

## **e-initiatives of the High Court of Karnataka**

The High Court of Karnataka has been taking proactive initiatives from time to time to digitally transform;

### **judicial infrastructure, processes and Practices.**

The High court of Karnataka has taken several initiatives from time to time as a part of Judicial e-infrastructure, processes and Practices including citizen centric services. They are as follows;

**Justice clock:** The High Court of Karnataka has installed Justice clocks in all the three Benches i.e., Principal Bench, Bengaluru and Benches at Dharwad and Kalaburagi. Justice Clock at the Principal Bench, Bengaluru was inaugurated on 6.2.2021. Justice clocks at Kalaburgi and Dharwad Benches were inaugurated on 24. 07. 2021 and 25.08.2021 respectively. The **virtual Justice clock** to replicate the information available in the physical justice clock is now being rolled out on the website of the High court of Karnataka.

The above Justice Clock displays the Institution, Pendency , Disposal of cases of all the three benches of the High court to the public

**Telegram Channel** :launched for the High Court of Karnataka and for District Judiciary in 30 Districts of the State of Karnataka. The prime object of Telegram Channels is of real time delivery of e-court service relating to case information in the form of cause list, case status, daily notifications, display boards of High Court and other ongoing activities of the Karnataka Judiciary. The subscribers for the High Court Telegram channel as on today is more than 11900. For Dist court channel subscribers are more than 23000

**TelegramHCKChatBot** : Its a Virtual Enquiry Counter to avail the services of Cause Lists, Case Status, Daily Orders/Judgments, Certified Copy Status, IA Status by Case Number, Scrutiny Objections by Case Number and Current Hearing and Passed Over Cases information of Court of Karnataka.

**YouTube channel:** The High Court of Karnataka has launched the official YouTube channel for the purpose of streaming all the official programs and also live streaming of the court proceedings. The subscribers to the said channel as an today has reached today 100000 Plus

**Hybrid Video conferencing of the court proceedings:** As a way forward Karnataka High Court has adopted a Hybrid VC system for court proceedings and set a model for all courts in the country. The said system is to enable both physical and virtual presence.

**E-payment** : E-Payment enabled for collection of copying charges, court fee and process fee. Advocates and Litigants may opt the services to pay the Court Fee and Copying Fee online .Online payment is enabled with Khazene 2 integration for payment of copying charges, court fee and process fee at High court. E-payment is also enabled at the counter in High Court of Karnataka through Point of Sale device (POS) Machine.

**E-issuance of certified copy for Final order/ Decree:** Digitally Signed certified copy along with facing sheet with all details of the application is sent to Advocate/Litigant through E-mail using NIC SMTP Relay Service.

**Online Digital Case Diary:** web portal is designed to collect the Advocates contact details same will be displayed in the Lawyers directory and also same details can be used to update in the CIS database. The Lawyers contact details provided in the Lawyers directory may be used to serve the petitions/ orders/written statements to other side advocate/s.

The successfully registered Advocate can login to the system to avail the High Court & District Court services like tagging the cases and getting the case status and latest order of the tagged cases, my cause list, my caveat etc. It is like a Digital Diary for the advocates.

On request of the Government Departments, a login can also be provided in the Online Digital Case Diary portal, to tag their cases for the purpose of monitoring and to get know latest orders of the tagged

cases. Due to this initiative, the communication gap between the Court and Govt. Departments will be reduced.

In the Online Digital Case Diary portal a web based High Court Chatbot is provided to get the High Court Case Status, Certified Copy Status and District Court case status on CNR number.

**Postal Integration with HC-CIS Application:** Information Exchange between High Court and Postal Department. In order to keep track on the postal service availed for the issuance of notice/summons by RPAD/speed post an integrated application is in the place, through which real time status of postal covers can be ascertained on daily basis by the court concerned and can be noted in each case file.

**Indian Law Report Online Application:** An application has been designed and developed so as to make the physical copy of the ILR available in the form of soft copy by online through intranet among the Hon'ble Judges of the High Court and Judicial officers in the state and same is ready for launch.

**Bhoomi Integration (Land Records) with District CIS Application:**

The High of Court of Karnataka has integrated CIS Application with Land Records Application (Bhoomi) of Government of Karnataka so as to fetch the owner details of the land based on the survey number. In response we are sharing the case details in order to enable the revenue department to fetch the real time case status.

**ICJS - (Inter-operable Criminal Justice System)** : Interoperable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) aims to integrate CCTNS (Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and System) project with eCourts and ePrisons database in the first instance and with other pillars of judiciary like forensic labs, prosecution and juvenile homes etc. In order to build an effective criminal justice system across the country, it is essential that data across all pillars of criminal justice is interoperable and is accessible across all the pillars. In karnataka all the courts are integrated with ICJS, resultantly receiving FIRs and charge sheets through the said platform. it's a way forward to make paper less transmission of police papers with courts

**NSTEP** The service of summons and processes by traditional methods are often a cause for inevitable delay in speedy disposal of cases. NSTEP<sup>1</sup> is a centralised process service tracking application comprising of a web application and a complementary mobile app designed to streamline the process. NSTEP Mobile App provided to bailiffs and process servers enable transparent tracking of service of notices and summons in real-time.

NSTEP thus accomplishes the following significant goals: –

- Enables serving of Notice/Summons in electronic form
- Posting and recordal of realtime updates from remote locations reducing inordinate delays in process service
- Time required for serving Inter-district or Inter-state process by Post is drastically reduced by serving it in electronic form
- Transparent tracking of service of process and summons by all stakeholders

- GPS connectivity with Bhuvan Maps (India's geo-platform developed by ISRO)

## **eSeva-Kendra:**

The establishment of eSeva-Kendras is one of the core projects of the eCommittee. It is a centralized facility where all ICT enabled services including eFiling will be provided to the Advocates and litigants.

The Hon'ble eCommittee, Supreme Court of India, noting a considerable population does not have access to the internet, decided that the litigants who do not have access to the internet must be provided with access to services of the e-Courts and further directed to create e-Seva Kendras at all the High Courts and in one District Court in each state as a part of a pilot project. It was proposed, that these centres will provide assistance to litigants in relation to;

- (i) information about their case status;
- (ii) obtaining e copies judgments/orders;
- (iii) e-Filing of cases and
- (iv) access to court/case related information.

Thus, the creation of e-Seva Kendras is in furtherance of the aim to ensure universal access to justice. It was also decided that e-Seva Kendras must be set up in all court complexes.

In furtherance, the High Court of Karnataka has designed measures to ensure that the lawyers and litigants are able to access the benefits of ICT through such centers. Resultantly, established eSeva Kendras in Principal

Bench, Bengaluru Benches at Dharwad and Kalaburagi. Similarly, eSeva Kendras also established in District Judiciary at;

1. Bengaluru Urban District (City Civil Courts complex ),
2. Commercial Court Complex, Bengaluru City
3. Bengaluru Rural District court complex
4. Kalaburagi District court complex
5. Srirangapatna Court complex
6. Krishnaraj Pet Court complex
7. Udupi District Court Complex
8. Kundapura Court Complex
9. Hassan District court Complex
10. Davanagere District Court Complex

Further, in order to establish e-Seva Kendras in all the court complexes of the District and Taluka courts, initiation has been taken, namely to begin with providing e-Seva Kendra facilities and services in locations/ complexes where Hardware have been supplied to start help desk counters and VC cabins in 86 Locations. The Help Desk counters, VC Cabin and eSeva Kendras are ultimately for providing eCourt Services including eFilings for Advocates and Litigants. Therefore, all the said three facilities can be provided under a single roof as a one-point centre.

Hence, the Court locations identified for the establishment of help desk counters and VC cabins taken into consideration for the present to establish e-Seva Kendra facilities in the very said locations by making use of the hardware procured for the same. Additional hardware to meet the

requirements of eSeva Kendra will be supplemented in due course to the said Court Locations to bring all the 3 services under one roof for the benefit of Advocates and litigants

### **Help Desk counters:**

The establishment of help desk counters in court complexes has been visualized by the Hon'ble eCommittee, Supreme Court of India to facilitate the Advocates and litigants public for e-Filing of cases. In Karnataka steps already been taken to establish help desk counters in 82 court locations by supplying requisite Hardwares like computers and scanners

### **VC cabins:**

The Hon'ble eCommittee decided to establish VC cabins in the court complexes for advocates and litigants to enable them to appear for virtual hearings of the courts. In Karnataka steps already been taken to establish help desk counters in 86 court locations by supplying requisite Hardwares like computers and web cameras and speakers.

**eFiling** system enables electronic filing of legal papers. Using eFiling, cases (both civil and criminal) can be filed before the High Courts and courts of the District Judiciary that have adopted eFiling systems. Introduction of eFiling under the aegis of eCommittee of the Hon'ble Supreme court is aimed at promoting paperless filing and saving time and cost by adopting technological solutions to file cases before courts in India.

<https://efiling.ecourts.gov.in/>



## **Commencement of eFiling facility in Karnataka:**

Court Location	eFiling enabled date
Commercial Court, Ballari	20-01-2020
City Civil Courts, Bengaluru	17-07-2020
High Court of Karnataka	21-07-2020
District Judiciary	August 2020 onwards

Thus, eFiling facility is enabled in all the establishments of Courts of Karnataka.

## **Live Streaming**

The Karnataka Rules on Live Streaming and Recording of Court Proceedings, 2021 have been notified on 30.12.2021 providing for Live streaming of Court Proceedings.