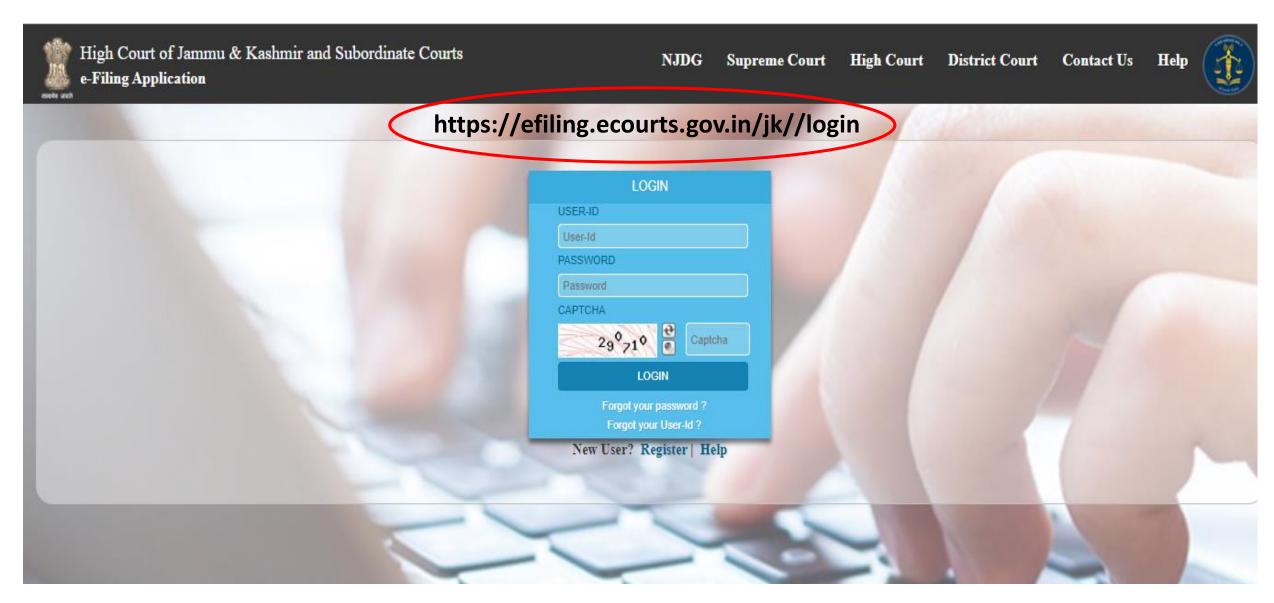


# Presentation on e-Filing, Digitization & Sharing of Best Practices

by High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

## e-Filing in High Court & District Courts of J&K and Ladakh

### Introduction



# e-Filing in High Court & District Courts of J&K and Ladakh Rules notification

e-Filing Rules were notified by the High Court of J&K and Ladakh in November, 2021 vide Notification No.1245 of 2021/RG dated 15-11-2021.

#### HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH

(Office of the Registrar General at Jammu)

Subject: Electronic Filing (e-Filing) in the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and in Subordinate Courts and Tribunals of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Rules, 2021.

#### NOTIFICATION

No: 1245 9 2021/29

Dated: 15/11/2021

In exercise of its powers under Articles 225 and 227 of the Constitution of India, the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, with prior approval of the Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, hereby makes the following Rules:

#### 1. Short Title and Commencement:

These Rules shall be called "the Electronic Filing (e-Filing) in the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and in Subordinate Courts and Tribunals of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Rules, 2021".

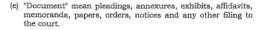
These rules shall come into force from the date as may be notified by the Chief Justice of the High Court of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh from time to time.

#### Applicability:

These Rules shall apply to Electronic Filing (e-Filing) of cases in the High Court and Subordinate Courts in Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and Tribunals over which the High Court has supervisory jurisdiction.

#### Definition:

- (a) "Administrator" means the Registrar (IT) or an officer appointed by the Chief Justice for administering and dealing with matters connected or relating to e-Filing.
- (b) "Case Information System (CIS)" is the system of networked software and hardware used by High Court and subordinate courts in Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh that may receive, organize, store, retrieve and transmit data of cases.
- (c) "Conventional Filing" means the physical non-electronic presentation of Documents before the Court.
- (d) "Common Service Centres" means and includes those centres which are designated by the High Court for the purposes of e-Filing under these Rules.





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## e-Filing in High Court & District Courts of J&K and Ladakh

### Progress updates

- ✓ Initially e-Filing was made functional in Jammu & Srinagar Wings of the High Court.
- ✓ In order to give wider promotion to e-Filing, it was made mandatory from 01-01-2022 (vide Order No. 1349 of 2021/RG/CPC dated 31-12-2021) to file cases/petitions by Government Institutions in all type of matters in both wings of the High Court through e-Filing mode only.
- ✓ Presently e-Filing is functional in 2 wings of the High Court & 22 District Court Complexes of UTs of J&K and Ladakh.

#### HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH

(OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL)

Subject: Compulsory e-Filing of the matters before both wings of the High Court.

ORDER

No: 1349 of 201/RA 16PC Dated 31-12-2021.

Hon'ble the Chief Justice has been pleased to direct that from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022, the filing of cases/petitions by the Government Institutions in all type of matters in both wings of the High Court shall be by e-Filing mode, which they shall do by logging in to the e-Filing portal with URL: https://efiling.ecourts.gov.in/jk

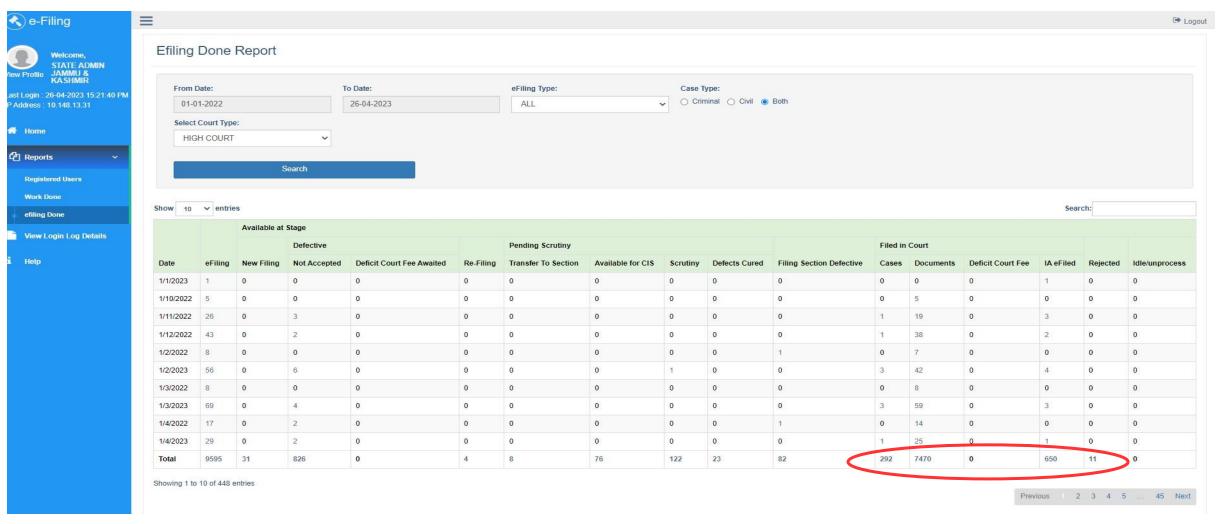
By order

Jawad Ahmad (Registrar General)

No: 57148-59 Ry/cpc Dated: 31-12-2011

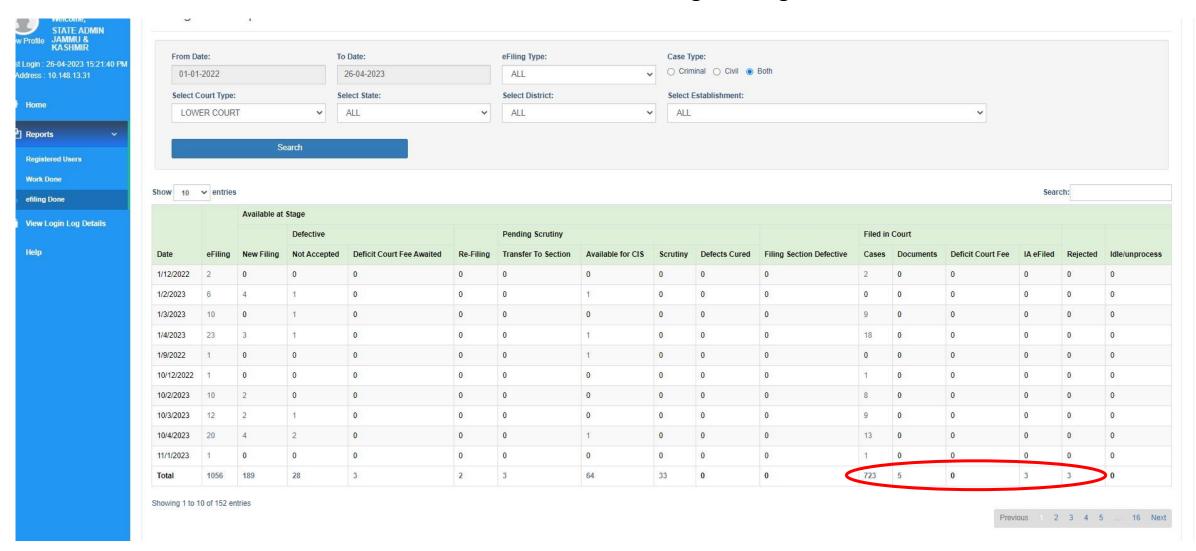
# e-Filing in High Court & District Courts of J&K and Ladakh Progress updates - statistics in 2 Wings of the High Court

e-Filing portal usage has picked up since introduction and as on date 7470 documents, 292 fresh petitions & 650 IAs have been consumed in High Court CIS through e-filing Portal.



# e-Filing in High Court & District Courts of J&K and Ladakh Progress updates - Statistics in 22 District Court Complexes

Momentum of filing of Cases through e-filing portal is gradually picking up and as on date 723 fresh petitions, 5 Documents & 3 IAs have been consumed in District Court CIS through e-filing Portal.









DIVISION BENCH

FH 12

HEARING

**NOT IN SESSION** 

H.J Tashi Rabstan

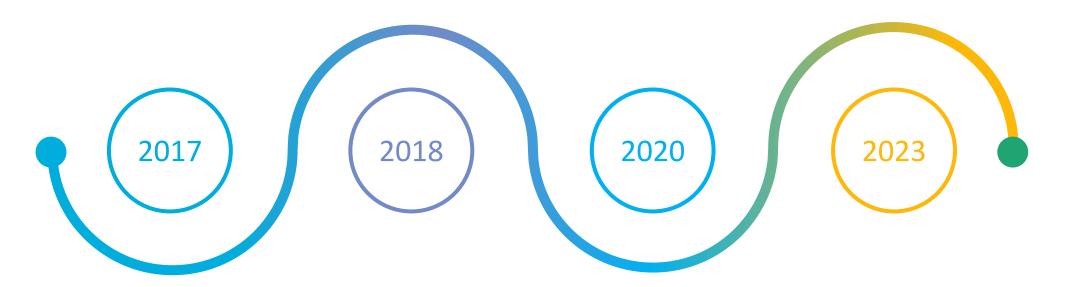
FH 1

HEARING



C6 MR CM KOUL, AAG IS REQUESTED IN COURT NO. 6

## Digitization Journey of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh



LEGACY RECORDS DIGITIZATION

Digitization of approx. 3.5 crore pages with Open Source DSpace DMS.

AD-HOC
PAPERLESS
COURT
Adopted
bookmarked
based case PDFs
model to run the
first court digitally.

AD-HOC PAPERLESS COURT RAMP-UP

Ramped-up
Ad-hoc paperless
court model to
run all the courts
during pandemic.

DMS & PAPERLESS
COURT
(Integrated with CIS)
Implemented Enterprise
DMS platform & System
driven Paperless Court
with re-structuring
manually generated data.

## Ad-hoc Paperless Court

### **Process Overview**

Physical Records sent by Section Officers



Independent PDFs scanned at Digitization Centre



Access case PDF from the shared folder for manual page insertion



Delivering Case file PDFs through pen drive to courts and residence offices of Hon'ble Judges

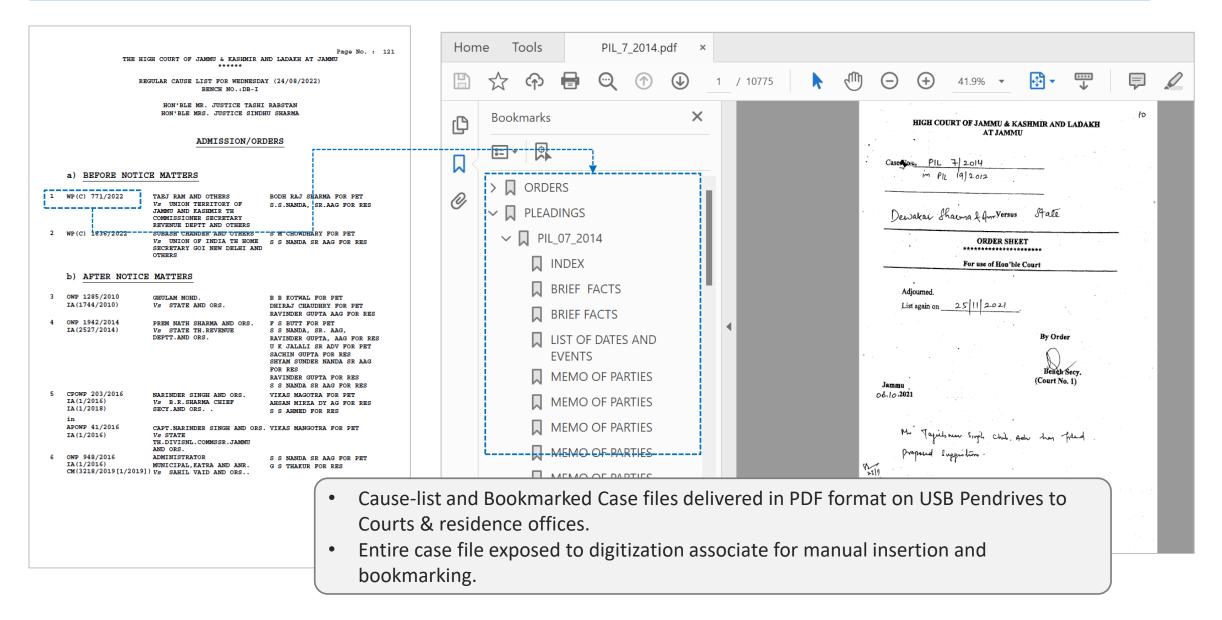


Hyperlinking case files with Causelist PDF and create folder for each court



Manual bookmarking within PDF

# Ad-hoc Paperless Court Sample



# Ad-hoc Paperless Court Challenges faced

### Data related challenges

- Data security challenge due to the entire case file exposed to digitization team for insertion and bookmarking.
- Data accuracy and Uniformity issues due to manual bookmarking.
- Lack of data interoperability in the current approach.

### Systematic challenges

- Knowledge with individuals resulted in increased dependency on them.
- Governance issues around tracking records' lifecycle.
- Scalability concerns Repetitive manual tasks creating inefficiencies.
- Change management issues in adopting the fresh solution.

# Compatibility with ongoing changes

 Challenges in embracing initiatives and SOPs guided by the Honourable Supreme Court of India and prevailing best practices in the domain.

## DMS & Paperless Court Conceived Solution framework

Preservable data as per Hon'ble Supreme Court of India's SOPs

Process orientation' over human dependency.

Existing resource utilization over developing parallel solutions.

Judiciary as a service mindset to benefit various communities.

Adopt process automation, AI based enhancements etc.

Quick solution adoption through zero or minimal changes in the current user experience.

Enterprise solution platform managing millions of records & thousands of users, having Digital hearing (causelists and Case file structure management), security, integrations with CIS, etc.

## **DMS & Paperless Court**

### **Solution Overview**



- Disposed, Pending, & fresh cases with incremental records.
- Batch Management, Scanning & QC, Advanced classification, OCR, PDF/A, DSpace 7 upload, MIS.



- Pull Case metadata and its relationship (connected cases) to the DMS.
- Realtime Causelist display.
- CIS and DMS objects relationship management for future updates.



### Migrating current data

- · Bookmark level splitting of Bookmarked & Portfolio PDFs.
- Document Type correction based on master Table of Content in DMS.
- Migrating re-classified data in the DMS for Paperless court.



#### Case files management & **Online E-Court**

- Integrated case records management through CIS and Capture workflow
- Online Paperless/E-Court
  - Date wise benches and causelist for each court (by JOCode)
  - Causelist display with Appeals, Caveats, Connected cases, parties details, etc.
  - Rule based Case records structure management.
  - Encrypted data package for the offline solution.
- Case file Search using metadata, full text, filters, etc.
- Access Rights Management
- Rest API based integration with multiple applications. Example: Capture workflow, CIS, E-Filing module, online order publication, AI applications, etc.
- Dashboards



#### **Solution** Offline E-Court solution

- Encrypted data to offline solution at Hon'ble Judges' residence offices.
- Date wise causelist with Appeals, Caveats, Connected cases, etc.
- Case file records displayed in rule based table of content & metadata.
- Linux, Windows and Mac compatible.

### **S**Key future tracks

- Integrated E-filing to reduce scanning.
- Integrated workflow engine for process automation e.g. Order issuance.
- Integrated AI for Order translation, recommendations, Speech to Text.
- Replicate solution to District Courts
- Online order publication.
- Data to dark archive. (ISO 16363 based SOP.)
- Data feeds to dashboard application.

# **DMS & Paperless Court** Current Scope Overview & Status

Scope Item	<b>Current Status</b>	Remarks
E-Court and Case File Management System – Customization, Implementation and Integration opening with the NIC CIS.	Complete	<ul> <li>Solution implemented for Jammu bench and enhancements/customizations done based on feedback and learnings received during the period.</li> <li>Approx. 2.19 lacs Case files with relationships pulled from CIS and regular synchronization activated.</li> <li>Trial runs happening in various courts.</li> </ul>
Production Workflow to scan, enhance, Classify, and OCR – Fresh cases and Incremental Case Records	Complete	
Offline E-Court Solution integrated with Online solution and CIS.	Complete	
Migrating pending case files available in digitized form.	In Progress	<ul> <li>Total volume: approx. 35,000 case files.</li> <li>20,000 plus case files re-structured as per current requirements and migrated to the fresh DMS.</li> <li>Migration prioritized as per case file listing.</li> </ul>

# Solution Walkthrough

Let's have a walkthrough of the DMS & PAPERLESS COURT solution through this video.

# DMS & Paperless Court Challenges faced and resolution approach

Challenges faced	Resolution Approach	
CIS Integration	<ul> <li>CIS knowledge transfer from the IT team to the solution development team.</li> <li>Development to perform reverse data integration.</li> <li>Changes in the proposed solutions (E-Court, Production Workflow and Offline court) based on the CIS' structure.</li> <li>Due to multiple scenarios learned over the period of time, solution development and testing became an iterative process.</li> </ul>	
Continuous solution update based on CIS understanding and learning of ground level working.	<ul> <li>Incorporated features based on team's feedback to enhance efficiencies in all three solutions.</li> </ul>	
Data migration	<ul> <li>Existing PDF splitting till individual bookmark level.</li> <li>Re-structuring manually entered bookmarks as per Master Table of Content from the application</li> <li>Multiple Annexures series adding efforts in the DMS and splitting job.</li> </ul>	
Change Management	<ul> <li>Providing exhaustive training to the staff &amp; stake holders to overcome the psychological reluctance shown in adopting a new process.</li> </ul>	

# **DMS & Paperless Court**

## Way forward



• Disposed, Pending, & fresh cases



Case files management & Online E-Court



Coffline E-Court solution

Encrypted data to offline solution at



- Integrated E-filing to reduce scanning.
- Integrated workflow engine for process automation e.g. Order issuance.
- Integrated AI for Order translation, recommendations, Speech to Text.
- Replicate solution to District Courts
- Online order publication.
- Data to dark archive. (ISO 16363 based SOP.)
- Data feeds to dashboard application.
- Configurable solution that can be utilized by other High Courts.

Bookmarked & Portfolio PDFs

- Document Type correction based on master Table of Content in DMS.
- Migrating re-classified data in the DMS for Paperless court.

Capture workflow, CIS, E-Filing module, online order publication, *A* applications, etc.

Dashboards



### SHARING of BEST PRACTICES

- Adoption of a DMS & Paperless Court Solution integrated with Hon'ble e-Committee's CIS is a sort of unique initiative (Best Practice) undertaken by the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.
- This integration with CIS will pull already entered Case Metadata and its connected cases to the DMS automatically, thereby saving the effort, time and money needed to enter Case Metadata as in conventional DMS solutions.
- ➤ Case file structure management knowledge transferred to system from a few individuals. Now, Administrator can update structure of all case files on a click.
- ➤ It will maintain uniformity with all the portals & applications of Hon'ble e-Committee and minimal/zero changes required to synchronize data with these portals.
- Finally, due to the API driven architecture, now it will be possible to develop multiple periphery applications on the DMS to serve various needs.

# Thank you!