

PRESS RELEASE

The eCommittee, Supreme Court of India in collaboration with the Department of Justice, Government of India organised a two day National Conference on Judicial Process Re-engineering and Digital Transformation

A two-day **National Conference on Judicial Process Re-engineering and Digital Transformation: Empowering the Justice System by Reviewing the Past, Re-engineering the Present, Redefining the Future** was conducted and concluded today under the joint aegis of the eCommittee, Supreme Court of India, and the Department of Justice, Government of India.

The National Conference was organized into five working sessions over two days, each addressing critical dimensions of technological integration and the re-engineering of judicial processes. On the first day, three sessions were held, during which experts and stakeholders engaged in discussions on various aspects of technology use in the justice delivery system and the transformation of judicial processes.

The second day started with Working Session IV. Working Session IV was chaired by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajesh Bindal, Judge, Supreme Court of India. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bindal emphasized the role of technology as an aid rather than a substitute. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bindal stated that AI and digital tools must be used as supportive instruments and should not be allowed to override judicial reasoning. He also raised concerns regarding the use of open-source platforms and the potential risks to data confidentiality. The Session also featured an address by Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. Muhamed Mustaque, Chief Justice, High Court of Sikkim, who deliberated on the evolving challenges of judicial process re-engineering in the digital era. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Mustaque emphasised the need for a consultative and problem-driven approach to reform the judicial process and highlighted that technological adoption must be preceded by identification of core systemic issues.

Working Session V was chaired by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sandeep Mehta, Judge, Supreme Court of India. The Session V highlighted key technological advancements in the judiciary by different High Courts. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Purushendra Kumar Kaurav, Judge, High Court of Delhi discussed e-Inspection Rules, enabling secure and remote access to court records. Hon'ble Mr. Justice B. M. Shyam Prasad, Judge of the High Court of Karnataka, delivered a presentation on the Surety Scrutiny Management Application. The presentation highlighted the key features and benefits of the Surety Scrutiny Management Application in enhancing efficiency and transparency in the surety verification process. Shri Niraj Verma, Secretary (Justice), Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India outlined achievements and challenges of the eCourts Phase III project, emphasizing a shift towards an inclusive, paperless and technology-driven justice system.

Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court of India and Chief Justices and Judges of various High Courts graced the National Conference. The Conference witnessed wide

participation from Central Project Coordinators and member of IT Committees of respective High Courts. Secretary and his team from the Department of Justice, Secretary and his team from Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, representative from National Crime Record Bureau, representative from National Informative Centre, Registrars General/Registrars/OSDs and other officials. District Judges from all States and Union Territories actively participated in the deliberations.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.K. Maheshwari, Judge, Supreme Court of India, delivered the valedictory address highlighting the significance of continued judicial reforms and technological advancement in the justice delivery system. A memento presentation was held as a mark of appreciation. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anjani Kumar Mishra, Vice-Chairman eCommittee, Supreme Court of India concluded the conference with a heartfelt Vote of Thanks, expressing sincere gratitude to all dignitaries, speakers, participants and organizers for their valuable contributions. He remarked that the deliberations over the past two days had been both enriching and thought-provoking, offering meaningful insights into the future of judicial processes.

In his closing words, he expressed his earnest hope that the discussions and ideas exchanged during the conference would not remain confined to dialogue, but would translate into concrete reforms. He conveyed his belief that these two days of engagement would prove fruitful and act as a catalyst for the much-needed transformation in the judiciary, ultimately strengthening efficiency, accessibility and delivery of justice.

The function also featured a showcase of High Court technology initiatives at the Conference Hall, reflecting the judiciary's commitment towards innovation and efficiency.
