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Dis.No.1677 /2026/Admn/SJ/Hyd Dt 24-03-2026

Communicated to all the Judicial Officers, working in this Unit, the orders of Hon'ble High Court vide ROC.No.630/SO/2026 dt 17-03-2026.(e-sakshya Rules of Telangana(Digital Evidence- Recording of Evidence by Audio-video means Rules-2026)

FAC.Sessions Judge,
Hyderabad.
SESSIONS JUDGE
Hyderabad

To:

All the Judicial Officers
Of this unit.

Copy to
1. The Senior Superintendent(Judicial Section), Sessions Judge Court, Hyderabad.
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RIGHT TO INFORMATION

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RULES SUPPLEMENT TO PART-I
EXTRAORDINARY
OF
THE TELANGANA GAZETTE
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

No. 3-C] HYDERABAD, WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026.

NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT

—x—

LAW DEPARTMENT

(LA, LA&J-HOME-COURTS.B)

e-SAKSHYA RULES OF TELANGANA (DIGITAL EVIDENCE - RECORDING OF EVIDENCE BY AUDIO - VIDEO MEANS) RULES, 2026.

[G.O.Ms. No.17, Law (LA, LA&J-Home-Courts.B), 11th February, 2026.]

In exercise of the powers conferred by the relevant provisions dealing with recording the evidences as required under section 63 of the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 (Act No. 47 of 2023), and Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (Central Act No.46 of 2023) amended from time to time and all other powers enabling it in this behalf, the Government of Telangana hereby makes the following rules, namely:

e-Sakshya Rules of Telangana (Digital Evidence-Recording of Evidence by Audio-Video Means) Rules, 2026

CHAPTER 1 – PRELIMINARY

1. Short Title and Commencement:

(1) These rules may be called the Telangana Recoding of Evidence by Audio-Video Means, Rules, 2026.

(2) These rules shall be deemed to have come into force, from 1st July, 2024.

CHAPTER II - DEFINITIONS

2. Definitions: (1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires,-

(a) **"Application"** means any application that has been notified by the State Government under rule 2 of these rules;

(b) "CCTNS" means Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems, a comprehensive system software utilized by the Police Department for the systematic collection, storage, and analysis of crime-related data, as well as for the execution of instructions and coordination among law enforcement agencies. This system integrates with other criminal justice platforms to enable real-time data sharing and tracking of criminal cases from registration to disposal, including applications built on top of CCTNS for enhanced functionality in Telangana;

(c) "CIS" means Case Information System, a specialized system software employed by the District Judiciary and High Courts for the efficient collection, management, and retrieval of case-related data, including evidence, hearings, and judgments, and for the execution of judicial instructions. It facilitates seamless integration with other systems like ICJS for inter-operable data exchange;

(d) **"High Court"** means the High Court for the State of Telangana at Hyderabad;

(e) "ICJS" means Inter-operable Criminal Justice System, a software platform currently in operation for the secure and efficient transfer of information among the various pillars

of the criminal justice system. This includes investigating agencies such as police, courts, correctional homes (prisons), forensic laboratories, prosecution directorates, and any other stakeholders notified by the Central Government or State Government from time to time. ICJS ensures end-to-end digitization and interoperability to reduce delays in justice delivery;

(f) **"Investigating Officer"** means any police officer or any other person duly authorized by a competent authority or empowered under law to undertake investigation for any offence;

(g) **"Sakshya"** means any evidence collected/recorded as a document through eSakshya Mobile Application. Sakshya consists of video recording(s), photograph(s), photograph(s) of witness(s) and photograph of the investigating/recording officer. All evidence recorded through eSakshya Mobile Application shall generate a secure packet of the event (hereinafter referred to as "e-Sakshya Packet') with a unique Identification called SID, a unique 16 digit Identification (SID) with opening, closing time stamp and geo-location. Each SID and its contents will have unique hash value to ensure integrity. Sakshya will be stored in immutable storage;

(h) **"Sanhita"** means the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (Central Act No.46 of 2023);

(2) Words and expressions used but not defined in these rules shall have the same meanings as assigned to them in the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (Central Act No.46 of 2023), the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (Central Act No.45 of 2023), the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 (Central Act No.47 of 2023), and the Information Technology Act, 2000 (Central Act No.21 of 2000).

CHAPTER III – RECORDING OF ELECTRONIC EVIDENCE

3. **Application for recording electronic evidence:** (1)The State Government shall notify an application which shall automatically generate a secure packet of the event with a unique identifier called SID (a 16-digit unique ID), including opening and closing timestamps, geo-location coordinates, and a unique hash value for each SID and its contents to ensure data integrity and prevent tampering.

(2) Where an application is notified by the State Government, the investigation officer shall record all video or photographic evidence, using that application:

Provided that where for any reason, the application cannot be accessed or operated, the police officer shall record video or photographic evidence using the mobile phone itself, without using the Application.

(3) The evidence thus recorded shall be stored in an immutable storage, meaning it cannot be altered, deleted, or modified post-upload, thereby complying with the evidentiary standards under section 63 of the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 (Central Act No.47 of 2023). The State Government shall notify the immutable storage from time to time, for purpose of this sub-rule.

4. Recording evidence using audio video means: Every investigation officer or any police officer shall record all video and photographic evidence as required under section 105 and section 185 of the Sanhita or may record all video and photographic evidence as required under sections 173, 176 and 180 of the Sanhita in a mobile phone or any other electronic device by using an application as notified by the State Government for that purpose:

Provided that in any case, where the investigation officer is unable to access or operate the application as notified by the State Government, he shall record all video and photographic evidence in that mobile phone without using the application and shall forthwith generate a hash value to that video/s or photograph/s.

5. Certificate under section 63(4) of Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam: (1) Every investigation officer or any police officer, after recording any video or photographic evidence in the manner referred above, using the application, shall generate or issue a certificate as required under sub-section (4) of section 63 of the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 by using the Application.

(2) Any such certificate generated using the application after recording the evidence in that application, is valid and is considered to be given in conformity with the requirement sub-section (4) of section 63 of the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023.

(3) Where the video and photographic evidence is recorded under the proviso to rule 3 of these rules, the investigation officer or any police officer who recorded electronic evidence shall issue a certificate under sub-section (4) of section 63 of the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023.

6. Linking and uploading the electronic evidence: (1)In all cases where the investigation officer or any police recorded evidence using the application in the manner provided above, he shall upload it to an immutable storage and shall link the SID of that evidence with the concerned FIR Number / GD number already generated through CCTNS and in cases where FIR has not been generated, link such evidence after generating the FIR Number.

CHAPTER IV – STORAGE, FORWARDING AND ACCESS

7. Forwarding the evidence to Magistrate: (1)The Courts can view and manage all the evidence uploaded to the immutable storage concerning their jurisdiction in the CIS application on ICJS or any other integrable application as notified by the State Government in consultation with the High Court:

(2) All evidence uploaded to the immutable storage accessible in the integrable application shall be construed to be forwarded to the Magistrate as required under section 105 and section 185 of the Sanhita:

Provided that in any case, where the evidence uploaded to the immutable storage cannot be accessed by the Magistrate, the investigation officer shall, download a copy of that evidence and certificate issued under sub-section (4) of section 63 of the Bhartiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 from CCTNS maintaining the integrity of hash value of that evidence, and forward the same magistrate.

8. Supplying copy of the evidence to the accused and victim: (1)The investigation officer shall forward such number of copies as contemplated under sub-section (8) of section 193 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 along with certificate under section 63 of the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 to enable the jurisdictional Magistrate to give a copy of the evidence recorded under these rules to the Accused and the victim (if represented by an advocate) for compliance of section 230 of the Sanhita.

(2) For the purpose of the above sub-rule (1), the police officer investigating the case, shall notify to the Magistrate the method and the manner in which the accused and the victim can access that evidence.

(3) In any case, the accused or the victim are unable to the access the evidence in accordance with the method in sub-rule (2) of this rule, the police officer shall download a copy of that evidence and send them to the Magistrate to be supplied to the accused and the victim.

CHAPTER V – ARCHIVAL AND JUDICIAL POWERS

9. Archiving the evidence: After completion of trial, the electronic evidence recorded under these rules shall be moved to the Archival mode.

10. Judicial Powers: Nothing in these rules shall limit the inherent powers of the Courts to view, summon, or examine the electronic evidence recorded in the manner referred above, or to issue directions necessary to safeguard the integrity or admissibility of evidence under the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023, as amended from time to time.

CHAPTER VI – SAVINGS

11. Savings: These rules shall be in addition to, and not in derogation of, any other law or rules for the time being in force governing the acceptance, management, and admissibility of evidence by the Courts under the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 (Central Act No.47 of 2023), as amended from time to time.

The Director General of Police, Hyderabad shall take further necessary action accordingly.

C.V. ANAND,
Special Chief Secretary to Government.

HIGH COURT OF FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA

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ROC.NO.630/SO/2026 **DATED: 17-03-2026**

Telangana Gazette No.3-B and 3-C, dt.11.02.2026

"COMMUNICATED"

17/3/26

REGISTRAR GENERAL

To

1. The Prl. Secretary to the Hon'ble the Chief Justice, High Court for the State of Telangana. (with a request to place before the Hon'ble the Chief Justice for His Lordship's kind perusal)
2. All the Personal Secretaries to all the Hon'ble Judges (with a request to place the same before Hon'ble Judge for kind perusal)
3. All the Registrars, High Court for the State of Telangana.
4. All the Unit Heads in the State of Telangana.
5. The Section Officers, Criminal Section and New Filing Section, High Court for the State of Telangana.