

F. No. 15018/3/2014-Jus-II
Government of India
Ministry of Law and Justice
Department of Justice

Jaisalmer House, New Delhi

4th August, 2015

Subject: Phase II of eCourts Mission Mode Project

The eCourts Mission Mode Project is a national eGovernance project for ICT enablement of district/subordinate courts of the country. The objective of the project is to provide designated services to litigants, lawyers and the judiciary through ICT enablement of courts.

2. The Government approved the project originally in February 2007, approved coverage of additional courts in September 2010 and extended duration of the Project in 2014 to end on 31st March 2015. The project aimed at providing hardware, application software and connectivity for ICT enablement of 14,249 district and subordinate courts. Department of Justice Order no. 15018/5/2010 – JR dated 30th September, 2010 refers in this regard.

3. For further enhancement of ICT enablement of Courts, the 12th Five Year Plan provides for Phase II of the eCourts Project. In January 2014, the "Policy and Action Plan Document for Phase-II of the eCourts Project" (hereinafter 'Policy Document') prepared by the eCommittee of Supreme Court in consultation with all the High Courts in the country was approved by the Chief Justice of India.

4. Broadly based on the Policy Document, the Government has approved the proposal for Phase II of the eCourts Mission Mode Project with a budget estimate of Rs.1670 crores. The salient features of the Project include:

- i. Computerisation of all courts in the-country.
- ii. Completion of balance activities of Phase-I of the project.
- iii. Additional hardware for courts computerised in Phase-I of the project.
- iv. Provision of WAN and additional redundant connectivity to all courts, equipped for eventual integration with the proposed interoperable criminal justice system (ICJS).
- v. Citizen centric facilities such as Centralised Filing Centres and touch screen based Kiosks with printers in each Court Complex.
- vi. Provision of laptops, printers, UPS and connectivity to Judicial Officers not covered under Phase I and replacement of obsolete hardware provided to Judicial Officers under Phase I.

- vii. Installation of Video Conferencing facility at all remaining Court Complexes and corresponding jails.
- viii. Computerisation of State Judicial Academies, District Legal Service Authorities and Taluka Legal Service Committees.
- ix. Creating a Court Management System through digitisation, document management, Judicial Knowledge Management and learning tools management.
- x. Installation of Cloud computing network.
- xi. Solar energy at 5% of the Court Complexes.
- xii. Facilitating improved performance of courts through change management and process re-engineering.
- xiii. Improvement in process servicing through hand-held devices.
- xiv. Enhanced ICT enablement through e-filing, e-Payment and use of mobile applications.
- xv. Citizen centric service delivery.

5. Timelines:

The duration of the project would be four years, or until the project is completed, whichever is later.

6. Strategy

The following strategy shall be followed in the implementation of the project:

- a) The project implementation in Phase II shall be decentralised to respective High Courts as against centralised implementation through NIC in Phase-I of the project. In the decentralised procurement model, eCommittee will prepare the basic design and specifications of hardware to be procured in consultation with the Department of Justice and NIC. The procurement and implementation will then be undertaken by High Courts for which funds shall be transferred by the Department of Justice as Grants-in-Aid to the eCommittee of the Supreme Court, into a separate bank account to be opened for this purpose. The eCommittee shall allocate the funds to the respective High Courts and also procure the necessary utilization Certificates and submit to the Department of Justice.
- b) For activities to be undertaken centrally through the Department of Electronics and Information Technology or NIC and for the balance activities of Phase I to be completed by NIC, funds will be made available to NIC as per the arrangement existing in Phase I.
- c) Funds are not required to be placed with the implementing agencies merely for placing of orders. The implementing agencies can make financial commitments upto the approved limit for the component in the project. Actual disbursements

to eCommittee of the Supreme Court / NIC would be subject to budget provisions of the Department of Justice for that Financial Year.

Institutional Structure:

- d) A Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) headed by a Joint Secretary shall be set up at the Department of Justice. Department of Justice will deal with financial and other approvals, convening meetings of the Empowered Committee, undertaking mid-term and end-term external evaluation of the project and undertaking monitoring of the budgetary aspects and timelines of implementation. Empowered Committee may re-appropriate the funds for various components of the project and implement any new component for ICT enablement of courts that may be suggested by the eCommittee of Supreme Court or any technological advances that may emerge during the currency of the project within the approved budget. Empowered Committee may also incur expenditure for contingency/ unforeseen expenditure @ 1% within each component of the project.
- e) A Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) would be set up in the eCommittee. The eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India will provide policy planning, strategic direction and guidance to the Project.
- f) The stock (equipment, hardware) purchased by the respective High Courts would be recorded by the High Courts in the respective stock registers and the maintenance would be undertaken by the State Governments.

8. The expenditure involved in implementation of this scheme will be met out of the sanctioned budget under grant No.64-Ministry of Law and Justice.

The component wise distribution of expenditure under different heads is attached at Annexure I.

This issues with the approval of IFD (Law) vide AS & FA Dy. No.690 dated 28.07.2015.



(Atul Kaushik)

Joint Secretary to the Government of India

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To :

- i. eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India
- ii. Registrar Generals of all High Courts
- iii. Home/ Law Secretary of all States/UTs
- iv. Secretary (Information Technology) of all States/UTs

Copy to:

- I. Secretary, Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India
- II. Secretary, Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, Government of India
- III. Secretary, DeitY, Government of India
- IV. AS & FA, Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India
- V. Advisor, NITI Aayog, Government of India
- VI. Guard File

Annexure I

The Phase II will have the following components under the Central Sector Scheme "eCourts Mission Mode Project Phase II":

S.No	Component	Rs. Crore
1.	Additional Hardware for 14249 Courts (1+3 format), Computerisation of new Courts (2+6 format) and Computerisation of expected Courts (2+6 format)	745.31
2.	Technical infrastructure at existing Court complexes and new Court Complexes	340.56
3.	Replacement of obsolete Laptops provided to Judicial officers in Ph-I and provisioning of Laptops and other IT facilities to new Judicial Officers	69.07
4.	Installation of VC equipment in Courts and jails	33.10
5.	Installation of hardware in Judicial Academies and training labs	4.07
6.	Computerisation of DLSAs and TLSCs	45.31
7.	Cloud Connectivity in all Court Complexes	73.00
8.	WAN Connectivity	231.32
9.	Solar Energy in 5% Court Complexes	26.20
10.	Software Development	42.78
11.	Change Management	20.00
12.	Judicial Process Re-engineering	20.00
13.	Judicial Knowledge Management System (JKMS)	19.28
	Total	1670.00

Note 1: Contingency/ unforeseen expenditure @1% approved within each component of the project.

Note 2: Expenditure on PMUs of DoJ and eCommittee to be met from within the approved project cost.