

The Committee for Computerization of High Court and Subordinate Courts, High Court Of Chhattishgarh

Committee for Computerization of High Court and Subordinate Courts, High Court Of Chhattishgarh is a body constituted by the High Court Of Chhattishgarh to assist and monitor the work of computerization of High Court and Subordinate Judiciary and to work for the furtherance of policy formulated by e-committee, Supreme Court Of India.

The High Court Computer Committee consists of three sitting High Court Judges out of which the senior most is the the Chairman of the Committee and rest judges are the members of the Committee. The Committee oversee the various tasks related to implementation of eCourts Project components. The High Court Computer Committee recommends and supervises various policy measures, administrative restructuring essential for ICT implementation in consultation with the e-Committee.

Active participation, supervision and guidance of the High Court Computer Committee ensures the successful implementation of the Project. This becomes more important in view of the effective decentralization being introduced in the Project and the High Court becoming the Implementing Agency of the Project.

eCourts Mission Mode Project

The eCourts Project was conceptualized on the basis of the “National Policy and Action Plan for Implementation of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the Indian Judiciary – 2005” submitted by eCommittee, Supreme Court of India with a vision to transform the Indian Judiciary by ICT enablement of Courts.

The eCourts Mission Mode Project, is a Pan-India Project, monitored and funded by Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India for the District Courts across the country.

THE PROJECT ENVISAGES

- To provide efficient & time-bound citizen centric services delivery as detailed in eCourt Project Litigant's Charter.
- To develop, install & implement decision support systems in courts.
- To automate the processes to provide transparency in accessibility of information to its stakeholders.
- To enhance judicial productivity, both qualitatively & quantitatively, to make the justice delivery system affordable, accessible, cost effective, predictable, reliable and transparent.

Phase-I :

In Phase-I of the eCourts Project beginning from 2007, a large number of Court Complexes, Computer Server Rooms and Judicial Service Centres were readied for computerization of the District Courts. The District and Taluka Court Complexes covered in Phase-I were computerized with installation of hardware, LAN and Case Information Software (CIS), for providing basic case related services to the litigants and the lawyers.

A large number of District Courts launched their websites for the convenience of the different stakeholders. The Change Management exercise was undertaken to train the Judicial Officers and Court Staff in the use of computers and Case Information System (CIS) was successfully implemented.

The Judicial Officers were trained by the Master Trainers trained from amongst them for continuing training programme. The CIS Master trainers have trained District System Administrators (DSAs) in the use of CIS. The DSAs have trained all the Court Staff in the use of CIS. The data entry for all pending cases has reached an advanced stage of completion. The Process Re-Engineering exercise was initiated to have a fresh look on the process, procedures, systems and Court Rules in force in the different District Courts under High Courts. The Phase-I concluded with extended timelines upto 30th March 2015.

Phase II:

The Policy and Action Plan Document Phase-II of the eCourts Project, received approval of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India on 8th January 2014. The government of India sanctioned the project on 4th August 2015. In Phase-II, the covered

courts are provisioned for additional hardware with (1+3) systems per Court Room, the uncovered Courts of Phase-I and the newly established Courts with (2+6) systems per Court Room and the Court Complexes are provisioned for hardware, LAN etc.

The dynamic implementation structure provides for greater participation and cooperation between the eCommittee, the Department of Justice (Government of India), NIC, DietY and Ministry of finance. It provides for High Courts as Implementing Agency, of the project under its jurisdiction. The Infrastructure Model provides for adopting Cloud Computing Architecture which is efficient and cost effective, while retaining the present Servers Rooms as Network Rooms and Judicial Service centers as Centralized Filing Centres. Provision has been made for computerization of office of District Legal Services Authority, Taluka Legal Services Committee, the National Judicial Academy and the State Judicial Academies for efficient delivery of services and training.

Continuing with the implementation of Free and Open Source Solutions (FOSS), Phase-II has adopted the Core-Periphery model of Case Information Software, the core being Unified as National Core, while the periphery developed according to requirement of each High Court, with NIC, Pune continuing to be the Centre for Software Development and related applications, ensuring software compatibility and interoperability, both horizontally and vertically, with the data including metadata to be unified and standardized.

In Phase-II, all the remaining Court Complexes are provisioned to be connected with Jails and Desktop based Video Conferencing to go beyond routine remands and production of under-trial prisoners. It will also be used for recording evidence in sensitive cases and gradually extended to cover as many types of cases as possible. With an emphasis on Capacity Building of Judicial Officers and Process Re-Engineering, the Phase-II provides for Judicial Knowledge Management System including Integrated Library Management System and use of Digital Libraries.

The Phase-II of the project lays great emphasis on service delivery to the litigants, lawyers and other stakeholders. The websites will be Accessible Compliant and to the extent possible, the information will be available in the local languages. The applications for mobile phones , SMS and emails are extensively used as platforms for dissemination of information. Kiosk will be provided for every Court Complex. Certified copies of documents will be given online and ePayment Gateways will be provided for making deposits, payment of court fees, fines etc. The National Judicial Data Grid

(NJDG) will be further improvised to facilitate more qualitative information for Courts, Government and Public.

Role of High Courts:

(a)Implementing Agency:

The High Court is the Implementing Agency for implementation of the Project in the Courts under its jurisdiction. This arrangement, apart from giving the requisite authority to High Court in resolving implementation issues, also entails responsibility to have the Project components implemented on time and the service delivery initiated as per the Litigants' Charter. For effectively implementing these objectives, the High Courts will continue to have the institutional structure as follows:

(ii)Central Project Coordinator (CPC): The Central Project Coordinator would be a person of the rank of District Judge or Senior Civil Judge, who would co-ordinate the implementation of various modules/ tasks of the Project. The Central Project Coordinator would have a dedicated team of identified supporting staff. The CPC would coordinate with the eCommittee and the vendors, Connectivity Providers, State Data Centre, NIC-Pune team (for CIS) etc. for the implementation of all the tasks entrusted by the E-Committee. The Central Project Coordinator should be associated full time and exclusively for the eCourts Project. The responsibilities assigned to the Central Project Coordinator are quite onerous and the Chief Justice of the High Court may be requested to nominate a competent and efficient officer as a Central Project Coordinator. The Computer Committee of the High Court should ensure that the Central Project Coordinator adheres to the time lines and targets. Communication channels must be kept open with the eCommittee at all times through ecourts.nic.in that is the PPMS portal. The eCommittee will be accessing these websites on a daily basis. Central Project Coordinators should update the information on a weekly basis. It will be reiterated to the High Courts that the CPC should be exclusively working for computerization only and no other unrelated duty should be assigned to the CPC. Apart from the duties relating to infrastructure deployment, the CPC will also be responsible for overall control of the CIS Periphery Development Team incoordination with the High Court NIC Coordinator for periphery development and its proper integration with CIS Core as per eCommittee guidelines.

(iii) District Court Computer Committee (DCCC): The District Court Computer Committee would consist of one Senior Additional District Judge and two Sr. Civil Judges or one Sr. Civil Judge one Civil Judge along with District System Administrators and System Administrator trained during the Phase I of the Project. This Committee would perform the overall monitoring of the Project implementation in the District under the overall supervision of the Principal District Judge. This Committee would work in close co-ordination with the Central Project Coordinator (CPC) of the High Court. The committee would undertake the various tasks detailed in the subsequent chapters, at District and Taluka/Tehsil/Sub-division levels.

(iv) Nodal Officer for Every Court Complex: There will be a Judicial Officer designated as a Nodal Officer in every Court Complex who is well conversant with ICT concepts and takes keen interest in computerization of the Courts. The Nodal Officer of the Court Complex will be the point of day to day contact for the CPC of the eCourts Project. High Court for follow up and monitoring of the Project progress and resolving the implementation issues.

Vision & Objectives

THE CORE PRINCIPLES:

Technology must be harnessed to “Empower” and “Enable.”

Technology should not merely be about the automation of conventional practices and processes but must be a vehicle for transformation. A force, which “empowers” and “enables” all citizens.

Ensuring Access to Justice to all :

Every individual must be provided with the means to approach a judicial institution for redress and relief unimpeded by any “digital divide” or other socio-economic challenges.

Creating an efficient and responsive judicial system :

Use of technology enabling the judicial system not only to provide speedy justice but the evolution of “efficiency metrics” to monitor and map the judiciary’s competencies and effectiveness.

Status of Computerization at High Court

- **Video Conferencing** - Due to Covid 19, Court proceedings are being conducted through the Video Conferencing and for this purpose separate display systems have been installed in the Courts of Hon'ble High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur. Total **102875** cases have been heard through Video Conferencing at High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur.

After Covid pandemic Courts of Hon'ble High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur work on hybrid mode, enabling the litigants to appear before Courts through virtual mode.

- **Justice Clock** – Physical Justice Clock has been installed in this High Court displays statistical information such as institution, disposal and pendency of Cases in the High Court and important information for awareness of Advocates and Litigant. Virtual Justice Clock is going to be inaugurated after which Virtual Justice Clock will be available in the website of Hon'ble High Court which will show figures of institution, disposal and pendency of Cases in the High Court.
- **e-Filing** - e-Filing facilities has been started at High Court of Chhattisgarh to enable electronic filing of Cases and Documents. Using e-filing, cases (both civil and criminal) can be filed before the High Courts. Introduction of e-Filing is aimed at promoting paperless filing and saving time and cost by adopting technological solutions to file cases before courts in India. Very Soon we will be migrating to e-filing 3.0 which will lead to enchancement of the service.
- **e-Pay** - e-Pay facilities has been started at High Court. E-Court Fee Counter has been established by the Stock Holdings to electronically provide the facility of eCourt Fee and e-Stamp to the advocates.
- **e-Sewa Kendra** - e-Sewa Kendra has been started at High Court of Chhattisgarh . It enables litigants to obtain information with respect to case status and to obtain copies of judgments and orders. These centres also extend assistance in e-filing of cases. These Kendra represent a significant step for the common man and his right to access to justice.

- **Accessible Website of the High Court** – It has been updated according to accessibility parameters and necessary steps have been taken up in regard to make High Court website more accessible for Visually Challenged.
- **e-Lokadalat** - The Chhattisgarh High Court and the State Legal Services Authority organized the country's first ever E-Lok Adalat on 11-07-2020, amid the restricted judicial functioning owing to Covid-19 outbreak. About **195** benches were constituted at different places of the state, including via video conferencing and **5,067** cases were taken up for this state level e-Lok Adalat out of which **2,270** cases were settled in a single day through virtual mode.
- After that all the lok adalat in hon'ble high Court and District Courts are organised in hybrid mode enabling the litigants to appear before bench through virtual mode.
- **Software/Periphery Developed by High Court Computer Cell** -

S.NO.	NAME OF THE SOFTWARE	PURPOSE	BY WHICH DISTRICT/DEPT./SECTION, IT IS BEING USED?
1	CIS Periphery	CIS Periphery- Filing SMS Module, Scrutiny, listing proposals, case additional details,different reports,offline copying,scanning files and others.	High Court
2	High Court of Chhattisgarh	Website (Case Status, judgement search, cause list, lower court search,Advocatewise Cause list and others)	High Court
3	CSJA	Website (All information regarding Judicial Academy).	High Court
4	Employee Management System	For employees transfer and posting management.	Establishment Section
5	Checker	For reducing work of checker section	Checker section

		as well as sub-ordinate courts data entry.	
6	File Tracking	For tracking files between secitons.	All secitons
7	TA Medical	For maintaining records of TA/Medical.	TA/Medical Seciton
8	Stationary Stock Management	For maintaining stock records of Stationary.	Stationary section
9	Copying Online	Module for applying online for certified copy of cases.	Copying Section
10	Leave Management	For managing leave detail of employees.	High Court
11	Inventory Management	For managing stocks of IT related items.	Computer Cell
12	Staff Car Driver/Lift Man/ Contingency Recruitement System	Staff Car Driver/Lift Man/ Contingency Recruitement System.	Recruitment Cell
13	Mediation Website	For Mediation Section infromation.	Mediation Section
14	Online Court Display System	For running court cases display system.	High Court
15	High Court of Chhattisgarh Mobile App	Website(Case Status, judgement search, cause list, lower court search and others).	High Court
16	Infrastructure Work Software	For Infrastructure management.	Work Section
17	Selection and Appointment Cell-Vacancies Monitoring	Vacancies Monitoring.	SA Cell
18	Ubuntu Training Daily Report Software	Training report.	District
19	Held Up Cases Information Software	Held up cases details.	District
20	Typing Exam	For typing test.	Recruitment Cell
21	Complain Logging System	For logging Complain online.	All secitons
22	District Judge recruitment software	Software for managing different process of District Judge recruitment.	SA Cell

23	Clerk recruitment software	Software for managing different process of clerk recruitment.	Recruitment Cell
24	E Gate Pass	Providing passes to public to enter into High Court.	High Court
25	Network Management	Monitoring Network Connectivity.	Computer Cell
26	Citizen Service Software	To keep track of different services provided to citizens.	District
27	State Inventory Software	Monitoring different Items received from High Court.	District
28	Personal Information Software	To keep personal information of Judicial Officers.	District
29	Nodal Officers Report Software	Managing details of nodal officers.	District
30	Jail VC Information Software	VC Setup information in Jails.	District
31	Vehicle Management System	For maintaining details of Vehicle and Vehicle allotment.	Protocol
32	Online Meeting Software	For High Court Judges meeting detail information.	High Court
33	Ecourt-InVENTORY Software	For District Court inventory management.	District
34	CCRFMS	Court Case Return Filing Monitoring System.	High Court
35	CCRFMS	Court Case Return Filing Monitoring System.	High Court

- **Hardware Procurement** - Under the eCourts Mission Mode Project process for procurement of Hardware for new Court Complexes and new Courts/uncovered courts have been done, which are as under :-
- **616** no. of Desktops for **77** no. of newly established Court Rooms of the State.
 - **77** no. of Duplex Laser Printers.
 - **77** no. of MFD Printers.
 - **41** no. of Help Desk at High Court & District Court (Desktop,Scanner,Webcam, Document Visualizer).
 - **58** no. of VC cabin at High Court & District Court (Webcam+Mic & Speaker).

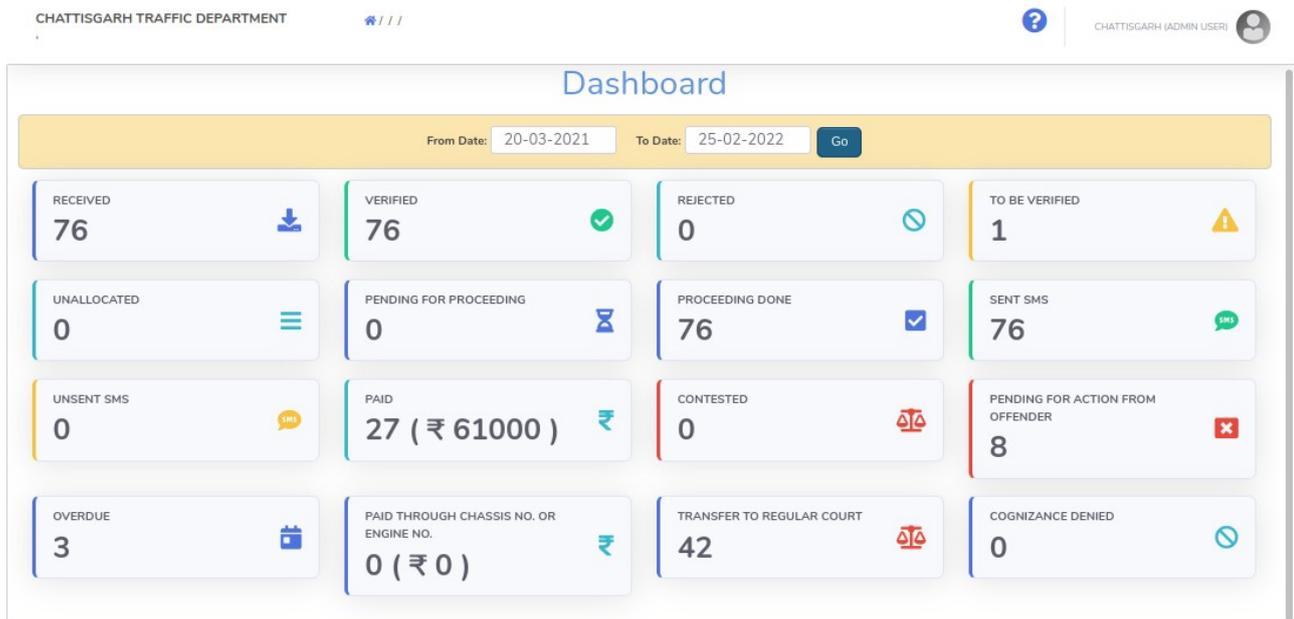
- **CIS(Case Information System)** – HC CIS NC 1.0 has been installed and running successfully at High Court of Chhattisgarh
- **Inventory software** – For proper management of Computer Articles Inventory Software is being used at High Court of Chhattisgarh.
- **Scanning & digitization** - Implemented in High Court. More than 2 Crore pages have been scanned and digitized. State Government has not provided the fund for the same to District & Subordinate Courts. The same will be done in the district as soon as funds are received.
- **Designing & Development of document management system software for file tracking and compliance of orders** – Yes, implemented to keeps track of movement of files from one section to another. Users can create a File, Modify/Delete File, Send File to different section, Close the File. Users can also Track the File status by using keywords such as File No., Receipt No., Name and Designation. Reports are available based on Date of creation and File sending date are available.
- **Recruitment of regular technical manpower** – Recruitment to the post of software related Technical Manpower at the High Court has been completed and due to non availability of suitable candidate to the Hardware related post appointment process could not be completed.
- **Online Right to Information (RTI)** - Orders passed by Public Information Officer and Order of First Appellate Authority are being uploaded in the Website of the High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur related to Order of and also Right to information rules have already been uploaded in the Website of the High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur.

Status of Computerization at District Court

- **Video Conferencing** - Due to Covid 19, Court proceedings were being conducted through the Video Conferencing. Process for procurement of Web Camera and Display System for the **305** numbers of District & Subordinate Courts of the State has completed. Total **30924** cases have been heard at District & Subordinate Courts of the state. Now District & Subordinate Courts of the state are working in hybrid mode. Televisions have been provided for the convenience of video conferencing to all the Courts.
- **Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS)** - ICJS has already been implemented in all the Court complexes of the state. The Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) is an initiative of the e-Committee to enable seamless transfer of data and information among different pillars of the criminal justice system, like courts, police, and jails from one platform.
- **e-Filing** - e-Filing facilities has been started at all the District & Sessions Courts to enable electronic filing of legal papers. Using e-filing, cases (both civil and criminal) can be filed before the High Courts and District Courts that have adopted e-Filing systems. Introduction of e-Filing is aimed at promoting paperless filing and saving time and cost by adopting technological solutions to file cases before courts in India. Very soon e-filing will be migrated to e-filing 3.0.
- **e-Pay** - e-Pay facilities has been started at High Court and District & Sessions Courts of the State. Direction has been given to all the District & Subordinate Courts of the State to ensure maximum use of ePayment in the courts of the District. E-Pay facilities enabling online payment of court fee, fine, penalty and judicial deposits. The ePayment portal is also integrated with state-specific vendors SBI ePay.
- **e-Sewa Kendra** - e-Sewa Kendras have been started at the District & Sessions Court Rajnandgaon, as pilot location. It enables litigants to obtain information with respect to case status and to obtain copies of judgments and orders. Chairman of District Court Computer Committee of each District Courts of the State are nominated as Nodal Officers for implementation of eSewa Kendra at their

respective Districts. Proceeds has begun and very soon these facilities will be available in all the District Courts.

- **Virtual Court** - Virtual Court for hearing traffic cases has been inaugurated on 20-03-2021 at District Court, Raipur. Now the traffic cases are being heard virtually. It is a concept aimed at eliminating the presence of litigant or lawyer in the court and adjudication of the case online. Proceeds has begun and very soon these facilities will be available in Ambikapur, Bastar, Durg, and Bilaspur.



- **Accessible Website of the District Court** – All the District Courts have constituted the Accessibility Committee in regard to make more accessible the Judicial System for Visually Challenged.
- **NSTEP** – NSTEP Implemented in all the courts of State for serving the summons. Smart phones have been purchased and distributed to **250** nos. of process servers/bailiff posted at various Districts & Subordinate Courts. Training has been provided to all the process servers/bailiff for effective implementation of N-STEP Software at ground level.

➤ **DG Sets -**

S.No.	Item	Target	Achievement	Usage
1	DG Sets	88	88	Yes

➤ **Solar Power Plant -**

Funds of **Rs. 57,54,000/-** was received from the Hon'ble e-Committee, Supreme Court of India for installation of Solar Power Plant at Six Court Complexes of the State and same was handed over to CREDA Raipur. Solar Power Plant having total capacity of 28 kWh and a total of 52792.64 kWh units of power has been generated since installation (from the year 2017) and approx. Rs. 382571/- has been saved by generating power.

S.No.	Name of District	Solar Energy Power Plant installed at Civil Court	Total Solar Energy Power capacity in kWh	No. of Units (kWh) power generated since installation	Total savings of amount by generating power since installation (in Rs.)
1	Dantewara	Civil court Sukma	3 kWh	4025	16100
2	Dantewara	Civil Court Konta	2 kWh	521	2084
3	Kabirdham (Kawardha)	Civil Court Pandariya	5 kWh	12477	53700
4	Bilaspur	Civil court Pendra Road	8 kWh	16686.64	130155
5	Baloda-Bazar	Civil Court Bilaigarh	5 kWh	10298	92682
6	Baloda-Bazar	Civil Court Bhatgaon	5 kWh	8785	87850
TOTAL			28 kWh	52792.64	382571

➤ **Implementation of Access to Justice SMS Facilities -** SMS Facilities available- 88 out of 88 Court Complexes.

➤ **Broadband connection at the residence of Judicial Officers -** Funds for providing Broadband connection at Residence of Judicial Officers have been allotted to the all District & Sessions Court of the State.

➤ **Fund Utilization** -

Total Funds remaining in the High Court - 6,10,74,232/-

Total Funds Received till date - 27,30,68,300/-

Funds utilized till date - 21,19,94,068/-

➤ **CIS(Case Information System)** - CIS 3.2 has been installed and running successfully in all the Courts of the State.

➤ **Inventory software at District Courts** – Earlier Inventory Software was provided to all the District Courts of the State for proper management of Computer Articles and entries are being done by the District Courts. It has been observed that information about expiry details of warranty period of computer articles is not available in the provided Inventory Software. As entries are already available in the said Inventory Software. So, for obtaining facility of expiry details of computer articles in the said Inventory Software without loss of data necessary modification is being done by the High Court Computer Cell with the coordination with the District Court.

➤ **National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)** - Direction has been given to all the District & Sessions Judge of the State for the entry of reasons of delay, It is reported by some Districts that some reasons for delay are not available in the delay management module. An email has been sent to eCommittee with a request to add required reasons for delay by mentioning reasons of delay which are needs to be added in delay management.

➤ **Digital Signature** - Digital Signatures have been provided to the Judicial Officers of the State to upload orders/Judgments in CIS Software. So that, Lawyers/Litigants can get the Digitally Signed Orders/Judgments and as the validity has expired process for renewal is running.

➤ **Kiosk** - Touch based KIOSK Information machines have been provided to all the Court Complexes of the State.

➤ **Bio Metric Identification**- Bio Metric machines have been provided to all the Courts of the State with the face reading facility.

➤ **Way ahead -**

- Paperless Court
- Approval and necessary clearance to the State Government has been granted for implementation/integration of eCourts (CIS) with land records and registration of data base and other related task.

S.No.	Item	Target	Achievement	Usage
1	Video Conferencing	88	88	Yes
2	E-Filing	23	23	Yes
3	E-Pay	23	23	Yes
4	E-Sewa Kendra	88	06	Yes
5	N-STEP	88	88	Yes
6	ICJS	23	23	Yes
7	Virtual Court	23	1	Yes
8	Kiosk Machine	88	88	Yes

Serial No	Name of the Service	Places	Available
1	Total District Courts	23	23
2	Total Court Complex	88	88
3	Total Establishments	180	180
4	Total Courts	88	406
5	D.G. Set	88	88
6	Server Room	88	81
7	Server	88	88
8	Lan work	88	88
9	Website	23	23
10	A.C. in Server Room	88	86
11	Electrical work in server room	88	83
12	Chemical Earthing	88	49
13	Lan Work	88	88
14	Webcam	88	88
15	Connectivity (lease line)	23	23
16	Connectivity (V.P.N Connection)	88	88
17	Connectivity (WAN Connection)	88	88
18	Solar System	6	6
19	Video Conferencing software (High Court)	Blue Jeans	
20	Video Conferencing software (District)	Vidyo, Jitsi meet, Google meet	
21	E-seva kendra		
22	Efilling	23	23
23	Epay	23	2
24	Copying module	23	23
25	N step	88	88

CITIZENS CENTRIC SERVICES

Serial no	Name Of Services	Available/Not Available
1	Virtual Courts	Available in 1 District. Starting in rest of the District Beginning with five Divisional Headquarters
2	Epay	Already Started in Hon'ble High Court and District Courts of the State.
3	NJDG	Working
4	Ecourts services	Working
5	Ecourts mobile App	Working
6	Ecourts portal	Working
7	Kiosks	Working
8	Automated Mail	Working
9	SMS pull	Working
10	E sewa kendra	High Court and District & Sessions Court Rajnandgaon. Very soon these facility will be available in all the District Courts.
11	E filling	Working in High Court and District Courts.