

VISION STATEMENT

(Vision and Mission - Justice for All 2025-2029)

**ACCESSIBLE
FAIR
EFFECTIVE
RESPONSIVE AND ACCOUNTABLE
JUDICIAL SYSTEM**



**TO ACHIEVE THE SPIRIT & GOAL OF
CONSTITUTION**

(Endeavour to enhance quality, responsiveness and timeliness of justice)



VISION DOCUMENT-2025-29

DISCLAIMAR

This vision statement sets out suggestions gathered from different Sections of this Court and all the District Courts across the State. The report is purely advisory in nature. The Vision Document also contains/ reflects the reports of various stakeholders including reports of the Registry.

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BRIEF HISTORY¹ & BACKGROUND OF HIGH COURT OF ORISSA



Odisha was originally a part of the Bengal province during the colonial rule. On 22nd March 1912, a new province of Bihar and Orissa was formed. However, it was the Calcutta High Court which exercised jurisdiction over the said new province. This changed with the Patna High Court coming into existence with effect from 26th February 1916. Eleven Judgeships (Districts) in Bihar and one in Odisha were subject to the jurisdiction of the Patna High Court.

It was ordained in the Letters Patent that one or more judges of the Patna High Court would visit Orissa by way of circuit to deal with the cases there. As a result, the Patna High Court began sitting in circuit at Cuttack from 18th May 1916. An Advocate General for Odisha was appointed. The District

and Sessions Judge of Cuttack functioned as the Registrar of the Patna High Court in circuit. Welcoming the Judges at the first sitting of the Circuit Court at Cuttack, the President of the Cuttack Bar Association, Utkala Gourav Sri Madhusudan Das, expressed the hope that a permanent bench would soon be established at Cuttack. Four of the districts of Orissa at the relevant time, namely Cuttack, Balasore, Puri and Angul were under the jurisdiction of a single district judge. Sambalpur was under the jurisdiction of the Sambalpur-Manbhum District Judge. This situation continued till 1st April, 1936 when the separate province of Orissa was formed. From then on, there were two District judges one at Berhampur exercising jurisdiction over Ganjam, Koraput and Puri and the other at Cuttack exercising Jurisdiction over Cuttack, Balasore and Sambalpur Districts. Meanwhile, there was a growing demand for Orissa to have its own High Court with several representations being submitted to the Government.

The High Court Bar Association at Cuttack adopted a Resolution on 26th July, 1938 demanding a separate High Court for Orissa. By resolution dated 15th August 1942, the Government of Orissa constituted a committee to examine a question of establishing a High Court for Orissa. The Committee's report was published on 31st December 1943. Consequent upon the government accepting the Committee's recommendations the Governor of Orissa submitted an address to the Governor General of India on 3rd March, 1948 that a High Court, be constituted for the Province of Orissa.

On 30th April 1948, the Governor-General of India in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 229(1) of the Government of India Act, 1935 issued the Orissa High Court Order, 1948 providing for constitution of the High Court for the Province of Orissa from 5th July 1948. Subsequently, by Orissa High Court (Amendment) Order 1948, the date of formation was changed to 26 July, 1948.

1. 'Historical perspective' of Annual Report-2021 of High Court of Orissa

VISION STATEMENT FOR MAKING THE JUDICIAL SYSTEM ACCESSIBLE, FAIR, EFFECTIVE, RESPONSIVE & ACCOUNTABLE WITH AN OBJECT TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVE OF ZERO ARREARS (FIVE PLUS ZERO CASES) TO BE BROUGHT BEFORE THE CITIZENS OF THE STATE



Expected Outcomes by 2029

Infrastructure

- Fully functional, sustainable, and digitally equipped court campuses in every district.
- 100% accommodation coverage for judicial officers and staff. Subject to the availability of funds and considering the directions of the Hon'ble Building Committee.
- Litigant-friendly and inclusive judicial infrastructure meeting national benchmarks.
- Enhanced safety, efficiency, and dignity in the justice delivery process.

Budgetary Provision

- A financially disciplined and digitally empowered judiciary with real-time monitoring and transparent fund management.
- Completion of all ongoing and proposed infrastructural projects under SSS and CSS without delays.
- Efficient digital infrastructure with integrated broadband connectivity across all judgeships.
- Strengthened expenditure planning, ensuring optimal utilization of available funds.
- Reduced financial lapses through quarterly monitoring, improved audits, and strict compliance mechanisms.
- Expanded judicial access through timely establishment of new courts and strategic fund allocation.

Judge strength and supporting staff

- All the vacancies to be filled up across all courts.
- Fully staffed support system ensuring smooth court operations.
- Reduced administrative burden and improved judicial productivity.
- AI-based case classification, case tracking, case listing, e-summonses/notices, and WMS etc. system shall be developed, so that the administrative burden on the Court can be significantly reduced.
- Better working conditions aiding recruitment and retention.
- Stronger access to justice with timely establishment of new courts.
- Increased rate of disposal by dis-engaging the Judicial Officers in protocol works;
 - post of Deputy Registrar (Protocol) exempted to be filled up from the cadre of Judicial Officer, and
 - Creation of dedicated Protocol Cell with non-judicial staff.

Ministerial staff

- A professional, skilled, and uniformly trained ministerial workforce.
- Improved administrative efficiency across all courts.
- Enhanced staff morale through supportive HR practices.
- Fair workload distribution reducing delays and stress.
- A more coordinated, accountable, and service-oriented court administration system.
- Refresher training programmes for Ministerial Staff to be conducted at Odisha Judicial Academy and Regional Judicial Academies.

Information Technology

- 100% smart and hybrid courtrooms.
- Fully digitized records integrated with NJDG.
- Real-time case monitoring and AI analytics.
- A secure, efficient, and transparent judicial ecosystem positioning Odisha as a leader in digital justice.

Encouraging Alternative Dispute Resolution

- 100% of districts equipped with fully functional ADR Centres.
- More number of cases to be resolved annually through ADR mechanisms.
- Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) operational in all district headquarters.
- 500+ trained mediators and conciliators statewide.
- 10-15% reduction in court pendency and improved public confidence in justice delivery.

Case Management

- Zero pendency of cases older than 5 years.
- 95% of new cases are disposed within statutory timelines.
- 100% paperless courts and statewide digital dashboards.
- Enhanced judicial efficiency and 15-20% reduction in pendency annually.
- Case load per Judge to be reduced by increasing Judges strength and decreasing the pendency for better dispensation of justice.
- AI based e-Summonses, Warrant Management System (WMS), and SMS alerts for all stakeholders shall be adopted to avoid the procedural delays.

Training and Capacity building for Judicial Officers

- 100% officers and staff to undergo at least two structured training courses annually.
- Fully digital, data-driven training ecosystem operational statewide.
- Improved competence in digital tools, ethical judgment writing, and case management.
- Enhanced leadership, empathy, and stress management across judicial cadres.

Litigant- centric Facilities

- 100% of District and Sub-divisional Courts are equipped with Help Desks, Legal Aid Clinics, and e-Sewa Kendras.
- Fully accessible and multilingual court complexes across Odisha.
- Centralized Grievance Redress System functional with measurable timelines.
- Over 1,000 trained PLVs and staff delivering services to the litigants.
- To enhance the citizen-friendliness, transparency, and empathetic action of the judiciary.

Judicial outreach and public awareness

- Legal literacy achieved in all Gram Panchayats.
- 24/7 digital access to legal aid and judicial information.
- At least 2.5 million citizens digitally engaged with judiciary-led awareness platforms.
- Institutionalized outreach and education framework led by DLSAs and High Court coordination.
- Judiciary to be more transparent, participatory, and people-centric.

Beating the language barrier

- Substantial completion of Odia translations of all reported Supreme Court and High Court Judgments, including Santali translations.
- A fully functional, digitally equipped and multilingual law-reporting ecosystem accessible to all.
- Availability of a comprehensive legal dictionary and expanded glossaries for standardized Odia legal terminology.
- Strengthened transparency, inclusivity, and accessibility in judicial processes through vernacular digitization.

- **Enhanced user-friendly legal environment ensuring dignity, comprehension, and participation for all stakeholders.**

Sustainable and green initiatives

- **100% solar and water-efficient court complexes.**
- **Fully paperless, e-waste compliant, and carbon-neutral judiciary.**
- **All new buildings with surrounding greenery.**
- **Eco-friendly atmosphere be maintained in court campuses by emphasizing water harvesting system, etc.**

Safety and Security measures

- **Fully trained Court Security Units ensuring 24x7 security.**
- **100% secure and digitally protected judicial complexes across Odisha.**
- **Comprehensive disaster and emergency preparedness systems.**
- **Full data integrity through digitization and encryption.**
- **Enhanced public trust and institutional resilience in the justice delivery system.**

Part-I

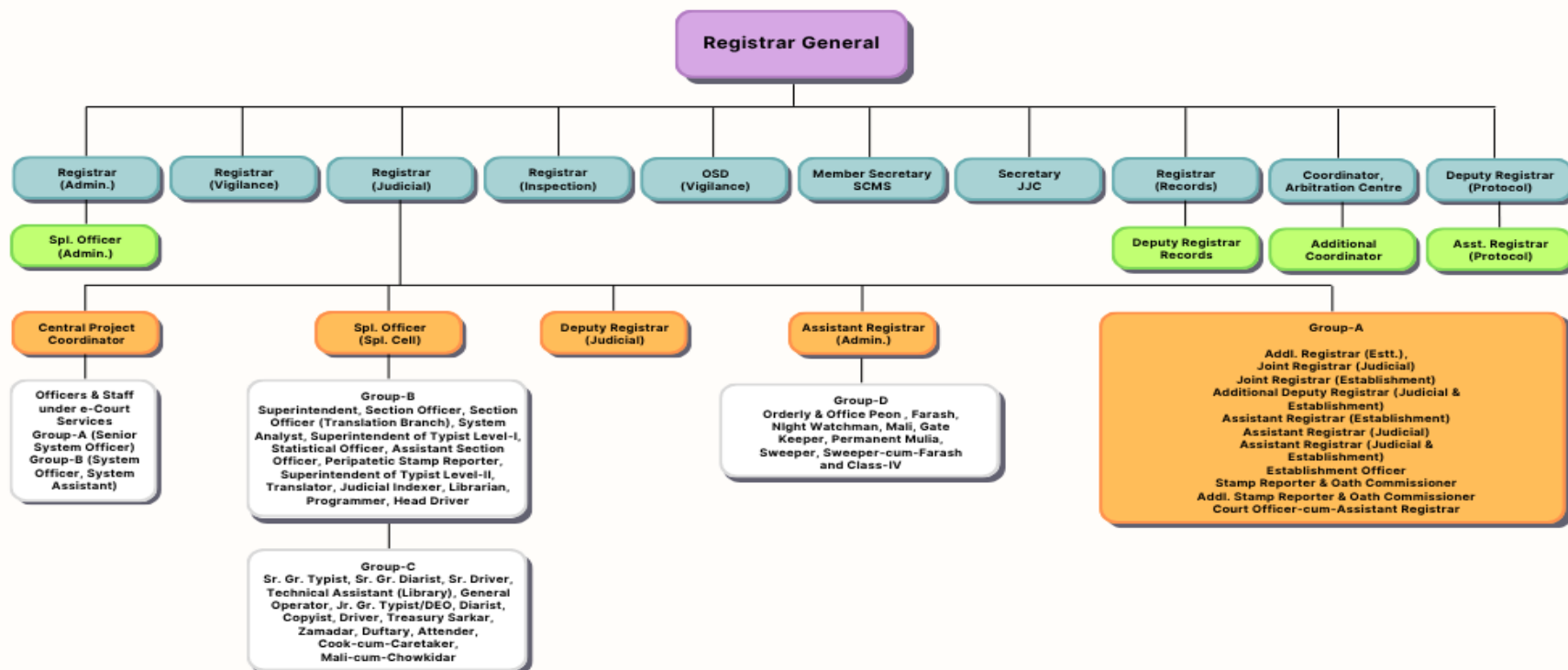
THE OPERATORS AND THEIR WORKLOAD

THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE JUDICIARY

PRESENT ADMINISTRATIVE SETUP OF THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE REGISTRY

THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA, CUTTACK



PRESENT ADMINISTRATIVE SETUP OF DISTRICT JUDICIARY IN THE STATE OF ODISHA

District Judge/ Sessions Judge



Additional District Judge/ Additional Sessions Judge



Civil Judge (Senior Division)/ Chief Judicial Magistrate



Civil Judge (Junior Division)/ Judicial Magistrate First Class

CIVIL

DISTRICT JUDGE
(ADDL. DIST. JUDGE)



SUB-JUDGE

CADRE OF CIVIL JUDGE (SR. DIVISION)



MUNSIF

CADRE OF CIVIL JUDGE (JR. DIVISION)



NYAYADHIKARI (GRAMA NYAYALAYA)

CRIMINAL

SESSIONS JUDGE
(ADDL. SESSIONS JUDGE)



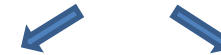
CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE

[IN THE CADRE OF CIVIL JUDGE (SR. DIVISION)]



SUB DIVISIONAL JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE

[IN THE CADRE OF CIVIL JUDGE (JR. DIVISION)]



JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE FIRST CLASS NYAYADHIKARI
(GRAMA NYAYALAYA)

[IN THE CADRE OF CIVIL JUDGE (JR. DIVISION)]



JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE SECOND CLASS
[IN THE CADRE OF CIVIL JUDGE (JR. DIVISION) DURING
TRAINING]

THE SANCTIONED STRENGTH, WORKING STRENGTH AND VACANCY POSITION OF JUDGES IN THE HIGH COURT

Year	Sanctioned Strength	Periodical increase in sanctioned strength	Percentage increase/decrease in sanctioned strength	Working Strength (as on 31.12.2024)	Vacancy Position
2015	27	0	0	22	5
2016	27	0	0	18	9
2017	27	0	0	17	10
2018	27	0	0	14	13
2019	27	0	0	14	13
2020	27	0	0	15	12
2021	27	0	0	18	9
2022	33	6	22.22	22	11
2023	33	0	0	20	13
2024	33	0	0	19	14

THE SANCTIONED STRENGTH, WORKING STRENGTH AND VACANCY POSITION IN DISTRICT COURTS

Year (By 31 ST Dec.)	Sanctioned Strength	Periodical increase in sanctioned strength	Percentage increase/decrease in sanctioned strength	Working Strength	Vacancy Position
2015	716	26	3.76%	598	118
2016	862	146	20.4%	601	261
2017	862	0	0	658	204
2018	912	50	5.8%	748	164
2019	919	7	0.77%	770	149
2020	950	31	3.37%	756	194
2021	976	26	2.74%	785	191
2022	1001	25	2.56%	767	234
2023	1011	10	0.99%	801	210
2024	1041	30	2.97%	841	200

THE JUDGE-POPULATION RATIO

Total Population of the State - As per details obtained from Census 2011, Odisha has population of Approximately 4.2 Crores, an increase of 14.05% from that of '2001 Census'. Total population of Odisha as per 2011 census is 41,974,218.

**source*

<https://www.census2011.co.in/census/state/districtlist/orissa.html>

JUDGE-POPULATION RATIO:

On the basis of sanctioned strength (as on 31.12.2024)-

	Sanctioned Strength	Population (as per 2011 census)	Ratio
High Court	33	41,974,218	1:12,71,946
Subordinate Court	1041		1:40,321

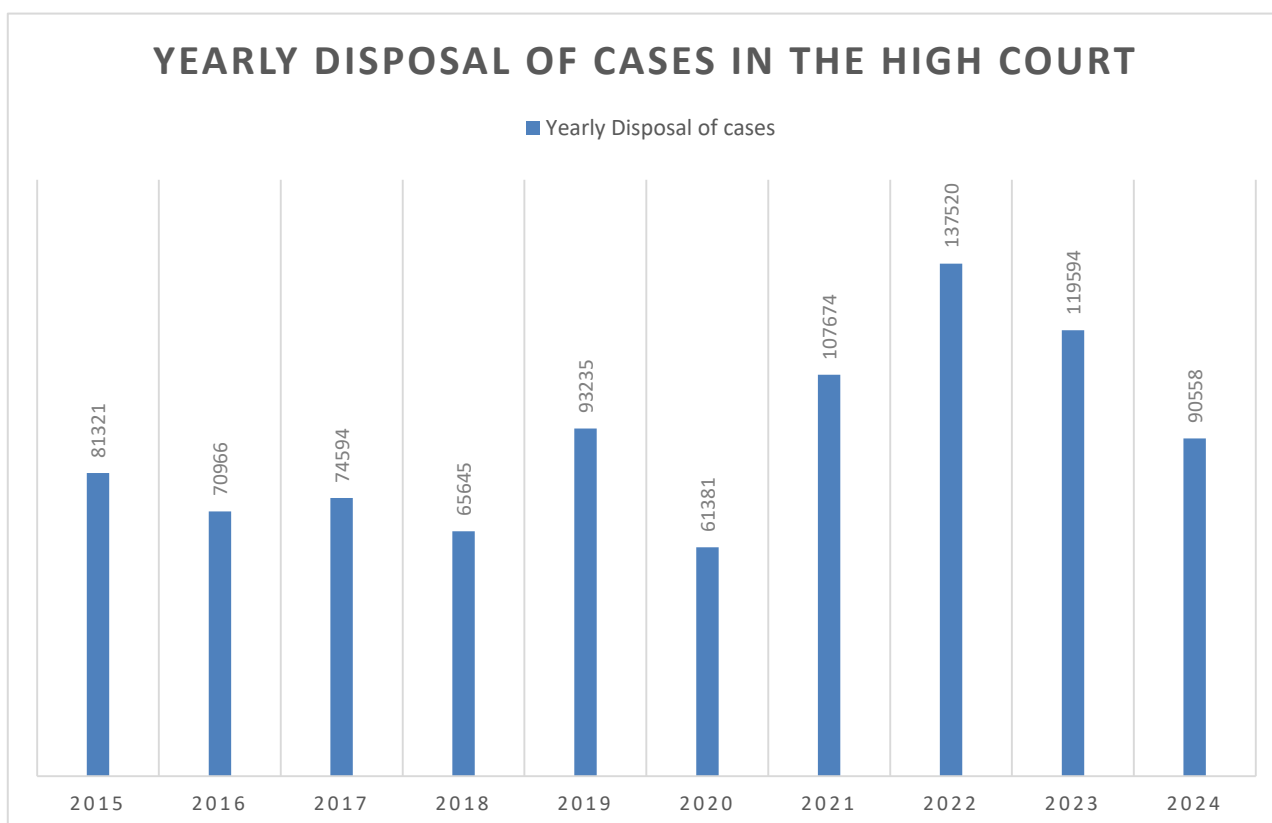
On the basis of working strength (as on 31.12.2024)-

	Present Working Strength	Population (as per 2011 census)	Ratio
High Court	19	41,974,218	1:22,09,169
Subordinate Court	841		1:49,909

PENDENCY, INSTITUTION AND DISPOSAL

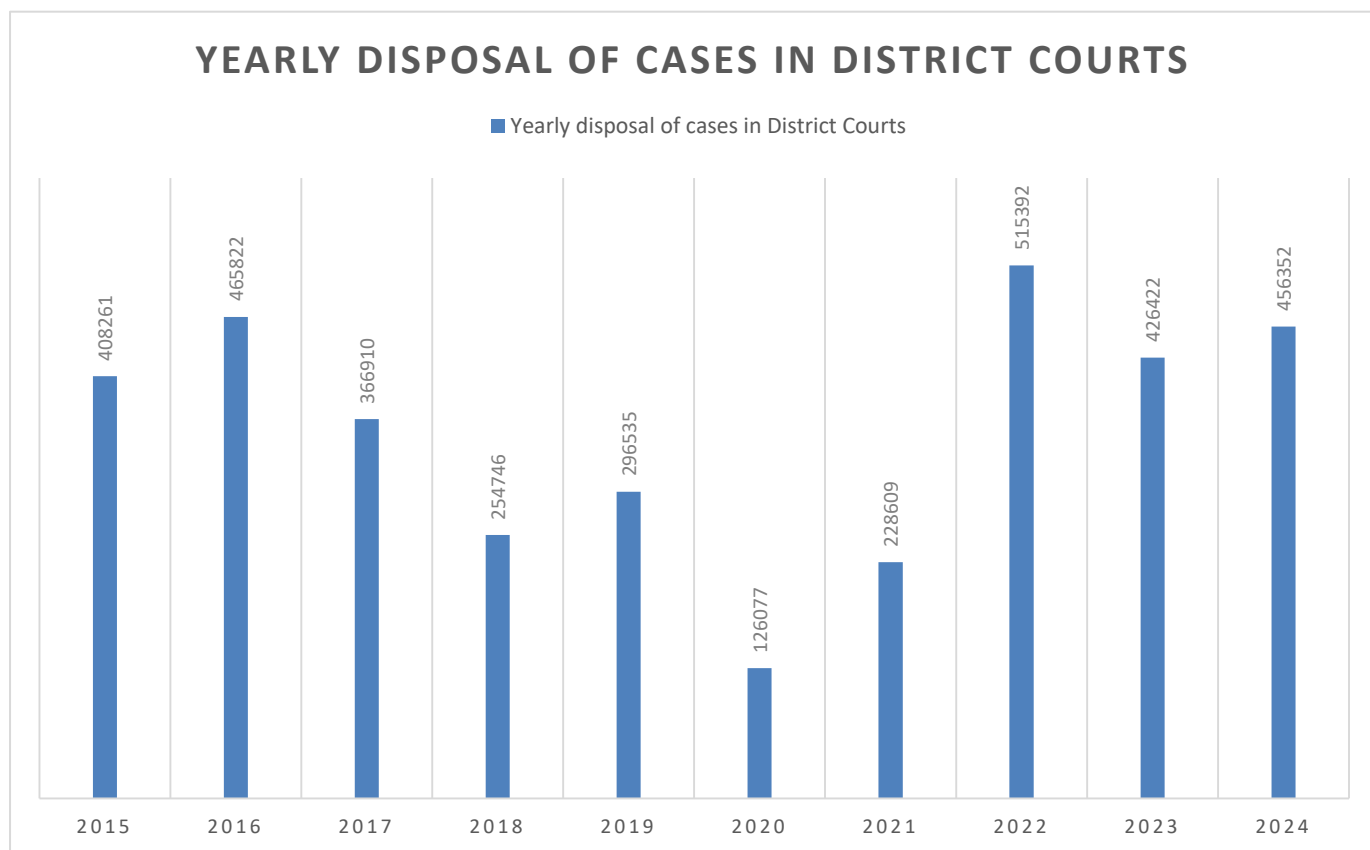
IN THE HIGH COURT

Year	Pendency on 1 st Jan.	Institution	Disposal	Pendency on 31 st Dec.	pendency increase /decrease	Percentage increase /decrease in pendency related to opening Balance
2015	178762	70230	81321	167671	11091	6.20%
2016	167655	70328	70966	167017	-638	-0.38%
2017	167012	75134	74594	167552	540	0.32%
2018	167537	62568	65645	164460	-3077	-1.84%
2019	164407	81120	93235	152292	-12115	-7.37%
2020	152249	83490	61381	174358	22109	14.52%
2021	174291	128452	107674	195069	20778	11.92%
2022	193791	104257	137520	160528	-33263	-17.16%
2023	160356	106632	119594	147394	-12962	-8.08%
2024	147374	89639	90558	146455	-919	-0.62%



IN THE DISTRICT COURTS

PENDENCY, INSTITUTION AND DISPOSAL (District Courts)						
Year	Pendency on 1st Jan.	Institution (during the year)	Disposal (during the year)	Pendency on 31st December	Pendency Increase/ Decrease	Percentage increase/ decrease in pendency related to opening Balance
2015	1070377	401923	408261	1064039	-6338	-0.59%
2016	1064039	451108	465822	1049325	-14714	-1.38%
2017	1078013	467779	366910	1178882	100869	9.36%
2018	1178882	397074	254746	1317117	138235	11.73%
2019	1318735	410782	296535	1433522	114787	8.70%
2020	1433522	284805	126077	1592250	158728	11.07%
2021	1592250	421703	228609	1789677	197427	12.40%
2022	1789677	552948	515392	1826100	36423	2.04%
2023	1826100	473634	426422	1873312	47212	2.59%
2024	1873312	499030	456352	1920825	47513	2.54%



INFLOW- OUTFLOW RATIO

IN THE HIGH COURT

Year	Institution	Disposal	Ratio
2015	70230	81321	1 : 1.16
2016	70328	70966	1 : 1.01
2017	75134	74594	1 : 0.99
2018	62568	65645	1 : 1.05
2019	81120	93235	1 : 1.15
2020	83490	61381	1 : 0.74
2021	128452	107674	1 : 0.84
2022	104257	137520	1 : 1.32
2023	106632	119594	1 : 1.12
2024	89639	90558	1 : 1.01

IN DISTRICT COURTS

Year	Institution (during the year)	Disposal (during the year)	Ratio (Disposal / Institution)
2015	401923	408261	1 : 1.02
2016	451108	465822	1 : 1.03
2017	467779	366910	1 : 0.78
2018	397074	254746	1 : 0.64
2019	410782	296535	1 : 0.72
2020	284805	126077	1 : 0.44
2021	421703	228609	1 : 0.54
2022	552948	515392	1 : 0.93
2023	473634	426422	1 : 0.90
2024	499030	456352	1 : 0.91

WORKLOAD PER JUDGE

IN THE HIGH COURT

Year	Average Working strength of Hon'ble Judges (A)	Workload (arrears as on 1st Jan. + institution during the year) (B)	Ratio (B/A)
2015	21	248992	1:11857
2016	20	237983	1:11899
2017	17.5	242146	1:13837
2018	15.5	230105	1:14845
2019	14	245527	1:17538
2020	14.5	235739	1:16258
2021	16.5	302743	1:18348
2022	20	298048	1:14902
2023	21	266988	1:12714
2024	19.5	237013	1:12155

IN THE DISTRICT COURTS

Year	Average Working strength of Hon'ble Judges (A)	Workload (arrears as on 1st Jan. + institution during the year) (B)	Ratio (B/A)
2015	583.5	1472300	1:2523
2016	599.5	1515147	1:2527
2017	629.5	1545792	1:2456
2018	703	1575956	1:2242
2019	758.5	1729517	1:2280
2020	763	1718327	1:2252
2021	770.5	2013953	1:2614
2022	774.5	2342625	1:3025
2023	784	2299734	1:2933
2024	820	2372342	1:2893

Part-II

OVERVIEW, ACTION TAKEN REPORT & VISION OF STATE JUDICIARY

(Where we stand as of now)

INFRASTRUCTURE

HIGH COURT:

Introduction-

The High Court of Orissa serves as the apex of the State's judicial framework, guiding lower courts and upholding constitutional justice. To match the rapid increase in judicial workload, technological advancement, and expansion in sanctioned strength of Hon'ble Judges and staff, a comprehensive five-year infrastructural vision has been prepared. The plan focuses on **capacity expansion, modernization, inclusivity, and sustainability** within the High Court premises.

The infrastructural strategy emphasizes three pillars:

1. **Physical Expansion** - Construction of new annexes, quarters, and support facilities.
2. **Technological Upgradation** - Enhancing accessibility, automation, and environmental efficiency.
3. **Inclusive Infrastructure** - Creating barrier-free, user-friendly spaces for all stakeholders, including persons with disabilities.

1. Infrastructure Development Plan (2025-2029)

Key Projects Proposed:

The following major projects have been proposed for implementation during 2025-2029 to address long-term spatial and functional needs of the High Court:

Sl. No.	Project / Facility	Description / Purpose
i	New Annex Building (B+G+5)	A multi-storied annex within the High Court premises to provide adequate accommodation for advocates, litigants, and vendors.
ii	550 Staff Quarters at CDA, Cuttack (Sector-13)	Construction of residential quarters to accommodate all Class-I to Class-IV employees of the High Court.
iii	Five New Bungalows for Hon'ble Judges	Construction of new bungalows to meet the increasing sanctioned strength of Judges.
iv	Holiday Home for Employees & Retirees	Dedicated facility to ensure welfare and recreation for serving and retired staff.
v	Expansion of High Court Premises (Ac. 11.702 Dec.)	Acquisition of additional land to facilitate future expansion, considering the increase in the sanctioned strength of Hon'ble Judges, officers, and staff.

These projects will significantly enhance the High Court’s capacity, improve working conditions, and create a modern judicial environment aligned with national standards.

2. Inclusive and Accessible Infrastructure

Ensuring accessibility and inclusivity has been a major design priority. Several interventions have been initiated to make the High Court premises **barrier-free and disability-friendly**.

Accessibility Measures:

- Installation of **staircases with hand railings** and **tactile warning strips** for persons with visual impairment.
- Provision of **visual/vibrating alarms** and **readable LED signage** for individuals with hearing or vision disabilities.
- Construction of **disability-friendly pathways** across all major buildings within the campus.
- Installation of **dedicated water supply points** at accessible heights for differently-abled individuals.
- Comprehensive **fire safety systems**—including automatic fire detection, sprinklers, hydrants, alarms, and signage—across Administrative Block, Annex Building, and the OJC Extension.

These initiatives aim to make the High Court a model of inclusive judicial infrastructure in the country.

3. Modernization and Facility Upgradation

Beyond expansion, significant steps are being taken to upgrade the **existing infrastructure** for better efficiency, sustainability, and user experience.

Key Modernization Components:

Area	Intervention
Lifts and Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning Systems (HVAC)	Replacement of 6 existing lifts; installation of 2 additional lifts; introduction of 2 × 400 TR water-cooled chiller plants and 14 Air Handling Units (AHUs) for improved cooling.
Fire Safety and Communication	Automatic fire detection, alarms, sprinklers, hydrants, and public address systems installed in key administrative and annex blocks.
Energy Efficiency	Shift to smart lighting and optimized HVAC systems for energy conservation.
Digital Readiness	Refurbishment of IT Cell and server rooms; integration of data centers for digital record management.
Accommodation Enhancement	New annex to provide structured facilities for advocates, vendors, and litigants, improving overall accessibility and comfort.

4. Achievements (2022-2025)

Over the last three years, substantial progress has been made in modernizing and expanding the High Court's infrastructure.

Key Achievements

Financial Year Funds Allocated by State Government (₹)

2022-23	34,14,15,900
2023-24	77,74,64,000
2024-25	78,66,90,800

These funds have been effectively utilized to develop major facilities, including:

- **Expansion of Administrative Block (vertical & horizontal)**
- **Renovation of RRDC Building**
- **Construction of the Centre for Judicial Archives**
- **Establishment of the Museum of Justice**
- **Construction of Covered Parking Area**
- **New Court Guest House Building at Puri**
- **New Bungalows for Hon'ble Judges**
- **Refurbishment of IT Cell and Offices**
- **Remodelling of Judges' Library and Renovation of Convention Hall**

The groundwork for the **new annex building** and **550 staff quarters** has already begun, signifying strong progress toward a modern and self-sufficient judicial campus.

5. Planned Accessibility and Fire Safety Enhancements (2025-2029)

Component	Description	Objective
Disability Pathways & Water Points	Constructed throughout High Court premises	To ensure unhindered mobility for differently-abled persons
Visual/Vibrating Alarms & LED Signage	Installed in courtrooms and corridors	To assist visually/hearing-impaired users
Automatic Fire Detection & Hydrants	Installed in all major buildings	To ensure quick response to fire hazards
Public Address Systems & Safety Signage	Integrated with central monitoring	For timely evacuation and communication during emergencies
Additional Cooling & Lift Systems	2×400 TR chillers, 14 AHUs, 2 lifts	To provide efficient cooling and smooth mobility across blocks

6. Strategic Focus for 2025–2029

The overall infrastructural vision of the High Court aligns with the “**Future-Ready Judiciary**” framework, emphasizing technology, inclusion, and sustainability. The strategic plan revolves around the following themes:

A. Expansion and Capacity Augmentation

- Completion of the new **B+G+5 annex building** and **550 staff quarters**.
- Construction of new **Judges’ bungalows** and **holiday home for staff**.
- Acquisition and development of **11.702 acres** of adjoining land for future court and office expansion.

B. Inclusivity and Accessibility

- Comprehensive implementation of **universal design standards** ensuring accessibility for all.
- Integration of **assistive technologies** such as LED alerts, tactile navigation, and ramps.

C. Technology and Green Initiatives

- Modern energy-efficient lighting and HVAC systems.
- Enhanced e-governance support with improved server, IT, and data archival systems.
- Rainwater harvesting, solar installations and waste management for a **green judiciary campus**.

D. Safety, Comfort & Dignity

- Fire safety systems, public address mechanisms, and controlled access points.
- Better accommodation and rest spaces for **advocates, litigants, and vendors**.
- Safe and dignified working conditions for all judicial officers and staff.

8. Vision Outlook

The High Court of Orissa envisions transforming its premises into a **smart, inclusive, and environmentally responsible judicial complex**—a model for higher judiciary infrastructure in India. The goal is to combine **architectural excellence with accessibility, sustainability, and digital readiness** to ensure that every stakeholder—judge, lawyer, litigant, or visitor—experiences efficiency, safety, and dignity within the Court environment.

The next five years aim to position the High Court as a **digitally empowered, climate-resilient, and people-centric institution**, equipped to serve as a benchmark for the judiciary nationwide.

DISTRICT COURTS:

Introduction

Judicial infrastructure is a key determinant of the quality, speed, and inclusivity of justice delivery. Across Odisha, district courts highlight both achievements in modernization and persisting gaps in facilities.

1.Court Buildings

Most district courts continue to function in congested or outdated premises, while others operate in buildings provided by revenue or local bodies. New integrated court complexes are being developed in several districts. Construction work of 15 nos. of court buildings has been completed and inaugurated in last three financial years.

Vision:

- All district headquarters and sub-divisional courts should have **disaster-resilient design, modern, eco-friendly, and integrated complexes** with adequate space for court halls, modern conference hall, record rooms, ADR centres, IT facilities, dispensaries, and litigant amenities.

2.Court Rooms

- Modern courtrooms with dais, hybrid hearing capacity, and acoustics exist in new complexes.
- **Video-conferencing systems** have been installed in many of the district courts.
- **Vulnerable Witness Deposition Centres (VWDCs)** have been established in all the district courts (Headquarters).
- Many district courts have **digital display boards, e-filing counters, and scanning stations**.

Vision:

- All the district courts should be equipped with **digital display boards, e-filing counters, and scanning stations**.
- VWDCs should be established in all the court establishments of the District Judiciary which are to be **child-friendly** and there have to be **witness examination rooms** for sensitive cases.

3.Bar Rooms

- Bar Associations form an essential part of judicial infrastructure.
- Many Bar Associations are not having digital libraries and internet facilities.

Vision:

- All Bar Associations should be equipped with **digital libraries, internet facilities, canteens, ATMs, and post office counters.**
- Should be provided with **conference rooms and secure lockers** for lawyers.

4.Litigant Amenities

- Currently, amenities such as waiting areas, safe drinking water, clean restrooms, crèches, and canteens are inadequate in many judgeships.
- Many of the judgeships have been digital kiosks and waiting halls.

Vision:

- Gender-sensitive washrooms, lactation rooms, sanitary pad dispensers;
- Dedicated **Lifts/escalators, waiting halls, cloakrooms, and affordable canteens** ; and
- **Digital kiosks** for case status, first-aid dispensaries, and wellness rooms for staff in all courts.

5.Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities

Encouraging steps have been taken in many judgeships with ramps and lifts. However, uniform implementation is required.

Vision:

- Barrier-free complexes with assistive facilities like **ramps, tactile flooring, Braille signage, assistive listening devices, and sign-language interpretation.**
- Wheelchairs and reserved seating in all complexes.

6.Residential Quarters & Transit Houses

- 35 numbers of residential quarters for the judicial officers have been completed during the last three financial years.
- However, there are still requirements of quarter for judicial officers and staff.
- As reported, in several districts, quarters exist but are uninhabitable. Transit houses are also required.

Vision:

- **Standardised provision of residential quarters and transit houses** in all districts, ensuring decent living conditions for officers and staff.

7. Security Arrangements in District & Taluk Courts

CCTV cameras installed in all District & Subordinate Courts as per Supreme Court directives (*Pradyuman Bisht vs. Union of India & Ors.*), covering:

- Courtrooms, Judges' chambers, and lockups
- Entry/exit points and common areas (canteens, libraries, parking)
- Lawyers' chambers
- Audio-video storage retained for 90 days

Provision of State-wide security audit of court complexes is in place:

- Led by police under District/Deputy Commissioner supervision
- Cooperation from judicial officers and staff, and
- To be assessed physical security, surveillance systems, access control, employee & visitor management, security personnel, emergency response, electrical safety, vehicle management, and miscellaneous measures.

Security Committees constituted:

- **District Level Security Committee (DLSC):** District Judge (Chair), SP/DC, senior Addl. Judge, Registrar, DIB officer, local police in-charge.
- **Taluk Level Security Committee (TLSC):** Senior judicial officer (Chair), SDPO, local police in-charge, Deputy Administrator of Taluk Court.

Committees tasked with:

- Preparing and monitoring court-specific security plans
- Holding regular and emergency meetings
- Suggesting infrastructural improvements
- Managing entry/exit gates (two preferred, maximum three)

DLSC/TLSC recommendations are being submitted to the High Court for kind consideration for integrated, location-specific security implementation.

8. Record Rooms & Digitalisation

Many judgeships have facility of Record Room Digitization Centres for Record storage and digitisation.

Vision:

- Establish **digitisation centres with climate-controlled record rooms** at all district court headquarters.
- Create **dual storage systems** with physical + e-archives accessible to courts and litigants.

9.Sustainability & Technology

Future-ready courts must embrace sustainability and IT integration.

Proposals:

- **Green design principles:** rainwater harvesting, solar energy, energy-efficient lighting, waste management.
- **Smart courts:** CCTV surveillance, AI-enabled case management, and paperless functioning via e-filing.

10.Five-Year Projection (2025-2029)

To keep pace with the opening of new courts and to address case pendency, large-scale infrastructure expansion is envisioned for the next five years.

Court Halls:

Particulars	Numbers
Functional Courts	891
Available Court Halls (self-owned)	783
Current Gap	108
Courts notified but yet to function	121
Courts likely to be notified (2025-29)	150
Total Requirement (2025-29)	379 new Court Halls
Estimated Cost	₹3,032 Crores

Residential Quarters for Judicial Officers:

Particulars	Numbers
Judicial Officers eligible for Residential quarters	921
Available Residential quarters self-Owned by the Judiciary	425
Infrastructural gap at present in respect of Residential quarters	496
Courts Notified and yet to be made functional	121
Courts made functional during last 5 years, i.e. from 2020-21 to 2024 - 25	136
Courts (approximate) to be notified from 2025-2029	150
Total requirement of Residential quarters for 2025-2029	767
Total requirement of funds for construction of Residential quarters for 2025-2029	₹1917.50 Crores

Budgetary Projection (2025-2029):

Category	Requirement	Cost Estimate
Court Halls	379	₹3,032 Crores
Residential Quarters	767	₹1,917.5 Crores
Total (Approx.)	-	₹4,949.5 Crores

Conclusion

The infrastructure roadmap for district courts must balance **immediate needs** (litigant amenities, accessibility, and digitalisation) with **long-term expansion** (hundreds of new court halls and quarters by 2029). With an estimated budgetary requirement of nearly **₹5,000 Crores in five years**, proactive planning, efficient execution, and strong monitoring mechanisms will be essential for ensuring **inclusive, sustainable, and citizen-centric judicial infrastructure** across Odisha.

In this regard, the baseline report on **Court Development Planning System (CDPS)**² received from Hon'ble the Supreme Court of India is highly recommended.

- I. The Number of Court Complexes / Buildings From Which the Courts are Functioning (**Annexure - 'A'**)
- II. Own Buildings, Rented Buildings and Buildings / Complexes Under Construction (**Annexure - 'B'**)

2. Court Development Planning System (CDPS) is available at link:-

https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3ec0490f1f4972d133619a60c30f3559e/uploads/2024/11/2_Court_Development_Planning_System.pdf

THE NUMBER OF COURT COMPLEXES / BUILDINGS FROM WHICH THE COURTS ARE FUNCTIONING

HIGH COURT		
THE NUMBER OF COURT COMPLEXES / BUILDINGS FROM WHICH THE COURTS ARE FUNCTIONING (as on 31.03.2025)		
Sl. No.	Complex/ Buildings/ Rooms	Number
1	Available Court complexes/ Buildings from which the Courts are functioning.	2 (1 - Heritage Building & 1 - Court's New Building(B+G+7))
2	Available Court rooms with Chambers.	31 - Court Rooms and 29 - Chambers (25 nos. of Court Rooms & 23 nos. of Chambers in Court's New Building and 6 nos. of Court Rooms & 6 Nos. of Chambers in Court's Heritage Building)
3	Available Additional Chambers.	N.A.
4	Available Residential Accommodations for Hon'ble Judges.	15 (including the Bungalow of Hon'ble Chief Justice) <i>(Construction of 5 nos. of New Bungalows are going on)</i>

DISTRICT COURTS		
THE NUMBER OF COURT COMPLEXES / BUILDINGS FROM WHICH THE COURTS ARE FUNCTIONING (31.03.2025)		
Sl. No.	Complex/ Buildings/ Rooms	Number
1	Available Court complexes/buildings at District Level from which the Courts are functioning	37
2	Available Court complexes/buildings at Taluka Level from which the Courts are functioning	212
3	Available Court rooms at District Places	538
4	Available Court rooms at Taluka Places	361
5	Available residential accommodations for Judges of District Judiciary	414
6	Available residential accommodations in General Pool	133

OWN BUILDINGS, RENTED BUILDINGS AND BUILDINGS / COMPLEXES UNDER CONSTRUCTION

HIGH COURT				
OWN BUILDINGS, RENTED BUILDINGS AND BUILDINGS/ COMPLEXES UNDER CONSTRUCTION (as on 31.03.2025)				
Sl. No.	Complex/ Buildings/ Rooms	Own	Rented	Under Construction
1	Court complexes/ Buildings	2 (1 - Heritage Building & 1 - Court's New Building(B+G+7))	0	0
2	Court rooms with Chambers.	31 - Courts and 29 - Chambers (25 nos. of Courts & 23 nos. of Chambers in Court's New Building and 6 nos. of Courts & 6 Nos. of Chambers in Court's Heritage Building)	0	0
3	Additional Chambers.	N.A.	0	0
4	Residential Accommodations for Hon'ble Judges.	15 (including the Bungalow of Hon'ble Chief Justice)	0	5

DISTRICT COURTS				
OWN BUILDINGS, RENTED BUILDINGS AND BUILDINGS/ COMPLEXES UNDER CONSTRUCTION (as on 31.03.2025)				
Sl. No.	Complex/ Buildings/ Rooms	Own	Rented	Under Construction
1	Court complexes/buildings at District Level from which the Courts are functioning	30	0	4
2	Court complexes/buildings at Taluka Level from which the Courts are functioning	125	1	40
3	Court rooms at District Places	511	0	98
4	Court rooms at Taluka Places	270	1	130
5	Residential accommodations for Judges of District Judiciary	414	210	161
6	Residential accommodations in General Pool	133 (Spared by Govt.)		

Forensic Science Laboratory Facility in Odisha

Forensic Science Services, functioning under Odisha Police set-up, is one of the oldest Laboratories in the Country. Established in 1962 in Cuttack, it was later shifted to State Capital, Bhubaneswar in 1971. Apart from State FSL Directorate at Bhubaneswar, it has 3 Regional Forensic Science Laboratories, located at Berhampur, Sambalpur and Balasore and 15 District Forensic Science Laboratories in 15 districts, and 21 Mobile Forensic Units in the remaining 15 districts to cater to the requirements of far-off Districts.

The laboratory, which has the latest range of modern state-of-the art equipment, with adequate no. of manpower, is committed to provide quality services through good Laboratory practices to ensure efficient justice delivery system, while ensuring impartiality and confidentiality. The Laboratory continuously endeavours to upgrade the quality of examination by adopting the latest technologies and methods to satisfy the stakeholders.

State FSL, Bhubaneswar is connected to CCTNS project since 2015. FSL module of the project has been designed to monitor and track all cases received in the Laboratory. Steps are being taken to dispatch Chemical Examination Reports online to Courts and other stakeholders.

On considering the matter relating to **issue of pendency of cases requiring forensic analysis** as suggested in the Action Plan for Arrears Reduction in District Judiciary (APAaR-DJ) received from Hon'ble the Supreme Court of India, the S.C.M.S. Committee of the High Court of Orissa has been pleased to pass the following resolution:-

“...the Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary to Home Department, Govt. of Odisha to take steps for developing and upgrading Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) infrastructure which includes laboratory space & equipment, staffing and training, technology and software to handle increased workload and complex cases in order to address the issue of pendency of cases requiring forensic analysis.”

As such, the Government of Odisha has been moved for doing the needful at their level.

BUDGETARY PROVISION

Introduction

Budgetary provisions form the financial backbone of the judicial system in Odisha. The annual allocation under Demand No. 01 and Demand No. 04—finalized after proposals from subordinate courts and consultations with the Finance Department—ensures smooth judicial functioning, infrastructure strengthening, technology integration, digital expansion, human resource development, and maintenance of essential resources.

The funding framework is designed to support ongoing operations, expand judicial access through new courts, and upgrade IT systems for modern, efficient, and citizen-centric justice delivery.

Key Budgetary Issues

Need for accelerated digitization and wider digital expansion.

- Upgrade and strengthening of digital infrastructure and connectivity across judgeships.
- Ensuring high-speed broadband and seamless integration among all subordinate courts.
- Modernization of ICT platforms and incorporation of updated technologies.
- Continuous human resources and skill development for effective utilization of infrastructure.
- Accurate assessment of ongoing and anticipated expenditure for realistic Budget Estimates.
- Need for a structured monitoring mechanism and financial oversight.
- Requirement of a uniform digital **Budget and Expenditure Management Committee (BEMC)** dashboard for real-time financial tracking.
- Strengthening audit processes and timely compliance.
- Financial planning for opening new courts to expand judicial access.

Proposed Plan of Action (2025-2029)

The vision for 2025-2029 focuses on optimal fund utilization, digital transformation, financial discipline, and structured monitoring.

- Prepare a comprehensive strategy and action plan for completion of all ongoing projects under State Sector Schemes (SSS) and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), including SPARSH.
- Ensure timely utilization of funds under SSS and CSS and prompt submission of Utilization Certificates to maintain steady fund flow and avoid cost escalation.
- Submit Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) for proposed new residential and non-residential projects within prescribed timelines.

- Expand and upgrade digitization processes across all key functional components of the judiciary.
- Establish a robust monitoring mechanism to oversee digital initiatives and ensure effective implementation.
- Develop strong digital infrastructure with high-speed broadband connectivity and integrated networking for efficient financial management.
- Introduce quarterly monitoring of fund utilization patterns across all units in line with Finance Department guidelines.
- Conduct regular BEMC meetings to review fund utilization, identify lapses, and issue corrective advisories.
- Strengthen budget preparation by careful analysis of actual and anticipated expenditure of the previous year, incorporating justified estimates for new plans.
- Fix accountability for unjustified surrender of substantial unspent funds at the end of the financial year.
- Monitor fund management at the highest level of each judgeship in addition to BEMC oversight.
- Promote staff skill development through targeted training and handholding initiatives.
- Conduct regular audits of fund-utilization patterns and ensure timely compliance with POMs and CAG Audit observations.
- Submit need-based proposals to the Government for opening new courts to enhance access to justice and strengthen judicial outreach.

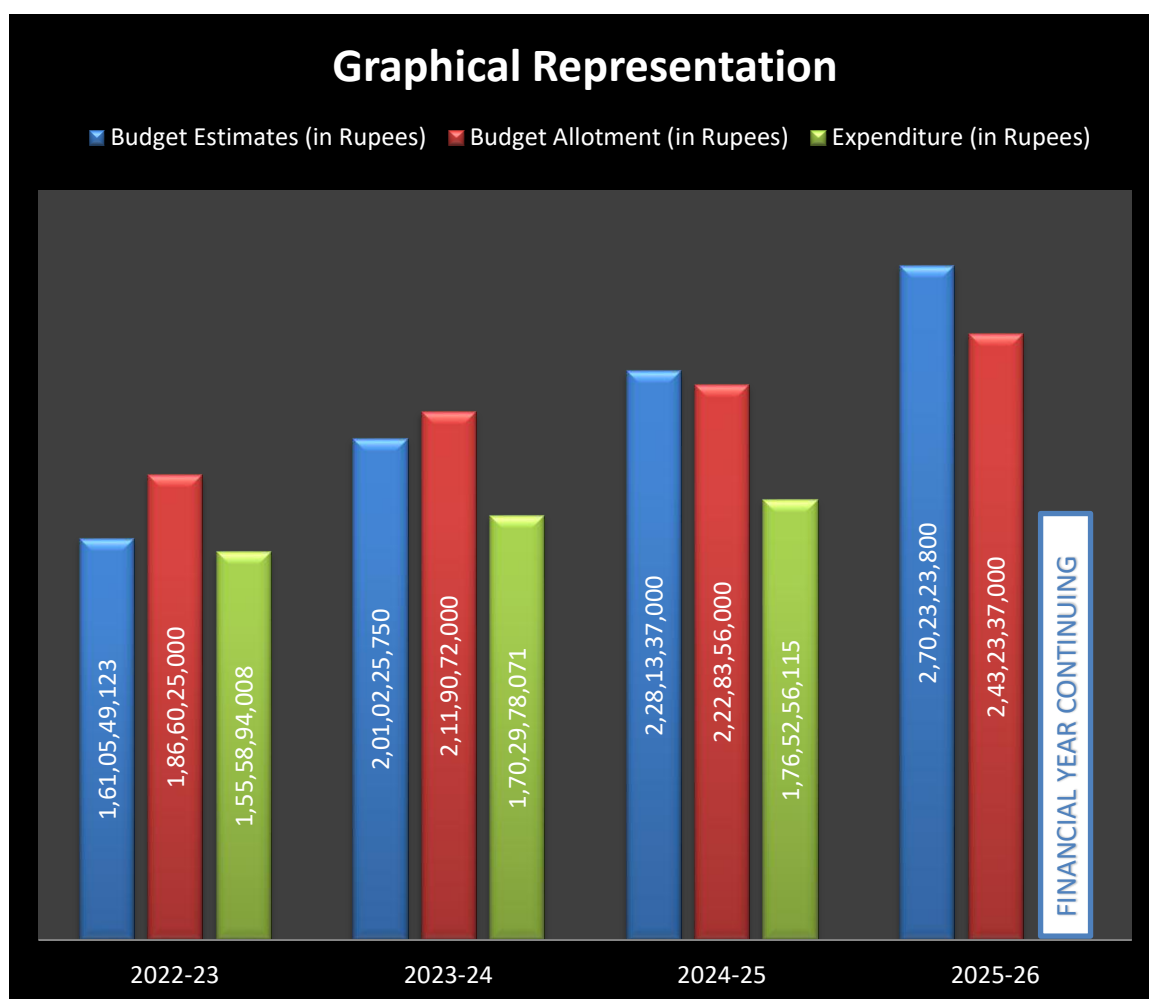
Conclusion

While HRMS, IFMS, and the Odisha Treasury Portal already enable real-time financial tracking, the period 2025-2029 requires stronger implementation measures to address emerging issues. Through strategic fund utilization, digitization, monitoring, and timely compliance, the judiciary aims to build a financially disciplined, technologically enabled, and future-ready judicial ecosystem.

- I. Budget of the High Court of Orissa (*Annexure-‘C’*)
- II. Budget of District Courts of the State of Odisha (*Annexure-‘D’*)

BUDGET OF HIGH COURT OF ORISSA

YEAR	BUDGET ESTIMATE (In Rs.)	BUDGET ALLOTTMENT (In Rs.)	EXPENDITURE (In Rs.)
2022-23	1,61,05,49,123	1,86,60,25,000	1,55,58,94,008
2023-24	2,01,02,25,750	2,11,90,72,000	1,70,29,78,071
2024-25	2,28,13,37,000	2,22,83,56,000	1,76,52,56,115
2025-26	2,70,23,23,800	2,43,23,37,000	Financial Year Continuing



BUDGET OF DISTRICT COURTS OF THE STATE OF ODISHA

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 2022-23						
MAJOR HEAD 2014-ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (Rupees in Thousands)						
Head	Detailed Head Account	Civil & Sessions Court (1270-Home)	Civil & Sessions Court (0145- Law)	POCSO Fast Track Special Courts (3406)	Gram Nyayalayas (2913)	CBI Courts (0111)
136	Pay	1173900	1873870	187460	75263	35969
855	Arrear Pay (Rtd /to be Rtd.)	87008	258994	12740	3729	505
156	Dearness Allowance	556666	1056977	78495	46202	20435
403	House Rent Allowance	56420	152046	22000	3829	4335
523	Other Allowances	44135	61548	11500	3062	550
516	RCM	7044	13501	2500	887	435
60001	Travel Expenses	4107	9570	2700	533	250
06011	Bata Expenses under POA Act	500	0	0	0	0
70001	Leave Travel Concession	500	1500	0	100	80
074	Electricity Dues	25085	75082	5625	3020	1163
149	Water Charges	1065	1588	300	100	0
154	Telephone Charges	5763	8769	2500	746	213
397	Motor Vehicles	4713	6595	6850	3821	1165
506	Other Contingencies	45049	118341	35438	5530	1850
78118	Upgr.of Comp. Facilities	5655	17606	11500	1550	200
78012	Computer consumables	4229	8082	3500	1063	250
33011	Spare & Services	2566	5052	2100	867	100
12001	Consulting Charges	45	324	0	84	40
78123	Witness Bhatta	2583	0	2000	597	0
20002	Other Charges	0	2550	0	0	200
12007	Professional fees	5586	0	3500	501	0
12006	P.P.S.S	0	19545	0	0	0
09001	Rent, Rates & Taxes	270	2200	4500	697	0
30001	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	6000	9000	0	5000	0
943	Motor Vehicle Hiring Charges	0	0	0	0	0
Total		2038889	3702740	395208	157181	67740

BUDGET PROVISIONS - 2022-23

MAJOR HEAD 2014-ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (Rupees in Thousands)

Head	Detailed Head Account	Civil & Sessions Court (1270-Home)	Civil & Sessions Court (0145-Law)	POCSO Fast Track Special Courts (3406)	Gram Nyayalayas (2913)	CBI Courts (0111)
136	Pay	1173900	1873870	415057	73883	34874
855	Arrear Pay (Rtd /to be Rtd.)	308295	503526		20001	9831
156	Dearness Allowance	556666	1056977		37206	18000
403	House Rent Allowance	56420	152046		2000	4000
523	Other Allowances	30000	62548		3062	550
516	RCM	4500	13501		900	300
60001	Travel Expenses	3615	9570		533	116
06011	Bata Expenses under POA Act	500	0		0	0
70001	Leave Travel Concession	500	1500		100	80
074	Electricity Dues	31685	75082		2219	1135
149	Water Charges	1065	1588		60	0
154	Telephone Charges	10763	8769		500	163
397	Motor Vehicles	4500	6000		3821	365
506	Other Contingencies	188965	558357		5397	1100
78118	Upgr.of Comp. Facilities	7655	17606		1518	100
78012	Computer consumables	1000	8082		682	144
33011	Spare & Services	800	3000		450	35
12001	Consulting Charges	25	324		84	0
78123	Witness Bhatta	2075	0		400	0
20002	Other Charges	0	2550		0	165
12007	Professional fees	5000	0		400	0
12006	P.P.S.S	0	19545		0	0
09001	Rent, Rates & Taxes	270	2200		500	0
30001	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	1	0		5000	0
943	Motor Vehicle Hiring Charges	0	2000		0	0
Total		2388200	4378641	415057	158716	70958

BUDGET EXPENDITURE- 2022-23

MAJOR HEAD 2014-ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (Rupees in Thousands)

Head	Detailed Head Account	Civil & Sessions Court (1270-Home)	Civil & Sessions Court (0145-Law)	POCSO Fast Track Special Courts (3406)	Gram Nyayalayas (2913)	CBI Courts (0111)
136	Pay	884210	1696712	222829	50190	13267
855	Arrear Pay (Rtd /to be Rtd.)	120882	316261		7455	2724
156	Dearness Allowance	453638	943573		28506	6200
403	House Rent Allowance	22574	42587		1302	431
523	Other Allowances	26686	62379		1860	279
516	RCM	3680	11667		706	157
60001	Travel Expenses	3159	8314		383	40
06011	Bata Expenses under POA Act	305	0		0	0
70001	Leave Travel Concession	0	57		0	0
074	Electricity Dues	21501	62759		1291	793
149	Water Charges	568	640		0	0
154	Telephone Charges	4677	6133		196	126
397	Motor Vehicles	3366	4189		441	0
506	Other Contingencies	169064	184458		3585	154
78118	Upgr.of Comp. Facilities	6263	15069		634	0
78012	Computer consumables	667	6660		300	38
33011	Spare & Services	451	2398		119	0
12001	Consulting Charges	9	25		0	0
78123	Witness Bhatta	1266	0		75	0
20002	Other Charges	0	1384		0	0
12007	Professional fees	3391	0		74	0
12006	P.P.S.S	0	16102		0	0
09001	Rent, Rates & Taxes	15	113		288	0
30001	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	0	0		0	0
943	Motor Vehicle Hiring Charges	0	65		0	0
Total		1726372	3381545	222829	97405	24209

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 2023-24						
MAJOR HEAD 2014-ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (Rupees in Thousands)						
Head	Detailed Head Account	Civil & Sessions Court (1270-Home)	Civil & Sessions Court (0145-Law)	POCSO Fast Track Special Courts (3406)	Gram Nyayalayas (2913)	CBI Courts (0111)
136	Pay	1409712	3508238	196637	101980	67704
855	Arrear Pay (Rtd /to be Rtd.)	251254	451278	38517	15071	7500
156	Dearness Allowance	630717	1570149	79875	45891	30467
403	House Rent Allowance	79216	182723	22030	15540	4000
523	Other Allowances	90000	182072	12162	5733	1550
516	RCM	20000	25000	2200	871	545
60001	Travel Expenses	6042	10528	1025	479	175
06011	Bata Expenses under POA Act	750	0	0	0	0
70001	Leave Travel Concession	500	2000	0	100	100
074	Electricity Dues	40562	80608	6000	3349	1588
149	Water Charges	1217	1688	145	97	0
154	Telephone Charges	17848	14020	685	767	363
397	Motor Vehicles	6308	9052	2000	2088	1260
506	Other Contingencies	212513	428562	25000	7809	3200
78118	Upgr.of Comp. Facilities	14028	23000	7086	1888	500
78012	Computer consumables	5077	11338	1062	986	500
33011	Spare & Services	3569	6286	700	461	500
12001	Consulting Charges	175	425	0	85	0
78123	Witness Bhatta	4425	0	825	472	0
20002	Other Charges	0	3550	0	0	469
12007	Professional fees	6590	0	1455	520	0
12006	P.P.S.S	0	22550	0	0	0
09001	Rent, Rates & Taxes	370	2200	100	518	0
30001	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	22000	50000	0	7500	0
943	Motor Vehicle Hiring Charges	0	7550	0	0	0
Total		2822873	6592817	397504	212205	120421

BUDGET PROVISIONS - 2023-24						
MAJOR HEAD 2014-ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (Rupees in Thousands)						
Head	Detailed Head Account	Civil & Sessions Court (1270-Home)	Civil & Sessions Court (0145-Law)	POCSO Fast Track Special Courts (3406)	Gram Nyayalayas (2913)	CBI Courts (0111)
136	Pay	1280000	3055223	266647	97721	61665
855	Arrear Pay (Rtd /to be Rtd.)	220000	451278		15071	7500
156	Dearness Allowance	576000	1356977		39706	28000
403	House Rent Allowance	57501	152046		2000	1000
523	Other Allowances	60000	160000		4607	1200
516	RCM	4500	22501		700	300
60001	Travel Expenses	5665	14844		1003	50
06011	Bata Expenses under POA Act	500	0		0	0
70001	Leave Travel Concession	500	1500		1	50
074	Electricity Dues	31685	75082		2108	1643
149	Water Charges	1065	1500		50	0
154	Telephone Charges	9563	8769		400	363
397	Motor Vehicles	4000	6500		800	500
506	Other Contingencies	199000	440133		7459	500
78118	Upgr.of Comp. Facilities	7655	19106		1888	500
78012	Computer consumables	2000	9099		899	144
33011	Spare & Services	800	6286		461	35
12001	Consulting Charges	25	324		85	0
78123	Witness Bhatta	2000	0		472	0
20002	Other Charges	0	4857		0	150
12007	Professional fees	5000	0		150	0
12006	P.P.S.S	0	19545		0	0
09001	Rent, Rates & Taxes	270	2200		518	0
30001	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	1	46300		7500	0
943	Motor Vehicle Hiring Charges	0	2000		0	0
Total		2467730	5856070	266647	183599	103600

BUDGET EXPENDITURE- 2023-24						
MAJOR HEAD 2014-ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (Rupees in Thousands)						
Head	Detailed Head Account	Civil & Sessions Court (1270-Home)	Civil & Sessions Court (0145- Law)	POCSO Fast Track Special Courts (3406)	Gram Nyayalayas (2913)	CBI Courts (0111)
136	Pay	1045013	2136504	251822	64543	16147
855	Arrear Pay (Rtd /to be Rtd.)	119621	373322		8263	6662
156	Dearness Allowance	469257	959511		29311	7332
403	House Rent Allowance	21977	45063		1288	373
523	Other Allowances	47082	131978		3173	95
516	RCM	4107	19935		316	103
60001	Travel Expenses	5156	13930		743	33
06011	Bata Expenses under POA Act	335	0		0	0
70001	Leave Travel Concession	21	67		0	0
074	Electricity Dues	18171	58636		1810	1593
149	Water Charges	594	638		0	0
154	Telephone Charges	4154	6474		240	50
397	Motor Vehicles	3179	4765		355	114
506	Other Contingencies	148504	396950		4044	270
78118	Upgr.of Comp. Facilities	7449	18678		798	43
78012	Computer consumables	1524	8856		344	21
33011	Spare & Services	714	5002		153	0
12001	Consulting Charges	22	76		18	0
78123	Witness Bhatta	1851	0		92	0
20002	Other Charges	0	3996		0	50
12007	Professional fees	3907	0		75	0
12006	P.P.S.S	0	17971		0	0
09001	Rent, Rates & Taxes	105	1322		277	0
30001	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	0	8327		0	0
943	Motor Vehicle Hiring Charges	0	457		0	0
Total		1902743	4212458	251822	115843	32886

BUDGET PROVISIONS - 2024-25						
MAJOR HEAD 2014-ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (Rupees in Thousands)						
Head	Detailed Head Account	Civil & Sessions Court (1270-Home)	Civil & Sessions Court (0145- Law)	POCSO Fast Track Special Courts (3406)	Gram Nyayalayas (2913)	CBI Courts (0111)
136	Pay	1358517	2810697	212765	100380	67704
855	Arrear Pay (Rtd /to be Rtd.)	3000	10000	15045	1000	7500
156	Dearness Allowance	815110	1537848	117021	56089	31737
403	House Rent Allowance	271705	405307	17078	4200	12000
523	Other Allowances	750000	1563828	133465	36500	12047
516	RCM	20000	40000	5000	3071	1045
60001	Travel Expenses	40500	84034	3000	3077	895
06011	Bata Expenses under POA Act	750	0	0	0	0
70001	Leave Travel Concession	26890	61500	4250	2500	350
074	Electricity Dues	40562	90000	2000	3549	2500
149	Water Charges	1217	1688	105	100	0
154	Telephone Charges	11063	14020	1005	527	363
397	Motor Vehicles	6000	10000	100	2088	760
506	Other Contingencies	250000	516035	35000	7809	1000
78118	Upgr.of Comp. Facilities	10000	25000	5000	2088	500
78012	Computer consumables	5000	11338	1062	1086	144
33011	Spare & Services	2500	6286	750	461	35
12001	Consulting Charges	36	324	0	85	0
78123	Witness Bhatta	3100	0	1050	672	0
20002	Other Charges	0	4857	0	0	300
12007	Professional fees	7000	0	2590	401	0
12006	P.P.S.S	0	25000	0	0	0
09001	Rent, Rates & Taxes	370	2200	200	518	0
30001	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	1	30000	0	12000	1500
943	Motor Vehicle Hiring Charges	5000	5000	0	2500	720
Total		3628321	7254962	556486	240701	141100

BUDGET EXPENDITURE- 2024-25						
MAJOR HEAD 2014-ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (Rupees in Thousands)						
Head	Detailed Head Account	Civil & Sessions Court (1270-Home)	Civil & Sessions Court (0145- Law)	POCSO Fast Track Special Courts (3406)	Gram Nyayalayas (2913)	CBI Courts (0111)
136	Pay	1148844	2559757	175574	71902	18946
855	Arrear Pay (Rtd /to be Rtd.)	1962	9625	1179	526	0
156	Dearness Allowance	574482	1254321	96877	36588	8944
403	House Rent Allowance	77153	145898	10428	3313	1506
523	Other Allowances	412139	1081121	86139	29571	3866
516	RCM	10629	22775	698	625	24
60001	Travel Expenses	12466	25937	1948	572	0
06011	Bata Expenses under POA Act	455	0	0	0	0
70001	Leave Travel Concession	1309	1349	435	0	124
074	Electricity Dues	23960	73565	151	2237	1593
149	Water Charges	707	854	0	4	0
154	Telephone Charges	4233	7181	290	255	0
397	Motor Vehicles	3253	4665	26	785	124
506	Other Contingencies	225318	475541	19476	5547	320
78118	Upgr.of Comp. Facilities	7915	19377	3025	981	36
78012	Computer consumables	3440	9320	604	495	54
33011	Spare & Services	1620	4059	370	232	0
12001	Consulting Charges	27	91	0	12	0
78123	Witness Bhatta	2400	0	650	191	0
20002	Other Charges	0	1950	0	0	48
12007	Professional fees	4652	0	2023	193	0
12006	P.P.S.S	0	17849	0	0	0
09001	Rent, Rates & Taxes	20	735	0	135	0
30001	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	0	2935	0	0	0
943	Motor Vehicle Hiring Charges	745	203	0	0	0
Total		2517729	5719108	399893	154164	35585

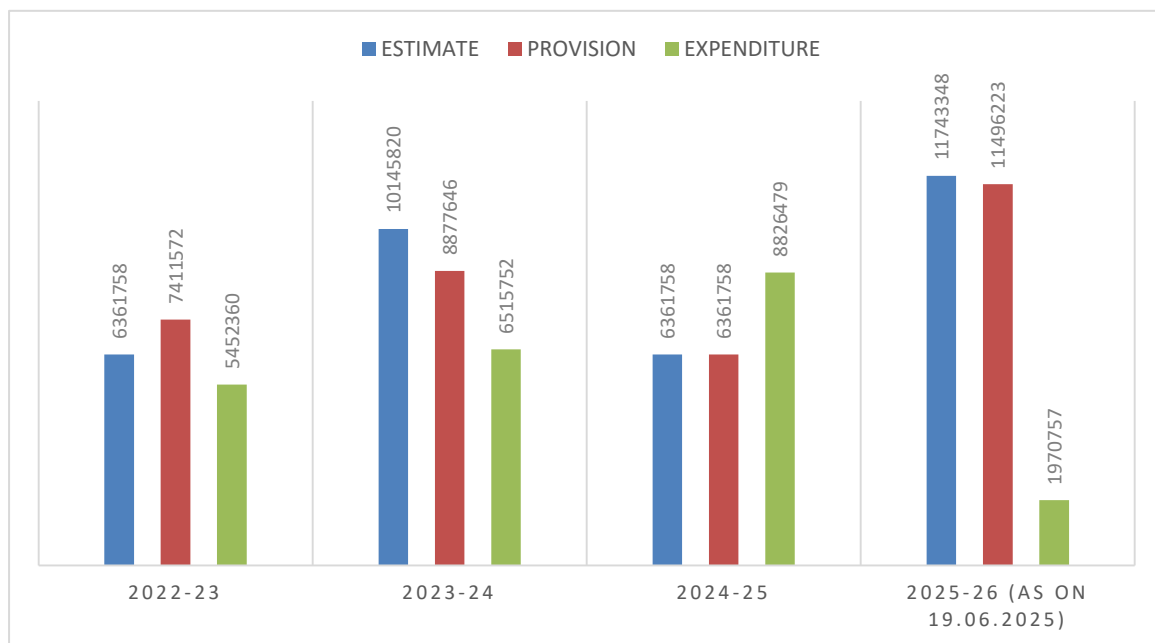
BUDGET ESTIMATES - 2025-26						
MAJOR HEAD 2014-ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (Rupees in Thousands)						
Head	Detailed Head Account	Civil & Sessions Court (1270-Home)	Civil & Sessions Court (0145-Law)	POCSO Fast Track Special Courts (3406)	Gram Nyayalayas (2913)	CBI Courts (0111)
001	Salaries	1593030	3315967	212304	141000	71235
003	Dearness Allowance	963356	2013620	129320	85400	42538
017	House Rent Allowance	252684	528163	33920	22400	11158
007	Other Allowances	220000	500000	32500	20000	1000
006	RCM	20000	50000	2500	3071	1045
60001	Travel Expenses	32929	50000	3000	3077	450
06011	Bata Expenses under POA Act	954	0	0	0	0
70001	Leave Travel Concession	15649	25000	1000	2500	350
08007-013	Electricity Dues	42113	95073	1000	4587	2500
08001-013	Office Expenses	263473	669860	36064	12727	3083
08001-024	Fuel & Lubricants	6083	10000	500	2088	760
78118	Upgr.of Comp. Facilities	13038	25000	4000	2088	500
78012	Computer consumables	6157	15043	2500	1086	150
33011	Spare & Services	4002	7993	1500	660	100
12001	Consulting Charges	65	324	0	30	0
78123	Witness Bhatta	4452	0	2000	1572	0
20002	Other Charges	0	4857	0	0	300
12007	Professional fees	7100	0	3000	630	0
12006	P.P.S.S	0	26300	0	0	0
09001	Rent, Rates & Taxes	370	2200	100	200	0
30001	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	10000	30000	1500	12000	1500
Total		3455455	7369400	466708	315116	136669

BUDGET PROVISIONS - 2025-26 (As on 19.06.2025)						
MAJOR HEAD 2014-ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (Rupees in Thousands)						
Head	Detailed Head Account	Civil & Sessions Court (1270-Home)	Civil & Sessions Court (0145-Law)	POCSO Fast Track Special Courts (3406)	Gram Nyayalayas (2913)	CBI Courts (0111)
001	Salaries	1520001	3315967	213304	91000	69135
003	Dearness Allowance	927200	2013620	129819	54900	41821
017	House Rent Allowance	252684	528163	33920	10000	11158
007	Other Allowances	200000	500000	32500	20000	1000
006	RCM	20000	50000	2500	855	1045
60001	Travel Expenses	32929	50000	3000	3077	450
06011	Bata Expenses under POA Act	954	0	0	0	0
70001	Leave Travel Concession	15000	25000	1000	2500	350
08007-013	Electricity Dues	42113	95073	1000	4587	1000
08001-013	Office Expenses	263473	669860	36063	12727	2790
08001-024	Fuel & Lubricants	6000	10000	500	2088	200
78118	Upgr.of Comp. Facilities	10000	25000	4000	2088	500
78012	Computer consumables	5500	15043	2500	1086	150
33011	Spare & Services	2750	7993	1500	660	100
12001	Consulting Charges	40	324	0	30	0
78123	Witness Bhatta	4000	0	2000	1572	0
20002	Other Charges	0	4857	1	0	300
12007	Professional fees	7100	0	3000	630	0
12006	P.P.S.S	0	26300	0	0	0
09001	Rent, Rates & Taxes	370	2200	100	200	0
30001	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	1	30000	1	12000	1
Total		3310115	7369400	466708	220000	130000

BUDGET EXPENDITURE- 2025-26 (As on 19.06.2025)						
MAJOR HEAD 2014-ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE (Rupees in Thousands)						
Head	Detailed Head Account	Civil & Sessions Court (1270-Home)	Civil & Sessions Court (0145-Law)	POCSO Fast Track Special Courts (3406)	Gram Nyayalayas (2913)	CBI Courts (0111)
001	Salaries	303265	694773	56408	17753	4232
003	Dearness Allowance	158956	356925	28008	9941	2378
017	House Rent Allowance	19692	39337	3136	1094	469
007	Other Allowances	33411	76696	6709	3288	89
006	RCM	1122	1744	47	0	0
60001	Travel Expenses	1261	2237	169	43	0
06011	Bata Expenses under POA Act	185	0	0	0	0
70001	Leave Travel Concession	224	92	0	0	0
08007-013	Electricity Dues	3862	11798	12	317	0
08001-013	Office Expenses	27337	94635	517	751	39
08001-024	Fuel & Lubricants	294	559	0	76	0
78118	Upgr.of Comp. Facilities	175	605	20	8	0
78012	Computer consumables	333	1065	6	119	0
33011	Spare & Services	175	230	4	47	0
12001	Consulting Charges	0	0	0	0	0
78123	Witness Bhatta	428	0	92	11	0
20002	Other Charges	0	198	0	0	0
12007	Professional fees	149	0	127	29	0
12006	P.P.S.S	0	3055	0	0	0
09001	Rent, Rates & Taxes	0	0	0	0	0
30001	Purchase of Motor Vehicle	0	0	0	0	0
Total		550869	1283949	95255	33477	7207

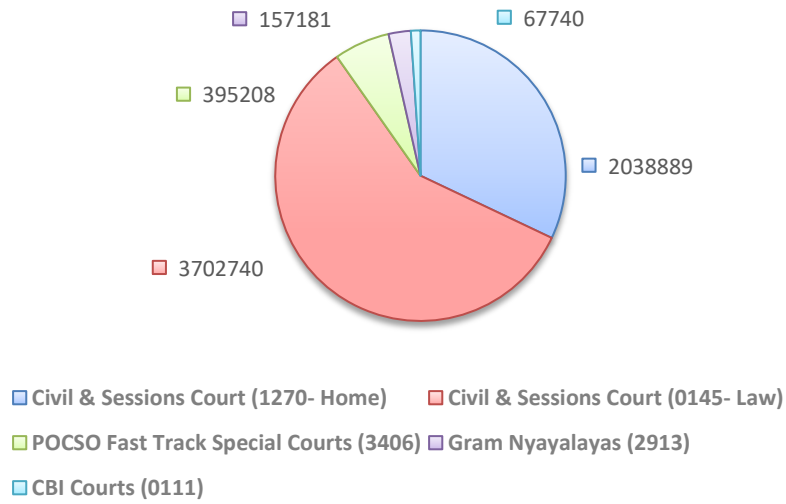
BUDGET ESTIMATE, BUDGETARY PROVISIONS & EXPENDITURE INCURRED FOR SUB-ORDINATE JUDICIARY OF THE STATE

(Rupees in Thousands)

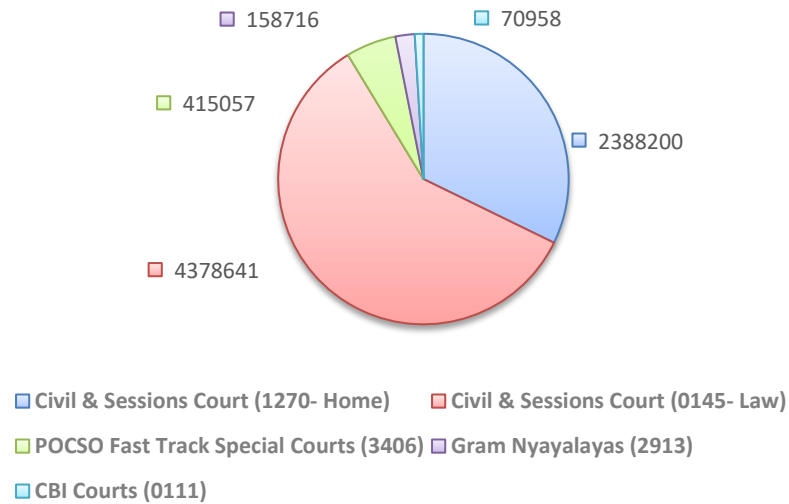


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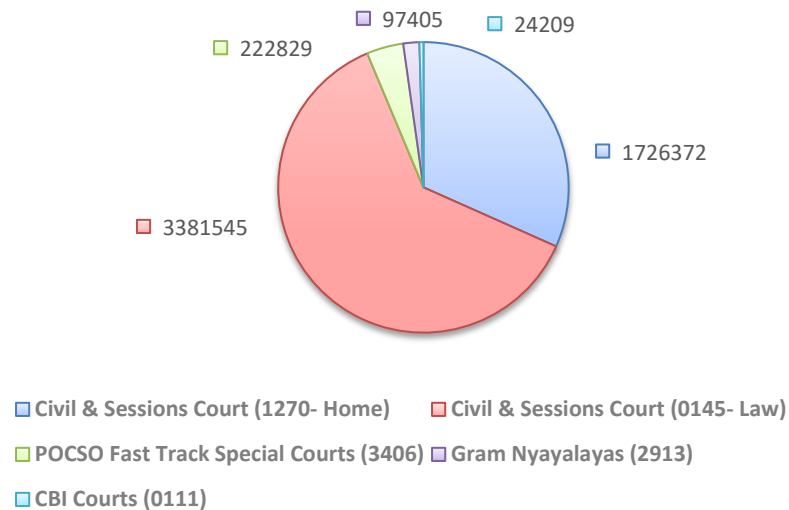
Budget Estimates 2022-23



Budget Provision 2022-23

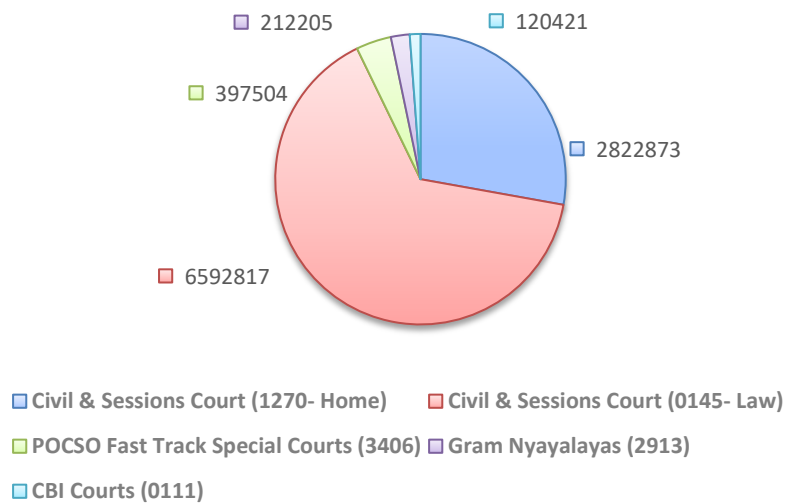


Budget Expenditure 2022-23

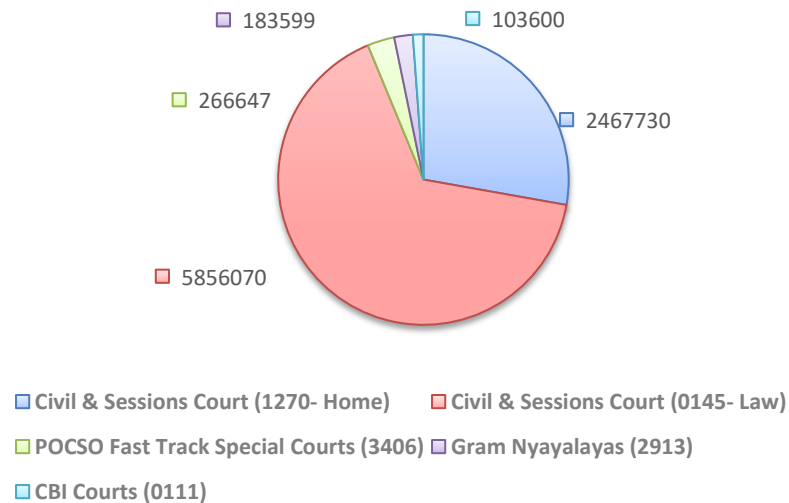


2023-2024

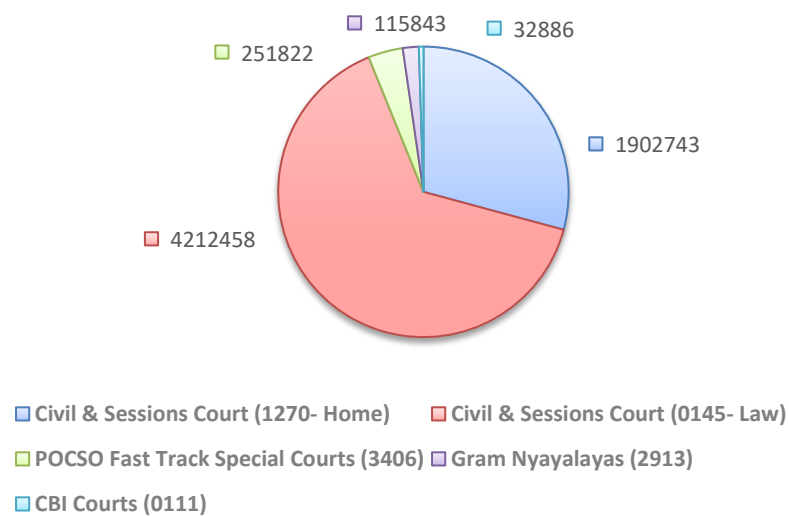
Budget Estimates 2023-24



Budget Provision 2023-24

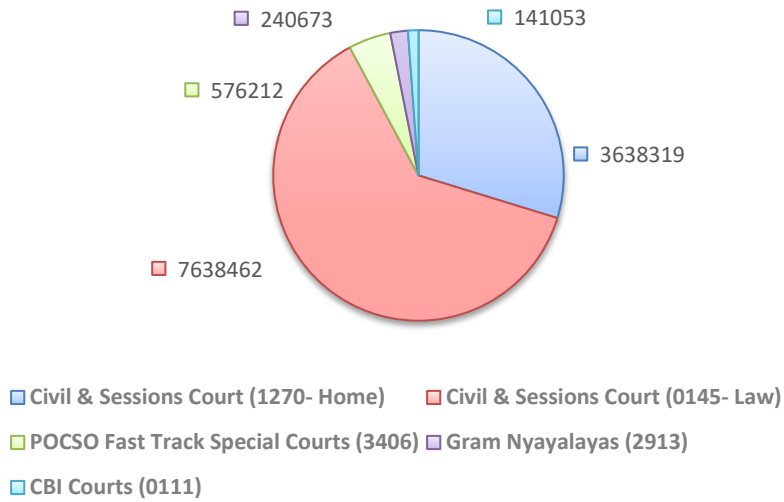


Budget Expenditure 2023-24

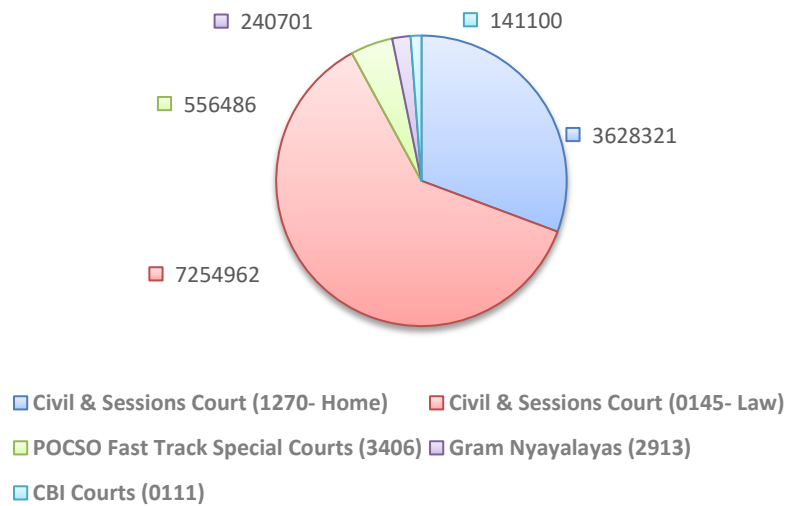


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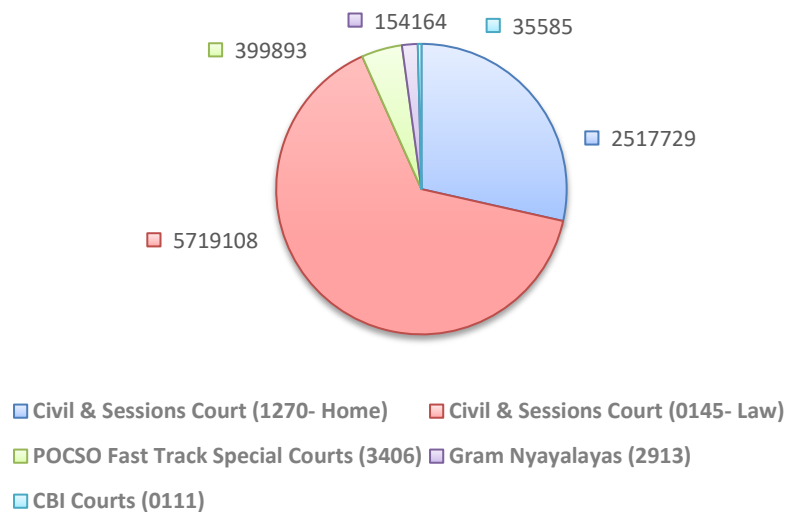
Budget Estimates 2024-25



Budget Provision 2024-25

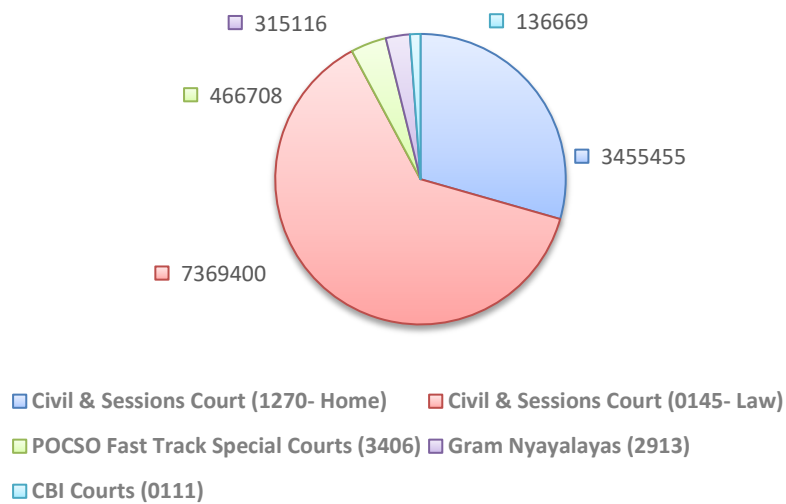


Budget Expenditure 2024-25

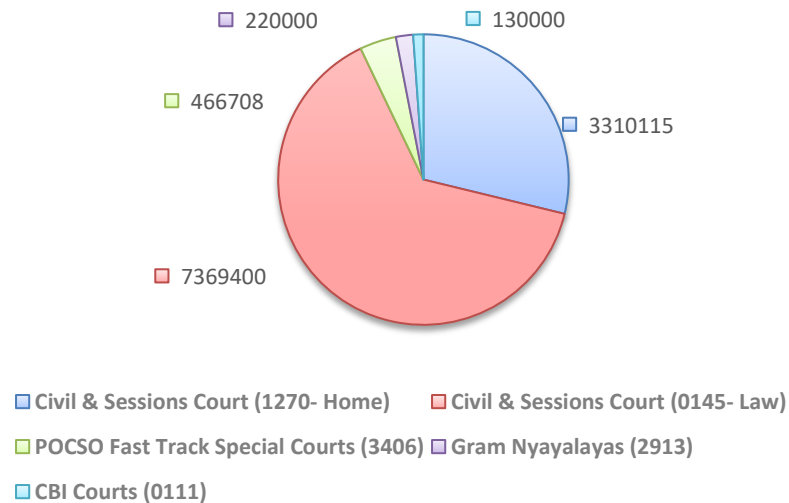


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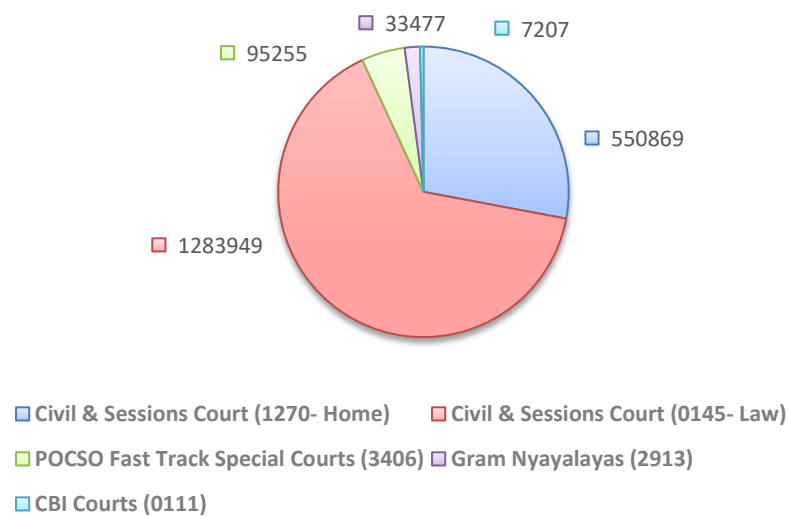
Budget Estimates 2025-26



Budget Provision 2025-26



Budget Expenditure 2025-26 As on 19.06.2025



JUDGE STRENGTH AND SUPPORTING STAFF

Introduction

The judiciary is the cornerstone of democracy, ensuring justice, equality, and protection of rights. In Odisha, like many other states in India, judicial vacancies have long posed challenges to the timely delivery of justice. With increasing case pendency, filling up Judges' vacancies in the District Judiciary has become a mission of paramount importance.

Judicial Vacancy:

Reasons for Judicial Vacancies-

- Low success rate in recruitment exams
- Delays in appointment processes
- Expansion of courts without proportional infrastructure and supporting staff
- Challenging nature of Job

Steps To Be Taken to fill up all the Judicial Vacancies-

- **Streamlined recruitment process:** - To ensure efficiency in judicial appointments, a time-bound recruitment calendar should be promulgated.
- **Encouraging law students/legal practitioners for Judicial Services:** - Law students and legal practitioners should be motivated to prepare diligently for Judicial Service Examinations. Such encouragement will not only enhance the success rate in these examinations but also ensure that the judiciary benefits from well-prepared, competent, and composed judicial officers.
- **Periodical monitoring of filling up of vacancy:** - Conduct periodical audits of judicial vacancies to identify gaps early and initiate recruitment before the vacancies pile up.
- **Better working conditions:** - Improving the working conditions of judicial officers will make the judicial service more attractive and help draw the best talent into the system. Ensuring reasonable working hours will reduce stress and fatigue. Minimizing administrative responsibilities will allow judicial officers to focus on their core judicial functions. To explore the possibilities to create a

separate post as Principal District Judge (PDJ) to manage the administrative, financial, protocol and other ancillary administrative work and to create separate post in the cadre of District Judge to function as Chairman, D.L.S.A. to look after the multi-faceted legal aid activities for its effective implementation. In turn the same will lessen the burden on the District Judges who can devote more time towards judicial work.

- **Filling up of support staff vacancies:** - Ensure that the vacancies in Ministerial cadre along with Group-D staff are filled in tandem with judicial appointments, so Judges have the necessary assistance to function efficiently and avoid procedural delays.
- **Adequate Infrastructure:** - Provision of befitting infrastructure need to be made together with establishment of new Courts.

Conclusion

The growing judicial vacancies undermine the efficiency of the justice delivery system. Unless decisive measures are taken, the Courts will continue to struggle under the weight of mounting pendency. Addressing the above discussed issues shall be pursued as a strategic priority, essential not only for reducing pendency but also for reinforcing the judiciary.

The recommendations in the baseline report on **Human Resource Development Strategy (HRDS)**³ prepared by Hon'ble the Apex Court should be implemented.

- I. Cadre strength of judicial officers and Ministerial staff in the High Court of Orissa (**Annexure 'E'**)
- II. Cadre strength of judicial officers and Ministerial staff in the District Courts of the State (**Annexure 'F'**)

3.Human Resource Development Strategy (HRDS) is available at link:-

<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3ec0490f1f4972d133619a60c30f3559e/uploads/2024/11/2024111432.pdf>

HIGH COURT				
CADRE STRENGTH OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COURT				
Sl. No.	Cadre	Sanctioned Strength		
		2022	2023	2024
1	District Judge	10	10	11
2	Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.)	07	07	07
3	Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.)	03	03	03

CADRE STRENGTH OF MINISTERIAL CADRE			
Cadre	Year		
	2022	2023	2024
Group A	33	42	45
Group B	741	817	943
Group C	327	350	369
Group D	274	271	295

CADRE STRENGTH OF SECRETARIAL CADRE			
Cadre	Year		
	2022	2023	2024
Group A	13	16	20
Group B	97	103	106
Group C	55	55	55

STRENGTH OF OFFICERS AND STAFF ON DEPUTATION TO THE COURT			
Cadre	Year		
	2022	2023	2024
Group A	2	2	2
Group B	2	2	2
Group C	4	4	4

- Details about cadre of Group A, B, & C posts is being placed below.

HIGH COURT OF ORISSA,CUTTACK
CADRE STRENGTH OF MINISTERIAL CADRE

Sl. No.	Cadre	Sanctioned Strength		
		2022	2023	2024
Group-A				
1.	Additional Registrar (Estt.)	1	1	1
2.	Joint Registrar (Estt.)	1	1	1
3.	Joint Registrar(Judicial)	1	2	2
4.	Joint Registrar(Examination)	-	-	-
5.	Additional Deputy Registrar(J&E)	4	5	5
6.	Assistant Registrar (Estt.)	1	2	3
7.	Assistant Registrar (Judicial)	5	6	6
8.	Assistant Registrar (J&E)	1	1	1
9.	Assistant Registrar-cum-E.O.	2	2	2
10.	Assistant Registrar-cum-Stamp Reporter & Oath Commissioner	1	1	1
11.	Assistant Registrar-cum-Additional Stamp Reporter & Oath Commissioner	10	15	15
12.	Court Officer-cum-Asst. Registrar	1	1	1
13.	Assistant Registrar (Protocol)	3	3	3
14.	Assistant Registrar (Inspection)	-	-	1
15.	Assistant Registrar (Translation Branch)	-	-	1
16.	Senior System Officer	2	2	2
		33	42	45
Group-B				
1.	Superintendent	42	57	57
2.	Superintendent (Translation Branch)	-	-	2
3.	Section Officer	115	137	137
4.	Section Officer (Translation Branch)	1	1	6
5.	Statistical Officer	1	1	1
6.	Superintendent (Typist) Level-I	5	6	6
7.	System Analyst	1	1	1
8.	Assistant Section Officer	468	483	598
9.	Librarian	1	1	1
10.	Superintendent (Typist) Level-II	11	12	12
11.	Programmer	1	1	1
12.	Peripatetic Stamp Reporter	2	2	2
13.	Translator	5	26	30
14.	Judicial Indexer	1	1	1
15.	Head Driver	10	10	10
16.	Diary Superintendent	3	3	3
17.	Court Manager	2	2	2
18.	Assistant Curator	-	1	1
19.	System Officer	24	24	24
20.	System Assistant	48	48	48
Total		741	817	943

Group-C				
1.	Junior Librarian	1	1	1
2.	Desk Top Printing Operator	-	-	2
3.	Senior Grade Typist	36	38	38
4.	Senior Grade Diarist	15	15	15
5.	Senior Driver	10	10	10
6.	Technical Assistant (Judge's Library)	4	4	4
7.	Generator Operator	1	1	2
8.	Junior Grade Typist/ D.E.O.	38	38	39
9.	Diarist	37	37	37
10.	Copyist	6	6	10
11.	Driver	37	37	37
12.	Treasury Sarkar	1	1	2
13.	Jamadar	91	91	91
14.	Duftary	33	43	43
15.	Attender	8	9	9
16.	Cook-cum-caretaker	6	16	26
17.	Mali-cum-Chowkidar	3	3	3
Group-D				
1.	Orderly Peon	143	143	143
2.	Class-IV	87	87	107
3.	Gate Keeper	1	1	1
4.	Mali	25	25	25
5.	Night Watchman	3	3	7
6.	Farash	7	7	7
7.	Sweeper	5	2	1
8.	Sweeper-cum-Farash	1	1	1
9.	Permanent Mulia	1	1	1
10.	Medical Attendant	1	1	2

CADRE STRENGTH OF SECRETARIAL CADRE				
Sl. No.	Cadre	Sanctioned Strength		
		2022	2023	2024
Group-A				
1.	Additional Registrar-cum Principal Secretary	1	1	1
2.	Joint Registrar-cum- Principal Secretary	1	1	2
3.	Additional Deputy Registrar-cum- Additional Principal Secretary	3	4	5
4.	Assistant Registrar-cum- Senior Secretary	8	10	12
Group-B				
1.	Secretary	23	25	25
2.	Personal Assistant	42	43	43
3.	Senior Stenographer	32	35	38
Group-C				
1.	Junior Stenographer	55	55	55

HIGH COURT OF ORISSA, CUTTACK
STRENGTH OF OFFICERS AND STAFF ON DEPUTATION TO THE COURT

Sl. No.	Cadre	Sanctioned Strength		
		2022	2023	2024
Group-A				
1.	Chief Accounts Officer	1	1	1
2.	Medical Officer	1	1	1
Group-B				
1.	Homeopathy Medical Officer	1	1	1
2.	Physiotherapist	1	1	1
Group-C				
1.	Pharmacist	1	1	1
2.	Junior Laboratory Technician(Path)	1	1	1
3.	Health Worker (Female)	1	1	1
4.	Homeopathy Assistant	1	1	1

CENTRE OF JUDICIAL ARCHIVES OF ODISHA

Sl.N o.	Cadre	Sanctioned Strength		
		2022	2023	2024
1.	Director-cum-OSD	1	1	1
2.	Consultant, History	1	1	1
3.	Consultant, Law	1	1	1
4.	Law Researchers	4	4	4

POSTS CARRYING CONSOLIDATED PAY/HONORARIUM

Sl.N o.	Cadre	Sanctioned Strength		
		2022	2023	2024
1.	Law Reporter	1	1	1
2.	Research Assistant	49	49	49
3.	Assistant Editor	1	1	1

POSTS CARRYING REMUNERATION FOR COPYING OUT DOCUMENTS

Sl.N o.	Cadre	Sanctioned Strength		
		2022	2023	2024
1.	Remunerated Copyist	6	6	6

OUTSOURCED POSTS FOR THE MUSEUM OF JUSTICE

Sl.N o.	Cadre	Sanctioned Strength		
		2022	2023	2024
1.	Guides	-	4	4

HIGH COURT OF ORISSA, CUTTACK

CADRE STRENGTH OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COURT

Sl. No.	Cadre	Sanctioned Strength		
		2022	2023	2024
1	District Judge	10	10	11
2	Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.)	07	07	07
3	Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.)	03	03	03

DISTRICT COURTS
JUDICIAL OFFICERS

CADRE STRENGTH OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS IN THE STATE				
Sl. No.	Cadre	Sanctioned Strength		
		2022	2023	2024
1	District Judge	242	243	265
2	Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.)	276	284	288
3	Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.)	465	466	470

STAFF

Sl. No.	Cadre	Sanctioned		
		2022	2023	2024
1	Chief Administrative Officer	30	30	30
2	Bench Clerk Grade - I	214	245	344
3	Bench Clerk Grade - II/ Head Clerk, Sheristedar of Civil Courts (Administrative Officer)/ Record Keeper. Accountant/ Nazir (Deputy Administrator)	612	645	568
4	Bench Clerk Grade - III/ Senior Clerk	713	726	740
5	Junior Clerk-cum-Copyist	2087	2165	2215
6	Superintendent Level - I (Typist)	28	28	29
7	Head Typist (Superintendent Level - II)	72	77	78
8	Senior Typist	297	300	305
9	Junior Typist	440	470	493
10	Stenographer Grade - I/ Personal Assistant/ Executive Assistant	187	190	199
11	Stenographer Grade - II	226	243	244
12	Stenographer Grade - III	354	358	364
13	Salaried Amin	58	117	120
Total		5318	5594	5729

MINISTERIAL STAFF

Introduction

The Odisha Judiciary seeks to strengthen ministerial administration through transparent recruitment, structured capacity building, equitable work distribution, supportive HR policies, and consistent performance monitoring. The goal is to create an efficient and motivated workforce that enhances judicial delivery across all districts.

Key Proposals

Centralised Recruitment: Explore a unified recruitment system for all ministerial staff across district judgeships through the High Court's Centralised Recruitment Cell, ensuring uniform standards and efficient selection.

- **Comprehensive Training Module:** Introduce a structured, State-wide training framework for district and civil court staff focusing on judicial administration, digital skills, and service efficiency.
- **Spouse Posting Policy:** Examine the feasibility of posting spouses employed under the District Judiciary at the same station to improve work-life balance and enhance productivity.
- **Equal Work Distribution:** Develop a detailed plan for balanced allocation of duties among ministerial staff to promote fairness, efficiency, and reduced administrative burden.
- **Monthly Performance Review Meetings:** Implement mandatory monthly physical or virtual review meetings to monitor staff performance, address issues, and foster a positive and accountable work culture.
- Refresher training programmes for Ministerial Staff to:
 - Enhance technical proficiency in the use of latest technology, software, and digital court systems;
 - Improve efficiency and accuracy in administrative, judicial, and record-management work;
 - Make uniform procedures and practices across courts through updated knowledge of rules, circulars, and processes;
 - Greater adaptability to reforms, including skill readiness for e-Courts, paperless functioning, and automation initiatives;
 - Strengthen professional competence and confidence among Ministerial Staff in handling evolving responsibilities;

- Reduce in procedural delays and errors, contributing to faster and smoother court functioning;
- Improve service delivery to litigants and stakeholders, enhancing transparency and public trust in the justice system.

Conclusion

These reforms collectively aim to modernize human resource management within the district judiciary. By improving recruitment, training, posting policies, workload balance, and performance review mechanisms, the Odisha Judiciary can establish a more efficient, motivated, and coordinated administrative system.

WORKLOAD CARRIED BY THE NON JUDICIAL STAFF **(THE STAFF - PENDENCY RATIO)**

STAFF - CASE RATIO

In the High Court

Total sanctioned strength of Officers and employees of the High Court is **1854** which includes **1114** posts for Group-A and Group-B employees, **424** posts for Group-C and **295** posts for Group-D employees.

Considering the number of Sections in the High Court, Class-II posts are not sufficient. Similarly, in view of pendency of cases, Class-II posts meant for dealing with the files are found insufficient. Taking into account the number of Class-II employees working in Judicial Branch and number of judicial records dealt by them in the High Court, around **1128** cases are allotted to each Dealing Assistant.

A provision may be made as to how many judicial case records can be allotted to a dealing assistant in order to determine the sufficiency of the staff strength of the Hon'ble Court. However, the vacancy of all the posts may be filled up in an immediate measure.

In the District Courts

In District Courts the sanctioned strength of Group-C and Group-D employees is **9809** in which **5889** employees are working in the Class-III Cadre and **3920** are working in the Class-IV Cadre.

Therefore, number of Class-III employees is not sufficient because at present, on an average around **900** case files are being dealt by the dealing assistants. It is very difficult for these employees to cope up with large number of files. Besides, these employees have to perform several other duties and works and such as maintaining different type of data pertaining to different types of cases, information pertaining to number of cases with regard to category of cases, such as offences against women, senior citizens, foreign national, under trials, POCSO, NDPS and other administrative work. Therefore, sufficient employees are required to be posted in view of pendency of cases and recommendation of NCMS sub- Committee on Human Resource Strategy in this regard.

That apart, keeping in view of the circular of the State Government on discontinuance of contractual re-engagement of retired employees in various government departments including courts, the filling up of the large vacancies is imminent.

JUDGE STRENGTH NEEDED TO REDUCE BACKLOG

CADRE-WISE OFFICERS' INSTITUTION, DISPOSAL AND PENDENCY OF CASES (CIVIL+CRIMINAL)

Sl. No.	Name of the District	No. of cases pending as on 01.01.2025			No. of cases instituted during the year 2024			No. of cases disposed of during the year, 2024		
		District Judge cadre	Sr. Civil Judge cadre	Civil Judge cadre	District Judge cadre	Sr. Civil Judge cadre	Civil Judge cadre	District Judge cadre	Sr. Civil Judge cadre	Civil Judge cadre
1	Angul	6201	6663	77695	3077	1267	14178	3127	2334	11739
2	Balangir	4735	5979	44989	2812	1148	18875	2896	1537	15203
3	Balasore	13715	22872	95416	5552	6194	18146	5162	6616	14011
4	Bargarh	4730	3983	47228	2117	1076	7331	1990	1060	5153
5	Bhadrak	8908	10874	77115	3686	1780	12611	3527	3258	8474
6	Boudh	2108	985	17342	874	284	4044	780	471	2628
7	Cuttack	21176	21994	155984	8499	4962	39605	7999	6407	34477
8	Deogarh	1329	699	16931	648	117	4315	500	301	1601
9	Dhenkanal	4539	7903	39826	2625	1541	10170	2129	2098	6048
10	Gajapati	1279	807	6908	755	236	3283	632	515	2808
11	Ganjam	13288	7656	77891	7949	2963	27639	7005	3424	23687
12	Jagatsinghpur	5842	6463	34757	3187	1498	8920	2943	2126	7080
13	Jajpur	9133	13070	79091	3815	2540	13438	4575	2972	7604
14	Jharsuguda	2158	3102	37812	1359	560	7391	1793	1046	6790
15	Kalahandi	3266	3469	35450	1683	1111	10804	1575	1459	11642
16	Kandhamal	3301	918	13685	1642	265	5219	1249	702	3925
17	Kendrapara	7127	9993	45316	2708	1782	6157	2531	1743	5891
18	Keonjhar	6869	5774	45959	2661	1104	9238	2802	1413	6516
19	Khurda	23163	30546	154355	9340	5152	49682	9195	8453	39837
20	Koraput	5220	4935	30717	2506	572	7881	1940	853	6387
21	Malkanagiri	1947	799	9292	878	214	4444	630	614	2921
22	Mayurbhanj	5055	10864	57644	3363	2519	12988	3675	2728	12779
23	Nabarangpur	1332	1325	21624	729	311	4363	951	810	5845
24	Nayagarh	3613	3667	25308	1993	1440	7968	1419	1789	6361
25	Nuapada	992	2463	16192	450	668	4057	441	1191	3668
26	Puri	12124	11745	57745	5077	2322	9761	4737	3330	11828
27	Raygada	1892	2876	14426	1031	558	5760	1205	1002	4789
28	Sambalpur	5663	5003	74301	3153	1107	15549	2782	2098	15937
29	Sonepur	2088	2380	19550	869	413	3898	695	835	7230
30	Sundargarh	6700	8243	82733	3624	1254	15695	3772	1957	13694
Total		1,89,493	2,18,050	15,13,282	88,662	46,958	3,63,410	84,657	65,142	3,06,553

GLIMPSE OF INSTITUTION AND DISPOSAL OF CASES (CADRE-WISE) DURING THE YEAR 2024

Cadre	Institution	Disposal	Pendency as on 01.01.2025
District Judge	88,662	84,657	1,89,493
Sr. Civil Judge	46,958	65,142	2,18,050
Civil Judge	3,63,410	3,06,553	15,13,282
Total	4,99,030	4,56,352	19,20,825

COMPUTATION OF ADDITIONAL OFFICERS REQUIRED

a. Disposal of cases per Officer during the year, 2024=

(Cases disposed/ present strength)

i. District Judge Cadre	=	84,657/221	=	295
ii. Sr. Civil Judge Cadre	=	65,142/254	=	256
iii. Civil Judge Cadre	=	3,06,553/364	=	842

b. Officers Requirement (in Total)

(Total Pendency/ disposal of cases per Officer)

i. District Judge Cadre	=	1,89,493/295	=	642
ii. Sr. Civil Judge Cadre	=	2,18,050/256	=	852
iii. Civil Judge Cadre	=	15,13,282/842	=	1797

c. Additional requirement of Officers to clear up backlogs in one year

(Total Officers requirements - Sanctioned strength)

i. District Judge Cadre	=	642 - 265	=	377
ii. Sr. Civil Judge Cadre	=	852 - 288	=	564
iii. Civil Judge Cadre	=	1797-470	=	1327

d. Requirement of Officers to clear up backlogs over a period next 5 years as per the analogy drawn up in the preceding vision document

i. District Judge Cadre	=	377/5	=	75
ii. Sr. Civil Judge Cadre	=	564/5	=	113
iii. Civil Judge Cadre	=	1327/5	=	265

**REQUIREMENT OF OFFICERS TO MEET BACKLOG PENDENCY
IN NEXT ONE YEAR & FIVE YEARS**

Cadre	Backlog pendency	No. of additional officers required to clear backlog in one year	No. of additional officers required to clear backlog in the next five years
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
District Judge	1,89,493	377	75
Senior Civil Judge	2,18,050	564	113
Civil Judge	15,13,282	1,327	265
Total	19,20,825	2,268	453

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY FACILITIES IN ODISHA JUDICIARY

(High Court & District Judiciary)

Introduction

Over the past few years, the Odisha Judiciary has undertaken a significant digital transformation to enhance efficiency, accessibility, and transparency in judicial processes. By leveraging initiatives under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project, the High Court and District Courts of Odisha have introduced numerous technological innovations such as e-filing, paperless courts, online certified copies, virtual hearings, digitization of case records, and citizen-centric e-services. These developments have positioned the State Judiciary as a model of digital governance and modernization.

Key Achievements (2022-2025)

Year	Major Achievements
2022	· Introduction of 34 paperless courts under Phase-I. · Launch of Odisha Judicial Workflow Automation System (OJWAS). · Establishment of Virtual Courtrooms in 25 districts. · Digitization of 6.6 lakh case records and establishment of 10 District Court Digitization Hubs. · Launch of Case Law Portal (CLP) and e-Filing 3.0. · Implementation of MPLS VPN Connectivity across all 30 districts.
2023	· Establishment of 30 Virtual Centres and e-Libraries for Bar Associations. · Launch of e-Inspection, Online RTI Portal, and Online Certified Copy Portal. · Implementation of Warrant Management System (pilot) and NSTEP across all districts.

	· Introduction of PIL Portal and migration of District Court websites to S3WaaS. · Expansion to 246 paperless courts; completion of digitization of over 9.6 lakh records.
2024-2025	· Establishment of 341 paperless courts in District Judiciary. · Implementation of Advocate Module and WACOM devices for digital signing. · Launch of e-High Court Records (e-HCR) Portal. · Rollout of e-Sewa Kendras (161 operational) and KIOSK Machines for public access. · Transition to CIS 4.0 across all courts and full adoption of paperless courts at the High Court. · Launch of Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) Online Portal and enhanced digital payments.

Quantitative Progress Summary

The following table summarizes the major quantitative achievements from 2022 to 2025:

Parameter	As on 31 st October, 2025
Paperless Courts (District Judiciary)	343 (as on 15.11.2025)
Paperless Benches (High Court)	100% (20 Judges)
Virtual Centres Established	30
Advocates Registered in e-Filing (High Court)	1656
Advocates Registered in e-Filing (District Court)	6266
Litigants Registered in e-Filing	846 (as on 15.11.2025)
Cases Filed via e-Filing (High Court)	30199
Cases Filed via e-Filing (District Court)	73202
District Court Digitization Hubs	14 functional
Digitized Legacy Case Records (High Court Record Room)	14,54,725 records (5.3+ Crore pages)
Digitized Legacy Case Records (District Judiciary Record Rooms)	25,72,407 records (16.7+ Crore pages)
e-Sewa Kendras Operational	161

Vision for 2025–2029

The Odisha Judiciary envisions becoming a fully digital, eco-friendly, and citizen-centric judicial ecosystem by 2029. The focus areas for the next five years include expanding automation, adopting artificial intelligence, integrating inter-agency data systems, and ensuring real-time digital access for all stakeholders.

Key initiatives planned under the Vision 2025–2029 include:

1. Online Certified Copy System for District Courts.
2. Complete digitization of legacy records (i.e., District Record Rooms) of all 30 Judgeships.
3. Implementation of e-Guard File Management System.
4. Integration of Summons to Government Officials through CMGI APIs.
5. Electronic transmission of criminal processes through e-Summons and ICJS integration.
6. Online slot booking system for Virtual Hearings.
7. Development of e-Register Portal for digitized court registers.
8. Wi-Fi enabled campuses for all District & Subordinate Courts.
9. Cloud Infrastructure and Judicial Trusted Data Repository (JTDR).
10. Implementation of Artificial Intelligence tools (Adalat AI, AI-assisted filing and scrutiny).
11. Statewide rollout of Virtual Courts for Traffic Challans.
12. Implementation of Digital Signature for witnesses in remote hearings.
13. WhatsApp Chatbot for real-time case information.
14. Solar power adoption in court complexes to support sustainability.

Conclusion

The Odisha Judiciary's journey towards digital transformation demonstrates a robust and sustainable model of judicial innovation. The achievements over the past few years underline the Judiciary's commitment to efficiency, accessibility, transparency, and technological excellence. With the Vision 2025–2029 roadmap, the Judiciary is poised to evolve into a fully digital, citizen-oriented institution aligned with the ideals of Digital India and Justice for All.

ENCOURAGING ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR)

Introduction

The Judiciary in the state of Odisha is committed to promoting **Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR)** as a vital pillar of accessible and efficient justice. ADR mechanisms—including **mediation, conciliation, and arbitration, and Lok Adalats**—serve as effective tools to reduce pendency, resolve disputes amicably, and promote participatory justice.

ADR fosters **speedy, cost-effective, and relationship-preserving dispute resolution**, complementing the court system while strengthening public confidence in the judiciary.

Current Status of ADR

Mechanism	Current Implementation	Remarks
Mediation	Functional in almost all districts; centres established under DLSAs.	Limited infrastructure and trained mediators in State Judiciary.
Conciliation	Commonly used for family, NI Act, and MACT cases.	Requires formal tracking and digital record maintenance.
Arbitration	Minimal adoption; limited commercial use.	Need for specialized Arbitration Centres.
Lok Adalats	Regularly organized across all districts.	Need for higher frequency and broader scope.
Online Dispute Resolution (ODR)	Emerging concept	Requires IT and video conferencing support.

Key Achievements (2020–2025)

- **State-wide establishment of District Mediation Centres** under the DLSAs.
- **Regular National and Mega Lok Adalats** conducted, resolving thousands of civil and criminal compoundable cases.
- **Certified Mediators Panel** created across major districts, with ongoing training under the **Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC)**.
- **Digital promotion and awareness drives** initiated through print, radio, and community outreach.
- **Integration of e-mediation and online conciliation pilots** in select districts.
- **Special mediation results in family and motor accident cases** — over 90,000 disputes resolved in Khurda district alone in 2024 National Lok Adalats.
- 16 districts are having **ADR Centre buildings**.

Gaps and Challenges

Category	Identified Issues
Infrastructure	Lack of dedicated ADR Centres in smaller districts
Human Resources	Shortage of trained mediators and conciliators; limited incentives.
Awareness	Public understanding of ADR benefits remains low in rural areas.
Technology	Absence of online platforms for Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) and e-mediation in most districts.
Data Monitoring	No unified ADR dashboard or performance metrics across districts.
Coordination	Weak linkages between courts, police, and DLSAs for pre-litigation referrals.

Best Practices:

- ADR integration with law schools.
- Central ADR data dashboard.
- Mass media awareness drives.
- Mediation for MACT & matrimonial cases.
- Proposal for Commercial Mediation Centre.
- Dedicated ADR Centre with weekly mediation schedules and online mediation facilities.
- Mobile pre-litigation camps and inclusion of tribal-language mediators.
- ADR combined with AI-driven case tracking and mediation analytics.
- Publication of ADR success stories to promote litigant confidence.
- Data-based evaluation of mediation success rates.
- Call for process reform.

Vision

The next five years aim to **institutionalize ADR as the first choice of dispute resolution** in the State Judiciary.

Core Objectives

1. Establish **Dedicated ADR Centres** in all 30 districts.
2. Integrate **Online Dispute Resolution (ODR)** and hybrid hearings.
3. Conduct **regular mediation and arbitration training** for judges, lawyers, and staff.
4. Strengthen **pre-litigation mediation** through collaboration with police and administrative bodies.
5. Create **public confidence** through awareness campaigns and visible success stories.

Actions to be taken (2025-2029)

Focus Area	Key Actions to be taken	Expected Outcome
Institutional Expansion	Establish ADR Centres at each HQ and major sub-divisional court.	Uniform availability of mediation and arbitration facilities.
Capacity Building	Regular Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC)-certified training for mediators and conciliators.	Skilled human resources and quality mediation outcomes.
Online Dispute Resolution	Launch ODR platform integrated with e-Courts and CIS.	Virtual ADR for distant parties and commercial cases.
Awareness & Outreach	Legal literacy camps, street plays, digital and print awareness drives.	Enhanced public participation and acceptance.
Monitoring & Incentives	Introduce performance-linked incentives and digital dashboards.	Increased case referral and success rate.
Collaboration	Partner with NGOs, bar associations, and academic institutions.	Community-level engagement and sustainability.

Capacity Building and Training Framework

Training Type	Target Group	Frequency
Basic Mediation Techniques	Judicial Officers, Staff	Annual
Advanced Mediation / Arbitration	Certified Mediators & Advocates	Half-Yearly
Online ADR Systems	Court Staff & Technical Personnel	Quarterly
Awareness on ADR Benefits	Litigants & Citizens	Continuous (through DLSAs)

Strategic Roadmap

Phase	Timeline
Phase I (2025-26)	Upgradation of existing mediation centres, mediator training, awareness campaigns.
Phase II (2026-27)	Establishment of ADR Centres in all HQs; pilot launch of Online Dispute Resolution (ODR).
Phase III (2028-29)	State-wide integration of ODR, central ADR data dashboard, performance-linked incentives.

Expected Outcomes by 2029

- 100% of districts are to be equipped with **fully functional ADR Centres**.
- **Online Dispute Resolution (ODR)** functional in all HQs.
- At least **500 trained mediators and conciliators** across the State.
- Reduction of **10–15% in overall court pendency**.
- Enhanced **citizen satisfaction and judicial efficiency** through faster, cost-effective justice.

Conclusion

ADR has proven to be a cornerstone for **efficient, participatory, and inclusive justice delivery**. Over the next five years, the Odisha Judiciary aims to transform ADR from an *alternative* to a *preferred* mode of resolution through institutional expansion, digital integration, and citizen outreach.

The Vision 2025–2029 seeks to create a **multi-tiered, technology-enabled, and people-centric ADR ecosystem**, ensuring that justice is not only done—but done *amicably, affordably, and swiftly*.

CASE MANAGEMENT

Introduction

Case management is the systematic planning, monitoring, and execution of judicial processes to ensure **speedy, efficient, and fair disposal of cases**. It is a cornerstone for reducing pendency, improving accountability, and enhancing access to justice.

In Odisha's district judiciary, case management reforms focus on five key pillars:

- **Pendency reduction** through structured monitoring;
- **Fast-track and special courts** for priority cases;
- **Use of technology and data analytics**;
- **Performance-linked accountability and rationalization**;
- **Integration of ADR (Alternative Dispute Resolution) mechanisms**.

The vision for 2025-2029 is to establish a **data-driven, technology-enabled, and litigant-friendly case management system** that ensures **zero pendency of cases over five years by 2029**.

Pendency Overview and Performance

Odisha's district courts collectively handle hundreds of thousands of cases each year. The caseload varies by district, reflecting population density, industrial activity, and socio-economic factors.

Many districts show disposal rates exceeding annual institution, indicating improving efficiency. However, structural bottlenecks such as **non-service of summons, vacant courts, and manual record management** continue to slow down systemic progress.

Core Strategies for Effective Case Management

A. Pendency Reduction Mechanisms

Key Measure	Description
Strict Adherence to APAaR-DJ Guidelines as prescribed by Hon'ble the Apex Court	Monitoring of disposal of old cases by giving priority on oldest cases
District Case Management Committees (DCMCs)	Regular tracking of disposal, backlog review, and bottleneck identification as prescribed in APAaR-DJ
Rationalization of Case Load	Transfer of surplus cases from overburdened courts
Target-Based Disposal Plans	Setting Quarterly/Half-Yearly/Annual targets for old cases.
Special Drives for Year-Old Cases	Prioritizing expeditious disposal of more than 5/10/20/30 years old cases.

B. Fast-Track and Special Courts

Type of Court	Purpose
POCSO/Sexual Offence Courts	Expedition trials of crimes against women and children
SC/ST (PoA) Courts	Dedicated handling of atrocity-related cases
NDPS Courts	Specialized handling of drug-related offences
Negotiable Instruments (NI) Courts	Efficient disposal of cheque bounce cases
Fast-Track Civil/MACT Benches	Quick resolution of compensation and execution matters

C. Process Efficiency and Witness Management

Bottleneck	Suggested Solution
Non-service of summons	Use of courier service and electronic summons (email, WhatsApp)
Non-execution of warrants	Integration of Warrant Management System (WMS) with police database
Witness absenteeism	Implementation of virtual witness depositions via video conferencing
Delayed charge sheet submission	Monthly coordination with police and prosecution

Technology-Driven Case Management

Technology forms the backbone of Odisha's judicial modernization under the e-Courts Project.

Digital Tools & Innovations

Technology Initiative	Objective
Proposed Case Flow Management System (CFMS)	Auto-tracking of cases through defined stages
AI-Based Case Classification	Categorize cases into <i>simple</i> , <i>complex</i> , and <i>expedited</i> streams
AI based Electronic Summons, WMS, & SMS Alerts	Minimize delays in communication as well as all related procedural delays
Court Management Dashboards	Visual monitoring of pendency and disposal metrics
Digital Cause List Generation	Automated, real-time scheduling
Integration with NJDG	Data-driven performance evaluation

Monitoring, Accountability & Performance Evaluation

Each district judiciary has adopted or proposed structured monitoring through **NJDG portal**, **Case Management Committees** and **Data Dashboards**.

Accountability Framework-

Level	Monitoring Mechanism	Frequency	Purpose
High Court	District level case management issues.	Minimum frequency-Bi-monthly, as when desired by Hon'ble the Chief Justice & Hon'ble SCMS Committee	Monitoring of year old cases, district level case management related issues etc.
District Level	DCMC meetings for APAaR-DJ performance review	Monthly	Track old cases, fix targets, Evaluate disposal and backlog management
	DCMS meetings	Monthly & fortnightly	Year old cases & ancillary matters

Human Resource & Structural Strengthening

A. Staffing and Infrastructure:

- **Creation of new courts** must be expedited to address heavy pendency.
- **Rational posting** of Judicial Officers based on district caseloads.
- **Training** on case management, digital tools, and time-bound disposal methods.
- **Support staff augmentation** to improve record handling and e-filing support.

B. Capacity Building:

- Judicial officers and clerical staff to receive **regular e-Court training**.
- Sensitization on **case prioritization techniques** and **delay management**.
- Specialized modules for **data analytics-based decision making**.

Best Practices

- Due to Phase-wise implementation of APAaR-DJ, disposal of year-old cases has been increased.
- Digital monitoring along with ADR expansion results in Comprehensive backlog reduction.
- Stream-based case classification leads to Faster case cycle completion
- Case clearance rate (CCR) in the district judiciary (i.e. disposal in a given year divided by institution in that year) has been consistently above 90% for last 3 years i.e. post Covid years.

Future Vision (2025–2029)

Vision Statement: “To establish an agile, technology-enabled, and people-centric case management ecosystem in Odisha’s district judiciary that ensures timely, transparent, and equitable justice for all.”

Strategic Goals

Goal	Outcome by 2029
Zero Pendency in above 5 Years Old Cases	Complete liquidation of legacy backlog
Paperless Judiciary	100% digital record management
Fast-Track Justice	50% reduction in average case duration
Enhanced Accountability	Transparent, data-based judicial performance
Citizen-Centric Justice	Simplified access, improved satisfaction
Improvement of Judge-case ratio	i. Case load per Judge to be reduced by increasing Judges strength and decreasing the pendency for better dispensation of justice. ii. Increased Judge Strength, expedited recruitment process/ promotion, accelerated case disposal by minimizing administrative burden, ADR as a first choice, increased judicial efficiency through trainings

Conclusion

Odisha’s district judiciary is progressively evolving into a **modern, efficient, and accountable system** through a structured case management framework. The combination of **institutional reforms, technological integration, and people-oriented strategies** will be ensured by 2029:

- All cases older than five years are eliminated.
- 95% of all new cases are disposed within statutory timelines.
- Every litigant can access justice through digital and physical platforms with equal ease.

This vision transforms Odisha’s judiciary from a **case-heavy institution** to a **case-ready justice delivery system**, marking a decisive step towards **timely and accessible justice for all**.

The Baseline report on **Case Management in the High Court and the District Judiciary with Information and Communications Technology Driven Strategy (CMS)**⁴, outlined a comprehensive, modern, and dynamic approach on case management.

4. Case Management in the High Court and the District Judiciary with Information and Communications Technology Driven Strategy (CMS) is available at link:-
<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3ec0490f1f4972d133619a60c30f3559e/uploads/2024/11/2024111326.pdf>

CASE DISPOSAL MECHANISM AT A GLANCE

High Court and District Judiciary

I. The following steps have been taken to reduce the pendency of cases in the High Court of Orissa :

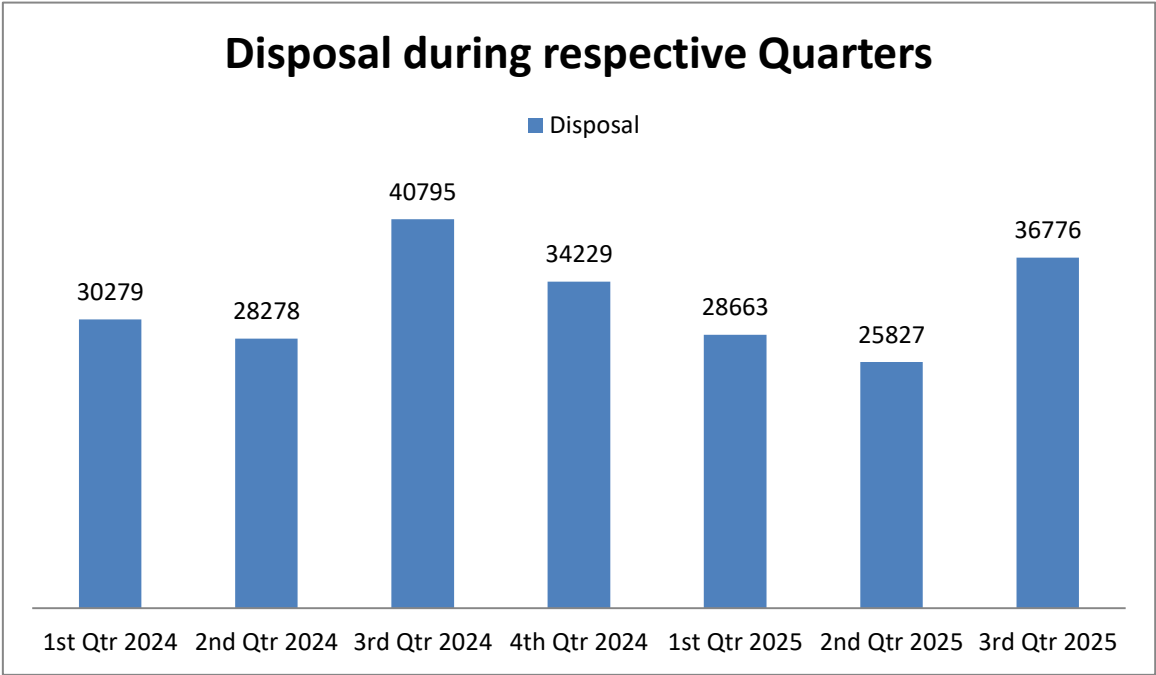
1. Priority has been given to old cases consisting of cases more than 30 years and 20 to 30 years. These old cases are taken up by the Hon'ble Benches on priority basis.
2. Special Benches have been constituted to hear Criminal Appeals.
3. Due emphasis has been given to Alternative Dispute Redressal mechanism by referring cases for mediation and holding Lok Adalats.
4. Monthly Case statistics are being uploaded in the official website of the High Court reflecting various parameters including loss of judicial hours, number of judgments, institution and disposal on monthly basis, case clearance rate, comparison of increase or decrease with previous corresponding month of the year, comparative analysis of institution-disposal of previous year etc.
5. Disposal Review Committee of the Court have resolved to follow the **Model Action for Arrears Reduction in the High Court** prepared by the Case Flow Management Committee, constituted in the Supreme Court of India. The same Action Plan is also approved by Hon'ble the Chief Justice with other measures. Phase I of the Model Action Plan has been completed and initiative has already been taken for the Phase II of the Action Plan giving emphasis on disposal of all case which are more than 30 years, 20 to 30 years old and other targeted cases by June, 2026. Further time period for Phase-III is June 2026 to May 2027 which emphasis on disposal of cases pending for 10 to 20 years.

II. The following steps have been taken to reduce the pendency of cases in District Courts of the State:

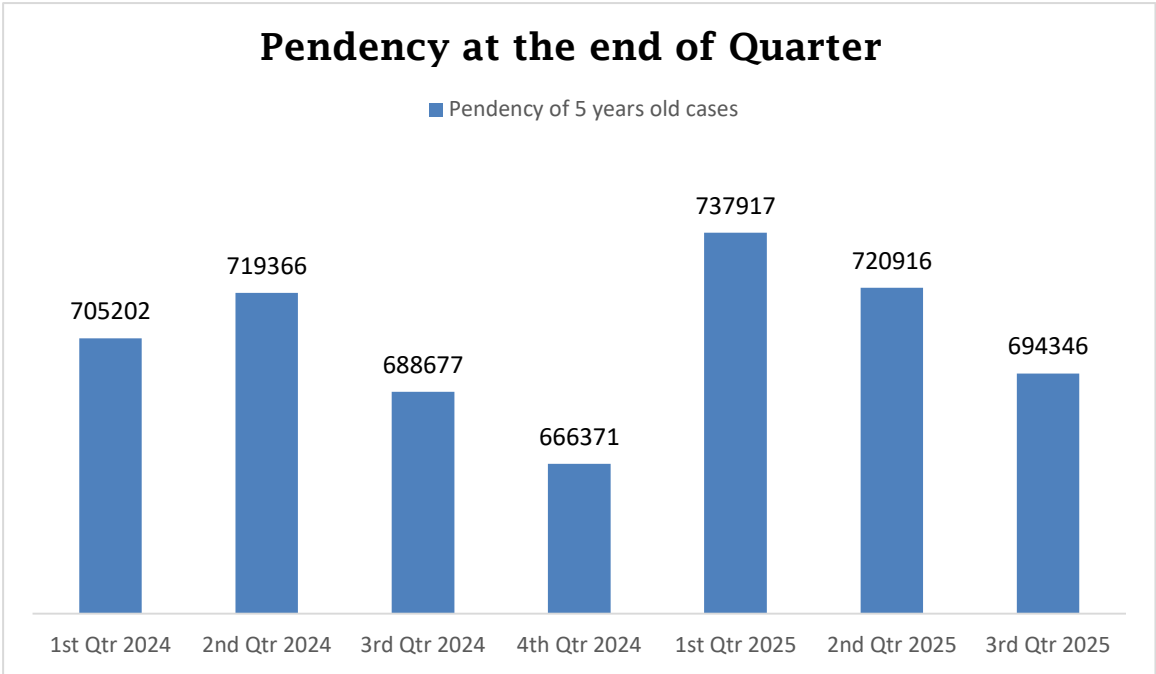
1. Instructions have been imparted for disposal of more number of 5/10/25 years old cases and for discussion in the monthly DCMS Committee, Judicial Officers' Meeting, Senior Officers' meeting and Police Magistracy Cooperation Meeting. Directions are being issued from time to time for expeditious disposal of 5/10/25 year old cases in the judgeships.
2. Instructions are being imparted from time to time for identification of 5/10 year old cases and placing them regularly in Lok Adalats and to adhere to the alternative dispute resolution (ADR) methods for disposal.
3. The Family Courts were advised to take up matters for disposal through conciliation and mediation.
4. Incentive in terms of yardstick has been given to Judge Mediators to promote conciliation and mediation.
5. All Courts having execution cases were directed to follow the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Periyammal (Dead Thr. Lrs.) v. V.Rajamani And Anr. Etc. 2025 INSC 329*** for disposal of the execution cases.
6. The District Judges and the Chief Judicial Magistrates were also instructed to discuss the matter of non-execution of NBWs (Non-Bailable Warrants) with the Superintendent of Police (S.P.) of the concerned District in the Senior Officers' Meeting and P.M.C. (Police Magistrate Co-operation) meeting respectively.
7. Guidelines were issued in the District Judges' Conference, 2022 for expeditious disposal of rape case and cases under the POCSO Act.
8. Special incentives have been introduced in the year 2020 in terms of Yardsticks prescribed upto 75% of the Yardstick for disposal of year old cases.
9. Case calendar for criminal cases has been introduced in the year 2021 and directions have been issued for strict adherence to it for disposal of criminal cases within a maximum duration of three months.
- 10.A Warrant Management System (WMS) has been made functional for online transmission and tracking of different warrants.

11. The Judgeships in which it has been observed a shortfall in disposal of the targeted cases have also been instructed to give top priority and furnish report thereto.
12. The rationalization of cases in the District Judiciary for even distribution of cases among different courts is being adhered to.
13. Besides, the disposal of year old cases, particularly 10, 20 or 30 years old is being monitored as per directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India set out in Action Plan for Arrears Reduction in District judiciary (APAAr-DJ).
14. That apart, execution cases, other special cases such as Family Court matters, MACT matters, NI Act cases, and UTP cases etc. are to be targeted for disposal as instructed in APAAr-DJ.
15. Additionally, in view of the APAAr-DJ guidelines, the matters regarding filling up of the posts of Public Prosecutors, and developing and upgrading the Forensic Science Laboratories (FSL), the same has been moved to the State Government.

Graphical Representation of quarterly disposal & Pendency of 5 Years old cases in the District Courts

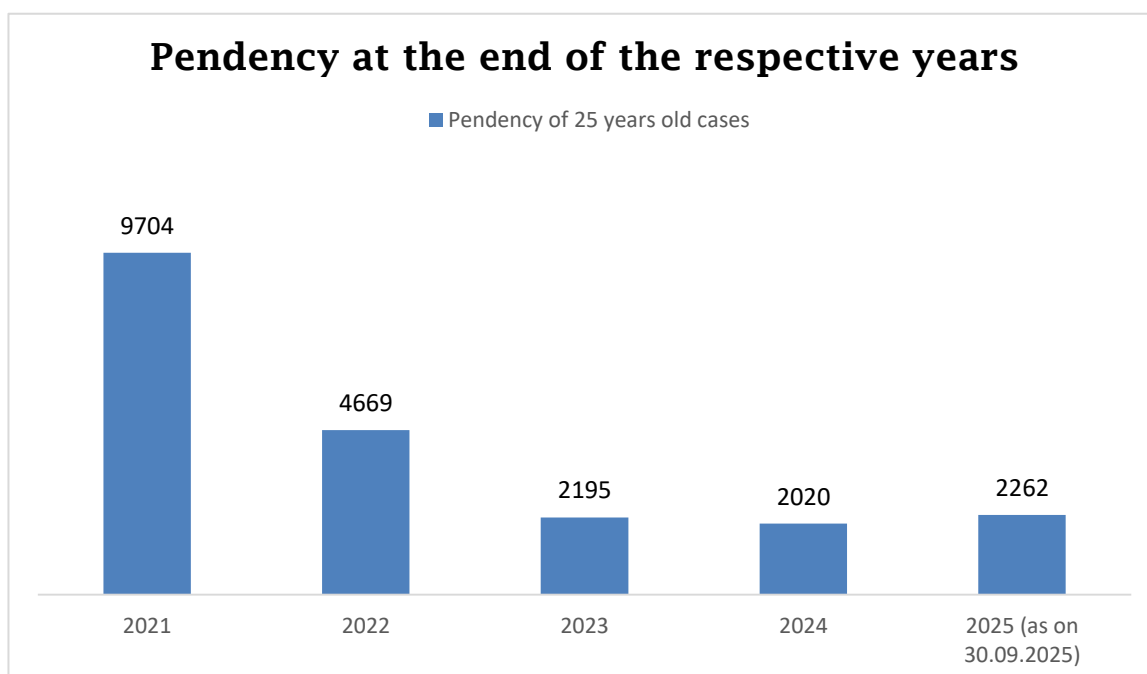
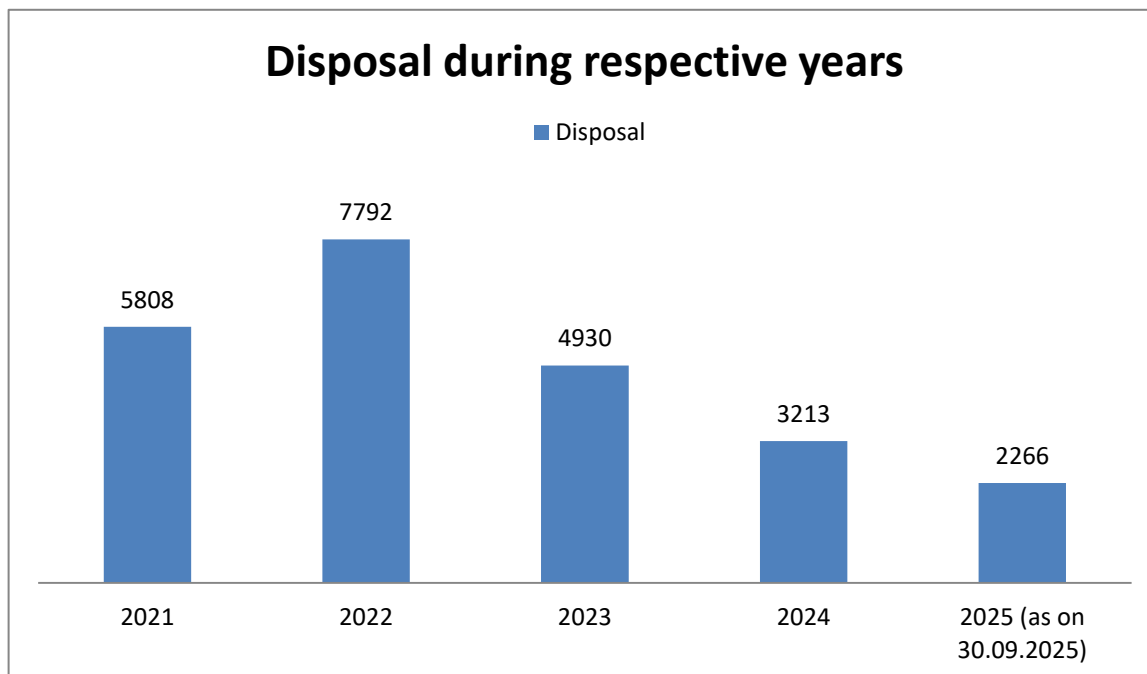


- The above graph shows disposal during the respective quarters.



- The above graph shows pendency at the end of the respective quarters.

Graphical Representation of year-wise disposal & Pendency of 25 Years old cases in the District Courts



TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR JUDICIAL OFFICERS

Introduction

Continuous judicial education is vital for enhancing the competence, efficiency, and responsiveness of the judiciary. Recognizing the evolving nature of law, technology, and society, the Odisha Judiciary has institutionalized structured training mechanisms through the **Odisha Judicial Academy (OJA)** and **five Regional Judicial Academies (RJAs)** at Angul, Balasore, Berhampur (Ganjam), Jeypore (Koraput), and Sambalpur.

The Vision 2025-2029 aims to transform judicial training from periodic classroom sessions to a **continuous, digital, and competency-based model** integrated with real-world exposure, leadership development, and emerging technologies.

Current Training Framework

Training Body	Location / Cluster	Target Cadres	Key Programmes Conducted
Odisha Judicial Academy (OJA)	Cuttack	All judicial cadres	Induction, refresher, capacity building, and thematic workshops
Regional Judicial Academy (RJA), Angul	Angul, Dhenkanal, Keonjhar, Deogarh	Cadres of Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) and Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.)	Cluster based subject wise physical and hybrid training programmes are conducted for officers of the cadres of Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) and Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.), giving emphasis on continuous judicial education & field training as well as on exposure to technology and hands-on training for capacity building.
RJA Sambalpur	Bargarh, Sonapur, Bolangir, Boudh, Jharsuguda, Sundargarh, Nuapada, Sambalpur		
RJA Balasore	Balasore, Jajpur, Mayurbhanja, Bhadrak		
RJA Berhampur (Ganjam)	Ganjam, Gajapati, Nayagarh, Kandhamal		
RJA Jeypore (Koraput)	Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Kalahandi, Rayagada, & Koraput		

These academies ensure that officers in even remote judgeships receive **localized, context-based, and cost-effective training**.

Major Training Components

A. Continuous Judicial Education

- Regular programmes on procedural law, recent amendments, and landmark judgments.
- Induction and refresher training designed in **three career stages**:
 - *Early Career (JMFCs, SDJMs, CJ-Jr. Divn.)*
 - *Mid-Career (CJ-Sr. Divn., CJMs, Registrars)*
 - *Advanced (ADJs, District Judges, Special Court Judges)*
- Minimum **two training programmes per officer annually**, both online and offline.

B. Skill Enhancement Modules

- Timely Refresher training programmes to be conducted for Ministerial Staff, at the Odisha Judicial Academy and the Regional Judicial Academies enhancing and upgrading their skills with latest technology & other updates
- Judgment writing & communication skills
- Handling of electronic evidence and digital forensics
- Case & docket management using CIS
- Courtroom management, empathy, and leadership
- Time and stress management; yoga and lifestyle training

C. Technology and Innovation Focus

Training on:

- e-Courts and Paperless Court operations
- AI-based legal research tools
- Speech-to-text transcription
- Virtual hearing systems
- Cyber laws and digital evidence

D. Capacity Building

- Special training for **court managers, prosecutors, and registry staff**.
- Courses on **budgeting, recruitment process, and administrative law**.
- Exposure to **forensic labs, FSLs, prisons, and childcare institutions**.

Role of the Odisha Judicial Academy (OJA)

Institutional Framework

- Structured calendar aligning with **National Judicial Academy (NJA)** guidelines.
- Ensure distribution of subjects of the training programme in a ratio of 80:20 between **Pan-India Subjects vs. State-specific subjects**.
- **Induction Training**: Two-phase modules with *Training Impact Assessment*.
- **Grass-root Learning Experimental Programme (GLEP)** to familiarize officers with real-world conditions by visiting different institutions such as Forensic

Science laboratory, Jail, Open Air Jail, Medical College, Legal Aid Clinic, State Secretariat, and State Legislative Assembly.

Curriculum Overview

Domain	Representative Topics
Core Legal Training	New criminal laws, POCSO, cyber law, Digital Personal Data Protection Act, Mediation Act
Technology & ICT	CIS, Ubuntu, AI in judiciary, virtual hearing, digital forensics
Leadership & Soft Skills	Communication, empathy, judgment writing, stress management
Interdisciplinary Modules	Law & economics, medico-legal aspects, resource management
Physical & Mental Wellbeing	Yoga, lifestyle management, stress reduction

Special Features

- **Mock trials** and **dummy judgment writing** exercises.
- **Visits to institutions:** FSL, Open Jail, Medical Colleges, Secretariat, Legislative Assembly.
- **Hands-on ICT sessions** for UBUNTU and CIS systems.
- **Trainer development** programs for future academicians and master trainers.

Regional Judicial Academies (RJAs): Cluster Model

Location	Cluster Districts	Key Objective
Angul	Deogarh, Dhenkanal, Keonjhar, Angul	All the Regional Judicial Academies function with the same key objectives of regional accessibility, broad coverage and maximum outreach.
Sambalpur	Bargarh, Sonapur, Bolangir, Boudh, Jharsuguda, Sundargarh, Nuapada, Sambalpur	
Balasore	Balasore, Jajpur, Mayurbhanja, Bhadrak	
Berhampur (Ganjam)	Ganjam, Gajapati, Nayagarh, Kandhamal	
Jeypore (Koraput)	Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Kalahandi, Rayagada, & Koraput	

RJAs significantly **reduce travel time, cost, and loss of court working days** while maintaining uniform training quality.

Challenges Identified

Category	Key Challenges
Uniform Coverage	Some cadres/officers receive fewer trainings due to rotation or workload.
Technology Adoption	Limited digital literacy among senior officers in remote districts.
Infrastructure	Need for residential and digital facilities at RJAs.
Monitoring	Lack of centralized database for training credits and outcomes.
Practical Exposure	Limited field-based and interdisciplinary training beyond courtroom practice.

Vision 2025–2029: Strategic Interventions

Focus Area	Planned Intervention	Expected Outcome
Digital Training Ecosystem	Launch of Judicial Learning Management System (JLMS) integrating OJA, RJAs & iGOT	24×7 access to e-learning
Mandatory Annual Credits	Every officer to earn 20 learning hours annually	Measurable accountability
Specialized Thematic Training	ADR, AI in law, cybercrime, forensic appreciation	Domain specialization
Exposure Visits	Inter-state judicial exchange	Cross-learning and innovation
Capacity Building for Staff	Parallel training for court managers & registrars	Synchronization of judicial-administrative systems
Performance Assessment	Digital dashboards for tracking participation	Data-driven training impact

A Research Wing of the State Judicial Academy shall stand as intellectual heart of the institution. Its core purposes shall include:-

- i. Development of Judicial Knowledge and learning, conducting systematic research on substantive & procedural laws, emerging legal issues & Judicial trends.

- ii. Preparation of research papers, briefing notes, case laws digests and analytical reports to support judicial training.
- iii. Identifying areas where judicial knowledge requires updation and refinement.
- iv. Documentation & Knowledge Management, i.e. maintaining databases of key judgements, legislative updates, Training materials.
- v. Keep track of best practices and innovations from other states. Shall contribute to discussions on law reforms, procedural simplifications and judicial administration improvements.
- vi. Shall act as the knowledge hub of the Academy.
- vii. Shall prepare subject wise tool kits for Trial Judges.

Expected Outcomes by 2029

- 100% officers to undergo **minimum two structured trainings annually**.
- Fully operational **digital learning ecosystem** {JLMS + Integrated Government Online Training (iGOT)}.
- Uniform and inclusive **cadre-wise training coverage** across 30 judgeships.
- Enhanced **competence in emerging legal technologies and ethics**.
- Stronger **judicial leadership pipeline and knowledge-sharing culture**.
- Documented **impact assessment and feedback loop** to refine training policies.
- Timely Refresher training programmes for Ministerial Staff will enhance technical proficiency, improved efficiency and accuracy, uniformity in procedures and practices across courts, greater adaptability to reforms, strengthen professional competence and confidence, Reduce in procedural delays and errors, improve service delivery to litigants and stakeholders.

Conclusion

By 2029, Odisha aims to build a **learning-oriented judiciary** that blends legal expertise, empathy, and innovation. Through continuous, inclusive, and technology-enabled training, every judicial officer will be equipped to deliver justice that is **timely, transparent, and future-ready**.

The recommendations in the baseline report on **Human Resource Development Strategy (HRDS)**⁵ prepared by Hon'ble the Apex Court may be looked into for training related suggestions.

5. Baseline report on **Human Resource Development Strategy (HRDS)** is available at link:-
<https://cdnbbsr.s3waas.gov.in/s3ec0490f1f4972d133619a60c30f3559e/uploads/2024/11/2024111432.pdf>

LITIGANT-CENTRIC FACILITIES IN STATE JUDICIARY

Introduction

Litigant-centric facilities represent a shift towards **citizen-first justice delivery**, where courts are designed not just for adjudication but for **accessibility, dignity, and convenience**. The District Judiciary of Odisha aims to create a humane, technology-driven environment where every litigant—irrespective of social or economic background—finds support and guidance throughout the judicial process.

The five-year vision (2025–2029) focuses on expanding physical amenities, enhancing digital access, and ensuring inclusivity through universal design, multilingual services, and grievance redressal mechanisms.

Key Features and Good Practices

Help Desks and Information Kiosks

- **Help desks** serve as the first point of contact for guidance on filing, certified copies, and case status.
- **Information kiosks** (touchscreen and voice-assisted) allow litigants to check cause lists, next hearing dates, and case status using CNR numbers.
- **QR-code-based floor maps** improve navigation inside court complexes.
- **SMS-based case alerts**.

Legal Aid and Front Office Support

- Legal aid clinics function under DLSAs, offering free counselling and case documentation.
- **Mobile Legal Aid Vans** serve remote areas.
- **Remand advocates and Para-legal Volunteers (PLVs)** assist under-trial prisoners in legal aid and bail-related procedures.

Grievance Redress Mechanism

- Existing systems handle complaints on service delays, misbehaviour, or infrastructure issues.
- Proposed central **online portal** under the High Court for ticket-based grievance tracking with timelines.
- **Braille display boards and disability grievance officers** operational in Puri and select districts.

Inclusive and Accessible Infrastructure

- **Ramps, lifts, tactile paths, and accessible toilets** installed in HQ courts;
- **Separate entry/exit points for witnesses and under-trials** being adopted;
- **Child-friendly and gender-neutral restrooms** in many judgeships.

District-Level Highlights

Unique Initiative	Key Outcome
Multilingual help desks, QR-based navigation, grievance portal	Model for digital integration
legal aid clinics and kiosks across stations	Improved citizen access
Continuous Lok Adalat-based grievance redress & victim compensation	Strong DLSA coordination
e-Sewa Kendras for assistance in e-filing, scanning, e-signature, digital payment system, e-stamp generation and e-Mulakat for virtual meetings with prisoners	Legal accessibility
“Nyaya Seva Kendra” – single-window litigant service centre	Integrated service model
Virtual courts for traffic challans and online grievance system	Technology-led transparency
Multi-lingual signage, seating areas, legal clinics, psychologist support	Human-centric design
Single-window desks for information and certified copies	Streamlined public interface
Front-office retainers and nodal grievance officers	Improved responsiveness

Challenges and Gaps

Category	Key Issues Identified
Manpower	Lack of trained personnel at help desks; limited PLVs.
Infrastructure	Absence of waiting halls and amenities in outlying stations.
Technology	Limited digital literacy and inadequate internet coverage.
Accessibility	Physical barriers for disabled persons in older court buildings.
Awareness	Low public knowledge of available facilities and legal rights.
Maintenance	Poor upkeep of washrooms, signage, and digital kiosks in some courts.

Vision for 2025–2029

Goal

To transform every district and sub-divisional court into a **citizen-friendly, inclusive, and digitally empowered space**, ensuring dignity, comfort, and accessibility for all litigants.

Strategic Objectives

1. **Universal Access:** Establish full-fledged Help Desks, Information Kiosks, and Legal Aid Clinics in every court complex.

2. **Digital Empowerment:** Expand e-Sewa Kendras, SMS alerts, and case-tracking apps.
3. **Inclusivity & Accessibility:** Universal design with ramps, signage, and Braille facilities.
4. **Human-Centric Services:** Medical, childcare, and canteen facilities in all HQ courts.
5. **Grievance Redress:** Real-time feedback and centralized complaint redress portal.

Proposed Interventions (2025-2029)

Focus Area	Proposed Intervention	Expected Outcome
Help Desks & Front Offices	Set up staffed help desks at every HQ and sub-divisional court.	One-stop information and guidance points.
Digital Information Access	Interactive kiosks, QR maps, and mobile apps integrated with e-Courts.	Paperless, transparent, and accessible justice delivery.
Legal Aid Expansion	100% coverage of rural and tribal areas with mobile legal aid vans.	Equitable access to legal services.
Accessibility Infrastructure	Ramps, lifts, signage, tactile floors, and accessible toilets.	Disability-inclusive courts.
Basic Amenities	Seating, water, canteens, dispensaries, and children's areas.	Humane and comfortable court environment.
Feedback & Grievance Systems	Digital kiosks, SMS-based systems, and DLSA-linked grievance dashboards.	Transparency and accountability.

Capacity Building and Awareness

Initiative	Target Group	Purpose
Training for Front Office Staff	Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs), clerks, volunteers	Improve citizen handling and digital skills
Digital Literacy Campaigns	Litigants and citizens	Promote use of kiosks, apps, and e-filing
Gender & Disability Sensitization	Judicial & non-judicial staff	Inclusive and respectful service
Legal Awareness Drives	Rural & tribal communities	Rights awareness and ADR promotion

Implementation Roadmap

Phase	Key Deliverables
Phase I (2026)	upgrade help desks, signage, and kiosks at HQs
Phase II (2026-27)	Introduce grievance portal, feedback mechanism, and medical facilities
Phase III (2027-28)	Complete universal accessibility across all districts
Phase IV (2028-29)	Establish “Nyaya Seva Kendras” integrating all citizen services

Expected Outcomes by 2029

- 100% of District and Sub-divisional Courts equipped with **Help Desks, Legal Aid Clinics, and Information Kiosks**.
- All HQ complexes to be **accessible, multilingual, and digitally connected**.
- **Real-time grievance redressal system** operational across the State.
- At least **1,000 trained PLVs and staff** managing front offices and kiosks.
- **Consistent user satisfaction monitoring** through digital feedback and annual surveys.
- Judiciary to be made more **approachable, citizen-friendly, and empathetic**.

Conclusion

By 2029, Odisha’s District Judiciary envisions a transformation from **case-centric to citizen-centric justice**. With a combination of **digital technology, physical comfort, inclusivity, and human touch**, courts will become spaces that uphold not just the rule of law but the dignity of every litigant.

This shift will mark a milestone towards **accessible, transparent, and people-focused justice delivery** across the State.

JUDICIAL OUTREACH AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

Introduction

Judicial outreach and public awareness are essential pillars of a transparent, accountable, and accessible judicial system. They bridge the gap between the Judiciary and citizens, ensuring that **justice must not only be done but must also be seen to be done**. Across Odisha's districts, diverse initiatives—ranging from school awareness camps to digital legal literacy drives—are transforming public interaction with the justice system.

The vision for 2025-2029 focuses on a **“Legally Empowered Citizenry”**, where every individual is aware of their rights, duties, and the pathways to access justice.

Objectives of Judicial Outreach

Objective	Key Focus Areas
Public Education & Engagement	Educate citizens on judicial processes, rule of law, and access to justice.
Transparency & Understanding	Promote digital access to court data through e-Courts and online portals.
Building Public Trust	Strengthen faith in the judiciary by clarifying its constitutional role and limits.
Accountability & Responsiveness	Make judicial functions more visible and participatory to the public.

State-wide Vision & Strategy (2025-2029)

Strategic Focus Area	Implementation Mechanisms	Expected Outcome
Legal Literacy Expansion	Legal literacy camps, school curriculum inclusion, PLV-led outreach	Enhanced public understanding of laws
Digital Awareness	Social media campaigns, legal aid apps, AI chatbots	24/7 access to basic legal information
Community Partnerships	Collaboration with NGOs, local administration, bar associations	Broader public engagement
Youth Integration	Mock trials, essay/debate competitions, court visits	Early civic and legal awareness
Localized Communication	Radio, Nukkad Nataks, regional-language campaigns	Greater reach in rural and tribal belts

Key District-Level Initiatives

A. Strengthening Legal Literacy

Over the next five years, districts aim to make legal literacy the cornerstone of citizen empowerment and outreach.

- Envision conducting **50+ legal awareness camps annually**, with a focus on the **rights of women, children, and senior citizens**.
- Plan to achieve **universal legal literacy across all panchayats by 2029**.
- Seek to adopt a **multi-format model** using **booklets, pamphlets, and audio-visual materials in Odia** to ensure easy and inclusive understanding for all citizens.

B. Digital and Media-Based Awareness

Districts intend to leverage digital tools and media for effective dissemination of legal knowledge and court-related information.

- Plan to utilize **social media, infographics, and short videos** to spread awareness.
- Propose developing **legal awareness mobile applications and AI-powered chatbots** for interactive learning.
- Envision the “**Nyaya Samvad**” initiative, combining **town hall meetings with digital communication platforms**.
- Aim to continue its **integrated approach using print, audio-visual, and mobile platforms** for wide outreach.

C. Educational and Youth Engagement

Districts will focus on cultivating legal consciousness among students and youth.

- Propose the **introduction of basic law education** in secondary school curricula.
- Plan to **organize regular court visit programs** for school and college students.
- Envision **annual mock trials, essay competitions, and youth-oriented legal dialogues** to foster engagement and awareness.

D. Community-Centric Outreach

The next five years will prioritize inclusive and localized judicial-community partnerships.

- Plan to **identify target groups and align awareness sessions with local schedules** for maximum participation.
- Seek to **institutionalize stakeholder collaborations** among the judiciary, bar associations, police, and NGOs for effective community problem-solving.
- Propose **mega awareness camps at the taluk level**, backed by **dedicated financial and logistical support**.

Role of District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs)

Every district's DLSA is pivotal in implementing outreach activities. Functions include:

- Conducting awareness and legal literacy camps.
- Engaging **Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs)** for door-to-door legal awareness.
- Providing **legal aid and grievance facilitation desks**.
- Organizing **stakeholder meetings** for inter-agency coordination.

Innovations and Best Practices

Innovative Practice	Expected Impact
“Nyaya Samvad” - regular public dialogues with judicial officers	Enhances transparency and grievance redressal
Mobile Legal Aid Vans, Nukkad Nataks in tribal dialects	Reaches marginalized and remote populations
Legal awareness app and AI chatbot	Simplifies legal queries for citizens
Multi-format legal literacy (print, audio, visual)	Accessible to all literacy levels
Legal literacy from village to district level	Ensures inclusive empowerment
Annual Judicial Outreach Report	Strengthens accountability and replicable models

Challenges and Gaps

Challenge	Description	Proposed Solutions
Limited Awareness in Remote Areas	Many tribal and rural communities remain unaware of legal rights.	Use of mobile vans, community radio, and tribal-language campaigns.
Resource Constraints	Inadequate funds for large-scale awareness events.	Dedicated budget for DLSAs and partnerships with NGOs.
Technological Barriers	Digital divide limits online engagement.	Hybrid approach combining physical and digital methods.
Low Youth Engagement	Limited involvement in judicial education.	Introduce law clubs and curriculum reforms.

Proposed State-wide Action Plan (2025–2029)

A. Awareness & Literacy Campaigns

Year	Target Activities	Outcome
2025-26	500 district-level legal literacy camps	Awareness of basic rights and court access
2026-27	Launch of judicial outreach portal & app	Online access to information
2027-28	Integration of “Legal Studies” module in high school curriculum	Youth empowerment
2028-29	Legal literacy saturation across all Gram Panchayats	State-wide awareness to be achieved

B. Thematic Focus Areas

Theme	Awareness Mode	Lead Stakeholders
Women & Child Rights	School workshops, media drives	DLSA, WCD Dept., NGOs
Cyber Safety & Digital Crimes	College seminars, social media	Police, IT Dept., Judiciary
Consumer & Labour Rights	Radio talks, local camps	District Administration
SC/ST and Marginalized Rights	Village-level outreach, Nukkad Nataks	Legal Services Authorities
Environmental & Civic Awareness	Student rallies, competitions	Schools, Bar Associations

Integration with Technology:

Digital Platforms for Legal Literacy-

1. **Judicial Awareness Portal:** State-wide website integrating e-Courts, DLSA, and Lok Adalat data.
2. **AI Legal Chatbot:** For basic queries in Odia and English.
3. **Mobile App:** For locating nearby legal aid clinics and tracking case updates.
4. **Social Media Channels:** For infographics, live sessions, and short explainers.

Monitoring & Evaluation Framework

Indicator	Measurement Tool	Responsible Agency
Number of outreach events	Monthly DLSA reports	DLSA & Office of the Dist. Judge
Beneficiaries reached	Attendance registers, digital analytics	District Coordinators
Awareness impact	Pre- and post-campaign surveys	State Judicial Academy & Regional Judicial Academies
Stakeholder collaboration	Quarterly review meetings	SALSA/NALSA
Annual Progress	Consolidated Judicial Outreach Report	OSLSA/ Arbitration Centre of High Court of Orissa

Conclusion

Judicial outreach and public awareness are not peripheral activities—they are intrinsic to the delivery of justice itself. Odisha’s district judiciary, through coordinated efforts of **Judgeships, DLSAs, PLVs, and Civil Society**, is evolving into a participatory justice system that informs, involves, and empowers citizens.

By 2029, the State envisions:

- **Complete Legal Literacy** across all panchayats.
- **Technology-Enabled Public Access** to justice resources.
- **Institutionalized Judicial Outreach Framework** for continuous community engagement.

Through sustained outreach, transparency, and inclusivity, the judiciary of Odisha will continue to strengthen **public trust and the rule of law**, ensuring that justice is **not only delivered but also understood and accessible to all**.

BEATING THE LANGUAGE BARRIER

(Translation to Regional Language)

Year	High Court Judgments Translated	Supreme Court Judgments Translated
2023	32	110
2024	228	205
2025 (till 31.10.2025)	307+4 (including 4 JJC Judgments)	887
Total	571	1202

Achievements:

- Following directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, **9 retired Judicial Officers** have been engaged to expedite proofreading of translated High Court and Supreme Court judgments.
- A **glossary of 1000 English-Odia legal terms** has been prepared, submitted to the Hon'ble Supreme Court and uploaded on **SUVAS**.
- An **online bilingual journal (ILR of the Court)** publishing reportable judgments of both the High Court and the Supreme Court (arising from Odisha) has been launched.
- **Odia translation** of the heritage book "*Courts of India: Past to Present*" was completed by an Editorial Board constituted by the Hon'ble Court.
- The **e-HCR Portal** was developed for digital publication of law reports, containing translated High Court and Supreme Court judgments with advanced **search functionality**.
- Translation of **nine landmark constitutional bench judgments** of the Supreme Court into Odia has been completed.
- A **circular** was issued to all District & Sessions Judges for awareness creation among Judicial Officers, Bar Associations, Law Universities, and Colleges regarding the bilingual e-HCR portal.
- **ILR-Cuttack Series judgments** (2015 onwards) have been segregated and uploaded individually on the e-HCR portal.

- Law reports are now published in **digital format**, reducing physical printing and environmental impact.
- A **QR Code** has been added to both the e-HCR portal and physical ILR copies to enable direct access for advocates and litigants.
- **India Code link** has been integrated into the e-HCR portal for easy access to Acts available in Odia.
- A **subscription facility** has been introduced for ILR-Cuttack Series, enabling advocates to receive monthly journals.
- **SMS notification service** launched for ILR subscribers for collection alerts.

Vision & Action Plan (2025–2029):

- Out of **approx. 24,000 Supreme Court judgments** received, **1202 (Upto 31.10.2025) have already been translated** into Odia. Efforts are underway to significantly **increase translation output** for early completion.
- **Out of 2162 (Upto 14.11.2025) Judgments** available in e-HCR, **434 cases** have already been translated from English to Odia and the rest Judgments in addition to the incoming Judgments will be translated as early as possible.
- Preparation of comprehensive legal dictionary **consisting of 20,000 words** is underway.
- Of the **100 Santali Judgments** received from the Supreme Court, **54 translations have been completed**, and the remaining judgments are under process.

The Translation Cell of the Hon'ble Court aims to promote **linguistic inclusivity, digital accessibility, and transparency** in judicial processes by ensuring timely vernacular translations of judgments, developing Odia legal resources, and expanding multilingual digital law reporting in alignment with Hon'ble the Supreme Court India's vision under **SUVAS**.

SUSTAINABLE AND GREEN INITIATIVES

Introduction

The judiciary in Odisha has embraced the national vision of environmental sustainability through a dual approach — **judicial responsibility** (enforcing environmental rights and laws) and **operational sustainability** (green buildings, energy efficiency, waste reduction). The District Courts aim to become **energy-efficient, paperless, and environmentally responsible** institutions by 2029.

Key Pillars of Green Judiciary

Focus Area	Objectives	Key Measures
Paperless Judiciary	Reduce paper usage and ensure digital accessibility	e-Filing, e-Courts, Digital Scanning Centres
Renewable Energy	Promote energy self-sufficiency	Solar rooftops, LED lighting, passive building design
Waste Management	Safe disposal of electronic and biodegradable waste	e-Waste recycling, paper shredding, segregation units
Water Conservation	Promote reuse and reduce groundwater dependency	Rainwater harvesting, wastewater recycling
Eco-Friendly Premises	Maintain clean and green court environments	Tree plantations, banning plastics, green landscaping

Energy Efficiency and Renewable Infrastructure

- **Solar Power:** Rooftop solar systems have been installed or/ and are underway many Judgeships.
- **LED Lighting:** All new constructions mandated to use LED systems to lower electricity costs.
- **Passive Design:** Adoption of *natural lighting, ventilation, and reflective roofing* to reduce air conditioning dependency.

Future Target: 100% solar-enabled court complexes by 2029.

Waste Management and e-Waste Disposal

Improper e-waste handling was a recurring concern. Most judgements suggested:

- Establishing **district-level e-waste drop-off centres**.
- Contracting **authorized recyclers** for safe disposal of outdated electronics.
- Using **shredding machines** for paper.
- **Outsourcing waste collection** to certified municipal agencies.

Type of Waste	Measure
Electronic Waste	Disposal through authorized recyclers
Solid Waste	Segregation and outsourcing
Paper Waste	Shredding and recycling

Water Management and Conservation

Water scarcity and dependency on groundwater prompted several eco-friendly initiatives:

Practice	Impact
Roof-top rainwater storage	Reduces groundwater extraction
Rainwater harvesting (900mm annual rainfall)	Reuse for cleaning & sanitation
Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) and Water Treatment Plant (WTP) installed	Recycling and reuse of water
Wastewater recycling & plantation irrigation	Sustainable resource management

Plastic-Free and Eco-Friendly Premises

- **Plastic Ban:** Strict prohibition of single-use plastic in premises.
- **Tree Plantation:** Monthly “*Day with Mo Karyalaya*” drives and plantation programs via DLSA across districts.
- **Green Landscaping:** Initiation of landscaped gardens in new complexes.
- **Awareness Campaigns:** Awareness Campaigns on staff sensitization on sustainability.

Technological Integration and Green IT

Courts are linking sustainability with IT modernization:

Initiative	Description
Virtual Hearings	Reduces travel and carbon emissions
AI for Case Management	AI tools for pendency and research
Cloud Data Storage	Centralized secure storage
Digital Display Boards	Reduces paper notices
E-Filing Expansion	24×7 helpdesks and vernacular support

Result: Reduced carbon footprint, enhanced transparency, and improved efficiency.

Key Innovations

Unique Initiatives
Installed STP, WTP, solar panels, and implemented full e-waste segregation
AI-assisted paperless ecosystem and Warrant Management integration
Achieved 75,000+ records digitized; targeted green certification by 2029
Introduced three-stream waste segregation and green procurement policy
Monthly volunteer plantation and cleanliness by Judicial Officers
Waste segregation and paper shredding under outsourced waste disposal system

Challenges Identified

Challenge	Description	Suggested Solution
Manpower Shortage	Lack of staff for digitization and scanning	Dedicated technical assistants
Infrastructure Gaps	Some courts lack solar or rainwater systems	State-wide execution roadmap
e-Waste Handling	Absence of certified recyclers	Tie-ups with authorized agencies
Behavioural Adaptation	Resistance to paperless work	Training and awareness workshops

Vision 2029

1. **Universal Solar Coverage** - rooftop solar in every court by 2029.
2. **Zero Paper Dependency** - complete digitization under e-Courts Phase III.
3. **Eco-Certified Buildings** - pursue *Green Building Certification (GBC)* for new complexes.
4. **Scientific Waste Management** - 100% segregation and authorized disposal.
5. **Behavioural Change Programs** - continuous sensitization of staff, advocates, and litigants.

Conclusion

Odisha's District Judiciary is making visible progress toward becoming a **green, paperless, and energy-efficient judicial system**. By aligning with national sustainable development goals, leveraging technology, and enforcing eco-friendly practices, the judiciary aims to set a benchmark for **environmentally conscious justice delivery**.

The ongoing efforts — from solar rooftops to rainwater harvesting and digitization — represent a holistic model of **Sustainability in Justice**, balancing environmental responsibility with judicial efficiency.

SAFETY AND SECURITY MEASURES IN STATE

JUDICIARY

Introduction

Ensuring the safety and security of all judicial stakeholders — judges, staff, advocates, litigants, and visitors — is critical to the effective functioning of the justice system. The District Judiciary of Odisha has made significant progress in strengthening both **physical and digital security**, with structured coordination between the **District Judge, Police, and local administration** through **District and Taluka Level Security Committees**.

The upcoming phase (2025-2029) focuses on **smart, layered, and technology-driven security systems**, incorporating surveillance, access control, emergency preparedness, and data safety to ensure resilient and secure judicial environments across all 30 districts.

Institutional Mechanism

Security Mechanism	Status / Description
District-Level Security Committees	Functional in all districts; chaired by District Judge; meetings held every alternate month.
Police Coordination	Liaison with District SP for armed guards, QRTs (Quick Response Teams), and perimeter patrols.
Fire & Disaster Preparedness	Collaboration with Fire Department and OSDMA for periodic fire drills and cyclone response.
Medical Response Integration	DHS and district hospitals tied up for medical emergencies and first-aid availability.

Core Components of Security

Category	Key Measures Implemented / Proposed
Physical Security	CCTVs, metal detectors, biometric access, boundary walls with concertina wire, guard rooms, and panic buttons.
Data & Record Safety	Digitization hubs, secure cloud storage, access control, encryption, and fire-proof record rooms.
Emergency Response	Fire alarms, hydrants, DG sets, medical kits, and periodic evacuation drills.
Cybersecurity	Training on phishing awareness, secure passwords, and off-site data backups.
Access Management	ID passes for lawyers, vendors, visitors; entry-exit regulation through biometric gates.

Security Measures Target

Security Measure	Target (by 2029)
CCTV Surveillance	100% coverage in all courts
Door Frame Metal Detectors (DFMDs)/ Hand Held metal Detectors (HHMDs)	100% installation at all entry gates
Fire Safety Systems	Advanced detection in all HQ and sub-divisional courts
Armed Security / Home Guards	Dedicated court security unit in all 30
Panic Buttons	100% coverage by 2027
Fire Mock Drills	Bi-annual drills in all stations
Digitization of Records	100% completion by 2028

Data Security and Digitization

- **Digitization Hubs (DCDH)** established at several district HQs.
- **Cloud Storage & Encryption** for scanned case records and judicial files.
- Establishment of a secure, **off-site Disaster Recovery (DR) Site for real-time or daily backup of all critical digital data and case records.**
- **Digital Access Control** via biometric or password-protected record rooms.
- **Regular Security Audits** by NIC/ IT departments/ Audit teams for hardware/software integrity.

Emergency Preparedness and Response

Key focus areas include **fire safety**, **medical emergencies**, and **disaster resilience**:

- **Fire Safety:** Hydrants, extinguishers, and alarms installed in most HQ courts.
- **Medical Response:** Ambulances to be stationed in all HQs.
- **Disaster Readiness:** Coastal districts coordinate with OSDMA for cyclone preparedness.
- **Mock Drills:** To be conducted biannually for evacuation, fire response, and crowd management.

Proposed Interventions (2025-2029)

Vision	Proposed Action	Expected Outcome
Dedicated Court Security Units	Establish trained security wings with armed/unarmed personnel and supervisory officers.	24x7 secure environment for courts and quarters.
Integrated Surveillance System	State-wide CCTV grid with live monitoring at control rooms.	Real-time threat monitoring and quick response.
Smart Access Control	Use of biometrics, RFID passes, and scanners for visitors, advocates, and vendors.	Controlled, auditable access to premises.
Digital Record Safety	Encrypted cloud storage, off-site backups, and disaster recovery plans.	Data integrity and resilience against cyber threats.
Emergency Infrastructure	Fire safety upgrades, first-aid rooms, ambulances, and mock drills.	Enhanced crisis preparedness.
Cybersecurity Training	Annual workshops for judicial staff on digital hygiene.	Reduced cyber vulnerability.

Key Challenges

Challenge	Impact	Remedial Plan
Shortage of trained security staff	Inconsistent protection	Outsource to licensed security agencies
Delayed equipment maintenance	Reduced reliability	Annual maintenance contracts (AMCs)
Incomplete digital coverage	Risk to data safety	Accelerate digitization & backups
Lack of awareness on fire/cyber safety	Human error during crises	Training and simulation exercises

Vision 2029: Safe and Smart Judicial Complexes

Target Outcomes

- **100% CCTV, biometric, and fire safety coverage** in all courts.
- **Dedicated Court Security Units** in every district.
- **Disaster-Resilient & Energy-Secure** infrastructures.
- **Real-time monitoring & quick response systems** through integrated command centers.
- **Full digitization and data protection framework** with zero paper dependency.

Conclusion

Odisha's judiciary envisions a transformation of its district courts into **safe, secure, and digitally resilient judicial spaces**. By integrating human vigilance with smart technology — from CCTV and biometric access to cloud-based record safety — the courts of Odisha will ensure justice is not only *delivered* but *protected*.

The 2025-2029 road map emphasizes a holistic approach: **security of life, data, and institutional integrity**, reinforcing public trust in the judicial system.

PART - III

VISION AND ACTIONS AT A GLANCE

(What to achieve and how to achieve)

INFRASTRUCTURE

The vision for the next five years focuses on building modern, inclusive, and sustainable judicial infrastructure aligned with the objectives of accessibility, safety, and digital readiness. The aim is to make all district and sub-divisional courts model complexes with litigant-friendly facilities and future-ready designs.

Core Vision Goals:

- **Modern, eco-friendly, and integrated court complexes at all HQs and sub-divisions.**
- **Full accessibility for people with disabilities (ramps, lifts, Braille, signage, assistive devices).**
- **Comprehensive litigant amenities—waiting halls, digital kiosks, canteens, creches, and wellness rooms.**
- **Standardized Bar rooms with digital libraries, internet, and conferencing facilities.**
- **Smart and green infrastructure using solar energy, rainwater harvesting, and waste management.**
- **Digital record rooms with e-archival systems.**
- **Stronger security architecture with integrated monitoring systems.**

Implementation Strategy

The implementation strategy for the infrastructural vision will follow a phased, data-driven, and sustainable approach, coordinated between the High Court, State Government, and District Judiciary.

- **Phase I (2026–27):**
 - Baseline improvement — repair and renovation of existing buildings, enhancement of amenities, and preparation of detailed project reports for new projects.
 - Expansion — commencement of large-scale construction of court halls, quarters, and integrated complexes.
- **Phase II (2028–29):** Integration — ensuring fully digital, security, and accessibility compliance; operationalization of smart, green court campuses.

Key Enablers:

- Periodic joint inspections/ audit by the Judiciary, PWD, and Planning Department.
- Fast-track sanctioning of detailed project reports and delegation of minor maintenance funds to District Judges in case of any contingencies.

- Use of standardized architectural blueprints for uniformity and cost efficiency as per baseline report on Court Development and Planning System (CDPS) formulated by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.
- Integration of solar panels, LED lighting, and water recycling systems.
- Implementation of accessibility standards under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act.
- Establishment of district-level digitization centers with hybrid physical and electronic archives.
- Continuous stakeholder consultation with Bar Associations and civil society for user-oriented design.

Expected Outcomes by 2029:

- **Fully functional, sustainable, and digitally equipped court campuses in every district.**
- **100% accommodation coverage for judicial officers and staff. Subject to the availability of funds and considering the directions of the Hon'ble Building Committee.**
- **Litigant-friendly and inclusive judicial infrastructure meeting national benchmarks.**
- **Enhanced safety, efficiency, and dignity in the justice delivery process.**

BUDGETARY PROVISION

The vision for the next five years focuses on establishing a financially disciplined, digitally strengthened, and future-ready judicial ecosystem through optimal budget utilization, transparent monitoring, and technology-driven financial management. The aim is to build a modern, accountable, and seamlessly integrated budgeting framework that supports judicial infrastructure, digital expansion, new court establishments, and efficient service delivery across all judgeships.

Core Vision Goals:

- Strengthening digitization and financial monitoring mechanisms across all courts.
- High-speed broadband connectivity and integrated digital infrastructure for efficient fund management.
- Modernization of ICT platforms and adoption of updated technologies for budget oversight.
- Accurate and realistic budget estimation based on actual expenditure trends and future needs.
- A uniform digital BEMC dashboard for real-time financial tracking and financial discipline.
- Continuous capacity-building and skill development of staff for effective financial operations.
- Opening of new courts and targeted financial planning to expand judicial access.
- Robust audit processes and timely compliance to ensure accountability and transparency.
- Extra budgetary allocation for safety & security in the entire State Judiciary.

Implementation Strategy

The implementation strategy for financial management and digitization will follow a phased, structured, and oversight-driven approach, coordinated between the High Court, Finance Department, and District Judiciary.

Phase I (2025-27):

- Completion of ongoing projects under State Sector Schemes (SSS) and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS), including SPARSH.
- Timely utilization of SSS and CSS funds and prompt submission of Utilization Certificates to prevent delays and cost escalations.
- Submission of DPRs for new residential and non-residential projects within prescribed timelines.
- Strengthening budget preparation processes through precise assessment of past and projected expenditures.

Phase II (2027-29):

- Integration of upgraded digital infrastructure with high-speed broadband and unified financial platforms.
- Institutionalization of quarterly monitoring of fund utilization in line with Finance Department norms.
- Operationalization of a comprehensive monitoring mechanism for all digital initiatives.
- Enhanced audit readiness, compliance with POMs, and resolution of CAG observations.

Key Enablers:

- Uniform digital BEMC dashboard for real-time monitoring and financial decision-making.
- Regular BEMC meetings to review fund utilization, identify gaps, and issue corrective advisories.
- Strengthened audit processes and timely compliance with statutory and administrative guidelines.
- Skill development programs, training, and handholding for staff managing financial and digital systems.
- Integration of HRMS, IFMS, and the Treasury Portal for streamlined financial operations.
- High-level fund management oversight at each judgeship in addition to BEMC supervision.
- Need-based proposals for opening new courts to ensure widened access to justice.
- Data-driven budget estimates that reflect actual needs and prevent unjustified surrender of funds.

Expected Outcomes by 2029:

- **A financially disciplined and digitally empowered judiciary with real-time monitoring and transparent fund management.**
- **Completion of all ongoing and proposed infrastructural projects under SSS and CSS without delays.**
- **Efficient digital infrastructure with integrated broadband connectivity across all judgeships.**
- **Strengthened expenditure planning, ensuring optimal utilization of available funds.**
- **Reduced financial lapses through quarterly monitoring, improved audits, and strict compliance mechanisms.**
- **Expanded judicial access through timely establishment of new courts and strategic fund allocation.**

JUDGE STRENGTH AND SUPPORTING STAFF

The vision for the next five years focuses on achieving a fully staffed, well-supported, and efficiently functioning judicial workforce. The aim is to eliminate vacancies, strengthen support staff, and improve working conditions so that all courts operate smoothly and deliver timely justice.

Core Vision Goals:

- To fill up all the vacancies through timely and predictable recruitment cycles.
- Simultaneous filling of ministerial and Group-D posts to support the judicial function.
- Improved working conditions and reduced administrative burden on judicial officers.
- Creation of dedicated administrative posts such as Principal District Judge (Administration) and Chairman, District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) which are included in the proposed requirement of Officers.
- To increase the rate of disposal, the engagement of Judicial Officers in protocol works may be avoided. In this context, a dedicated Protocol Cell with non-judicial officers/ staff be created.
- Adequate infrastructure to support expanding courts and staff.

Implementation Strategy

A phased, monitored approach involving the High Court, State Government, and District Judiciary will guide staffing reforms.

Considering the infrastructural facilities and infrastructural requirements, 25% of the total proposed requirement of Officers of different cadres, as mentioned at Page - 66, under heading “*d. Requirement of Officers to clear up backlogs over a period of next 5 years as per the analogy drawn up in the preceding Vision Document*” be placed before the Government for sanction in every year so that the object can be achieved in 4 years.

The Court will decide, at the proper time, the number of posts in the respective cadre to be placed before the Government for sanction out of that 25% of each year.

Phase I (2025-27):

- Time-bound annual recruitment calendar to fill all vacancies.
- Awareness initiatives in law colleges and Bar Associations to improve participation.
- Quarterly audits to prevent vacancy accumulation.
- Parallel recruitment of support staff with judicial appointments.

Phase II (2027-29):

- Operationalizing new administrative posts to reduce non-judicial workload.
- Strengthening infrastructure to accommodate increased judge strength.
- Improving working conditions and enabling officers to focus on adjudication.

Key Enablers:

- Predictable recruitment calendar and regular vacancy audits.
- Targeted outreach to increase success rates in exams.
- Simultaneous staffing of support personnel.
- Dedicated administrative positions to streamline court functioning.
- Infrastructure expansion aligned with staffing growth.
- Workplace and HR reforms to improve retention.

Expected Outcomes by 2029:

- All the vacancies to be filled up across all courts.
- Fully staffed support system ensuring smooth court operations.
- Reduced administrative burden and improved judicial productivity.
- AI-based case classification, case tracking, case listing, e-summonses/ notices, and WMS etc. shall significantly reduce the administrative burden on Judges.
- Better working conditions aiding recruitment and retention.
- Stronger access to justice with timely establishment of new courts.
- To increase the rate of disposal, the engagement of Judicial Officers in protocol works may be avoided. In this context, a dedicated Protocol Cell with non-judicial officers/ staff be created.

MINISTERIAL STAFF

The vision for the next five years focuses on building a professional, well-trained, and efficiently managed ministerial workforce to support judicial functioning across Odisha. The aim is to streamline recruitment, enhance skills, ensure fair workload distribution, and strengthen performance monitoring for a motivated and accountable administrative system.

Core Vision Goals:

- Centralised and transparent recruitment ensuring uniform selection standards.
- Structured State-wide training for ministerial staff on judicial administration and digital processes.
- Supportive HR policies including spouse posting feasibility for better work-life balance.
- Fair and balanced work allocation across all units.
- Regular performance monitoring through monthly review mechanisms.
- Refresher training programmes for Ministerial Staff to be conducted at Odisha Judicial Academy and Regional Judicial Academies.

Implementation Strategy

The strategy will follow a coordinated, phased approach involving the High Court, District Judiciary, and the Centralised Recruitment Cell.

Phase I (2025–27):

- Initiate centralised recruitment for all district-level ministerial posts.
- Launch a comprehensive training module covering administrative, digital, and service-related competencies.
- Assess and design spouse posting guidelines for eligible staff.

Phase II (2027–29):

- Operationalize a uniform workload distribution plan across all courts.
- Institutionalize monthly performance review meetings at each judgeship.

Key Enablers:

- Centralised Recruitment Cell for standardized hiring.
- State-wide training curriculum for consistent capacity building.
- HR policies supporting staff welfare and productivity.
- Workload assessment tools enabling equitable duty allocation.

- Regular review meetings to identify gaps and strengthen accountability.

Expected Outcomes by 2029:

- **A professional, skilled, and uniformly trained ministerial workforce.**
- **Improved administrative efficiency across all courts.**
- **Enhanced staff morale through supportive HR practices.**
- **Fair workload distribution reducing delays and stress.**
- **A more coordinated, accountable, and service-oriented court administration system.**

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The next five years aim to achieve full digital integration, ensuring a transparent, data-driven, and AI-assisted judicial ecosystem.

Key objectives include transitioning to paperless operations, enhancing cybersecurity, improving accessibility for all stakeholders, and creating a model of “Digital Justice Odisha.”

Core Vision Goals:

- Upgrade JSN bandwidth (100 Mbps for HQs, 50 Mbps for sub-divisions) and to upgrade the same as per future requirement.
- Replace obsolete hardware.
- Establish smart courtrooms with digital dais and evidence systems.
- Expand virtual and hybrid hearing capabilities.
- Implement a state-wide Document Management System (DMS) using Optical Character Recognition (OCR).
- Enhance cybersecurity through firewalls, encryption, and cloud backups.
- Launch dedicated e-Filing help desks and e-Seva counters.
- Conduct regular IT literacy and cybersecurity training programs.

Digitization Targets (2025–2029):

- Complete digitization of 30 District Record Rooms (i.e., legacy case records).
- Integration of digitized records with CIS and NJDG.
- Establish secure NIC-based backup and recovery systems.

Implementation Strategy

The implementation roadmap for achieving the 2025–2029 vision will be carried out in three progressive phases.

Phase I (2025–27): Baseline strengthening through network, hardware, CCTV, Wi-Fi, and awareness programs on e-Filing.

Phase II (2027–28): Expansion with smart courtroom installations, virtual hearing facilities, and full digitization of district HQs.

Phase III (2028–29): Integration of systems through unified DMS, AI-based dashboards, and complete paperless operations.

Key Enablers:

- Regular training and monitoring by District IT Committees.
- Sufficient budget allocation.
- Strong cybersecurity protocols under NIC supervision.
- Continuous capacity building for staff, judicial officers, and lawyers.
- Effective AMC and hardware refresh cycles.
- Public awareness campaigns to encourage e-Filing adoption.

Expected Outcome by 2029:

- 100% smart and hybrid courtrooms.
- Fully digitized records integrated with NJDG.
- Real-time case monitoring and AI analytics.
- A secure, efficient, and transparent judicial ecosystem positioning Odisha as a leader in digital justice.

ENCOURAGING ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION (ADR)

The vision for 2025-2029 is to institutionalize ADR as the primary mode of dispute resolution across all district courts of Odisha. The focus is on expanding infrastructure, integrating technology, building capacity, and strengthening awareness.

Core Vision Goals:

- Establishing dedicated ADR Centers in all 30 districts.
- Integrating Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) and hybrid hearings.
- Conducting regular training and certification for judges, mediators, and staff.
- Strengthening pre-litigation mediation through collaboration with police and administrative bodies.
- Enhancing public trust through sustained awareness and success storytelling.

Implementation Strategy

The implementation roadmap will unfold in phased stages to ensure systematic progress and sustainability.

Phase I (2025-27): Upgradation of existing mediation centres, statewide mediator training, and public awareness campaigns.

Phase II (2027-28): Establishment of ADR Centres in all district headquarters and pilot rollout of ODR systems.

Phase III (2028-29): Full integration of ODR across the State, launch of ADR data dashboards, and introduction of performance-linked incentives.

Key Enablers:

- Regular MCPC-certified training for mediators and conciliators.
- Launch of an ODR platform integrated with e-Courts and CIS for virtual mediation and arbitration.
- Legal literacy and outreach programs through DLSAs and local media.
- Partnerships with NGOs, bar associations, and academic institutions to sustain awareness and engagement.
- Introduction of digital dashboards and incentive systems for performance monitoring.

Expected outcomes by 2029:

- **100% of districts equipped with fully functional ADR Centres.**
- **More number of cases to be resolved annually through ADR mechanisms.**
- **Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) operational in all district headquarters.**
- **500+ trained mediators and conciliators statewide.**
- **10-15% reduction in court pendency and improved public confidence in justice delivery.**

CASE MANAGEMENT

The vision for 2025-2029 aims to transform Odisha's district judiciary into a data-driven, technology-enabled, and citizen-centric system that ensures time-bound, transparent, and equitable justice.

Core Vision Goals:

- Achieving zero pendency in cases over five years old.
- Implementing a completely paperless judicial system with full e-Court integration.
- Reducing the average case duration by 50% through fast-track and specialized courts.
- Strengthening accountability through performance-linked evaluation and digital dashboards.
- Promoting ADR mechanisms to resolve 35% of total disposals by 2029.
- Ensuring citizen-friendly access through digital case tracking and online filing.
- Case load per Judge to be reduced by increasing Judges strength and decreasing the pendency for better dispensation of justice.
- Introduction of AI based e-Summonses, Warrant Management System (WMS), and SMS alerts for all stakeholders to avoid the procedural delays.

By 2029, Odisha targets a 95% case clearance rate, full digital record management, and elimination of legacy backlog, making the judiciary agile, efficient, and people focused.

Implementation Strategy

The strategy to achieve these outcomes involves a phased roadmap, blending institutional, technological, and human resource reforms.

Judges strength be increased as per the proposal at *Page Number 113, under the heading "Judge Strength And Supporting Staff", sub-heading 'Implementation Strategy' at 2nd paragraph* i.e. 25% of the total proposed requirement of Officers in different cadres, as mentioned at Page - 66, under heading "*d. Requirement of Officers to clear up backlogs over a period of next 5 years as per the analogy drawn up in the preceding Vision Document*" be placed before the Government for sanction in every year so that the object can be achieved in 4 years.

Phase I (2025-27): Strengthen DCMCs and launch “Mission Zero Pendency” across districts. Initiate full implementation of digital dashboards and conduct training for judicial officers and staff on the proposed case flow management.

Phase II (2027-28): Operationalize sanctioned courts in Cuttack, Sambalpur, and other high-pendency districts. Deploy AI-based case classification and virtual witness deposition systems statewide.

Phase III (2028-29): Achieve 100% paperless courts, fully integrated with e-Courts and NJDG systems. Adopt data-driven monitoring of performance through dashboards and achieve over 95% clearance rate.

Key enablers:

- Regular training on delay management, digital tools, and time-bound disposal.
- Integration of electronic summons, warrant management, and Online Dispute Resolution systems.
- Creation of Fast-Track Courts for POCSO, NDPS, NI Act, and MACT cases.
- Collaboration with police and DLSAs to ensure timely charge sheet submissions and pre-litigation mediation.
- Annual audits of case flow, backed by digital analytics and feedback loops.

Expected outcomes by 2029:

- Zero pendency of cases older than 5 years.
- 95% of new cases are disposed within statutory timelines.
- 100% paperless courts and statewide digital dashboards.
- Enhanced judicial efficiency and 15-20% reduction in pendency annually.
- Case load per Judge to be reduced by increasing Judges strength and decreasing the pendency for better dispensation of justice.
- AI based e-Summonses, Warrant Management System (WMS), and SMS alerts for all stakeholders to avoid the procedural delays.

TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR JUDICIAL OFFICERS

The vision for 2025-2029 is to build a continuous, inclusive, and technology-driven learning ecosystem that empowers every judicial officer and staff member to deliver transparent, efficient, and empathetic justice.

Core Vision Goals:

- **Proposal for launching a Judicial Learning Management System (JLMS) integrating OJA, RJAs, and iGOT platforms.**
- **Ensuring 100% coverage of judicial officers and court staff under structured annual training.**
- **Timely Refresher training programmes for Ministerial Staff to be conducted at the Odisha Judicial Academy and the Regional Judicial Academies enhancing and upgrading their skills with latest technology & other updates**
- **Introducing a mandatory “annual training credit” system with at least 20 hours of certified training per officer.**
- **Developing specialized thematic modules on AI, cyber laws, ADR, forensic appreciation, and leadership.**
- **Promoting inter-state visit to encourage innovation and collaboration.**
- **Strengthening staff capacity and synchronization between judicial and administrative systems.**

Implementation Strategy

The roadmap for achieving the vision combines institutional expansion, digital transformation, and accountability mechanisms to build a sustainable training framework.

Phase I (2025-26): Develop and operationalize the Judicial Learning Management System (JLMS) and integrate it with iGOT. Upgrade RJA infrastructure with digital classrooms and residential facilities. Begin recording and tracking of annual training credits.

Phase II (2027-28): Roll out specialized thematic modules on ADR, AI in law, cybercrime, and forensic science. Launch inter-district exchange programmes and performance-linked faculty recognition.

Phase III (2028–29): Implement a data-driven impact assessment dashboard for all trainings. Achieve full cadre coverage with uniform participation and finalize the “Odisha Judicial Competency Index” to evaluate skill growth.

Key enabling actions:

- Regular coordination between OJA and RJAs to maintain uniformity in quality and coverage.
- Digital tracking of participation and training impact through JLMS dashboards.
- Enhanced collaboration with National Judicial Academy, universities, and legal tech experts.
- Inclusion of wellness, empathy, and communication skills in the training curriculum.
- Parallel training for court managers, registry staff, and prosecutors to build coordinated capacity.

Expected outcomes by 2029:

- 100% officers and staff to undergo at least two structured training courses annually.
- Fully digital, data-driven training ecosystem operational statewide.
- Improved competence in digital tools, ethical judgment writing, and case management.
- Enhanced leadership, empathy, and stress management across judicial cadres.
- Timely Refresher training programmes for Ministerial Staff will enhance technical proficiency, improved efficiency and accuracy, uniformity in procedures and practices across courts, greater adaptability to reforms, strengthen professional competence and confidence, Reduce in procedural delays and errors, improve service delivery to litigants and stakeholders.

LITIGANT-CENTRIC FACILITIES

The vision for 2025-2029 is to transform every district and sub-divisional court in Odisha into a citizen-friendly, inclusive, and digitally empowered space that ensures dignity, comfort, and accessibility for all litigants.

Core Vision Goals:

- Establishing fully functional Help Desks, and Legal Aid Clinics in every court complex.
- Expanding digital empowerment through e-Sewa Kendras, mobile apps, and SMS-based case tracking.
- Ensuring inclusivity with universal design—ramps, tactile paths, Braille signage, and accessible restrooms.
- Providing humane facilities such as medical rooms, canteens, and waiting halls in all headquarters courts.
- Implementing centralized grievance redress and feedback mechanisms for transparency and accountability.

Implementation Strategy

The roadmap for implementation will follow a phased and integrated approach, combining infrastructure, technology, and human resource development.

Phase I (2026): Baseline assessment of all court complexes, followed by upgrading Help Desks, Information Kiosks, and signage in headquarters courts. Training for front-office and DLSA staff on digital and citizen handling skills.

Phase II (2026-27): Launch of a centralized grievance redress portal, feedback tablets, and mobile case-tracking systems. Establish medical facilities and dispensaries across headquarters courts.

Phase III (2027-28): Implement universal accessibility measures—ramps, lifts, tactile flooring, and Braille boards—across all districts and sub-divisional courts.

Phase IV (2028-29): Establish “Nyaya Seva Kendras” as integrated one-stop service centers combining Help Desks, Legal Aid, and grievance redress functions in every court complex.

Key Enablers:

- Regular capacity-building programmes for PLVs, clerks, and court staff on citizen engagement and digital services.
- Legal awareness and digital literacy campaigns across rural and tribal areas to promote usage of kiosks and online services.
- Periodic maintenance audits of amenities and accessibility infrastructure.
- Partnership with DLSAs and NGOs for outreach and grievance tracking.

Expected outcomes by 2029:

- **100% of District and Sub-divisional Courts are equipped with Help Desks, Legal Aid Clinics, and e-Sewa Kendras.**
- **Fully accessible and multilingual court complexes across Odisha.**
- **Centralized grievance redressal system functional with measurable timelines.**
- **Over 1,000 trained PLVs and staff delivering litigant services.**
- **To enhance the citizen-friendliness, transparency, and empathetic action of the judiciary.**

JUDICIAL OUTREACH AND PUBLIC AWARENESS

The vision for 2025-2029 is to create a “**Legally Empowered Citizenry**” where every individual in Odisha is aware of their legal rights, duties, and avenues for justice. Judicial outreach will move beyond one-time awareness events towards sustained engagement using a blend of physical, digital, and community-based platforms.

Core Vision Goals:

- **Expanding legal literacy to cover all Gram Panchayats by 2029.**
- **Integrating “Legal Studies” modules into school curricula for early legal education.**
- **Launching a dedicated Judicial Outreach Portal and AI-driven chatbot in Odia and English.**
- **Using social media, community radio, and local language campaigns to reach remote populations.**
- **Strengthening partnerships with DLSAs, NGOs, police, and educational institutions for broader outreach.**
- **Institutionalizing youth engagement to organize annual legal awareness competitions (essay, debate, mock trials), structured Court visit programs and seminars.**
- **By 2029, the judiciary envisions universal legal literacy, digitally accessible legal information, and enhanced public trust through transparency and participatory justice initiatives.**

Implementation Strategy

A structured, multi-phased implementation plan will guide the realization of the outreach vision. The strategy integrates technology, education, and collaboration to make legal awareness continuous and inclusive.

Phase I (2025-26): Conduct 500 district-level legal literacy camps and initiate youth engagement programs. Develop baseline data and design the statewide Judicial Outreach Portal integrating e-Courts and DLSA information.

Phase II (2026-27): Launch the Judicial Outreach mobile app and AI chatbot for citizen interaction. Enhance social media presence and conduct training for PLVs and outreach coordinators in digital communication.

Phase III (2027-28): Integrate “**Legal Studies**” modules in secondary school curricula. Expand outreach in tribal and rural areas through mobile legal aid vans, Nukkad Nataks (street plays), and regional-language radio programmes.

Phase IV (2028–29): Achieve legal literacy coverage across all panchayats and institutionalize annual Judicial Outreach Reports in each district to track progress and public response.

Key enablers:

- Dedicated funding for outreach activities under DLSAs.
- Development of the AI-based legal information system and mobile apps.
- Public-private partnerships with NGOs, media, and educational bodies.
- Periodic monitoring through surveys, dashboards, and annual progress reports.

Expected outcomes by 2029:

- Legal literacy achieved in all Gram Panchayats.
- 24/7 digital access to legal aid and judicial information.
- At least 2.5 million citizens digitally engaged with judiciary-led awareness platforms.
- Institutionalized outreach and education framework led by DLSAs and High Court coordination.
- Judiciary to be more transparent, participatory, and people-centric.

BEATING THE LANGUAGE BARRIER

(Translation to Regional Language)

The vision for the next five years focuses on strengthening linguistic accessibility in the justice delivery system by expanding Odia and regional language translations, enhancing digital law-reporting platforms, and making judicial information easily understandable for every citizen. The aim is to build a modern, inclusive, and multilingual judicial ecosystem aligned with national goals under SUVAS, ensuring timely availability of translated judgments and user-friendly legal resources.

Core Vision Goals:

- Substantial scaling of Odia translation of High Court and Supreme Court judgments to eliminate language barriers for litigants.
- Development of comprehensive multilingual legal resources, including a 20,000-word legal dictionary and updated glossaries.
- Expansion of bilingual and multilingual digital platforms for seamless access to vernacular judgments.
- Strengthening proofreading, vetting, and editorial capacity through trained retired judicial officers.
- Integration of advanced digital search, QR-based access, and automated notification systems into law-reporting platforms.
- Promotion of linguistic inclusivity through translated heritage material, academic engagement, and public awareness initiatives.
- Ensuring transparency, accessibility, and timely dissemination of judgments and law reports in regional languages.

Implementation Strategy

The implementation strategy for the linguistic accessibility vision will follow a structured, technology-driven, and capacity-enhanced approach coordinated between the High Court, Supreme Court, SUVAS, and the Translation Cell.

Phase I (2025-27): Baseline strengthening — completion of pending translations of Supreme Court and High Court judgments; accelerating translation of Santali and Odia judgments; expansion of proofreading teams.

Platform enhancement — upgrading the e-HCR portal, implementing QR-linked access, subscription systems, and multilingual search features.

Phase II (2027-29): Integration — operationalizing a fully digital, multilingual repository of judgments; completion of the 20,000-word legal dictionary; ensuring seamless linguistic access across institutions.

Key Enablers:

- Engagement of retired Judicial Officers for accelerated proofreading and quality control of translated judgments.
- Standardized terminology through a 1,000-word English-Odia glossary and the upcoming 20,000-word legal dictionary.
- e-HCR portal with advanced search, integrated India Code access, QR code connectivity, and bilingual publication features.
- Bilingual ILR journal publication with digital law-reporting to reduce environmental impact.
- SMS-based subscription services and monthly ILR-Cuttack Series journals for advocates.
- District-level awareness campaigns among Judicial Officers, Bar Associations, law universities, and colleges.
- Translation of landmark constitutional judgments, heritage texts, and Santali judgments to expand regional-language coverage.

Expected Outcomes by 2029:

- **Substantial completion of Odia translations of all reported Supreme Court and High Court Judgments, including Santali translations.**
- **A fully functional, digitally equipped and multilingual law-reporting ecosystem accessible to all.**
- **Availability of a comprehensive legal dictionary and expanded glossaries for standardized Odia legal terminology.**
- **Strengthened transparency, inclusivity, and accessibility in judicial processes through vernacular digitization.**
- **Enhanced user-friendly legal environment ensuring dignity, comprehension, and participation for all stakeholders.**

SUSTAINABLE AND GREEN INITIATIVES

The vision for 2025–2029 is to transform all district and sub-divisional courts of Odisha into environmentally sustainable, energy-efficient, and technologically advanced “Green Court Complexes.” These courts will operate with minimal environmental impact while maintaining judicial efficiency.

Core Vision Goals:

- **Achieving 100% solar energy adoption across all court complexes.**
- **Transitioning to a completely paperless judicial system.**
- **Ensuring 100% segregation, recycling, and authorized disposal of all waste.**
- **Implementing rainwater harvesting and wastewater recycling systems in every court.**
- **Securing Green Building Certification (GBC) for all new court constructions.**
- **Promoting behavioral change through awareness, incentives, and sustainability training.**

By 2029, the Odisha Judiciary envisions becoming a model for eco-conscious justice delivery—combining environmental responsibility, digital innovation, and administrative efficiency.

Implementation Strategy

The roadmap to achieve these objectives involves a phased and structured implementation strategy integrating renewable energy, digital transformation, and institutional accountability.

Phase I (2026): Conduct environmental audits in all court complexes, initiate installation of solar systems in remaining HQ courts, and deploy e-waste collection units. Launch state-level training on green judiciary practices.

Phase II (2026–27): Achieve Green Building Certification for all new court complexes and implement rainwater harvesting in at least 50% of districts. Establish digital monitoring systems for energy and water usage.

Phase III (2027–28): Expand solar coverage to 80% of all courts, introduce comprehensive wastewater recycling, and complete full e-waste management across districts.

Phase IV (2028–29): Reach full sustainability with 100% solar and paperless courts, complete implementation of eco-certified infrastructure, and institutionalize environmental reporting through annual “**Green Judiciary Reports.**”

Key enablers:

- Appointment of district sustainability coordinators under High Court supervision.
- Partnerships with certified renewable energy and waste management agencies.
- Inclusion of environmental compliance in court construction tenders.
- Regular capacity-building workshops for judges, staff, and advocates.
- Incentive-based recognition for districts achieving early sustainability targets.

Expected outcomes by 2029:

- 100% solar and water-efficient court complexes.
- Fully paperless, e-waste compliant, and carbon-neutral judiciary.
- All new buildings with surrounding greenery.
- Eco-friendly atmosphere be maintained in court campuses.

SAFETY AND SECURITY MEASURES

The vision for 2025–2029 is to establish secure, resilient, and technologically advanced judicial complexes across Odisha. By 2029, every district and sub-divisional court will have integrated smart surveillance, biometric access, fire and disaster resilience, and robust data protection systems, ensuring complete safety for judges, staff, litigants, and visitors.

Core Vision Goals:

- Achieving 100% CCTV and biometric access coverage across all courts.
- Establish dedicated Court Security Units with trained personnel in every district.
- Security check gates to be installed for individual checking.
- Completing digitization and data encryption of all judicial records.
- Implementing full fire safety systems and medical emergency response networks.
- Creating disaster-resilient and energy-secure infrastructures with real-time monitoring systems.
- Conducting periodic security, fire, and cybersecurity training for all judicial staff.

The overarching vision is to ensure that State’s Judiciary function as “**Safe and Smart Judicial Complexes**” — combining human vigilance with technological intelligence for uninterrupted judicial operations.

Implementation Strategy

A phased roadmap will guide the systematic implementation of safety and security measures in all district courts, combining infrastructure upgrades, personnel deployment, and technological advancements.

Phase I (2025-26): Install advanced CCTV systems and biometric access at all district HQs. Establish control rooms for live monitoring and initiate formation of Court Security Units. Conduct statewide training on fire, cyber, and emergency response protocols.

Phase II (2026-27): Expand **Door Frame Metal Detectors (DFMDs)** and **Hand Held Metal Detectors (HHMDs)** to all entry points, implement panic buttons in 50% of courts, and upgrade fire safety systems to meet BIS standards. Begin data encryption and off-site cloud backup.

Phase III (2027-28): Complete digitization of all records, operationalize Disaster Recovery (DR) sites, and integrate emergency medical and fire response mechanisms in all complexes.

Phase IV (2028–29): Achieve statewide integration through a centralized command and control system at the High Court level. Ensure 100% biometric access, data protection compliance, and operational readiness of Court Security Units.

Key enablers:

- Dedicated budget allocation covering hardware, training, and manpower.
- Coordination with Police, Fire, Health, and OSDMA for joint response frameworks.
- Outsourcing security management to licensed private agencies under judicial supervision.
- Regular AMC-based maintenance and bi-annual security audits.
- Mandatory awareness and simulation exercises for all court personnel.

Expected outcomes by 2029:

- Fully trained Court Security Units ensuring 24x7 security.
- 100% secure and digitally protected judicial complexes across Odisha.
- Comprehensive disaster and emergency preparedness systems.
- Full data integrity through digitization and encryption.
- Enhanced public trust and institutional resilience in the justice delivery system.