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Government of India  
Ministry of Law & Justice  
Department of Justice

**Subject: Monthly Summary for the month of September, 2023 in respect of Department of Justice**

The following are the important activities of the Department of Justice for the month of September, 2023:

**1. Memorandum of Understanding between Supreme Court of the Republic of India and Supreme Court of Republic of Singapore**

On 6.9.2023, the Union Cabinet approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Supreme Court of the Republic of India and Supreme Court of the Republic of Singapore in the field of Judicial Co-operation. The MoU was signed on 7.9.2023 in the presence of Chief Justice of India Dr. D.Y. Chandrachud and Chief Justice of Singapore Mr. Sundaresh Menon at Singapore.

**2. Cabinet approval of Phase-III of eCourts Project**

The Union Cabinet approved on 13.09.2023, the eCourts Project Phase III, as a Central Sector Scheme spanning four years (2023 onwards) with financial outlay of Rs.7210 crore. Taking the gains of Phase-I and Phase-II to the next level, the e-Courts Phase-III aims to usher in a regime of maximum ease of justice by moving towards digital, online and paperless courts. The main objective of the Phase-III is to create a unified technology platform for the judiciary, which will provide a seamless and paperless interface between the courts, the litigants and other stakeholders. The important features of the eCourts Phase-III includes digitisation of the entire court records, both legacy and pending cases; state of the art and latest Cloud based data repository for easy retrieval; establishing e-Sewa Kendras on saturation mode at all court complexes across India, to bridge digital divide by providing easy access to citizens without computer logistics or who are not computer friendly; paperless courts including all commercial courts for bringing court proceedings under a digital format for better transparency and accountability and speedy disposal of cases etc.

**3. Supreme Court onboarded on National Judicial Data Grid of eCourts Project**

Chief Justice of India on 14.09.2023 announced that the data of Supreme Court of India has been on-boarded on National Judicial Data Grid, a repository of data under e-Courts Mission Mode Project relating to pendency of cases and disposal rate of courts from the taluka level to the national level. Announcing that data of the top

court's cases will be uploaded on the NJDG on a real time basis, the CJI said uploading of data on the NJDG will ensure transparency and accountability in the judicial domain.

#### **4. Swachhta Hi Seva (SHS) 2023 and Special Campaign 3.0**

Under the Swachhta Hi Seva Campaign (SHS-2023) with the theme of "Garbage Free India", the Department of Justice undertook various activities : the Hara Geela Sookha Neela- 2 dustbin system was introduced within the departmental office premises, all Staff members of the Department took the Swachhta Pledge, Banner of SHS 2023 was placed on the website of the Department and a zero waste event was organized on the 1st October, 2023 with one hour shramdaan by the regular and contractual employees. The National Judicial Academy, National Legal Services Authority, the Supreme Court of India and various High Courts of India have also participated in this national campaign and they organised several activities in their respective areas.

Under preparatory phase of the Special Campaign 3.0 (15-29 September), the Department has taken action as per the directions received from time to time from Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG). During this period, total pendencies in respect of references from MPs, Parliamentary Assurances, PMO references, Public Grievances & scrap material ripe for disposal have been identified. Daily status is being uploaded on the DARPG. During the next phase (2- 31 October, 2023), all identified pendency will be cleared, waste materials disposed off and space freed up for creating a better work environment.

#### **5. eCourts Mission Mode Project Phase-II:**

- a. **NJDG:** On National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), as on 01.09.2023, case status information in respect of over 23.81 crore cases and more than 23.02 crore orders/ judgments pertaining to the computerized courts can be accessed.
- b. **Virtual Courts:** Over 3.62 crore cases have been handled by 24 virtual courts and in more than 41 lakh cases, online fine of more than Rs. 444.96 crore have been realized till 31.08.2023. Two new Virtual Courts have been started, one in Gujarat and one in Uttarakhand, bringing the total to 24.
- c. **JustIS app:** Mobile App for Judicial Officers has a total of 19,288 downloads as of 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2023.
- d. **e-Courts Services Mobile App:** The eCourts Services Mobile App have reached a total of 1.99 crore of downloads as of 31.08.2023.
- e. **Video Conferencing:** Till 31.08.2023, 2.84 crore cases were heard using video conferencing (2.05 crore cases by the District and Subordinate courts, and 79 lakh cases by the High Courts).
- f. **e-Sewa Kendras:** As on 31.08.2023, 851 eSewa Kendras have been made functional under 25 High Courts.

## **6. Tele-Law: Reaching the Unreached**

- a. Till 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2023, Legal Advice was provided to 52,99,154 beneficiaries including 2,72,540, in the month of September, 2023.
- b. During the month of September, 3407 people participated in 168 awareness sessions/camps organized in 120 districts in 23 states/UTs by Village Level Entrepreneurs(VLEs)/ Para Legal Volunteers(PLVs), State Coordinators and Panel Lawyers .
- c. Under the Selfie Drive Campaign of Tele-Law programme for sharing experiences of tele-law field functionaries like VLE, Panel Lawyers, State Coordinators a total of 203 selfie/videos from 36 States & UTs were uploaded as on 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 on Tele Law social media sites (Facebook & Twitter).

## **7. Nyaya Bandhu (Pro-Bono Legal Services) Programme:**

During the month, 76 new Pro Bono advocates registered through Nyaya Bandhu mobile application/web portal. A total of 10454 lawyers (Male-8758, Female-1694, Transgender- 02) have been registered under Nyaya Bandhu portal.

## **8. Legal Literacy and Legal Awareness Programme (LLLAP):**

- a. As part of Legal Awareness Webinar Series DoJ organized 19<sup>th</sup> webinar on 'Labour Laws' on 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 and the Webinar reached out to 2,153 participants. Eminent speakers from Ministry of Labour and Employment, University of Delhi, Delhi High Court, Migration and Asylum Project and Jan Pahal conducted their session in the webinar.
- b. Center for Community Economics & Development Consultants Society, (CECOEDECON) Jaipur, Rajasthan organized 10 Dhani meetings, 39 Panchayat Level Legal Awareness Sessions and 6 Awareness Drives in Sirohi district of Rajasthan on Rights of Women, Children and Elderly Persons and reached out to 1,863 people.
- c. Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences (JNIMS), Manipur organized Training and Sensitization Programme for 72 Community Leaders, Social Workers, Village Authorities, Teachers and Students against Child Sexual Abuse on 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023 at Khayang, Kamjong District of Manipur.
- d. Abdul Nazir Sab State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Mysuru, Karnataka conducted Legal Awareness Training Programme for 31 Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes Women Presidents from 20-22nd September, 2023 at District Panchayat Resource Centre, Haveri, Karnataka.

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