ble Court as available in the Court's website (or printout thereof) in lieu of certified copies. Directions were given to maintain social distancing and to avoid congregation. Nearly 14,601 cases of Orissa High Court and nearly 20,000 cases of District and Subordinate Courts were heard through virtual mode.

From April to June, 2020, awareness campaigns were organized by Odisha State Legal Services Authority (OSLSA) to make people aware about the Covid-19 pandemic. Masks, Sanitizers, Soaps, Leaflets were distributed by OSLSA as well as DLSAs/TLSCs in slum areas, child care Institutions, jails etc during the said period. Different quarantine Centres functioning in the District and Covid Care Centre were visited by the members of the Core Group Constituted for Disaster Management in DLSAs, as per direction of the OSLSA.

In order to provide and promote safe and healthy environment for children during Covid-19, OSLSA in collaboration with UNICEF, launched a State-wide campaign programme for distribution

of 3,322 hygiene kits to 101 Non Grant-in-Aid Child Care Institutions in 27 districts of Odisha along with creating awareness. The hygiene kits containing hand wash, soaps, sanitizers, sanitary pads, masks etc. were provided to all the 3,322 identified beneficiaries by 15 May 2020. Apart from this Odisha State Legal Services Authority and its' field units in co-ordination with the Odisha Government arranged to transport back 11 migrant workers from Nagaland who were stranded due to lockdown. Arrangement for food, water, transport, medical facilities and shelter was made and assistance was rendered to needy persons.

In order to accommodate all the Administrative Sections, two more floors on the existing Administrative Block of Orissa High Court are being constructed. Preliminary work such as site development, soil test, etc. for construction of an Annex Building (B+G+6 floors) in the premises of the Court was completed. Construction of 60 Court Halls and 18 Residential Quarters for the Sub-ordinate Judiciary was completed during the judicial year. The High Court initiated plantation of trees in the premises of all the District and Sub-ordinate Court premises as a step towards Clean Green Drive. During this period, twenty four exclusive POCSO Special Courts, 2 ADJ Courts and 3 Civil Judge (Jr. Div.)-cum-JMFC Courts were established in the State. In this very period, 15 Special Courts under POCSO Act, 2012, six A.D.J. Courts, three LAR&R Authority under RFCTLAR&R Act, 2013, seven Sub-Judge Courts, and eight Civil Judge (Jr. Div.)-cum-JMFC Courts were made functional. CCTV Cameras were installed in the District and Sub-ordinate Courts and other important places.

During the judicial year, 596 Lok Adalats including National Lok Adalats were held in the State

wherein, 31,812 pending cases and 13,394 Pre-litigation disputes were disposed of/settled. Five Permanent Lok Adalats were established in the Judicial year 2019-20. 7,511 legal aid applications were received and dealt with by the High Court Legal Services Committee (OHCLSC), District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) and Taluk Legal Services Committees (TLSCs). In 1,535 cases, Legal Services Panel Lawyers were engaged. Similarly, free legal advice was rendered to 4,275 applicants and help/assistance, for availing the benefits of Centre & State Government Schemes, were provided to 2,553 applicants. 1,662 Legal Literacy/Awareness Programmes were conducted by the field units (DLSAs & TLSCs) on different subjects inter alia, Juvenile Justice Act, Rights of Girl Child, Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, Probation of Offenders Act, Rights of convicts to go in appeal, Concept of Plea Bargaining etc.

16 Delivery Based Mega Legal Services Camps on different Core Themes of NALSA were organized by the District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) during the aforesaid period, and instant benefits were provided to 38,816 persons. 1,533 applications under Odisha Victim Compensation Scheme were received by the District Legal Services Authorities, out of which, 923 applications were decided, and Rs.8,14,03,348/- was paid to victims of different crimes as compensation. Two training programmes for Panel Lawyers and 23 Induction/ Refresher Training Programmes for Paralegal Volunteers (PLVs) were organized by the District Legal Services Authorities. 474 persons (217 persons over phone and 257 persons in person) approached / contacted the Legal Assistance Establishment (Nyaya Sanjog) functioning in OSLSA, and were provided legal advice/ assistance/ consultation. Further, a webinar on "Human Trafficking with special emphasis on Child Trafficking" was organized by

OSLSA in collaboration with "Bachpan Bachao Andolan" on 29 June 2020 for awareness of the DLSA Secretaries. During the judicial year, Odisha Judicial Academy organized total 25 Programmes on different legal issues.

Technological Accomplishments

Initiatives were taken for implementation of e-Pay system both at High Court and Subordinate Courts. The newly designed website of Hon'ble Orissa High Court was launched in December, 2019. Justice clock was set up inside the Court premises. The e-Filing system devised by e-Committee, Supreme Court of India was launched in the High Court in June, 2020. A state wide webinar was conducted to impart training on use of e-Filing system and e-Court services to the Advocates of the State. The user manual and video tutorials on e-filing system were made available on the high court's website. e-Sewa Kendra was setup in May, 2020 inside the Court premises to enable the needy litigants and advocates in getting different court services such as e-Filing, e-Pay, e-Mulakat, Certified Copy, Cause Lists and Free legal services. Similar initiative was also taken at the District Court, Cuttack.

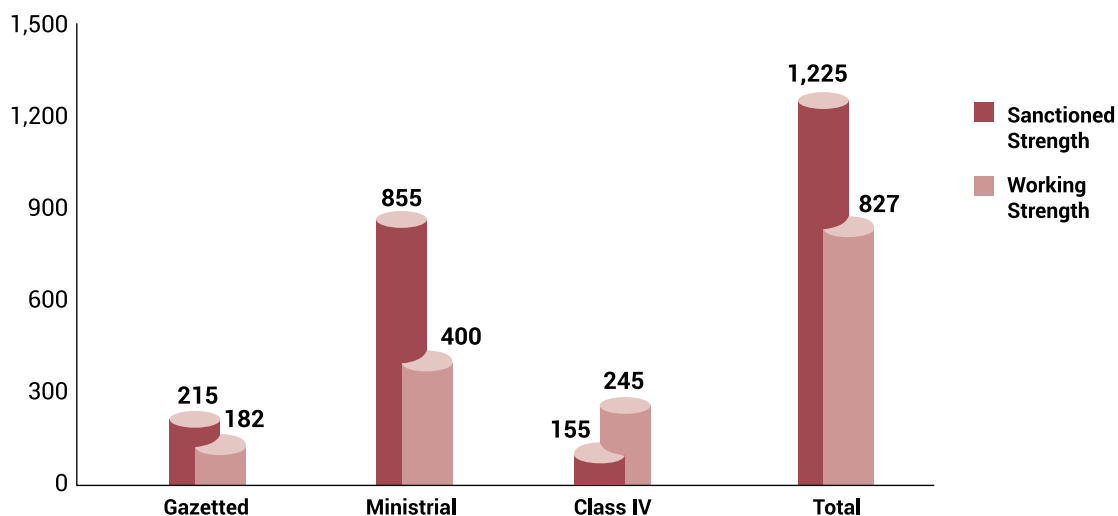
Under the e-Courts project, all the District and Subordinate Courts of the State have gone live in Case Information System (CIS) Version 3.2 which includes new features such as ICJS, e-Filing, NSTEPS and e-Pay. Training programs were organized to sensitize Judicial Officers and Technical Officers of the District Courts regarding consumption of CCTNS data (Meta data of FIR and charge sheets) into the CIS system and the entire workflow to achieve ICJS integration. Technical support was extended to all District and Subordinate Courts for execution of the lock-down script provided by e-Committee.

The task of digitizing the Case Records of Orissa High Court is ongoing and nearly 1,14,565,00 pages of about 1,54,000 case records have been digitized. 23 display boards were procured and installed at different locations inside High Court premises. A range of periphery and other software module were designed, developed and deployed in the High Court for better management of the work process. Such modules include Vehicle Management System (to automate the allotment of vehicles & drivers, management on consumption of fuel etc.), new KIOSK module (for

case search by FIR/Lower Court case details), New S/W module for Advocate General (for generation of reports on case proceedings and easy handling of Government Cases), eDiary (Application for District and Subordinate Courts to automate the Diary and Issue Section), Building management System (for monitoring and management of residential and non-residential buildings for District & Subordinate Courts), Search Advocate details (concerned advocates can verify their details by using Bar enrollment number).

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



* The surplus 90 posts are due to restructuring of Group D posts

Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	9,51,09,000	33,51,72,000	-
Non-Plan	89,50,94,000	1,11,94,64,000	1,17,72,32,000
Total	99,02,03,000	1,45,46,36,000	1,17,72,32,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** Data revised by the High Court

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	27
Working Strength of Judges	16

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	13
Highest	16

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	30,687
------------------------------	--------

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

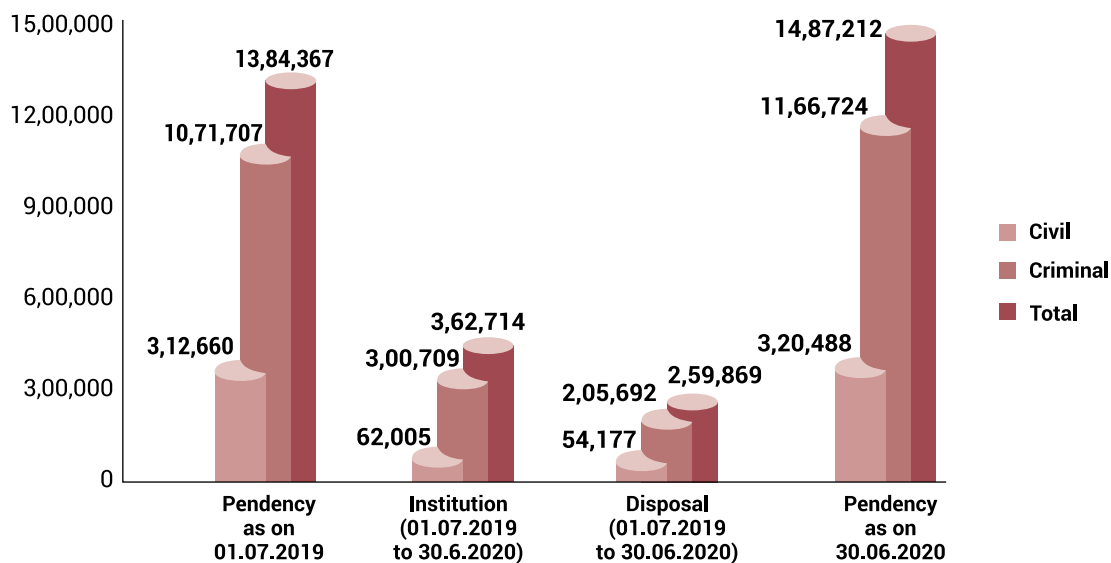
Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)*	70,545	34,827	36,875	68,497
Company Matters	282	01	50	233
Contempt (Civil)*	3,507	4,150	2,626	5,031
Review (Civil)*	1,634	493	224	1,903
Matrimonial Matters*	817	176	75	918
Arbitration Matters*	518	103	145	476
Civil Revisions*	222	22	44	200
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)*	2,896	130	653	2,373
Civil Appeals*	16,317	1,985	2,025	16,777**
Land Acquisition Matters	912	106	56	962
MACT Matters*	6,177	1,068	733	6,512
Civil Suits (Original Side)	02	Nil	01	01
Other than above*	7,591	2,202	1,210	8,083**
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)*	2,209	1,845	2,880	1,174
Criminal Revisions*	9,112	797	663	9,246
Bail Applications*	7,554	27,484	22,353	12,685
Criminal Appeals*	11,574	989	381	12,182
Death Sentence Reference	01	05	01	05
Contempt (Criminal)*	33	51	28	56
Misc. Criminal Applications*	11,270	3,350	2,399	12,221
Other than above*	897	119	85	931

* Opening balance modified by the High Court

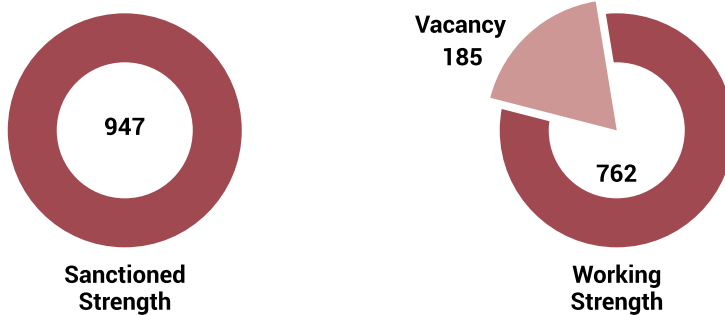
** Closing balance as provided by the High Court

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

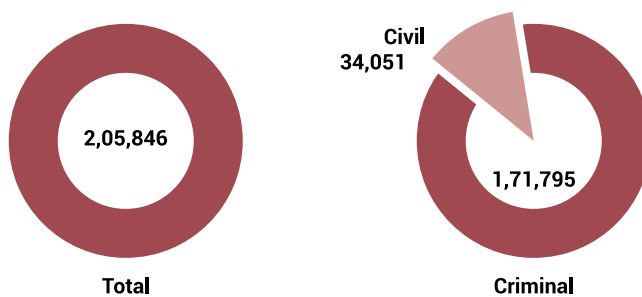
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



19 High Court of Judicature at **PATNA**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Judicature at Patna*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Karol, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hemant Kumar Srivastava	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prabhat Kumar Jha	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kumar
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shivaji Pandey	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashutosh Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madhuresh Prasad
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashwani Kumar Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhir Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mohit Kumar Shah
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikash Jain	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Birendra Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anjani Kumar Sharan
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arvind Srivastava	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil Kumar Sinha
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajendra Kumar Mishra	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil Kumar Upadhyay	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prabhat Kumar Singh
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chakradhari Sharan Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajeev Ranjan Prasad	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Partha Sarthy

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The Patna High Court was established under the Letters Patent issued under the authority of British Sovereign on 9 February 1916. The High Court earlier had jurisdiction over the erstwhile provinces of Bihar and Orissa. The province of Orissa was carved out in 1937 but the High Court continued to exercise jurisdiction till 26 July 1948 when a separate High Court was constituted for Orissa. Subsequently, in 2000, the erstwhile State of Bihar was bifurcated and a new State of Jharkhand was carved out of it. The Patna High Court thus, now wields jurisdiction over the present State of Bihar. The High Court is still housed in the main building, which was constructed between 1913-16.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

With the imposition of nation-wide lockdown on 24 March 2020 in the aftermath of Covid-19

pandemic, the work in High Court and District Courts was restricted to urgent matters with hearings being conducted only through video



Chief Justice's Court, High Court of Patna

conferencing. BELTRON (Bihar State Electronics Development Corporation Ltd.), Patna was directed to ensure setting up of virtual courts in all the District Court premises within 3 months. Intensive sanitization of the court rooms, chambers, offices and the court premises was carried out regularly. Covid-19 testing camps for Antigen Test and RT-PCR Test were organized in the High Court for Judges, Registry officers/officials and staff with a view to contain the spread, masks and sanitizers were distributed and automatic sanitizer dispensers installed in the High Court premises.

During the lockdown 15,580 cases were disposed of by the Patna High Court through video conference hearings. With the commencement of un-lock in phases, the District Judges were given the discretion to start suitable number of Courts in physical mode. Reports regarding problems faced in functioning of physical courts and courts through video conferencing in the Districts and Sub-divisional level is being regularly submitted by them. This has enabled the High Court to effectively monitor the working of each court of the district.

The Bihar State Legal Services Authority (BSLSA), with 37 District Legal Services Authorities and 581 Legal Aid Clinics with 2,225 panel lawyers and 3,859 Para Legal Volunteers under its aegis, gives legal aid to the poor and the needy. During the judicial year, Rs. 16,56,42,707/- was given as compensation to 569 victims under Victim Compensation Scheme. BSLSA organises Lok Adalats from time to time in the form of National Lok Adalat and Mobile Lok Adalats. In the judicial year, a total of 6,20,076 cases were disposed in National Lok Adalat and 97,480 cases were disposed by Mobile Lok Adalat. Additionally, nine Permanent Lok Adalats (Public Utility Services) disposed 856 cases. The mode of mediation was also well utilised for ADR. A total of 6,643 cases were referred for the mediation, out of which 1,038 were successfully settled. The Mobile App 'RADAR' was made functional in front offices of five districts. The Tele Law Scheme, which was launched to provide legal advice and counselling to people living in remote area through video conferencing, benefitted 7,263 persons. The pandemic period saw a sudden increase in cases of domestic violence and assistance was given to 49 such victims during the Covid-19 pandemic period. Apart from this, assistance



with regard to food, shelter and travelling was provided to migrants in coordination with District Administration. 1,83,246 migrants were assisted for their food/meal requirements 92,439 others facilitated for shelter. A total of 47,571 migrants were assisted with regard to travelling to home states or districts. 12,635 senior citizens were also extended assistance. During the lockdown period, 1,16,610 persons were facilitated in making of their ration cards and medical help was arranged for 2,69,429 persons. DLSA Secretaries through PLVs, coordinated with district administration for ensuring regular supply of food, clean drinking water and medicine for leprosy patients. A webinar on the topic, "Role of State Legal Services Authorities during Pandemic" was organised on 22 August 2020 by BSLSA.

Under the aegis of the Bihar Judicial Academy, a lecture series on "Different Facets of Indian Constitution" was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Navin Sinha, Judge, Supreme Court of India on 14 December 2019. It was attended by Judicial officers of different cadres. Three of these series were successfully concluded,

which had Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hemant Gupta (Judge, Supreme Court of India), Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.S. Chauhan (Former Judge, Supreme Court of India) and, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dinesh Maheshwari (Judge, Supreme Court of India) as keynote speakers. Apart from this, Orientation courses were conducted for the newly inducted officers of the various cadres and, refresher courses were conducted for the serving officers and for ministerial staff. Special Training was imparted to the Railway Magistrates, Labour Judges, Principal Judges of Family Court, Principle Magistrate (JJB), Public Prosecutors, Members of Consumer Court, Additional Public Prosecutors, DSPs and SHOs. The Academy conducted three Seminars on NDPS Act, Juvenile Justice Act and on the topic, "Criminal Justice System: Ideals and Realities". In order to deal with the constraints imposed by the pandemic, an online lecture series by Hon'ble Judges of Patna High Court was initiated for newly inducted Probationary Judicial Officers.

The court of Additional District and Sessions Judge was inaugurated at Masaurhi sub-division



Panoramic view of the High Court at Patna

under Patna Judgeship. Under the Juvenile Justice Secretariat of Patna High Court, 25 Child Friendly Courts were inaugurated.

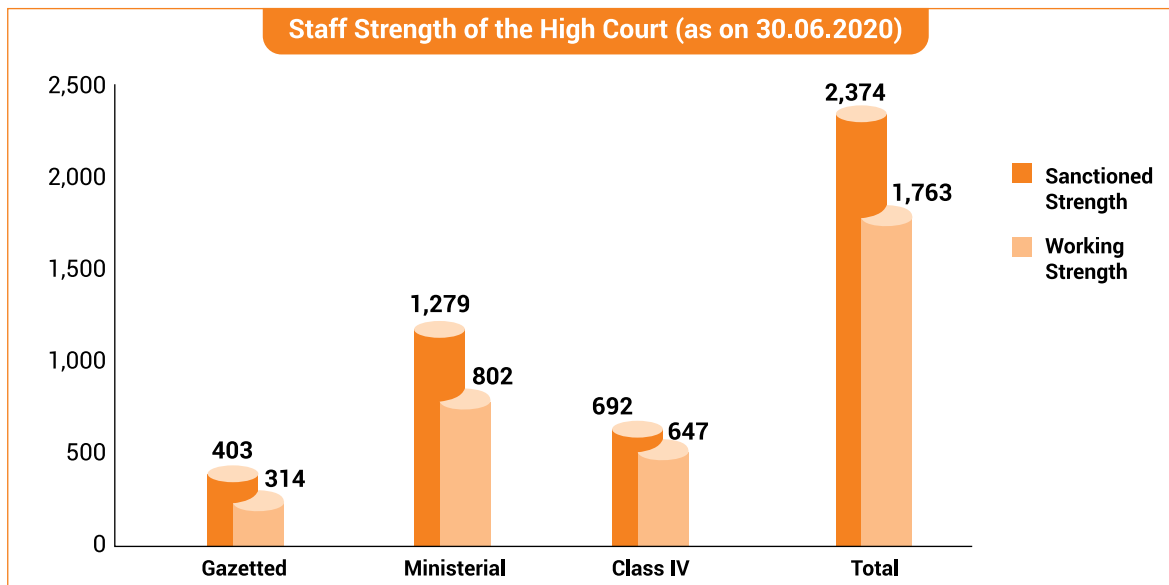
Technological Accomplishments

Under the Virtual Court Project, Patna was selected as a pilot location for its implementation. Under the Interoperable Criminal Justice System (ICJS), all Courts in Bihar were integrated with it, alongwith 238 out of 894 police stations, and all the 59 prisons. The 3 FSLs in Bihar were also integrated with ICJS. The e-Filing application of the e-committee of the Supreme Court was made operational and around 2,407 advocates registered themselves on the portal. Online

payment of Court Fee through SHCIL was made live since 2 July 2020. The testing of service of processes through NSTEP was carried out in three judgeships. The successful testing of Cloud CIS module was also completed in Gaya Judgeship. In furtherance of virtual hearing, MS Team accounts were created for each judicial officer. Similarly, access to GIMS was given to every Judicial Officer. To extend the benefits of virtual hearing to members of the Bar, 24 Master Trainers imparted training to Advocates through a Webinar conducted through MS Teams on 25 July 2020. NJDG intranet user login credentials were provided to all district courts for effective monitoring of CIS data on NJDG.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Plan	-	-	-
Non-Plan	1,60,27,84,000	1,77,28,35,000	1,82,27,63,500
Total	1,60,27,84,000	1,77,28,35,000	1,82,27,63,500

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	53
Working Strength of Judges	24

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	24
Highest	30

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	24,869
------------------------------	--------

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

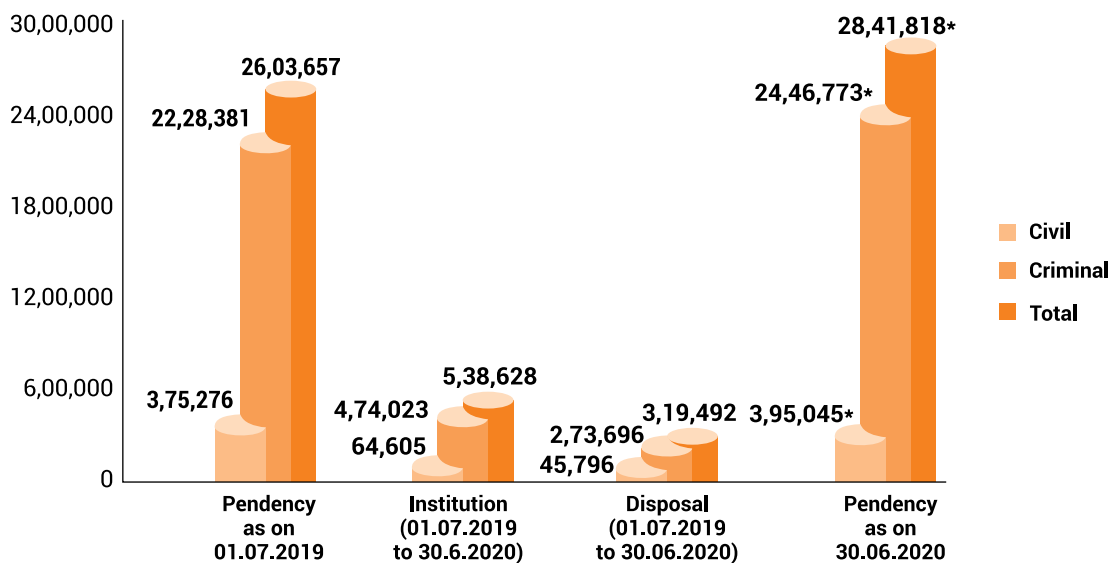
Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	55,331	19,287	16,763	57,855
Company Matters	79	3	02	80
Contempt (Civil)	3,809	777	1,498	3,088
Review (Civil)	557	301	239	619
Matrimonial Matters	0	0	0	0
Arbitration Matters	27	02	07	22
Civil Revisions	660	158	138	680
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	06	0	02	04
Civil Appeals	11,045	798	285	11,558
Land Acquisition Matters	2,333	409	204	2,538
MACT Matters	0	0	0	0
Civil Suits (Original Side)	36	04	03	37
Other than above*	16,811	7,942	3,058	20,772*
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	3,713	1,225	1,273	3,665
Criminal Revisions	4,201	1,228	787	4,642
Bail Applications	1,355	61,316	60,984	1,687
Criminal Appeals	31,278	5,957	3,606	33,629
Death Sentence Reference	08	02	01	09
Contempt (Criminal)	0	0	0	0
Misc. Criminal Applications	20,517	4,995	1,620	23,892
Other than above*	8,852	2,206	2,195	8,991*

* Closing balance modified by the High Court

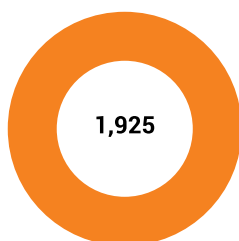
SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

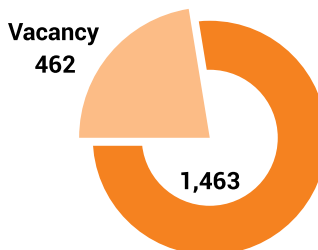


* Closing balance modified by the High Court

Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020

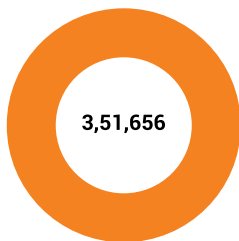


Sanctioned Strength

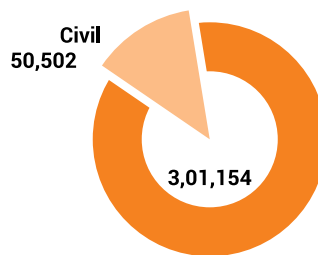


Working Strength

Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



Total



Criminal

20 High Court of **PUNJAB & HARYANA**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Punjab & Haryana*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravi Shanker Jha, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Dr. Justice S. Muralidhar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Palli	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Monga
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jaswant Singh	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Lisa Gill	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Bajaj
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Daya Chaudhary	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bawa Singh Walia	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Lalit Batra
Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.N. Satyanarayana	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Raj Mohan Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Kumar Tyagi
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajan Gupta	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Jaishree Thakur	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harnaresh Singh Gill
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajay Tewari	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Sibal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Suvir Sehgal
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jitendra Kumar Chauhan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hari Pal Verma	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Girish Agnihotri
Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.G. Masih	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anupinder Singh Grewal	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Alka Sarin
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Nirmaljit Kaur	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harminder Singh Madaan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Jasgurpreet Singh Puri
Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.V. Sanjay Kumar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Gurvinder Singh Gill	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Kumar Verma
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Ritu Bahri	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arvind Singh Sangwan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sant Parkash
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tejinder Singh Dhindsa	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajbir Sehrawat	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Meenakshi I. Mehta
Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. S. Sandhwalia	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil Kshetarpal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Karamjit Singh
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Rekha Mittal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Avneesh Jhingan	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vivek Puri
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Amol Rattan Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mahabir Singh Sindhu	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Archana Puri
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Fateh Deep Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhir Mittal	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajesh Bhardwaj
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudip Ahluwalia	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Manjari Nehru Kaul	
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harinder Singh Sidhu	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harsimran Singh Sethi	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The High Court of Punjab and Haryana, previously called "The High Court of Judicature at Lahore" having jurisdiction over the provinces of Delhi and Punjab, was established through a Letters Patent dated 20 March, 1919. After independence of India, the province of Punjab was divided into West Punjab (Pakistan) and East Punjab (India). The High Court of Lahore, being in Pakistan, ceased to have jurisdiction over Delhi and East Punjab. A new High Court of Judicature for the territory of East Punjab (India) was created on 15 August 1947, which started functioning from Amritsar and was later shifted to Shimla. After the Constitution of India came into force, the State of East Punjab was renamed as Punjab and seat of the High Court was shifted from Shimla to Chandigarh. Thereafter, with the merger of Patiala and East Punjab States Union (PEPSU) into the State of Punjab, and a separate High Court being subsequently constituted for the Union Territory of Delhi; and the State of Haryana and the Union Territory of Chandigarh also coming into existence, the High Court of Punjab was renamed as the 'High Court of Punjab and Haryana'.

Since then, the High Court of Punjab and Haryana, has been operating for the States of Punjab, Haryana and the Union Territory of Chandigarh from the present building, which was designed by Le Corbusier, a well known French Architect. An additional building for Security Personnel containing necessary facilities was constructed in the year 2018, and inaugurated on 11 March 2019. The Main High Court Building, being a world heritage site, is being restored to its original character. Accordingly, at the first instance, two court rooms in the Main High Court Building were restored in the year of 2019-20.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

In view of Covid-19 pandemic, only most important cases were heard through video

conferencing by the High Court. A Standard Operating Procedure for advocates / party in person for hearing of court proceedings through

video conferencing was setup and uploaded on the website of the High Court. Further, special guidelines regarding 'Precautionary Measures regarding Covid-19' were forwarded to all the District and Session Divisions in the States of Punjab, Haryana and U.T. Chandigarh. 13 urgent filing counters (including two exclusive counters for Advocates) and eight ordinary filing counters were opened for filing urgent and ordinary cases in the DRR Branch (Filing Branch). Provision was made at the entrance gate of the DRR Branch for thermal scanning. In order to safeguard the health of all and to prevent the spread of coronavirus, all advocates / clerks were asked not to use saliva for affixing court fee stamps on the applications/petitions to be filed in the Registry. With regard to limitation in filing the cases/applications before the High Court, the same was extended with effect from 15 March 2020.

Around 67,599 cases were heard through video conferencing in the period of lockdown, till June 2020 in the subordinate courts in the States of Punjab, Haryana and UT Chandigarh. Similarly, 13,240 cases were heard through video conferencing in the period of lockdown, till the month of June 2020 in Punjab and Haryana High Court.

During the judicial year, 591 cases were disposed of by three Daily Lok Adalat Benches, and Rs.13,93,65,200/- was awarded as compensation. 90 cases were disposed of in four National Lok Adalats, and Rs.2,47,43,889/- was awarded as compensation. Two Bi-monthly Lok Adalats were held in which 10 cases were disposed of, and an amount of Rs.26,35,000/- was awarded as compensation.

The Mediation and Conciliation Centre, High Court of Punjab & Haryana received 70 applications for Pre-Litigation Mediation, out of which 14 resulted in successful mediation. Out of the 2,275 cases

referred for Mediation, 411 were successfully settled. To generate awareness about mediation amongst the general public, the Mediation and Conciliation Centre got prepared special jingles / advertisements in Hindi and Punjabi languages which were aired from time to time on different Radio Stations. Further, a one day Mediation Workshop was organized by the Mediation and Conciliation Centre on 24 February 2020.

In the judicial year, Chandigarh Judicial Academy organized a number of refresher-cum-orientation, induction, and other training programmes. In the year 2019, solar panels were installed in 21 Judges' Houses. The Judges Library of the High Court moved towards automation by adopting various technologies and softwares, viz. KOHA LMS, RFID solution as well as Bookey4 Scanner.

Technological Accomplishments

Various software modules were developed by the High Court such as (i) Online Mentioning module (wherein advocates can use option of mentioning from their home), (ii) Ordinary filing token module (for curtailing rush at the counters), and (iii) Judge's Diary module (as per which facility of eDiary was extended to all Judges of the High Court, and after login, they can download pdf files of case paperbooks). Further, an Android Mobile Application was developed for the court staff conducting video conferencing, wherein they have the facility to check the VC Cause List, and forward WhatsApp messages regarding the same to the concerned counsel.

For enabling the High Court to access the monthly statements data of Subordinate Courts, e-Statement software was developed, launched and made operational in a phased manner in 19 District and Sessions Divisions. This enabled saving huge amount of paper as also immediate access to data and reducing the burden and time



The open hand monument at Chandigarh

of the court staff. The process of migration from Integrated Software for High Court (ISHiCo) to C.I.S. 1.0 was initiated and subsequently, e-filing in C.I.S. 1.0 was started in Punjab and Haryana High Court. A total of 3,089 cases were e-filed in the judicial year. All the District and Session Divisions in the States of Punjab, Haryana and U.T. Chandigarh migrated from CIS 3.1 to 3.2 in May, 2020.

The project of Scanning and Digitization of judicial records continued in all the subordinate courts under the jurisdiction of the High Court. 8,59,008 files containing 5,72,42,732 pages were scanned till 30 June 2020.

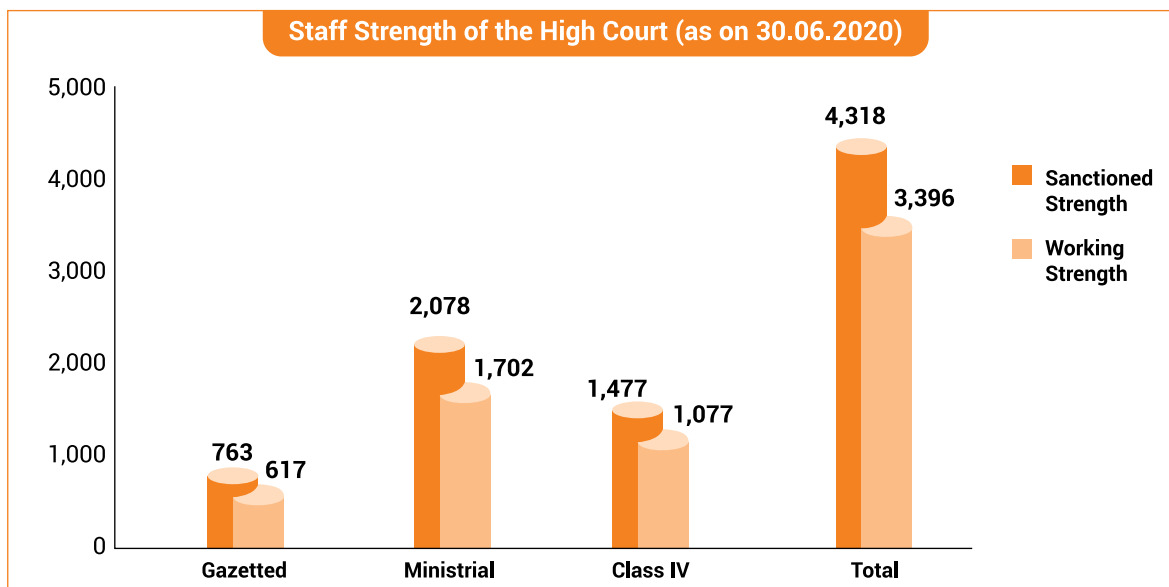
Video Conferencing facility was used extensively in the high court as well as subordinate courts in the States of Punjab, Haryana and U.T. Chandigarh. 2,05,142 undertrials were produced through video conferencing in the judicial year. There was an increase in usage of video conferencing for evidence of doctors / medical experts. And 14,361 such interactions were carried out. With an investment of Rs. 10 crores in setting up video

conferencing facilities, an amount of Rs.142 crores was saved in production of under trials and evidence of doctors. Ushering a new era of e-Courts, the first virtual court at Faridabad was launched through video conferencing on 17 August 2019 to deal with traffic challan cases for the entire State of Haryana.

Advanced C.I.S. 3.1 Training Program was conducted- for the Nodal Officers (Computerization) along with System Officers/ System Assistants in the States of Punjab, Haryana and U.T. Chandigarh on 28 September 2019 and for the Judicial Officers in the State of Punjab on 25 January 2020 through Video Conferencing. Basic Computer training, training with regard to GeM and related queries were provided to the officials of High Court. Nominated Judicial Officers from the State of Haryana participated in Cyber Crime and Cyber Law Programs held at Chandigarh, and Karnal (Madhuban). An e-awareness stall was installed at Surajkund Fair from 1-16 February 2020 by Punjab and Haryana High Court in coordination with Haryana State Legal Services Authority.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020**	2020-2021***
Plan	9,00,00,000	7,26,00,000	18,29,00,000
Non-Plan	3,17,09,86,000	3,52,02,26,000	3,84,90,00,000
Total	3,26,09,86,000	3,59,28,26,000	4,03,19,00,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** Data revised by the High Court

*** Figures are provisional

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	85
Working Strength of Judges	56

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	47
Highest	56

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	87,821
------------------------------	--------

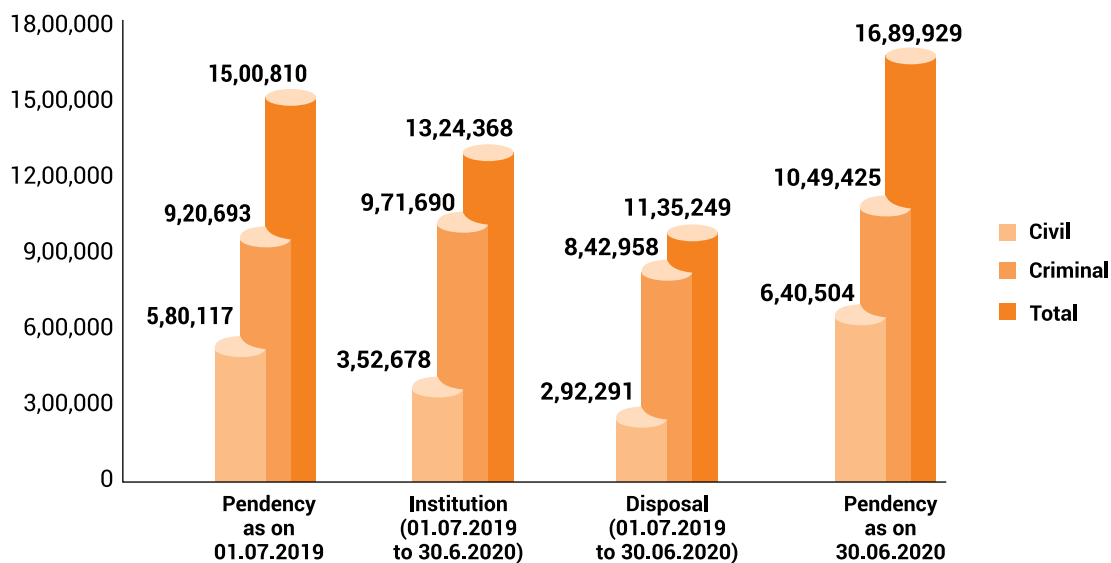
HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

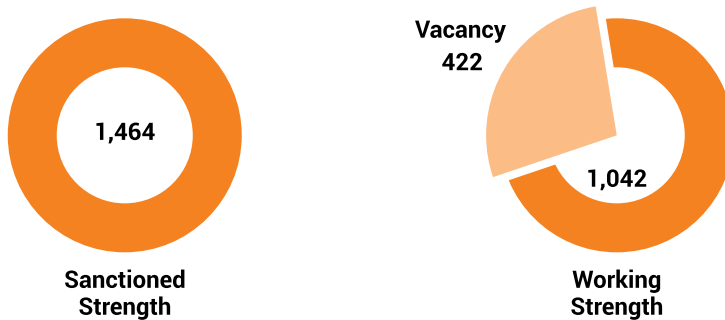
Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	68,643	28,506	24,691	72,458
Company Matters	333	06	55	284
Contempt (Civil)	4,916	3,245	4,156	4,005
Review (Civil)	1,007	307	765	549
Matrimonial Matters	2,070	205	367	1,908
Arbitration Matters	466	185	250	401
Civil Revisions	13,149	6,128	5,286	13,991
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	2,317	567	1,087	1,797
Civil Appeals	57,915	5,640	4,189	59,366
Land Acquisition Matters	31,963	3,287	6,332	28,918
MACT Matters	45,579	4,226	4,694	45,111
Civil Suits (Original Side)	01	0	0	01
Other than above	6,107	2,571	2,358	6,320
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	141	6,356	5,228	1,269
Criminal Revisions	15,497	4,105	2,449	17,153
Bail Applications	0	0	0	0
Criminal Appeals	57,611	5,008	1,147	61,472
Death Sentence Reference	11	01	04	08
Contempt (Criminal)	100	26	07	119
Misc. Criminal Applications	0	0	0	0
Other than above	37,929	48,892	38,431	48,390

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

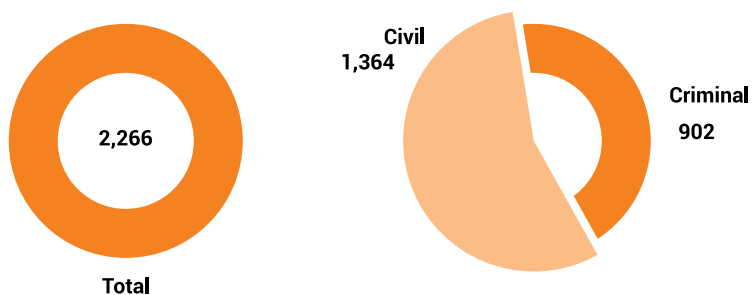
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



21 **RAJASTHAN** High Court



Principal Seat at Jodhpur

Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the Rajasthan High Court*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Indrajit Mahanty, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sangeet Raj Lodha	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mahendar Kumar Goyal
Hon'ble Ms. Justice Sabina	Hon'ble Dr. Justice Pushpendra Singh Bhati	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Devendra Kachhawaha
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sandeep Mehta	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dinesh Mehta	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Satish Kumar Sharma
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vijay Bishnoi	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vinit Kumar Mathur	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Prabha Sharma
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arun Bhansali	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ashok Kumar Gaur	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Vyas
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prakash Gupta	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Garg	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rameshwar Vyas
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Goverdhan Bardhar	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Inderjeet Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Chandra Kumar Songara
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pankaj Bhandari	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Narendra Singh Dhadha	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

On integration of princely States into State of Rajasthan, five different High Courts functioning in Rajasthan - at Jodhpur, Jaipur and Bikaner, High Court of former Rajasthan and Matsya Union were abolished. A single High Court for the entire State was established at Jaipur which was inaugurated by the Rajpramukh, Maharaja Sawai Man Singh on 29 August 1949. On complete integration of Rajasthan in the year 1956, the High Court was shifted to Jodhpur. On 30 January 1977, a Bench of Rajasthan High Court was established at Jaipur. A magnificent new building of Rajasthan High Court at Jodhpur was inaugurated by Hon'ble President of India on 7 December 2019. The new building is circular in shape having a big dome and has 22 court rooms. It is surrounded by huge gardens covering an area of 9.28 acres. Entire building is made up of famous Jodhpur Stone called 'Chhitar'. The Bench at Jaipur is presently situated in a building constructed in the year 2006 which is adjacent to old heritage building.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

Keeping in view the Covid-19 pandemic, for the safety of all and to limit the gathering in court premises, hearings were limited to urgent matters. The High Court and the subordinate courts continued functioning through virtual hearings with limited number of courts on rotational basis. The courts started hearings with Video/Audio calls through Mobile Phones. Automated process was developed for sending video conferencing links to the advocates/litigants through SMS and e-mail. On-line filing was allowed even on email and dedicated portal was provided for filing applications for urgent listing. Simultaneously, technical tasks were started at war footing for proper institutionalized e-filing. Since court fees stamps were not available, liberty was granted to file cases without court fees with the undertaking to furnish the same after resumption of normalcy.

For assistance of advocates and litigants, e-Seva Kendras were set up in Rajasthan High Court, Jodhpur, Jaipur Bench and Udaipur for troubleshooting of e-filing, video conferencing and other digital services. Besides E-Seva Kendras, dedicated helplines were also started for the High Court and the subordinate courts.

For managing the crowd in court premises, the High Court started the facility of automated e-Pass through SMS for advocates, litigants and parties-in-person. A systematic plan was chalked out for entry and exit in court premises with proper screening of every entrant. Limited number of advocates were permitted in court rooms at a time to maintain social distancing norms. Court premises were sanitized on regular basis.

During lockdown, 18,307 cases were taken up for hearing and 7,626 were disposed of in the High

Court through video conferencing. Subordinate Courts also took up 80,750 matters during this period, out of which 65,617 matters were disposed of. With the initiation of the process of unlocking, all required safety measures were put in place and Rajasthan High Court started physical hearings along with virtual hearings from 29 June 2020 in all the courts across the State.

During the judicial year, the special drive for expeditious disposal of more than 10 years old cases which started in June 2019 was continued by the High Court. As a result of this drive, within a short span of one year, out of total 78,512 such cases, 38,926 matters (49.57%) were disposed of.

Four National Lok Adalats were organized wherein 2,16,503 cases were disposed of and an amount of Rs. 15,18,48,88,651/- was settled. 64,827 people benefited from 50 Legal Services Camp organized across the State. Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority (RSLSA) provided free legal aid to 15,154 persons and conducted regular activities for jail inmates. It conducted "RSLSA#RUN4VAN" for creating mass awareness to protect environment. The run was organized on 7 July 2019 throughout the State wherein more than a lakh people participated. RSLSA initiated formation of Legal Literacy Clubs (LLCs) in government as well as private schools. A total of 6,261 LLCs were established in 19,000 schools. On the occasion of 150th anniversary of the father of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi, a massive campaign to eradicate plastic menace was launched by RSLSA. It organized 101 training / orientation programmes / workshops and 59,443 legal literacy camps; and conducted a child marriage restraint campaign. RSLSA published a book for visually challenged persons on "legal awareness" in Braille script. A Special Bal-Vani



Program, a Joint Venture of RLSA, UNICEF and Aakashwani was conducted to create legal consciousness among children. RLSA initiated a special Covid-19 #StayAlertStaySafe campaign considering the seriousness of the novel coronavirus. Major initiatives includes awareness generation campaigns, distribution of ration, legal aid through 24*7 Helpline, assistance in bails/parole, webinar for continuous legal awareness, fund raising, online meeting platform for jail inmates, guidelines to work further, inspections of homes / jails / institutions etc.

During the judicial year, Rajasthan State Judicial

Academy conducted induction training for newly appointed Judicial Officers. Academic programmes on Negotiable Instruments Act, Motor Accident Claim Cases, NDPS Cases, Family Court Act, Minor Acts, Women's Safety, ACD & CBI Cases, POCSO Act Cases, Civil and Criminal Cases were organized for Judicial Officers, Prosecutors and other stakeholders. A one-week international level training was organized for the Judicial Officers from Bangladesh in the month of November 2019. The Judicial Academy also conducted online/virtual educational programmes and first such webinar was conducted on 21 June 2020.



New building of Jodhpur Bench

Technological Accomplishments

Full featured e-filing module with verification of filing through electronic signature and Aadhar authentication was started soon after lockdown in the High Court. e-filing in District Courts began in July 2020. Facility for e-payment of court fees and fine was initiated from May 2020 for all the courts across the State. Available Desktop Systems, VC Camera, extra Monitors etc. were assembled for every court room to prepare a workable virtual court set up.

Besides e-filing, e-pay and video conferencing, Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS)

was rolled out in all the courts in May 2020. ICJS is a process of integration whereby the Police can send FIR and chargesheet details to courts electronically. Rajasthan became the first State to successfully start consuming PDF copies of FIR alongwith all relevant enclosures. Further, NSTEP (National Service and Tracking of Electronic Processes) for electronic service of processes of civil courts was launched on 27 September 2019. Initially this service was launched for service of summons within local jurisdiction of concerned court. From January 2020, serving of processes across establishments throughout State of Rajasthan was initiated. NSTEP Mobile App was



Chief Justices' Court at Jaipur

got prepared in Hindi for assistance of process servers and litigants. Similarly, templates of all the civil processes were also prepared in Hindi.

Updated version of Rajasthan High Court e-Services Android Mobile Application and new version compatible with iOS platform were launched in September 2019. The updated mobile application (Android & iOS) has facility of various case related information alongwith unique feature 'MY DIARY' through which any advocate can make e-diary of his cases which updates automatically every day. Free Text Search facility on the contents of more than 12 lakh judgments of High Court is also available in the Application. The search has advanced features including 'Boolean Search' and 'search within search'. The Application also gives updated information of Cause List, filing/defect status, case status and copying status. Search in the App can be made on various parameters including filing number, case number, Advocate

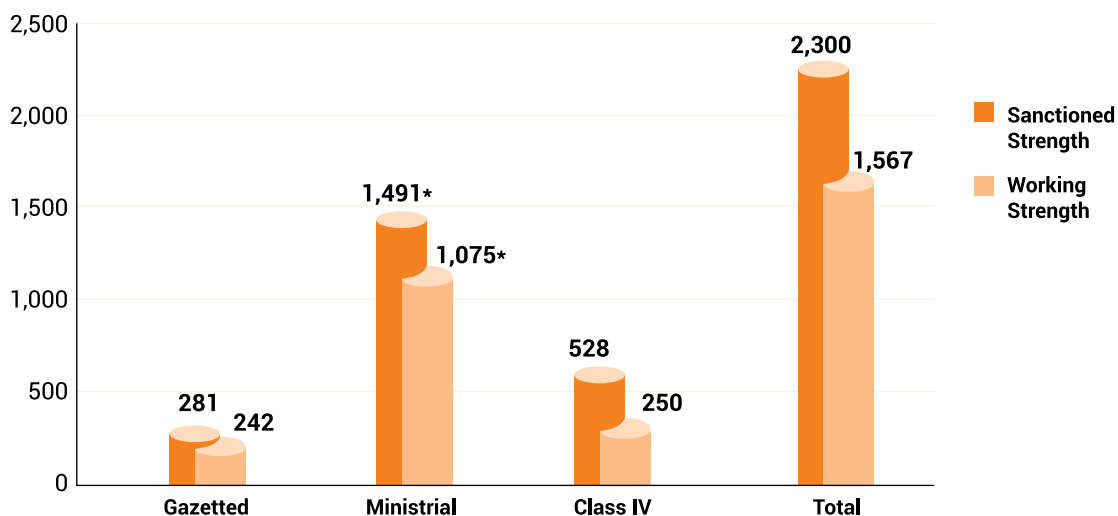
Name, Party Name etc. Rajasthan High Court also made a novel initiative to use information and technology for conducting court proceedings between the principal seat at Jodhpur and the bench at Jaipur through video conferencing. Facility to conduct court proceedings through video conferencing was established at Jodhpur and Jaipur wherein counsels from any location can argue before bench at another location. Digital Signature Tokens were provided to all the Judicial Officers. Further, a new software patch released by e-Committee for management of Covid-19 was rolled out across all courts in the month of May 2020. This software patch is a useful tool for managing work allocation, time slots and cause lists to limit gathering in courts and court premises.



A view of High Court Complex

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



* Including technical posts

Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Plan	1,80,66,17,000	3,50,22,81,000	2,99,33,00,000
Non-Plan	9,91,63,52,000	11,16,28,32,000	10,87,62,64,000
Total	11,72,29,69,000	14,66,51,13,000	13,86,95,64,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	50
Working Strength of Judges	25

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	21
Highest	27

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	88,478
------------------------------	--------

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

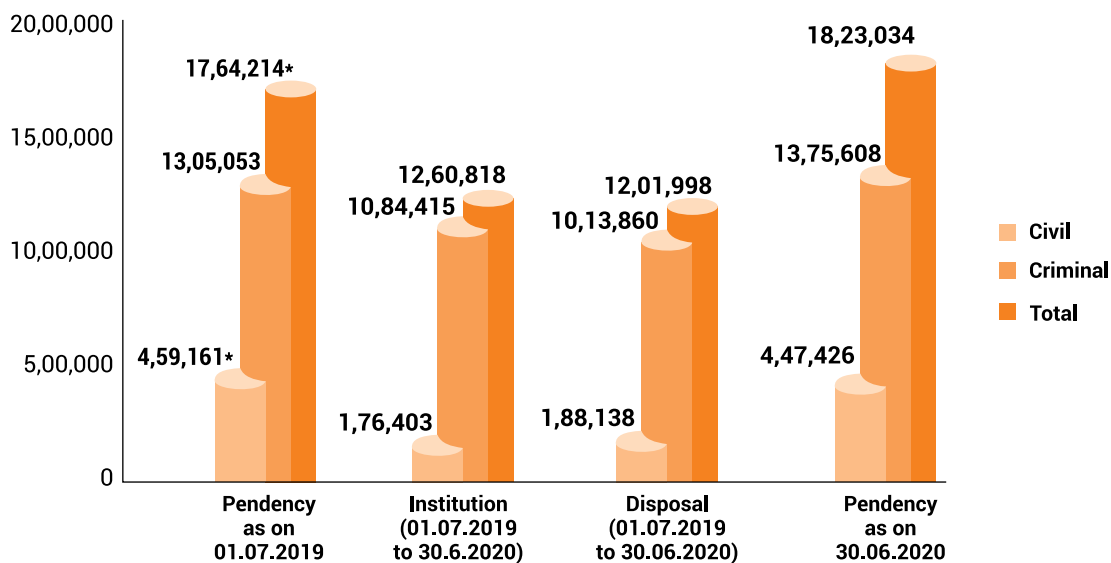
Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	1,23,290	32,205	18,112	1,37,383
Company Matters	292	21	21	292
Contempt (Civil)	6,269	2,229	1,190	7,308
Review (Civil)	783	250	211	822
Matrimonial Matters	1,897	827	445	2,279
Arbitration Matters	145	136	82	199
Civil Revisions	1,169	332	225	1,276
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	2,947	591	623	2,915
Civil Appeals	41,081	6,607	3,301	44,387
Land Acquisition Matters	3,144	387	112	3,419
MACT Matters	43,899	6,705	2,682	47,922
Civil Suits (Original Side)	07	0	0	07
Other than above*	92,135	46,032	22,861	1,15,306
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	1,340	1,618	1,363	1,595
Criminal Revisions	18,076	3,567	1,619	20,024
Bail Applications	2,355	31,829	30,339	3,845
Criminal Appeals	42,355	5,274	2,233	45,396
Death Sentence Reference	08	10	05	13
Contempt (Criminal)	23	04	05	22
Misc. Criminal Applications	16,969	11,701	7,366	21,304
Other than above*	25,314	18,320	10,536	33,098

* Opening balance modified by the High Court

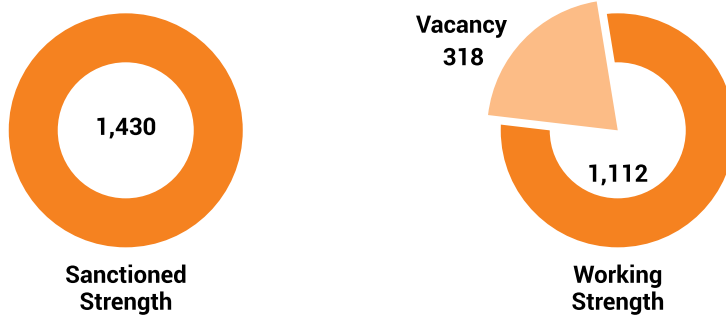
SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

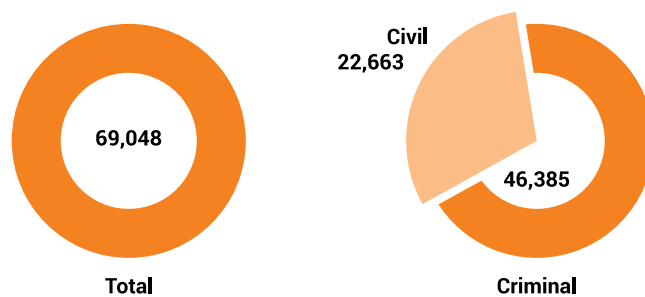


* Opening balance modified by the High Court

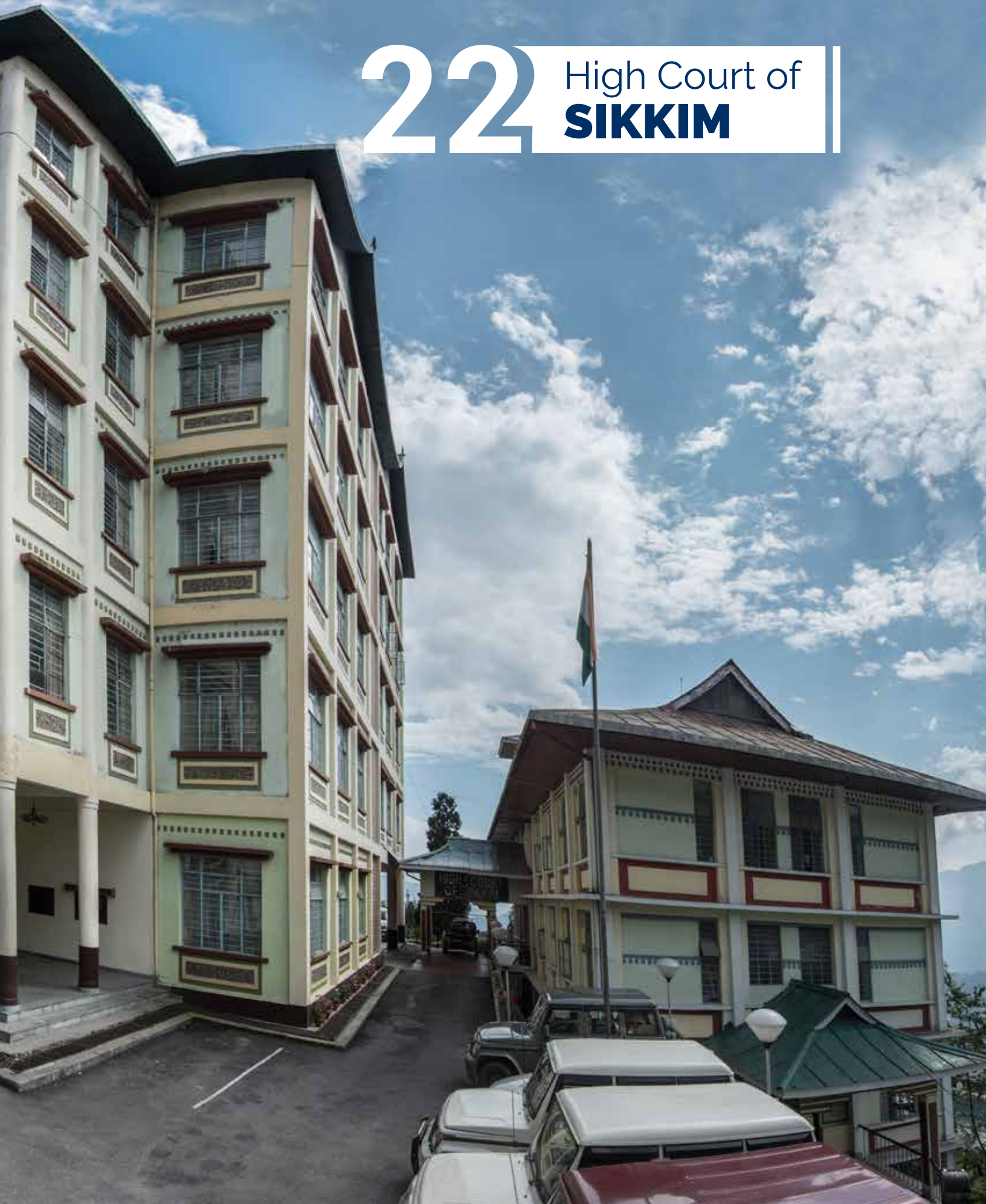
Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



22 High Court of **SIKKIM**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Sikkim*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arup Kumar Goswami, Chief Justice

Hon'ble Ms. Justice Meenakshi M. Rai

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bhaskar Raj Pradhan

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

Prior to its merger with the Union of India in the year 1975, Sikkim was under a monarchy. The King who was popularly known as "the Chogyal" was the fountainhead of justice, whose words were the law. In 1955, the then King of Sikkim issued the High Court of Judicature (Jurisdiction and Powers) Proclamation, establishing a High Court in Sikkim. The High Court thus established was made the final Court in all judicial matters, civil or criminal, subject to the exercise of prerogative by the Maharaja to grant mercy, pardon, remission, commutation or reduction of sentence in case of conviction. The Maharaja also retained his prerogative to set up a Special Tribunal for the review of any case, civil or criminal. After Sikkim merged with India in 1975 and became the 22nd State of India, the High Court functioning immediately prior to the date of merger became the High Court for the State of Sikkim under the Constitution of India. In 1978, Sikkim Civil Courts Act was passed with a view to consolidate the laws relating to the Constitution of Civil Courts subordinate to the High Court and other relevant matters.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

For regulating the operation of courts during Covid-19 pandemic, the High Court issued Notifications on 18 March 2020, by which, entry and exit to the courts were restricted. Sanitizers were made available for all advocates, litigants and staff members at the entry point. The Bar Association of Sikkim and the advocates were

requested to advise the litigants not to visit the courts unless their presence was considered absolutely necessary; and also to ensure that there was no over-crowding in the bar rooms. Courts were advised not to insist on personal appearance of the parties unless absolutely necessary. It was further prescribed that request for personal exemption from appearance of

the accused was to be considered liberally; no adverse order or order dismissing cases for default was to be passed if the advocate or the party was absent; intimation, if any, by e-mail explaining absence was to be considered; and dates for the cases were to be spaced out to avoid too many cases on the same date. Video conferencing facility was recommended to be optimally used instead of physical production of under-trial prisoners from the jails. Instructions were given that help-line numbers were to be established in all the courts for updating the litigants and the advocates about the status of their case(s); and that a dedicated team headed by the jurisdictional District Judge was to be constituted in every district to take stock of the situation on a day-to-day basis and to take such steps as may be considered appropriate. After the Supreme Court of India issued an order on 23 March 2020, extending the period of limitation in *Suo Moto W.P (C) No. 03/2020 (In Re: Cognizance for extension of limitation)*, the operative portion of the order was immediately published on the High Court's website on 24 March 2020 for information and guidance to all concerned.

Guidelines in form of a circular were issued by the High Court on 24 March 2020 providing for the procedure for hearing cases during the lock down through video-conferencing. Subsequently, the High Court provided additional facilities for smooth functioning of the Courts, which was published in a circular dated 18 April 2020. The facilities included establishment of Facilitation Centres for video-conferencing in the High Court and all the subordinate courts for the litigants as well as the advocates. That apart, the filing Section was opened in all the Courts on all working days. From 1 June 2020, the High Court and the subordinate courts began taking up cases. Initially, limited cases were listed to avoid over-crowding, but gradually increased without

compromising on maintaining social distancing. e-Sewa Kendra was established in the High Court and in the district courts to assist the litigants and advocates. A helpline number '14636' was established for any query related to cases to be heard through video-conferencing.

The Rules for Video-Conferencing for Courts, 2020 were published vide a notification in May 2020 and made effective from 3 June 2020. The Rules for Online Electronic Filing, 2020 were published vide notification dated 26 June 2020 and made effective from 3 August 2020.

During the judicial year 2019-20, foundation stone laying ceremony of Grade 'D' quarters at VIP colony and Grade 'B' & 'D' quarters at forest colony for the employees of the High Court was held on 21 August 2019 at VIP Colony, Gangtok, East Sikkim.

Technological Accomplishments

The High Court adopted 'One Stop Solution' wherein a single application is tailored to deliver different content and functionalities to users. 'One Stop Solution' is personalized based on roles of the user. Access is granted to the different modules based on the role assigned to the user. It simplifies the daily operations by providing all the functionalities at one place with single login. The different modules available in the above solution are – (i) Judge Internal Assessment Module: This module is accessible only to the Judges for internal assessment. This module contains a dashboard displaying number of Pending Cases, Disposed Cases, Judgments, Cases Today and Judgment Reserved and links to details for each category. It also displays the number of pending cases and disposed cases for each Judge; (ii) Report Generation: This module generates customized reports to reduce turnaround time and increase efficiency; (iii) Network Monitoring



Chief Justice's Court, High Court of Sikkim

Module: This module enables real time monitoring of the status of the entire network of High Court of Sikkim. The floor-wise network details are displayed.; (iv) Graphical User Interface Script Module: This module enables data migration by executing scripts with a single click of a button. Execution of scripts through terminal is replaced by Graphical User Interface based buttons; (v) Other modules include Sikkim Judicial Academy website backup and Museum website backup.

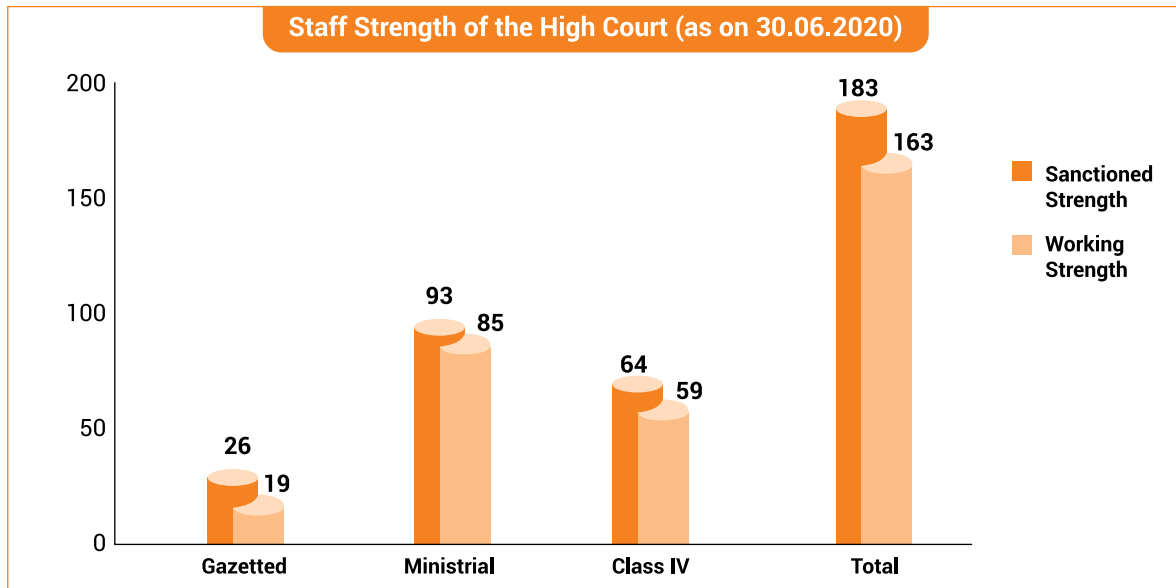
Apart from the above, application softwares, both web-based as well as standalone applications were developed and implemented in the High Court. These applications proved to be of great assistance in performing the daily operations. These applications inter alia are - official website of the High Court, file tracking system, copy room software, android based application of the High Court, screen sharing application, case information SMS, local shared drive.

To facilitate remote filing of cases and payment of court fees during the pandemic, the software for e-Filing of cases and e-Payment of court fees were launched on 3 August 2020. Training

programmes on e-Courts, e-Filing, e-Payment etc. were conducted on 25 July 2020 and 4 August 2020 by the Ubuntu/CIS Master Trainers for the advocates in all the districts of the State.

Information kiosks were installed at High Court and the subordinate courts of Sikkim, which allows the litigants and the advocates to easily access the status of any case in the High Court, district or sub-divisional court. Further, Display Boards were installed outside the court rooms of the High Court and the subordinate courts of Sikkim, which displayed real time information related to hearing of cases in progress in the respective court rooms. e-Sewa Kendras were operationalized in High Court and district courts of Sikkim. Justice clock was installed in the High Court on 18 February 2020. Installation of Solar Power Plants was completed at district court, East Sikkim.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Plan	–	–	–
Non-Plan	18,53,00,000	17,91,93,000	21,49,84,000
Total	18,53,00,000	17,91,93,000	21,49,84,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	3
Working Strength of Judges	3

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	3
Highest	3

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	1
------------------------------	---

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

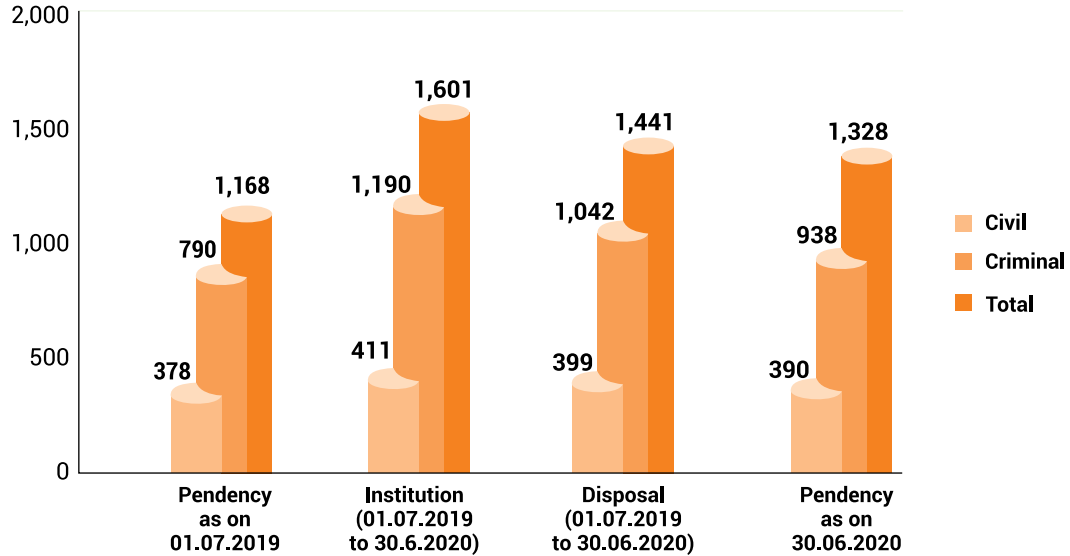
Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	111	44	55	100
Company Matters	-	-	-	-
Contempt (Civil)	01	01	01	01
Review (Civil)	0	01	01	-
Matrimonial Matters	02	01	02	01
Arbitration Matters	04	02	03	03
Civil Revisions	03	07	03	07
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	02	02	02	02
Civil Appeals*	49	23	14	58
Land Acquisition Matters	03	01	-	04
MACT Matters	09	10	11	08
Civil Suits (Original Side)	0	-	-	-
Other than above	03	03	04	02
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	02	-	02	-
Criminal Revisions	05	06	02	09
Bail Applications	0	11	11	0
Criminal Appeals	68	18	53	33
Death Sentence Reference	0	-	-	-
Contempt (Criminal)	0	-	-	-
Misc. Criminal Applications	02	-	02	-
Other than above*	24	22	39	07

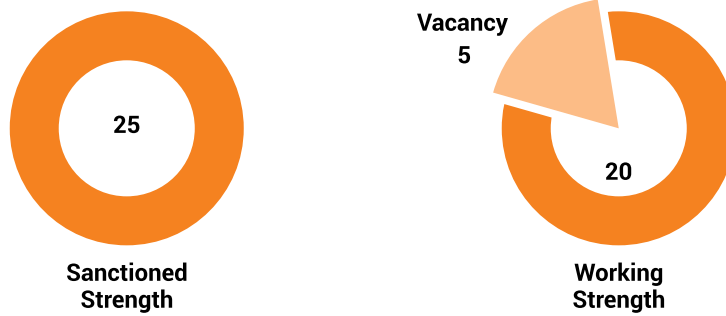
* Opening balance modified by the High Court

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

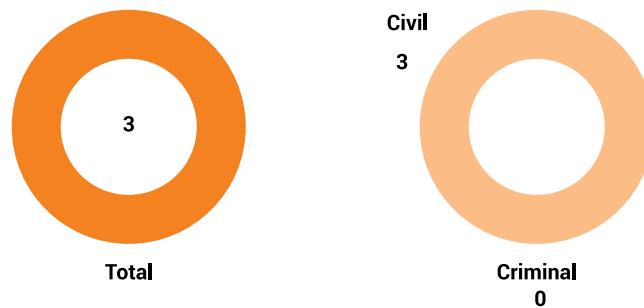
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



23 High Court for the State of **TELANGANA**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court for the State of Telangana*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.S. Chauhan, Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.S.S. Ramachandra Rao	Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Keshava Rao	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Annireddy Abhishek Reddy
Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. Rajasheker Reddy	Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.K. Shavili	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kunuru Lakshman
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ponugoti Naveen Rao	Hon'ble Mr. Justice T. Amarnath Goud	Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. Vijaysen Reddy
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Challa Kodandaram Chowdary	Hon'ble Ms. Justice Ghandikota Sri Devi	
Hon'ble Dr. Justice Shameem Akther	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tadakamalla Vinod Kumar	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

On 17 September 1948, the State of Hyderabad, the largest native State in pre-independence India, acceded to the Indian Union. On 1 October 1953, the State of Andhra was formed, and on 5 July 1954, the High Court for Andhra State was established at Guntur. In 1956, a new State of Andhra Pradesh was created on linguistic basis by merging the Andhra State with parts of Hyderabad State. The High Court for the new State of Andhra Pradesh was established at the existing High Court building at Hyderabad on 5 November 1956.

In the year 2014, under the Andhra Pradesh Re-organization Act, 2014, the erstwhile State of Andhra Pradesh was bifurcated into the State of Telangana and the residuary State of Andhra Pradesh. Consequently, the Andhra Pradesh High Court was renamed as the 'High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad' for the State of Telangana and the State of Andhra Pradesh. The said High Court remained a common High Court for both the two States till 31 December 2018. With effect from 1 January 2019, the existing High Court was renamed as High Court for the State of Telangana and a separate High Court was established for the State of Andhra Pradesh at Amaravathi.

The High Court building is situated on the southern bank of the river Musi and originally spread across an area of 9.20 acres. The construction of the High Court building had commenced on 31 March 1919 and the building was inaugurated on 20 April 1920, by Nizam VII, Mir Osman Ali Khan (of the then princely State of Hyderabad), who was also the Architect of the High Court building. Built by using red and white stones in saracenic style, it is one of the finest buildings in the city of Hyderabad. In the year 2009 an additional land of 9.50 acres comprising Blocks C, D and H (old Maternity Hospital) was allotted by the Government, taking the total land presently available to 18.70 acres. At present, there are 47 Court Halls and Chambers in the High Court.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

After the outbreak of Covid-19, the High Court issued a circular on 16 March 2020 with regard to taking precautions to combat novel coronavirus, and the staff of the High Court were exempted from marking their attendance on Bio-Metric machine. In addition to designated Covid-19 hospitals in the headquarters, a hospital was designated for treatment of employees of the High Court and subordinate courts affected by Covid-19.

The High Court issued a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on 8 June 2020 for the district judiciary regarding the functioning of courts during the Covid-19 pandemic. Covid-19 Fund was established to meet the medical expenses of outsourced/ contingent/ contract/ part time masalchis/ permanent masalchis working in the high court, and in the subordinate judiciary. The high court judges and all the judicial officers in the State voluntary contributed in the Fund. Corona Kavach, an insurance cover from Oriental Insurance Company was extended to 2,133 employees on 14 August 2020.

Mobile Vans with video conferencing facility were provided for use of advocates who did not have facilities for addressing virtual courts. From 24 March 2020, the High Court and all the courts in the State regularly functioned through video conferencing. Daily sanitization of the Judges' Chambers, Court Halls and various Sections in the entire High Court premises were undertaken, sanitizer dispensers were provided at the entrance of each Chamber, Court Hall and all the Sections, along with sanitizers for daily use. Face shields and masks were provided to the entire staff of the High Court, thermal screening thermometers used at the security entry to check the temperature of the staff/visitors while entering into the High Court premises, hot air hand dryers installed in all the toilets in the High Court premises, pulse oximeters provided to the Judges and Judicial Officers, and transparent plastic sheet with table cover frame installed on the dais of each court hall.

To deal with the pandemic, infrastructure was setup, and personnel were deputed to provide technology know-how for purpose of Virtual

Courts, Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was prepared for online filing and hearing of matters through video conferencing, video on online filing and hearing of cases through video conferencing was created and circulated to other States for their reference, and control rooms were set up at High Court and Judicial Academy, for use of Advocates for appearing before the Virtual Courts. For making the payment of court fees, etc. more convenient and safer, digital payments through swiping machines was made available at the High Court. With the help of NISG, Abhayam Application was developed whereby any person apprehending threat or danger from police can alert the Mandal Legal Services Authority and District Legal Services Authority.

On 28 July 2019, Phase-II Building at City Civil Court, Secunderabad was inaugurated by Hon'ble Sri Justice N. V. Ramana, Hon'ble Sri Justice L. Nageswara Rao and Hon'ble Sri Justice R. Subhash Reddy, Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court of India.

The High Court conducted South Zone-I Regional Conference on 1 and 2 February, 2020 on "Optimizing Quality and Efficiency in Justice Delivery: Challenges & Opportunities". Hon'ble Sri Justice N. V. Ramana, Hon'ble Sri Justice L. Nageswara Rao, Hon'ble Sri Justice R. Subhash Reddy and Hon'ble Sri Justice Dinesh Maheshwari, Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court of India participated in the said conference. The High Court also initiated process for the recruitment of Junior Civil Judges, District Judges, and Subordinate Judiciary Staff through online modalities.

Technological Accomplishments

Digitization of Records of the High Court for the State of Telangana was initiated and is continuing at a steady pace. An initiative has been taken to

utilize cloud technology to lessen the dependency on local servers, in turn decreasing the server crashes at subordinate courts. The mobile application created for the High Court provides a platform for dissemination of information pertaining to case status, cause lists, etc for the convenience of advocates and litigants.

SMS alert system was launched and through this facility, the registered advocates are apprised of the relevant information related to their cases including case hearing status on their mobile phones, enabling them to monitor the progress of the cases filed by them. This helps advocates organize their work in different courts, and reach the concerned court in time. Display Boards were installed, at all conspicuous places in the court complex, to exhibit the case hearing status in all the Court Halls and relay other important messages via the notification bar. The Committee Meetings of the High Court were made paperless. The Judges and Registrars were provided with Apple iPad Pro 10.5. A Justice Clock was installed in the High Court.

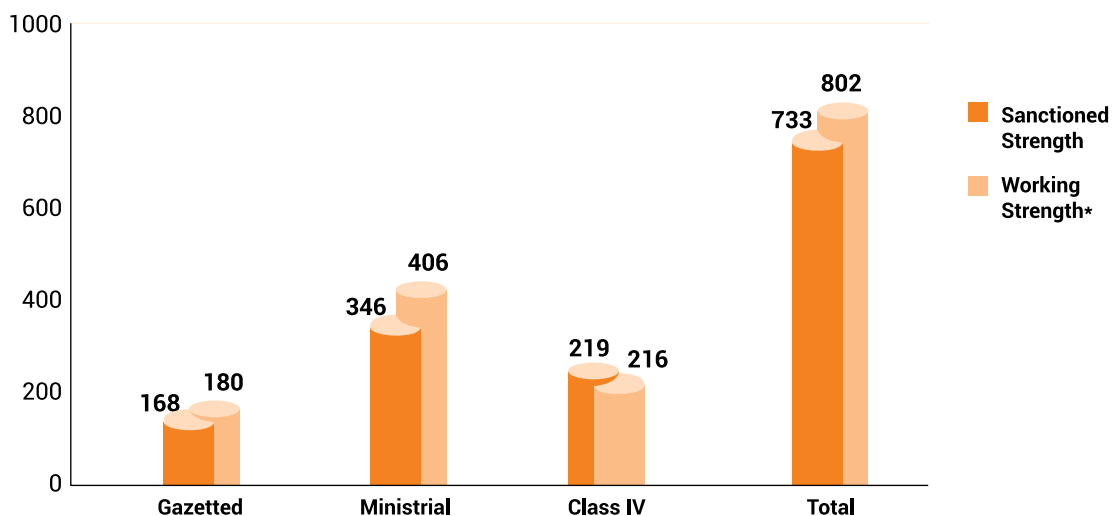
A new official website was developed for the High Court, comprising of GIGW guidelines. The High Court signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with National Institute of Smart Governance (NISG), whereby NISG will provide technical assistance to the High Court in developing various modules and applications. GIMS (Government Instant Messaging System) portal for official communication / discussion of Judicial Officers of the State, has been implemented. JITSI Server, developed in-house, in the High Court, for use of the jails and courts for producing under-trial prisoners was installed.



Judges' Lounge of the High Court

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



* Including supernumerary posts

Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019**	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	30,34,22,000	39,91,79,000	63,44,10,000
Non-Plan	2,19,08,80,000	1,93,46,91,000	1,95,53,23,000
Total	2,49,43,02,000	2,33,38,70,000	2,58,97,33,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** Revised by High Court

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	24
Working Strength of Judges	14

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	10
Highest	13

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	26,668
------------------------------	--------

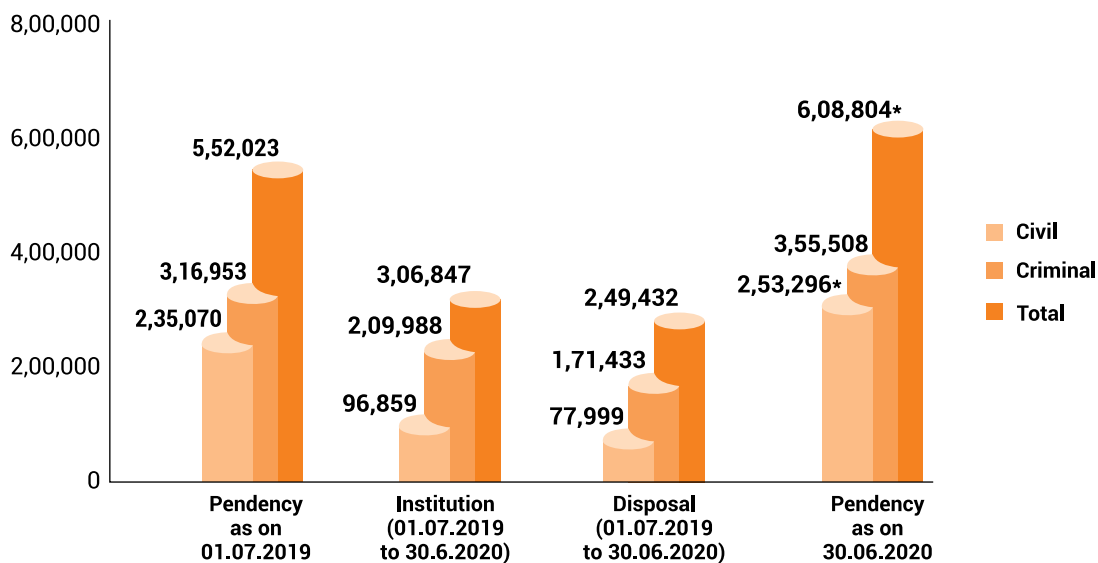
HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	1,02,135	25,914	18,074	1,09,975
Company Matters	815	72	114	773
Contempt (Civil)	5,895	1,609	1,130	6,374
Review (Civil)	-	-	-	-
Matrimonial Matters	1,859	194	47	2,006
Arbitration Matters	402	141	392	151
Civil Revisions	8,715	2,421	1,815	9,321
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	4,482	160	600	4,042
Civil Appeals	22,887	2,535	1,177	24,245
Land Acquisition Matters	1,420	128	36	1,512
MACT Matters	20,863	1,996	1,958	20,901
Civil Suits (Original Side)	08	0	0	08
Other than above	646	295	257	684
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	-	-	-	-
Criminal Revisions	8,209	1,200	484	8,925
Bail Applications	63	1,762	1,764	61
Criminal Appeals	7,487	1,076	155	8,408
Death Sentence Reference	03	04	01	06
Contempt (Criminal)	-	-	-	-
Misc. Criminal Applications	-	-	-	-
Other than above	12,587	6,202	4,953	13,836

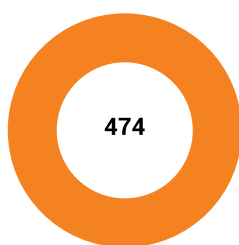
SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

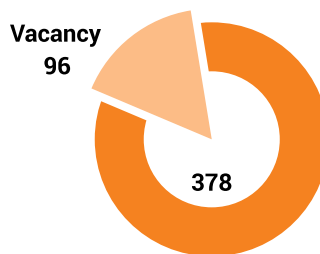


* Closing balance modified by the High Court

Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020

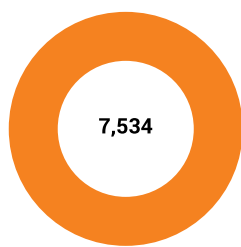


Sanctioned Strength

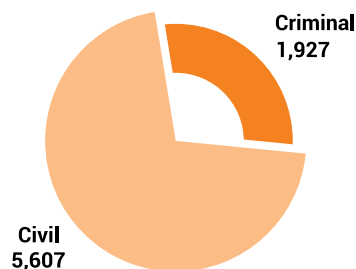


Working Strength

Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



Total



24 High Court of **TRIPURA**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Tripura*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.A. Kureshi, Chief Justice

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Subhasis Talapatra

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Arindam Lodh

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Satya Gopal Chattopadhyay

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

In the year 1972, after the enactment of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971, the State of Tripura came under the jurisdiction of the Gauhati High Court which continued until 2012. Thereafter, by way of an Amendment under Section 28A(c) of the North-Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act, 1971, a separate High Court for the State of Tripura was established on 23 March 2013, with the seat at Agartala. The High Court of Tripura is functioning from its own spacious and beautiful three-storied building covering an area of about 10 acres.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

Due to the threat of Covid-19 and as per Order dated 6 April 2020 passed by the Supreme Court in *Suo Motu Writ (Civil) 05/2020*, the High Court started virtual hearing of cases since the initial days of the pandemic. It notified a 'Module for Virtual Hearing of Cases in the High Court through Video Conferencing'. The video links of the virtual courts functional in the High Court were published on its official website so that, any member of the public may witness the court proceeding as per the principle of open court hearing.

During the judicial year, the Tripura Judicial Academy, under the guidance of the High Court of Tripura conducted several training programmes

and conference with a view to improve the working experience/quality of the Judicial Officers. This include (i) Mahatma Gandhi- Father of the Nation- A discussion on strengthening the system of administration of justice, held on 2 October 2019; (ii) Conference of all Judicial Officers of Tripura on the topic "Interaction of Judicial Officers with the Hon'ble Chief Justice and Hon'ble Judges of High Court of Tripura" held on 8 February 2020; (iii) Training programme for special Public Prosecutors of Special Courts trying POCSO Cases on Law, Child Psychology, Child Behaviour and Health Issues held on 1 February 2020 and (iv) Training Programme of Judicial Staff of District Judiciary of Tripura as system Administrator under the e-Court Project

Phase-II held on 8 March 2020.

At present, the Tripura Judicial Academy is housed at old Judge's Bungalow located at Kunjaban, Agartala. However, construction work has started over a plot of land admeasuring five acres located at Narsingarh near Agartala Airport to build a full-fledged Judicial Academy building. This will include provision for Hostels (Male and Female Officers), Special guest rooms and quarters of officers/ official staff of the Academy.

Apart from making G+5 Court building at Agartala and G+2 Court building at Khowai operational, vertical extension of Court building for the District & Sessions Judge's Court at Ambassa has been completed. Construction of seven new quarters for the Judicial Officers at Ambassa is in final stages of completion. Adequate measures have been taken for timely completion of the ongoing projects of Court buildings at Kamalpur, Amarpur and Sabroom and residential quarters of judicial officers at Udaipur.

The Tripura State Legal Services Authority and eight District Legal Services Authority rendered legal aid to the people in need. During the period under consideration, 145 legal awareness camps were organized across the State in which a total 10,490 people attended. In addition, four legal awareness camps were organized in prisons. In Tripura, 2,344 legal Aid Clinic/ village legal care and support centres were established and total 26,030 persons were provided legal advice through front offices at legal aid clinic. Two training programmes were held to train the PLVs. Total 166 National Lok Adalats, four Traditional Lok Adalats, seven Special Lok Adalats and 70 Permanent Lok Adalats were organized in which total amount of Rs.1,76,55,608/- was settled for compensation.

Technological Accomplishments

The High Court took multifarious initiatives under the Phase-I and Phase-II of the eCourts Project. With a view to arrange computerization of the District Judiciary in Tripura, all the 16 court complexes were equipped with ICT (Information and Communication Technology) and JSC-cum-CFC (Judicial Service Centre-cum-Centralized Filing Counter). To provide connectivity at the court complexes of the District Judiciary, all the 16 sites were provided with NIC-SWAN connection. Under eCourts WAN Implementation, the High Court deployed BSNL MPLS Leased line at all the 16 court complexes for data replication purpose to NJDG and for conducting video conferencing between Courts and Jails by using the 'Vidyo' Application. Drupal based websites for all the eight District Courts are functional and daily orders, judgment, notification, Judges' information, latest announcement etc. are updated on regular basis on the website. As many as 20 Citizen Centric Services like SMS Alert Facility for the advocates and litigants and Information Kiosks at all the court complexes were made functional. Video conferencing equipments were procured and delivered to all the court complexes and jails of Tripura by the High Court under e-Courts Project, Phase-II. All the 16 court complexes and the Tripura Judicial Academy were provided with Diesel Generator Sets for power backup under the Phase-I and Phase-II of the e-Courts Project.

Under the aegis of Tripura Judicial Academy, the High Court conducted in-house SA (System Administrator) Training Program for employees of the District Judiciary for the purpose of capacity building in computerization. Justice Clock was installed at a prominent location in the High Court premises which displays information related to pendency of cases in the District Judiciary and the High Court. All the 16 court complexes of Tripura migrated to DC CIS NC 3.2. Interoperable



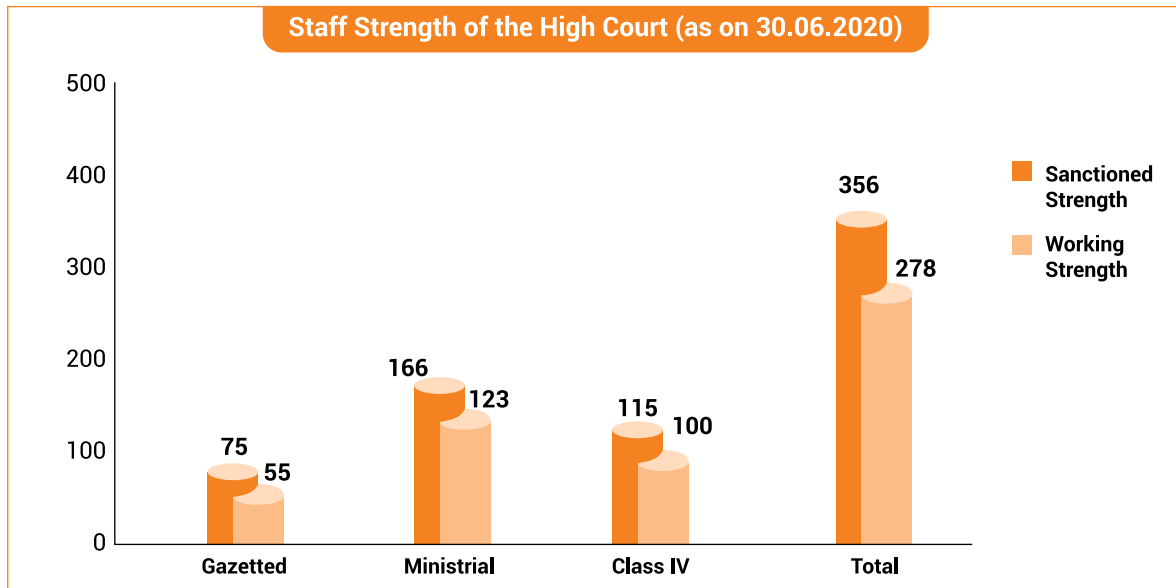
A view of the High Court of Tripura

Criminal Justice System (ICJS) was implemented across the State in all the court complexes and now the Courts of Tripura are capable of receiving FIR and Charge-sheet from the Police Stations electronically from CCTNS. High Court created JO code for all the Judicial Officers and mail ID under AIJ domain. Vacancy Monitoring System and Mobile App for Live Court Status was launched. JustIS Mobile App was installed in smartphones of all Judicial Officers for enabling self-monitoring of Case Management of their Courts. All the Judicial Officers having AIJ mail ID were provided with GIMS App (Government Instant Messaging Service) for exchange of official communication.

Solar energy system under e-Courts Project, Phase-II is already operational in seven court complexes. All Process Servers of the District Judiciary were provided with smartphones by

the High Court for process automation through NSTEP Mobile App and now it is fully operational. The High Court undertook testing of the e-Filing Software of the eCommittee of Supreme Court. An Artificial Intelligence (AI) Committee was constituted by the High Court on the lines of AI Committee of the Supreme Court.

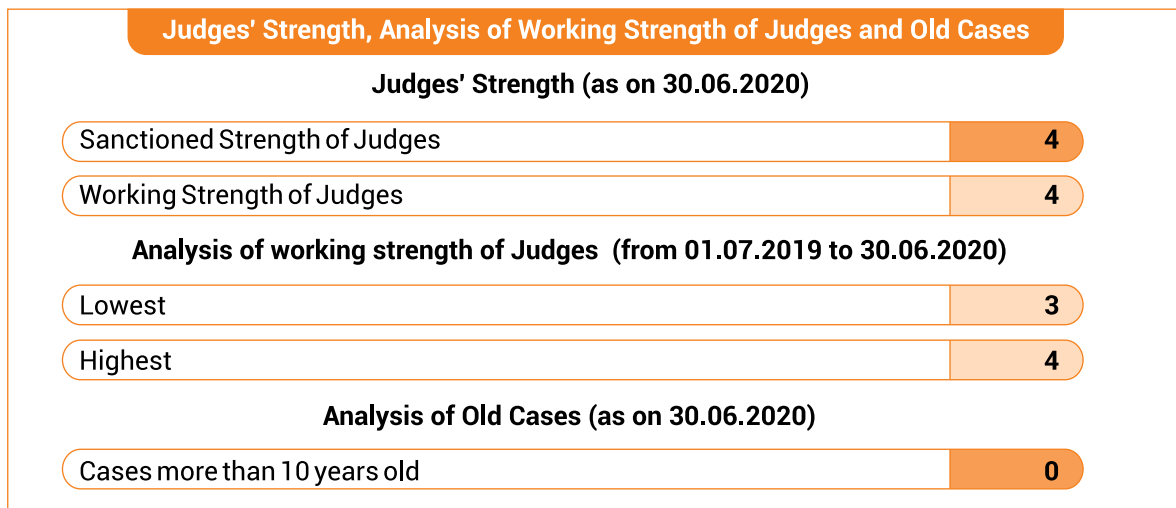
HIGH COURT STATISTICS



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019**	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	27,14,87,058	21,13,77,000	21,53,20,000
Non-Plan	–	–	–
Total	27,14,87,058	21,13,77,000	21,53,20,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]
 ** Data revised by the High Court



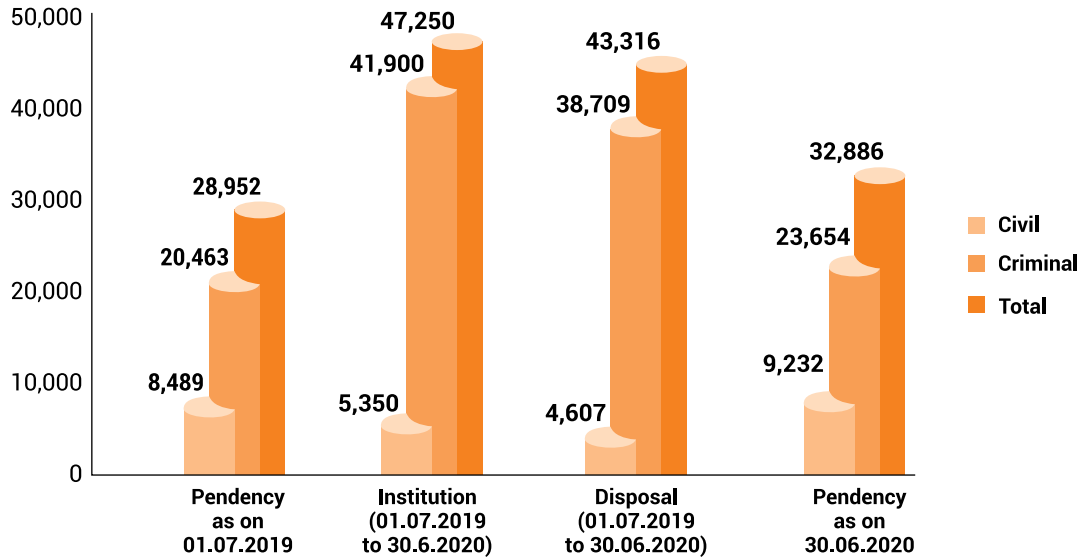
HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

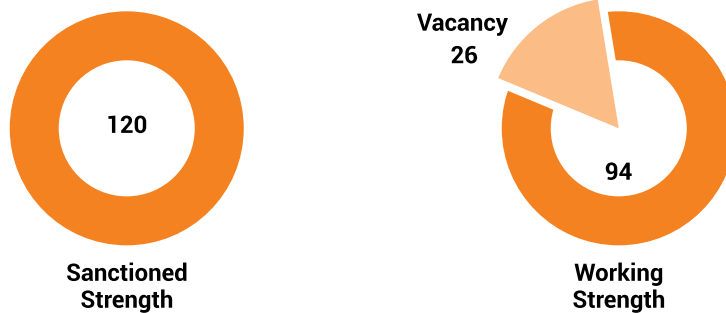
Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	1,672	1,114	1,936	850
Company Matters	01	0	0	01
Contempt (Civil)	37	133	133	37
Review (Civil)	09	35	32	12
Matrimonial Matters	67	28	23	72
Arbitration Matters	08	20	15	13
Civil Revisions	70	83	88	65
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	0	0	0	0
Civil Appeals	221	87	99	209
Land Acquisition Matters	136	58	112	82
MACT Matters	98	74	108	64
Civil Suits (Original Side)	0	0	0	0
Other than above	326	272	289	309
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	3	14	12	05
Criminal Revisions	122	71	70	123
Bail Applications	16	342	340	18
Criminal Appeals	247	108	178	177
Death Sentence Reference	0	02	01	01
Contempt (Criminal)	0	02	02	0
Misc. Criminal Applications	0	0	0	0
Other than above	24	74	80	18

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

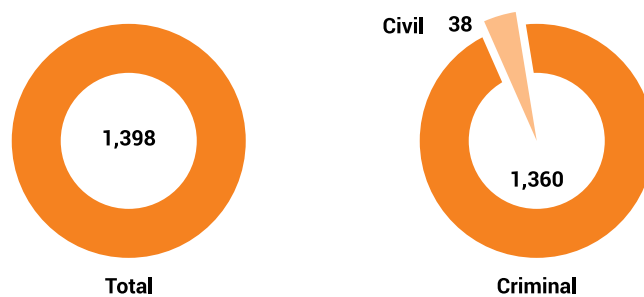
Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



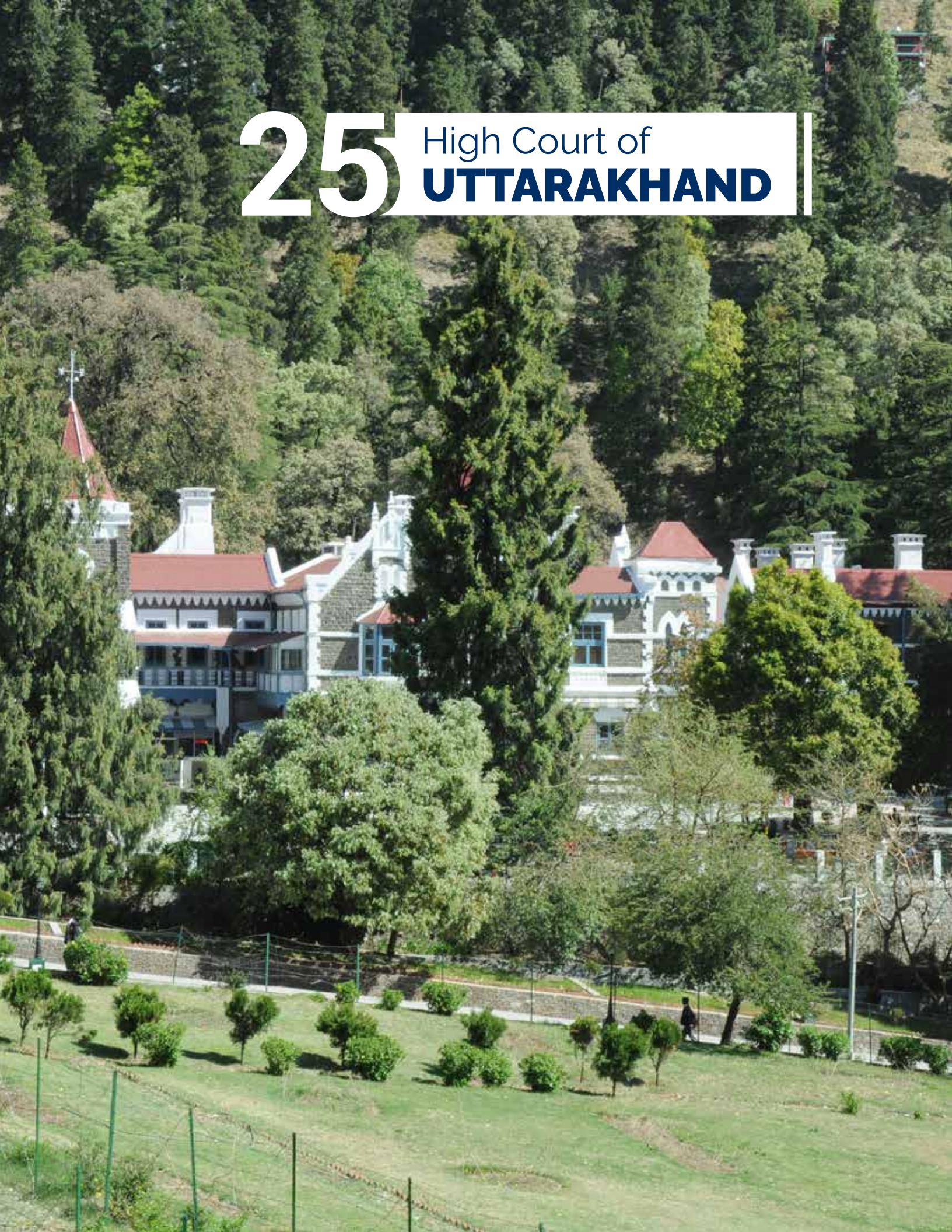
Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020



25 High Court of **UTTARAKHAND**



Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court of Uttarakhand*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravi Vijaykumar Malimath, Acting Chief Justice		
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sharad Kumar Sharma	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra Maithani
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Lok Pal Singh	Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.S. Dhanik	Hon'ble Mr. Justice Alok Kumar Verma
Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari	Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.C. Khulbe	

* As on 2 November 2020

Brief Introduction

The State of Uttarakhand was carved out from the erstwhile State of Uttar Pradesh on 9 November 2000. On the same date, the High Court of Uttarakhand was also established at Nainital. The High Court of Uttarakhand is housed in a magnificent building constructed in the year 1900 A.D, known as Old Secretariat, which is a piece of Gothic style architecture. After establishment of the High Court, a Chief Justice Court Block and two more court buildings were constructed in the year 2007. Thereupon, Glenthorn building, which earlier belonged to Forest Department, has also been taken over, in order to meet the increasing demand of space. A separate ADR complex has been constructed in the High Court premises, in which, the office of the Uttarakhand State Legal Services Authority is situated.

Initiatives for the Judicial Year 2019-20

Administrative Achievements

In view of Covid-19 pandemic, various directions were issued to conduct judicial work in the high court and the subordinate courts, while ensuring overall safety of all the stakeholders. Directions were issued to hear the matters through video-conferencing. During the period 15 April to 31 August 2020, a total of 19,709 cases were heard in the High Court.

For the Subordinate Courts, directions were issued to ensure complete sanitization and cleaning of entire court campus every day and to take up urgent matters, category of which was defined. Only bare essential Judicial Officers on rotational basis were deputed and rest of them remained available at home during office hours. Like-wise, rotation system for the staff was also put in place. Directions were also issued

in consonance with the directions/guidelines issued by the Government of India and the State Government to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

During the Judicial Year 2019-20, 131 Lok Adalats were organized in the State, in which 36,995 cases were disposed of. It included settlement amount of Rs. 41,07,08,809/- and Rs. 1,46,44,470/- was realized as fine. 8,770 Legal Literacy and Multi-purpose Camps were organized, which benefited 5,22,476 persons. Out of the 8,770 Camps, 3,230 Legal Literacy and Sensitization Programme were organized in remote and far-flung hilly areas, which benefited 1,50,940 persons. At present, total 774 Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs) are engaged for legal aid works. 304 Legal Aid Clinics are functional in various villages, tehsils, districts, sub-jails, JJBs, law colleges etc. 1,836 cases were received for the Mediation, out of which, 517 were finally settled. Seven Permanent Lok Adalats have been created by the State Government, out of which four are functional. Four Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Centres and 36 Tehsil Legal Services Committees are functional in the State. 13 Full-Time Secretaries from the cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division) have been appointed in all the 13 District Legal Services Authorities. A Toll Free legal aid Helpline No. 1800 180 4000 and 15100 is functional in the office of Uttarakhand SLSA, Nainital.

During the period under consideration, the Uttarakhand Judicial and Legal Academy (UJALA) conducted Foundation Training Programme for newly recruited Civil Judges (Jr. Div.) 2016 Batch. The Academy conducted a joint workshop for these Civil Judges (Jr. Div.) & newly appointed APOs of the State in the month of September, 2019 on various provisions of the Competition Act, 2002. A reflective Training Programme for Civil Judges (Jr. Div.) 2015 batch was also conducted. The Academy successfully conducted a one-day Workshop on Administration of Criminal Justice

for about 180 Judicial Officers, Govt. Advocates and Prosecutors, Police Officers etc. from Garhwal Division. A joint workshop on 'Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012' for Judges, Doctors and SPs/DSPs of the State was held in July 2019. The Academy conducted a Foundation Training Programme for recently appointed Additional District Judges (Direct Recruit) and promotee Judicial Officers in the HJS cadre. It included one day Mediation Training Programme for referral Judges. The Academy organized two Judicial Colloquiums on 'Human Trafficking in Uttarakhand' for Kumaun and Garhwal Division, in two phases in February and March 2020. A workshop on Role of Tehsildar and Naib-Tehsildar in Criminal Justice Administration, Assistant Prosecution Officers was also held.

The Academy organized training programme for District Government Counsels/Additional District Government Counsels/Assistant District Government Counsels (Civil). A Special Training Programme was held for DLSA, Secretaries of the State. The Academy also conducted 10 Training Programmes for the Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) of the State during the judicial year. Faculty members of the Academy visited each District headquarter of the State to impart training to PLVs as per their convenience at the doorstep.

Technological Accomplishments

In view of Covid-19 pandemic, all the Courts were hearing cases through Video Conferencing from 15 April 2020. 5,418 cases were heard/ taken up through Video Conferencing till 30 June 2020. In the same period, 3,019 cases were heard through video conferencing in subordinate courts. Open Source Software JITSI Meet was used for hearing through video-conferencing.

Online Court fee was launched for the High Court and Subordinate Courts of State. Digital



Chief Justice's Court, High Court of Uttarakhand

Signatures have been provided to all the Judicial Officers of the State. Facilities such as Online Daily and weekly Cause Lists, Judgments and Orders in PDF format, Online Display Board, Online Case Status using website/NJDG/Android Application, enquiry of cases by kiosk were provided to stakeholders. LFD based Physical Screens (22) were installed in the premises of the Court for Live Case Running Status.

Case Categorization, Full Bench Judgments, Jurisdiction of Judicial Courts in Uttarakhand, Circular Letters, Notifications, Results/Recruitments, RTI Manual, tenders etc. are available for all stakeholders on the High Court Website. eGranthalaya, KOHA, and online law libraries are being used by Library and Judges of the High Court. Studio/desktop Video Conferencing facility is available at High Court.

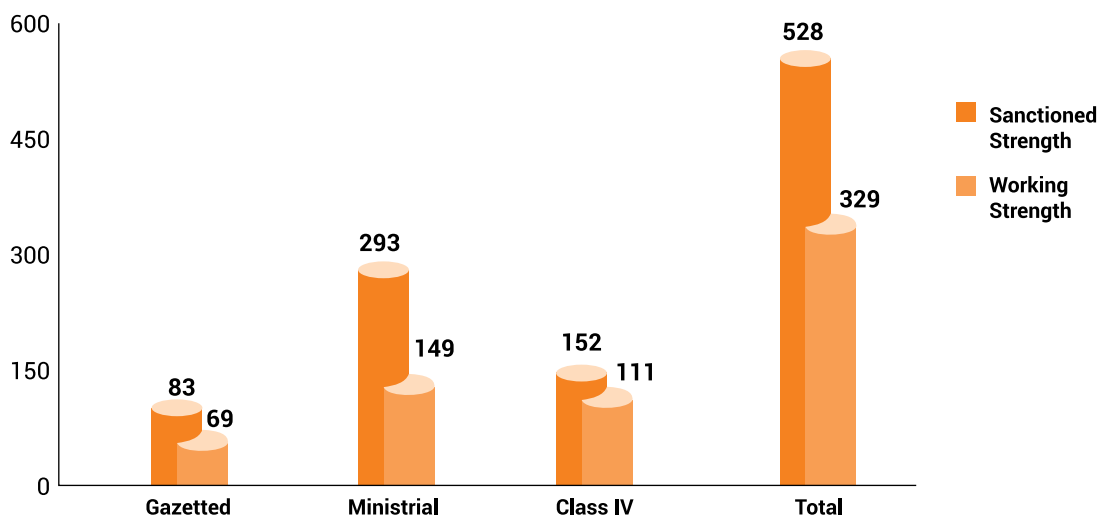
Internet connectivity (34 MBPS), has been installed throughout the High Court by leased line, dual internet connectivity at residence of Judges and Free Wi-Fi internet facility at high court campus for all stakeholders. Old court records have been digitized. Approximately 1.32 crore documents have been scanned and digitized. DSPACE software was used to manage and retrieve the said digitized documents. Inventory Management System for stationery and office management, budget monitoring, recruitment monitoring, under trial prisoners etc., are being developed and used by Sections of the High Court. Legal Aid Information System (LAIS) to provide online free legal help to weaker sections of society was developed and launched.

Case Information System (CIS 3.2) has been installed and data of cases are being entered in

CIS 3.2 for further uploading on NJDG. SMS and email service is functioning at 51 court complexes, seven Family Courts and 1 Commercial court, where CIS 3.2 is functioning. Video Conferencing facility has been installed at 23 court complexes and at 10 jail complexes. The remand work and recording of evidence was done through video conferencing. The up-to-date website of all the District Courts is available in Drupal 7.0. Various activities of the State Judiciary were monitored with the help of video conferencing.

HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Staff Strength of the High Court (as on 30.06.2020)



Budget of the High Court*

	2018-2019	2019-2020**	2020-2021
Plan	7,00,00,000	8,00,00,000	
Non-Plan	53,76,42,000	47,26,62,760	25,57,50,000
Total	60,76,42,000	55,26,62,760	25,57,50,000

* For financial year (Amount in Rupees) [1st April to 31st March]

** Data revised by the High Court

Judges' Strength, Analysis of Working Strength of Judges and Old Cases

Judges' Strength (as on 30.06.2020)

Sanctioned Strength of Judges	11
Working Strength of Judges	10

Analysis of working strength of Judges (from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020)

Lowest	10
Highest	11

Analysis of Old Cases (as on 30.06.2020)

Cases more than 10 years old	1,045
------------------------------	-------

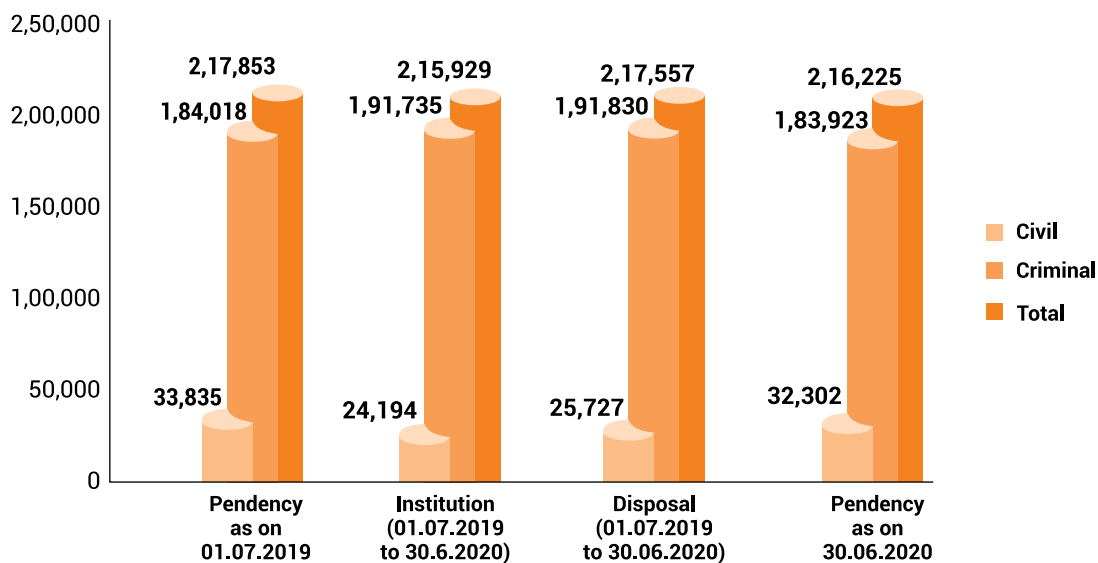
HIGH COURT STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020

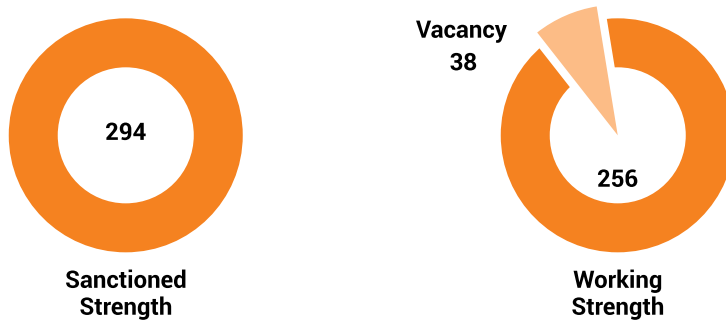
Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2019	Institution 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Disposal 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020	Pendency as on 30.06.2020
CIVIL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	11,213	5,931	4,655	12,489
Company Matters	16	04	08	12
Contempt (Civil)	1,711	582	577	1,716
Review (Civil)	792	970	799	963
Matrimonial Matters	260	163	115	308
Arbitration Matters	129	32	50	111
Civil Revisions	380	137	118	399
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	455	47	42	460
Civil Appeals	2,421	1,009	671	2,759
Land Acquisition Matters	1,061	212	96	1,177
MACT Matters	2,899	379	434	2,844
Civil Suits (Original Side)	0	0	0	0
Other than above	30	80	59	51
CRIMINAL				
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	2,161	2,163	2,918	1,406
Criminal Revisions	2,107	760	504	2,363
Bail Applications	590	2,753	2,621	722
Criminal Appeals	4,138	1,060	300	4,898
Death Sentence Reference	08	0	02	06
Contempt (Criminal)	02	02	0	04
Misc. Criminal Applications	3,530	1,748	1,045	4,233
Other than above	480	590	384	686

SUBORDINATE COURTS STATISTICS

Institution, Disposal and Pendency of Cases in Subordinate Courts from 01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020



Details of Judicial Officers in Subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2020



Analysis of more than 10 year old Cases as on 30.06.2020

