## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)

# LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 866 TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 26th JULY, 2024

#### **Funds For E-courts**

#### 866. SHRI VISHALDADA PRAKASHBAPU PATIL:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of sub-heads under the Budget allocated for the e-Courts project;
- (b) the details of actual utilisation of the funds allocated in the last three years;
- (c) the details of distribution of the funds between Supreme Court, High Court and Lower courts; and
- (d) the details of distribution of the funds allocated for the project, State-wise?

#### **ANSWER**

# MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

### (SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a): The eCourts Mission Mode Project is a National eGovernance project for ICT enablement of Indian Judiciary of the country with a view to facilitate faster disposal of cases by speeding up court processes and providing transparent on-line flow of information on case status, orders/judgments etc. to the judiciary as well as litigants, lawyers and other stakeholders. The eCourts Phase I (2011-15) was aimed at basic computerization of courts and providing local network connectivity. Phase II (2015-23) of the project focused on citizen-centric e-services besides

computerising 18735 courts and interconnecting these with wide area network (WAN). The Union Cabinet on 13.09.2023 has approved eCourts Phase-III with a budgetary outlay of Rs.7,210 crore for a period of 4 years starting from 2023 onwards. Taking the gains of Phase-II and Phase-II to the next level, e-Courts Phase-III aims to usher in a regime of maximum ease of justice by moving towards digital, online and paperless courts through digitization of the entire court records including legacy records and by bringing in universalization of e-Filing/ e-Payments through saturation of all court complexes with e-Sewa Kendras. The component wise budget allocation under eCourts Phase III is at Annexure I.

(b): The details of actual utilisation of funds allocated in last three years is as under:

| Year      | Revised Estimate (Rs. Crore) | Total Expenditure (Rs. Crore) |  |  |
|-----------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Phase II  |                              |                               |  |  |
| 2021-22   | 98.82                        | 98.30                         |  |  |
| 2022-23   | 0.01*                        | 0.00                          |  |  |
| Phase III |                              |                               |  |  |
| 2023-24   | 825.00                       | 768.25                        |  |  |

<sup>\*</sup>Funds under the eCourts Phase II were exhausted and the DPR for eCourts Phase III was under preparation by eCommittee, Supreme Court of India. Therefore, only a token amount was allotted in BE 2022-23.

(c) to (d): The eCourts Phase I and Phase II were meant for the ICT development of the District & Subordinate Courts only. The Supreme Court and the High Courts did not form part of the project. However, funds to all Subordinate Courts were provided through the concerned High Courts only, as they are the implementing agency under the eCourts Project. Statement of High Court wise fund release and utilization is placed at Annexure II.

## **Annexure I**

Statement referred to in reply of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 866 for 26/07/2024 regarding Funds For E-courts. The components and financial details of eCourts Phase III are as below:

|       |  | Cost Estimate        |  |  |
|-------|--|----------------------|--|--|
| S.No. | Scheme Component                                   | (Total (In Rs. Cr.)) |  |  |
|       | Scanning, Digitization and Digital Preservation of |                      |  |  |
| 1     | Case Records                                       | 2038.40              |  |  |
| 2     | Cloud Infrastructure                               | 1205.23              |  |  |
| 3     | Additional hardware to existing courts             | 643.66               |  |  |
| 4     | Infrastructure in newly set up courts              | 426.25               |  |  |
| 5     | Virtual Courts                                     | 413.08               |  |  |
| 6     | eSewa Kendra                                       | 394.48               |  |  |
| 7     | Paperless Court                                    | 359.20               |  |  |
| 8     | System and Application Software Development        | 243.52               |  |  |
| 9     | Solar Power Backup                                 | 229.50               |  |  |
| 10    | Video Conferencing set-up                          | 228.48               |  |  |
| 11    | e- filing  | 215.97               |  |  |
| 12    | Connectivity (Primary + Redundancy)                | 208.72               |  |  |
| 13    | Capacity Building                                  | 208.52               |  |  |
|       | CLASS (Courtroom Live-Audio Visual Streaming       |                      |  |  |
| 14    | System)  | 112.26               |  |  |
| 15    | Project Management Unit                            | 56.67                |  |  |
| 16    | Future Technological Advancements                  | 53.57                |  |  |
| 17    | Judicial process re-engineering                    | 33.00                |  |  |
| 18    | Disabled friendly ICT enabled facilities           | 27.54                |  |  |
| 19    | NSTEP  | 25.75                |  |  |
| 20    | Online Dispute Resolution (ODR)                    | 23.72                |  |  |
| 21    | Knowledge Management System                        | 23.30                |  |  |
| 22    | e-Office for High Courts & District Courts         | 21.10                |  |  |
|       | Integration with Inter-Operable Criminal Justice   |                      |  |  |
| 23    | System (ICJS)                                      | 11.78                |  |  |
| 24    | S3WAAS platform                                    | 6.35                 |  |  |
|       | TOTAL  | 7210                 |  |  |

### **Annexure II**

Statement referred to in reply of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 866 for 26/07/2024 regarding Funds For E-courts. Details of High Court wise release and utilization of funds is as below:

|     |                    | Phase II |          |          | Phase III |          |          |
|-----|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| S.  |                    | 2021-22  |          | 2022-23# |           | 2023-24  |          |
| No. | High Courts        | Released | Utilized | Released | Utilized  | Released | Utilized |
| 1   | Allahabad          |          |          | 0        | 0         | 95.87    | 95.87    |
| 2   | Andhra Pradesh     |          |          | 0        | 0         | 25.44    | 25.44    |
| 3   | Bombay             |          |          | 0        | 0         | 69.54    | 69.54    |
| 4   | Calcutta           |          |          | 0        | 0         | 16.73    | 16.73    |
| 5   | Chhattisgarh       |          |          | 0        | 0         | 16.27    | 16.27    |
| 6   | Delhi              |          |          | 0        | 0         | 17.89    | 17.89    |
|     | Gauhati (Arunachal |          |          |          |           | 2.03     | 2.03     |
| 7   | Pradesh)           | 1.26     | 1.18     | 0        | 0         |          |          |
| 8   | Gauhati (Assam)    | 3.49     | 3.48     | 0        | 0         | 24.97    | 24.97    |
| 9   | Gauhati (Mizoram)  | 0.30     | 0.25     | 0        | 0         | 3.12     | 3.12     |
| 10  | Gauhati (Nagaland) | 0.84     | 0.84     | 0        | 0         | 1.79     | 1.79     |
| 11  | Gujarat            |          |          | 0        | 0         | 27.72    | 27.72    |
| 12  | Himachal Pradesh   |          |          | 0        | 0         | 6.06     | 6.06     |
| 13  | Jammu & Kashmir    |          |          | 0        | 0         | 6.52     | 6.52     |
| 14  | Jharkhand          |          |          | 0        | 0         | 10.59    | 10.59    |
| 15  | Karnataka          |          |          | 0        | 0         | 32.37    | 32.37    |
| 16  | Kerala             | 1.58     | 1.58     | 0        | 0         | 15.40    | 15.40    |
| 17  | Madhya Pradesh     |          |          | 0        | 0         | 22.90    | 22.90    |
| 18  | Madras             |          |          | 0        | 0         | 90.69    | 90.69    |
| 19  | Manipur            | 0.76     | 0.75     | 0        | 0         | 11.12    | 11.12    |
| 20  | Meghalaya          | 2.23     | 1.76     | 0        | 0         | 3.33     | 3.33     |
| 21  | Orissa             |          |          | 0        | 0         | 6.77     | 6.77     |
| 22  | Patna              |          |          | 0        | 0         | 32.43    | 32.43    |
| 23  | Punjab & Haryana   |          |          | 0        | 0         | 14.58    | 14.58    |
| 24  | Rajasthan          | 1.62     | 1.62     | 0        | 0         | 19.80    | 19.80    |
| 25  | Sikkim             | 0.77     | 0.60     | 0        | 0         | 1.71     | 1.71     |
| 26  | Telangana          |          |          | 0        | 0         | 22.03    | 22.03    |
| 27  | Tripura            | 0.96     | 0.87     | 0        | 0         | 0.53     | 0.53     |
| 28  | Uttarakhand        |          |          | 0        | 0         | 13.68    | 13.68    |
|     | Total              | 13.81    | 12.92    | 0        | 0         | 611.88   | 611.88   |

<sup>#</sup> Funds under the eCourts Phase II were exhausted and the DPR for eCourts Phase III was under preparation by eCommittee, Supreme Court of India. Hence, no funds were released during FY 2022-23.