

**SCHEME/GUIDELINES FOR FUNCTIONING OF THE CENTRE FOR
RESEARCH AND PLANNING: ITS ROLE, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES AND
STAFF STRENGTH (2025)**

Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India has approved the following Scheme/guidelines for restructuring of Centre for Research and Planning, defining its role, aims and objectives and staff strength.

These guidelines regulate the functioning of the Centre for Research and Planning as part of Secretariat of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India in Supreme Court of India, its objectives, staff strength and method of recruitment to various posts earmarked for the Centre. It is the premier policy centre of the Supreme Court focusing on number of transformational initiatives and programmes for judicial reforms to improve efficiency and sustainability of justice delivery system, development of jurisprudence and improving the quality of data collection using modern technology. For achieving better results and optimum efficiency, the Centre will have talented, innovative, experienced and dynamic officers/professionals having expertise in the field of legal and academic research, and planning. The Centre for Research and Planning will serve as a bridge between academic research, legal and judicial education, and the judicial systems.

The original guidelines were framed in 2021 and have been revised in 2025 to reflect the updated framework.

1. Title:-

(a) The guidelines provided hereinafter shall be called as "Scheme/Guidelines for functioning of the Centre for Research and Planning in Supreme Court of India, 2025".

2. Definitions:-

Unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context:-

- (i) 'CRP' means Centre for Research and Planning in Supreme Court of India;
- (ii) 'Chief Justice' means Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India;

- (iii) 'Judge' means Hon'ble Judge of Supreme Court of India;
- (iv) 'Secretariat' means Secretariat of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India;
- (v) 'Committee' means Committee of Hon'ble Judges;
- (vi) 'Director' means Director of Centre for Research and Planning;
- (vii) 'NCMS' means National Court Management System;
- (viii) 'Rules, 1961', means Supreme Court Officers and Servants (Conditions of Service and Conduct) Rules, 1961;
- (ix) 'Law Clerk' means Law Clerk-cum-Research-Assistant;
- (x) 'Schedule' means Schedule given at the end of the guidelines;
- (xi) 'Website' means official website of the Centre for Research and Planning as may be uploaded from time to time.

3. Application:-

These guidelines shall apply to the functionaries of Centre for Research and Planning

4. The Centre for Research and Planning is responsible for prioritising the following main deliverable:

(I) Justice Delivery

1. Policy and planning papers on critical justice delivery issues drawing on available data and knowledge as well as through new research covering aspects such as quality, access and responsiveness, timeliness, efficiency and effectiveness, court development and planning, infrastructure, data and statistics, court and case management, human resources including diversity, use of artificial intelligence and information technology.
2. Assistance for critical research as directed by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Hon'ble Judges, and other Committees of the Supreme Court.

3. Policy and planning on strengthening legal and professional education from a jurisprudential and practical point of view.
4. Orientation Programmes, workshops and training modules in research methodology and training for new law clerks of the Supreme Court of India.

(II) Jurisprudence

1. A continuing series on "Jurisprudence of the Supreme Court of India" in key areas.
2. Periodic briefs on development of law by the Supreme Court; and key decisions of other selected apex courts of the world.
3. Thematic reviews of law which would analyse existing jurisprudence, theory and scholarship on crucial questions of law or judicial policy.
4. Cutting-edge research on key theories and principles of law as may be suggested by Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court from time to time.

(III) Outreach

1. Occasional seminars on the jurisprudence of the Supreme Court of India.
2. Developing programmes/papers explaining key decisions of the Supreme Court as well as court contributions to law and justice, and on the working of courts.

(IV) Knowledge Network on Law and Justice

1. CRP will also establish and operate a network of carefully selected independent experts in critical justice related knowledge domains ("honorary fellows") drawn, as far as possible, from public sector academic institutions to support its work.
2. The network would also include independent experts who may be retired judges, academicians or public servants in legal and other disciplines as required.
3. The network may also include some 20 or more selected final year students across the country to assist in research work.

4. For internal support CRP and network may also include management, finance and statistics personnel.

(V) Website

1. CRP will establish a website or a page on the website of the Supreme Court of India, and its key research outputs will be posted on the site for the benefit of all Judges, legal academic communities, the public at large, and to ensure transparency in its functioning.

5. Centre for Research and Planning shall consist of the following staff strength :-

| S. No. | Designation, post and equivalent post in the Registry | Number |
|---------------|--|----------------------|
| 1. | Director (Additional Registrar) | 1 (One) |
| 2. | Senior Fellow (Deputy Registrar) | 1 (One) |
| 3. | Assistant Fellow (Assistant Registrar) | 3 (Three) |
| 4. | Consultant (Research) | 6 (Six) ¹ |
| 5. | Consultant (Technology) | 1 (One) ² |
| 6. | Research Associate ³ | 6 (Six) |
| 7. | Interns | 10 (Ten) |

6. Number of posts and level in pay matrix:-

The number of the posts, level in the pay matrix and contractual manpower shall be as specified in Column (3) to (4) of the said Schedule.

7. Method of recruitment, age limit, qualification etc:-

The qualifications, age limit and method of recruitment shall be as specified in Column (5) to (7) of the aforesaid Schedule.

8. CRP shall be headed by a Director with required qualifications and experience as mentioned in the Schedule. Subject to the concurrence of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of

¹ Order of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India dated 22 July 2025

² Order of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India dated 21 August 2025

³ The term "Research Associate" is used herein in place of "Research Assistant" in accordance with the official terminology prescribed for Law Clerks-cum-Research Associates.

India, the Director shall have the authority to engage six qualified professionals as Consultants (Research) and one as Consultant (Technology) with proven skills, expertise, and professional experience.

9. Subject to approval of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, CRP shall be provided with support staff, Secretariat/Stenographic assistance and services of orderlies, as per requirement.

10. Key responsibilities and Role of Director:-

(I) The Director or Director-in-charge shall be responsible for efficient functioning and maintenance of day to day activities of the Centre, and shall report to the Ld. Secretary General of the Supreme Court of India.

(II) Without prejudice to the generality of the functions provided in Clause (I) the Director shall be responsible for any or all the functions:-

1. Preparing summaries of important cases for public communications, key developments in the field of law. Getting information published about key decisions on judicial/administrative side, NALSA activities, Legal Aid functions of Supreme Court, Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee, e-Committee, National Court Management System, National Judicial Academy, Conferences, Workshops, Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee (GSICC), contents of Supreme Court Report, inputs;
2. Preparing content for website;
3. Meeting Research requests from Hon'ble Judges;
4. Input into Court News/publications;
5. To provide support for Research and publications of Supreme Court of India;

6. To provide Research Assistance to NCMS and other Committees;
7. To provide Research Assistance in Internal Judicial Relations;
8. Any other Research Project as directed from time to time.

11. The other officers and staff members of CRP shall assist the Director in achieving the vision of the Centre in accordance with the role/project work assigned by the Director, and shall be responsible for any further functions assigned to them by the Director.

12. (1) Subject to compliance of any other related provision of Law and Rules, no current member or former member of CRP shall contribute/publish any material, article, book, chapter containing information which he/she has acquired during the course of their employment with CRP.

(2) Any publication by the staff member of CRP other than those covered by clause (1), shall not be published, except with prior permission of the Ld. Secretary General, Supreme Court of India, and in consonance with the Rules, 1961.

13. General Conditions of Service:-

All appointees to regular posts in CRP shall be deemed to be Court Officers and Employees for the purpose of Supreme Court Officers and Servants (Conditions for Service and Conduct) Rules, 1961. Those recruited on contract basis will have to execute an agreement from time to time, as may be presented. The employment contract can be terminated by Consultant (Research)/Consultant (Technology)⁴Research Assistant side with a minimum notice period of one month. No person shall be appointed on contract unless he/she is declared medically fit by appropriate Medical Authority as provided under the rules in case of appointees to regular posts, unless he/she has already been declared fit by an equivalent authority.

⁴ Order of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India dated 21 August 2025

14. Interpretation:-

Any question relating to interpretation of any of the provisions of these guidelines shall be decided by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India whose decision shall be final.

15. Power to remove difficulties:-

If any difficulty arises in giving effect to the provisions of these guidelines, Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India may make provisions or issue instructions consistent with the provisions of these guidelines, as may appear necessary and expedient for removal of difficulties.

16 Repeal and Savings:-

These guidelines are in addition to and not in derogation of the existing Rules and Guidelines regulating the Service and conduct of Officers and Servants.

17. Publication of the Guidelines:-

(i) The guidelines shall be uploaded on website and intimation of uploading may be given to all concerned.

(ii) Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India may direct publishing of these Guidelines in any other additional manner also.

SCHEDULE

| S.No. | Designation, post and equivalent post | No. | Level in Pay Matrix | Educational, qualifications and other experience | Age Limit Not Exceeding | Method of Recruitment |
|-------|---|---------|---------------------|--|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Director [Additional Registrar (Research)] | 1 (One) | 14 | (i) Doctorate in Law or equivalent ; and (ii) 10 years or more of relevant professional or academic or judicial experience (or in combination thereof). | 56 years | On Deputation Basis |
| 2 | Deputy Registrar (Research)-cum-Senior Fellow | 1 (One) | 13 | (i)Persons holding the post of Assistant Professor or equivalent in National Law Universities/State Law Universities/Other Central/State Universities on regular basis with minimum 7 years service on the said post and Doctorate in Law or equivalent. Or a Judicial Officer having masters degree in law with 5 years or more of relevant professional or academic or judicial experience (or in combination thereof); and has also written some paper published including book/dissertation/thesis Desirable:- (i) Excellent writing skills. (ii) Knowledge of IT skills including familiarity with data analysis and preparation of excel spreadsheets and power point presentation. (iii) Excellent legal skills and familiarity with legal data basis, legal information website and capacity to legal research. | 56 years | On Deputation Basis |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|--------------|----|---|----------|---------------------|
| 3 | Assistant Registrar (Research)-cum-Assistant Fellow | 3 (Three) | 12 | <p>(i) Persons holding the post of Assistant Professor or equivalent in National Law Universities/ State Law Universities/ Other Central/ State Universities on regular basis with minimum 3 years service on the said post.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>a Judicial Officer having masters degree in law with 3 years or more of relevant professional or academic or judicial experience (or in combination thereof); and has also written some paper published including book/ dissertation/thesis</p> <p>Desirable:-</p> <p>(i) Excellent writing skills.</p> <p>(ii) Knowledge of IT skills including familiarity with data analysis and preparation of excel spreadsheets and power point presentation.</p> <p>(iii) Excellent legal skills and familiarity with legal data basis, legal information website and capacity to legal research.</p> | 56 years | On Deputation Basis |
|---|---|--------------|----|---|----------|---------------------|

| | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|------------|--|--|----------|--|
| 4 | Consultant (Research) | 6 (Six) | Contractual assignment with Consolidated Remuneration of Rs.1,25,000/- per month and after completion of 12 months, Rs. 1,40,000/- per month. ⁵ | (i) LLB Degree from a recognized University; and (ii) Excellent writing skills. (iii) Prior experience in Research in the similar field for atleast a year. (iv) Knowledge of IT skills including familiarity with data analysis and preparation of excel spreadsheets and power point presentation. (v) Excellent legal skills and familiarity with legal database, legal information website and capacity to legal research. | 40 years | Contractual assignment initially for a period of one year extendable by one more year and will be on the basis of interaction/call for applications on the website, as may be decided. |
|---|--------------------------|------------|--|--|----------|--|

| | | | | | | |
|---|----------------------------|------------|---|--|----------|---|
| 5 | Consultant (Technology) | 1 (One) | Contractual assignment with Consolidated Remuneration of Rs.1,50,000/- per month ⁶ | (i) Bachelor's Degree in Technology (B.Tech) from a recognized university or institution. (ii) Minimum of ten years of professional experience in the relevant field of technology. | 40 years | Contractual assignment initially for a period of one year extendable by one more year and will be on the basis of interaction/ call for applications on the website, as may be decided. |
|---|----------------------------|------------|---|--|----------|---|

⁵ Vide Office Order No. 132/2025 dated 11 September 2025

⁶ Order of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India dated 21 August 2025

| | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|----------|--|--|----------|---|
| 6 | Research Associate | 6 (Six) | Contractual assignment with Consolidated Remuneration of Rs.80,000/- per month, and after completion of 12 months, Rs. 90,000/- per month. | (iii) LLB Degree from a recognized University and has also written some paper published including book/ dissertation/thesis; and (iv)Excellent writing skills. (v) Prior experience in Research in the similar field for atleast a year. (vi) Knowledge of IT skills including familiarity with data analysis and preparation of excel spreadsheets and power point presentation. (vii)Excellent legal skills and familiarity with legal database, legal information website and capacity to legal research. | 40 years | Contractual assignment initially for a period of one year extendable by one more year and will be on the basis of published paper and interaction/ call for applications on the website, as may be decided. |
| 7 | Interns | 10 (Ten) | Short term assignment with no remuneration. | Students pursuing LLB degree from a recognized University; (i) If studying in 5 year law course then students of 4 th & 5 th year. Or (ii) If pursuing 3 year law degree then students of third year. | 27 Years | Short term assignment based on the guidelines governing Internship to law students by Hon'ble Judges. |