

Press - Communique

**CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND PLANNING**

**SUPREME COURT OF INDIA ESTABLISHES AN IN-HOUSE THINK TANK**

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Shri Ranjan Gogoi has established an in-house 'think tank' to strengthen the knowledge infrastructure of the Supreme Court and enhance its capacity to meet its increasing knowledge needs.

To this end, Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India has redefined the role and function of the Supreme Court's Centre for Research and Planning (CRP) and entrusted it with a new mandate.

*The Context: Fast Expanding Knowledge Needs of the Judiciary*

The knowledge needs of the judiciary are rapidly expanding. The range, content and complexity of issues that are adjudicated in our courts is growing exponentially. Courts have to deal with a constantly growing body of new legislation and administrative regulation including on highly specialized matters. Courts are increasingly becoming the forum of choice for adjudication of sensitive, complex and tangled social, economic and political questions. Citizens, in particular marginalized sections, are increasingly, and rightfully, asserting their legal and constitutional rights. International law is playing an increasing role in our litigation, and foreign judgments are being cited by lawyers and academics as guidance. In a dynamic and fast changing society, there is constant need for jurisprudential adaptation, innovation and evolution. There is a burgeoning body of academic research and writing on various aspects of courts and on law which needs to be effectively bridged to the judicial system. Knowledge is also vital for reforming and modernizing the judicial system to improve the quality, timeliness, responsiveness, efficiency and effectiveness of justice delivery.

*The Response: Strengthening the Knowledge Infrastructure of the Judiciary*

To meet these knowledge needs, the judiciary requires a strong *knowledge and intellectual infrastructure* and the systematization and institutionalization of processes and methods for acquiring, generating and managing legal and inter-disciplinary knowledge needed by courts.

The creation of an in-house 'think tank' in the Supreme Court by the Chief Justice responds to these needs, complementing the vibrant network of national and state judicial academies that has been built over the last 15 years or so. The network creates and strengthens *institutional knowledge* as a permanent resource for judges and also the broader legal community.

### *Role of the New Think Tank*

The main mandate of the think tank would be to carry out cutting edge research into *fundamental jurisprudence and principles and doctrines of law* as well as on *judicial reforms* for improvement in *justice delivery* and *judicial independence*. A focal point of its research will be the contribution of the Supreme Court of India to the development of law.

To this end, CRP will carry out its own research as well as harness research relevant to the judicial system. CRP will create a *network of leading independent scholars* in key domain areas. CRP will create a permanent and accessible database of relevant knowledge through a series of publications, working papers, thematic briefs and case notes. CRP will also prepare summaries of key judgements of the Supreme Court for general audiences in non-technical language. CRP will conduct periodic seminars on doctrinal issues and engage with members of the Bar engaged in academic work, especially its younger members. CRP's focus will be on meta themes and issues, and not on individual adjudication. CRP's work will be independent and free of bias, presenting all major points of view. To maximize transparency and ensure wide dissemination of its work, all key outputs of CRP will be posted on a public web site.

## **GUIDED TOUR OF SUPREME COURT OF INDIA**

### **SUPREME COURT LAUNCHES GUIDED TOUR FOR GENERAL PUBLIC**

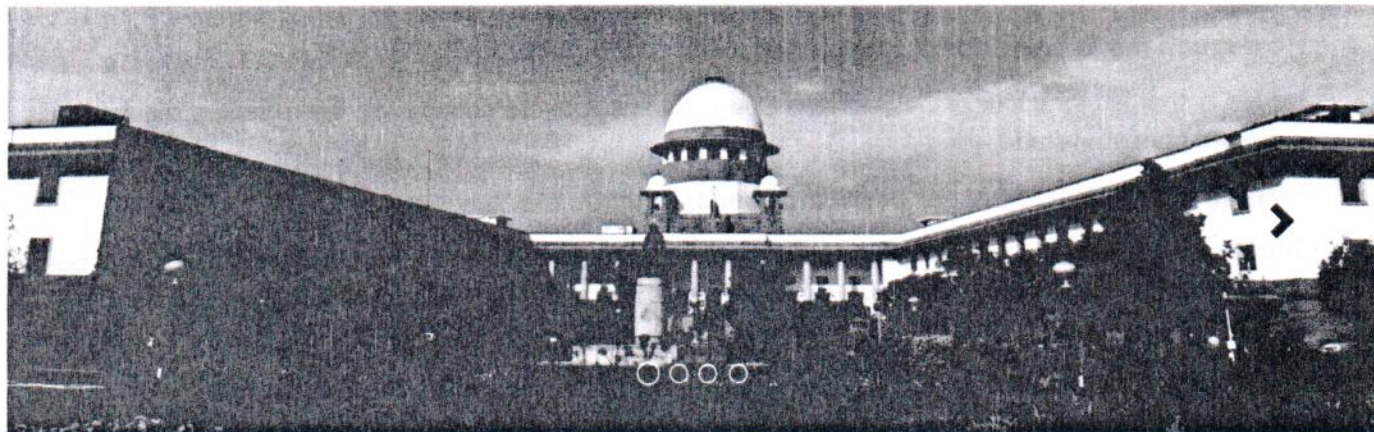
Supreme Court will be open to general public from 10.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. every Saturday except on declared holidays for the purpose of Guided Tour of the Court premises. The pre-planned visits can be organized subject to online booking, made in advance. The visitors will be accompanied throughout the premises and introduced to parts of historic importance. The details of the tour are enclosed.

**Rakesh Sharma**  
**(Public Relations Officer)**

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Login (for Supreme Court officials only) (mainPage.drt) Calender SCI (scicalendar.drt)



## GUIDED TOUR

The Supreme Court of India is open to the general public from 10:00 HRS to 13:00 HRS every Saturday except on declared holidays. This is a great opportunity to gain inside access to the grand interiors of the Supreme Court building and admire the majestic structure in its full glory. Pre-planned escorted visits can be arranged, subject to online booking made in advance. The visitors will be accompanied throughout the premises and introduced to parts of historical importance. They will also get a chance to witness the court rooms.

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**What is the duration of a typical tour around the Supreme Court and what can one expect to see?**

Sightseeing across the grounds usually takes an hour. Visitors are ushered through the majestic courtrooms. They also get a glimpse inside the grandiose Judges' library where entry on other days is particularly restricted. The excursion ends with a tour of the Supreme Court museum.

An official of the Court will be assigned as your tour guide who will elaborate upon the structure of the Indian legal system yet keep you engaged with intriguing examples of decided cases and the historical significance behind the architecture of the building. A short film will be shown to culminate the educational experience.

**How often are these guided visits organized?**

Every Saturday, two tours can be arranged that commence at the following times:

Dates	Tour Timings
Most Saturdays throughout the year (except declared holidays)	10:00 HRS. and 11:30 HRS.

**How many people are accommodated during a tour?**

A group may contain up to 20 people per trip. Online pre-booking is mandatory to reserve a spot.

Due to constraints upon the availability of staff and resources, we cannot assure a tour if less than five individuals pre-book on any given day.

**How do I ensure booking arrangements?**

Kindly go to the "Registration" tab under the link "Guided Tour" on the official website of the Supreme Court of India and fill the short online form to confirm reservation. Online booking is subject to confirmation sent through SMS/ email after registration.



**How much fee is charged for the guided tour?**

No fee is charged for a tour of the Supreme Court, but absolute compliance with the rules and regulations is expected from all visitors.

**Is there any arrangement for deposit of bags/ luggage etc.?**

There is no provision to submit clothes, bags etc. for safekeeping. To avoid inconvenience, it would be best to show up at the Court carrying minimum or no baggage. All visitors will be subjected to a security search upon arrival.

**Are the visitors allowed to carry a camera or mobile phone inside the premises?**

Photography is not allowed during a guided tour and visitors are forbidden from using a camera or cellphone while touring the premises.

**Where should the visitors report for the guided tour?**

The visitors should report at P.R.O. office through Gate D for the guided tour half an hour before the slot time, so that the guided tour can start at the time scheduled, after the security checks etc.

**What are the prohibited items?**

Eatables, Pan, Gutka, Mobile, Cameras, Backpacks are not allowed during the guided tour.

**Where any enquiry can be asked?**

For any enquiry, kindly email us at [pro.sc@sci.nic.in](mailto:pro.sc@sci.nic.in) (mailto:pro.sc@sci.nic.in) or alternately call us on our guided tours helpline number 011 23385347 (tel:011-23385347).

**Visiting and sight-seeing protocol:**

Being the highest legal authority of the nation, it is imperative that visitors maintain proper decorum commensurate with the dignity of the esteemed establishment. Guests are expected to adhere to the following instructions:

- A thorough security scan will be conducted at entry point. Visitors will be required to walk through metal detectors and their personal items will be scrutinized through the x-ray machine.
- Explore the grounds without creating a commotion to retain the operational harmony of nearby offices.
- As stated before, photography and filming is strictly forbidden on the Supreme Court grounds.
- Meals, snacks and beverages may only be consumed in the canteen area.
- Smoking is stringently denied inside the building.
- Physical contact is not permitted with any work of art such as paintings, portraits, relics or any other exhibit.
- Supreme Court Registry reserves the right to approve/ reject the permission to visit the Supreme Court.

**Essential requirement for all visitors:**

A visitor must have a printout of the Electronic Registration Slip (ERS) and should duly carry the Original Identity Card as explained in the registration form. The foreign national must carry their original passport along with the Electronic Registration Slip.

Disclaimer: Neither e-Courts division of NIC nor Supreme Court is responsible for any inadvertent error that may have crept in the Information being published on NET.



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