**REFORMS UPDATE**

**EASE OF DOING BUSINESS: ENFORCING CONTRACTS PARAMETER**

1. World Bank Report on Doing Business measures regulations that enhance business activity and those that constrain it.
2. For ranking purposes, performance of 190 economies on 11 indicators is measured. These indicators relate to business regulations for small and medium sized firms located in Delhi and Mumbai based on standardised case scenarios. Kolkata and Bengaluru are likely to be included in the forthcoming Doing Business Report.
3. Enforcing Contracts is one such indicator, which measures time and cost to resolve a standardized commercial dispute as well as a series of good practices in the judiciary. The performance of any country in “Enforcing Contracts” indicator is measured on the basis of the following parameters:
	1. *Time estimates for commercial cases-* This includes time taken during filing and service phase, trial and judgment phase, and enforcement of judgment phase.
	2. *Cost estimates for commercial cases-* This includes attorney fees, court fees (up to judgment only) and expert fees, and enforcement fees.
	3. *Quality of Judicial Process Index*- This includes court structure and proceedings, case management, court automation, and alternative dispute resolution.
4. The present Government has been aggressively pursuing various reform measures to create an effective, efficient, transparent and robust ‘Contract Enforcement Regime’. Several rounds of meetings have been held with leading law firms, corporate bodies, chambers of commerce and industry to work in an integrated manner along with the judicial fraternity to improve the quality and efficiency of commercial courts.
5. Department of Justice (DoJ), Ministry of Law and Justice is the nodal department for the Enforcing Contracts indicator.
6. The overall rank of India in the Doing Business Report 2015 was 142 out of 190 economies. This has improved to 63 in the Doing Business Report 2020 released in October 2019. This is a significant improvement of 79 positions from the Doing Business Report 2015.
7. In Enforcing Contracts indicator, India achieved 163rd position in the Doing Business Report 2020, improvement of 23 positions from the 186th rank in the Doing Business Report 2015. Our target is to ensure that India’s ranking in this indicator comes within top 50.
8. DoJ in collaboration with the eCommittee of the Supreme Court and with the active assistance of the High Court of Delhi, Bombay, Karnataka and Calcutta has already spearheaded an array of reforms which include the setting up of Dedicated Commercial Courts with pecuniary jurisdiction upto Rs 3 lakh. Other notable reforms include online e-filing, e-payment of court fees, electronic service of processes, random and automated allocation of cases including removal of manual checkbox system; institutionalization of Case Management Hearing and Pre-Trial Conference besides widespread use of Electronic Case Management Hearing Tools by Judges and Lawyers for providing conducive environment for speedy resolution of commercial disputes.
9. DoJ has constituted a Task Force under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Department of Justice for improving India’s ranking in World Bank’s Doing Business Report on the parameter of “Enforcing Contracts”. The Task Force has members from the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Department of Legal Affairs (DoLA), the High Courts of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Karnataka, the Law Departments of Delhi, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Karnataka and the eCommittee of the Supreme Court. Eleven Task Force meetings have been held so far. The last meeting of the Task Force was held on 18.12.2020.
10. DoJ also holds regular Review Meeting every fortnightly to assess the progress made in respect of reforms for improving India’s ranking in the World Bank’s Doing Business Report for the “Enforcing Contracts” indicator. The Review Meeting comprises of representatives from High Court of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Karnataka, e-Committee of the Supreme Court of India, National Informatics Centre (NIC) and Invest India.

**REFORMS IMPLEMENTED UNDER THE ENFORCING CONTRACTS PARAMETER**

1. **ESTABLISHMENT OF DEDICATED COMMERCIAL COURTS IN DELHI, MUMBAI, KOLKATA AND BENGALURU**
* **LEGAL BASIS:** The Commercial Courts (Amendment) Act, 2018 [Act No. 28 of 2018].
* **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:**
1. **Delhi:**
	1. Delhi Government vide notification dated 08.08.2019 established 22 Dedicated Commercial Courts and appointed 22 Judicial Officers.
	2. The 22nd Dedicated Commercial Court is operational since 30.09.2020.
	3. Government of NCT, Delhi has approved the proposal for creation of 42 additional Judicial Officers posts to set up more Dedicated Commercial Courts.
2. **Mumbai:**
	1. Government of Maharashtra in consultation with High Court of Bombay had established 16 Dedicated Commercial Courts (11Commercial Courts located in Bombay City Civil and Sessions Court, Mumbai and 5 Commercial Courts located in City Civil and Sessions Courts, Dindoshi) vide Notification dated 13.09.2019.
	2. The High Court of Bombay on the basis of case load density rationalized the number of Dedicated Commercial Courts and reduced the number of Courts from 16 to 4 in Bombay City Civil and Sessions Court, Gr. Mumbai (2 courts in Main branch and 2 courts in Dindoshi branch). Bombay High Court re-assessed and reviewed the total requirement of Dedicated Commercial Courts based on case load density and operationalised 2 more Dedicated Commercial Courts on 05.07.2021 bringing the total to 6 Dedicated Commercial Courts in Mumbai.
3. **Bengaluru:**
	1. 9 Dedicated Commercial Courts (including 7 new) are operational in Bengaluru City.
	2. The 7 new Dedicated Commercial Courts in Bengaluru City are operational since 28.12.2020.
	3. The new complex for the Dedicated Commercial Courts with eSeva Kendra was inaugurated on 06.02.2021.
4. **Kolkata:**
	1. Two Dedicated Commercial Courts are already functiona**l** in Kolkata.
	2. Calcutta High Court vide notification dated 20.03.2020 has notified establishment of 2 more Dedicated Commercial Courts. The pecuniary jurisdiction of the 2 new Commercial Courts will be Rs. 3.00 lakh and above.
	3. The new building will be operationalised soon.
5. **REVISE THE PECUNIARY LIMIT FOR COMMERCIAL COURTS ACT TO RS 3.00 LAKH**
* **LEGAL BASIS:** Pecuniary jurisdiction of District Commercial Court has been reduced to Rupees three lakh [as per Section 2(1)(i) of Commercial Courts Act, 2015] which came into force from 3rd May, 2018.
* **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:**
	1. Pecuniary jurisdiction of the Dedicated Commercial Courts in Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru has been reduced to Rs. 3lakh and above.
	2. The proposal for reducing the specified value of 2 operational Dedicated Commercial Courts in Kolkata (Alipore and Rajarhat) from Rs.30 lakhs to Rs.3.00 lakh is pending before the Calcutta High Court.
1. **TIME ESTIMATES: REDUCTION IN TIME TAKEN FOR TRIAL AND JUDGMENT IN DEDICATED COMMERCIAL COURTS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **DBR: 2020** | **Present Status** |
| **Indicators** | **Delhi** | **Mumbai** | **Delhi** | **Mumbai** |
| **Time-Days** | **1445** | **1445** | **744** | **626s** |
| Filing and Service  | 45 | 45 | 15 | 15 |
| Trial and Judgment  | 1095 | 1095 | 424 | 306 |
| Enforcement of Judgment | 305 | 305 | 305 | 305 |

* **LEGAL BASIS:** Section 17 of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015 mandates collection and disclosure of statistical data relating to Commercial Courts on monthly basis.
* **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:**
1. As per the Commercial Courts (Statistical Data) Amendment Rules, 2020 the following data relating to the commercial courts has to be maintained monthly as per the schedule in the rules and published on the website:
	* 1. list of cases e-filed during the month;
		2. list of cases in which e-payment of Court fees was made during the month;
		3. list of cases in which Electronic Service of Process has taken place during the month;
		4. list of total number of cases randomly allocated during the month;
		5. list of cases in which Case Management Hearing was held during the month;
		6. list of cases received for Pre-Institution Mediation and Settlement.
		7. contested commercial cases disposed during the month; and
		8. summary of commercial cases during the month.
2. The High Court of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Karnataka share the statistical data of the Dedicated Commercial Courts within their jurisdiction with the Department of Justice and on their respective Commercial Courts website on monthly basis.
3. **COST ESTIMATES: REDUCTION IN LITIGATION COST IN DEDICATED COMMERCIAL COURTS**
* **LEGAL BASIS:**
	1. As per [Section 35 of Code of Civil Procedure, 1908](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CHP%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Word%5CSec%2035%20CPC.pdf) as amended in the Commercial Courts Act, 2015 the Attorney fees and court fees is payable by unsuccessful party to the successful party.
	2. Commercial courts empowered to award compensatory costs for false and vexatious claims (Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 as amended in the Commercial Courts Act, 2015).
* **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:**
1. Doing Business Report 2020 indicates cost (31 % of claim value) for India (both in Delhi and Mumbai) as
	1. Attorney Fees – 22%
	2. Court Fees – 8.5%
	3. Enforcement Fees – 0.5%
	4. Expert fee – No fixed amount payable to ‘expert witness’ *a*s per Order XVI Rule 2 (4) the CPC, Section 45 of the Indian Evidence Act as well as the High Court of Delhi/Bombay Rules. Commercial Court stands authorised to allow reasonable remuneration to an ‘expert witness’.
2. High Court of Delhi and Bombay [issued circular](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CHP%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Word%5CWB%20EC%202021ppt%5CMumbai%20Litigant%20CIRCULAR_22.06%20%281%29.2020) to the Commercial Courts to follow Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 as amended in the Commercial Court Act, 2015 in respect of all commercial disputes.
3. **Committee on Simplification of Rules and Forms:**
	1. The Department of Justice has constituted the Committee to work on simplification of Rules and Forms relating to Pre-Institution Mediation and Settlement and to examine the overall functioning of the Pre-Institution Mediation system including rationalization of Mediation fees.
	2. The said Committee is also tasked to prepare the draft Commercial Court Rules as per Section 21A(2)(b) of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015.
	3. First draft of the Commercial Courts Rules, 2021 has been finalised and is under examination of Department of Legal Affairs.
4. **COURT STRUCTURE & PROCEEDINGS: RANDOM AND AUTOMATIC ALLOCATION OF COMMERCIAL CASES**
* **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:**
1. The Commercial Cases are randomly and automatically assigned to the Dedicated Commercial Courts of Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Kolkata using Case Information System (CIS 3.2) software.
2. The check box system has been removed from May 2020.
3. Digital and automated system has eliminated human intervention in case allocation and created a faceless, transparent and credible method for case assignment.
4. **Delhi:**
	1. The automatic and random allocation of commercial cases using CIS 3.2 software was introduced on 15.02.2019.
	2. Further, since 20.03.2020, the check box has been removed and any human intervention has been eliminated.
	3. 21, 928 cases have been randomly and automatically allocated in the Dedicated Commercial Courts of Delhi since January 2021- December, 2021.
5. **Mumbai:**
	1. The automatic and random allocation of commercial cases using CIS 3.2 software was introduced on 13.02.2019.
	2. The check box system has been removed from May 2020.
	3. 1475 commercial cases have been randomly and automatically allocated in the Dedicated Commercial Courts of Mumbai since January 2021- December, 2021.

**6. CASE MANAGEMENT: COMPLIANCE WITH TIME STANDARDS AND ADJOURNMENT RULES**

1. **TIME STANDARDS:**
	1. **LEGAL BASIS:**
		1. Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 provides time standards for Case Management.
		2. The filing of written statement should be done within 30 days of the notice served on defendant and the judgment should be delivered within 30 days from hearing conclusion date.
	2. **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:**
		1. Time standards are respected in more than 50% of cases in Dedicated Commercial Courts.
		2. This has resulted in reduction of time gap between final arguments and judgment.
2. **RULES ON ADJOURNMENTS:**
	1. **LEGAL BASIS:**
		1. Order XVII Rule (1) CPC provides for a maximum of three adjournments during the hearing of a suit.
		2. Order XVII, Rule 2(b) CPC states that no adjournment shall be granted at the request of a party, except where the circumstances are beyond the control of the parties.
	2. **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:**
		1. Department of Justice sent letter to High Courts of Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Karnataka to adhere to the three adjournment rule. Pursuant to which, the four High Courts issued advisory to all the Dedicated Commercial Courts under their jurisdiction to strictly adhere to the timelines and three adjournment rule.
		2. Maximum three adjournment rule is being actively enforced in more than 50% of cases of Dedicated Commercial Courts of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Bengaluru. This has reduced the time taken for trial, arguments and final judgment.
3. **CASE MANAGEMENT HEARING (PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE)**:
* **LEGAL BASIS**
	1. Section 18 of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015 empowers the High Courts to issue practice directions.
	2. Order XV-A of Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 in Schedule to the Commercial Courts Act, 2015 mandates holding of Case management hearing (Pre-trial Conference).
* **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:**
	1. Dedicated Commercial Courts in Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru and Kolkata are efficiently conducting Case Management Hearings (Pre-trial Conference).
	2. **Delhi**: Case Management Hearing has been conducted in 332 cases in the Dedicated Commercial Courts of Delhi since January 2021- December, 2021.
	3. **Mumbai**: Case Management Hearing has been conducted in 247 cases in the Dedicated Commercial Courts of Mumbai since January 2021-December, 2021.
1. **ELECTRONIC CASE MANAGEMENT TOOLS (ECMTS) FOR JUDICIAL OFFICERS**
* **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:**
1. Case Information Software 3.0 launched on 14.08.2018 to transform the judicial system of the country by Information Communication Technology (ICT) enablement of Courts.
2. In order to enhance judicial and court productivity, JustIS app for Judicial Officers integrating 8 Electronic Case Management Tools (ECMTs) was launched on 04.01.2019.
3. All 8 Electronic Case Management Tools are available to Judicial Officers through [JustIS](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CHP%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Word%5CHow%20to%20use%20JustIS%20Mobile%20App.pdf) [app](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CHP%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Word%5CHow%20to%20use%20JustIS%20Mobile%20App.pdf) and Case Information System 3.2 software:
	* 1. Access laws, regulations and case law;
		2. Automatically generate a hearing schedule for all cases on their docket
		3. Send notifications to lawyers
		4. Track the status of a case on their docket
		5. View & manage case document
		6. Assist in judgment writing
		7. Semi-automatic generation of court orders
		8. View court orders and judgments in a particular case
	1. Currently, more than 16,825 Judicial Officers have downloaded the JustIS App (Android version) that has all the 8 ECMTs integrated in one single portal.
	2. JustIS Mobile App for Judicial Officers is available on iOS and Android platforms.
4. **ELECTRONIC CASE MANAGEMENT TOOLS (ECMTS) FOR LAWYERS**
* **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS**:
1. All 7 Electronic Case Management Tools for lawyers are integrated in one single portal and the same is available at ecourts.gov.in and eCourts services mobile app which is integrated with CIS 3.2 software.
2. Following 7 eCMTs are integrated on [www.ecourts.gov.in](http://www.ecourts.gov.in):
	1. To access laws regulations and case laws and integration with India Code Portal.
	2. To receive notifications-eMails.
	3. To access forms to be submitted to the court.
	4. To track the status of a case.
	5. To view and manage case documents.
	6. To file briefs and documents with the court.
	7. To view court orders and decisions in a particular case.
3. Currently, there are 7..004 million Lawyers using the Electronic Case Management Tools.
4. **PRE-INSTITUTION MEDIATION AND SETTLEMENT OF CASES**
5. The Commercial Court Act, 2015 amended in 2018 enables Pre-institution Mediation and Settlement Mechanism (PIMS) w.e.f. 05.05.2018.
6. Pre-Institution Mediation & Settlement (PIMS) (Rules) notified in 2018 with opt out option. It makes Pre-institution mediation and settlement of cases mandatory, where no urgent interim relief is being sought.
7. **Committee on Simplification of Rules and Forms:** The Department of Justice has constituted the Committee to work on simplification of Rules and Forms relating to Pre-Institution Mediation and Settlement and to examine the overall functioning of the Pre-Institution Mediation system including rationalization of Mediation fees.
8. **e-FILING: ELECTRONIC FILING OF INITIAL COMPLAINTS FOR ALL TYPES OF COMMERCIAL CASES**
* **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:**
1. e-filing in eCourt Services web portal was launched by Supreme Court on 14.08.2018.
2. e-filing is operational in all Dedicated Commercial Courts of Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru.
3. **Delhi**:
	1. e-filing facility integrated with CIS 3.0 implemented w.e.f. 24th May, 2019 in Commercial Court at Tis Hazari only for Commercial Arbitration Matters.
	2. Practice Directions for e-filing notified on 04.05.2019. [https://delhicourts.nic.in/commcourt.html]
	3. [e-filing l](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CHP%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Word%5Ce-Filing%20ppt.pptx)aunched in all 22 Dedicated Commercial Courts w.e.f. 01.03.2020.
	4. Data on e-filing available at <https://delhidistrictcourts.nic.in/efiling.html>.
	5. Delhi High Court launched Online e-Filing System for including Delhi Commercial Courts on 14 June 2020 [C:\Users\HP\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\Delhi eFiling Commercial Courts.pdf](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CHP%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Word%5CDelhi%20eFiling%20Commercial%20Courts.pdf)to remotely file fresh cases or caveat as well as applications, reply, rejoinder, documents, vakalatnama etc., in the pending cases. [<http://delhihighcourt.nic.in/efiling.asp>]
	6. Practice Directions for e-filing notified.
4. **Mumbai:**
	1. e-Filing operational from 07.03.2019 in all 6 Dedicated Commercial Courts in Mumbai.*[https://efiling-mh.ecourts.gov.in/]*
	2. Practice Directions for e-filing notified.
5. All Central Government Department and Ministries, Karnataka and Delhi Government have made e-filing mandatory for government litigation in commercial disputes.
6. e-filing version 3.0 is being finalized and the pilot project was successfully launched in Maharashtra and it will be rolled out across the country soon <https://filing.ecourts.gov.in/pdedev/ >.
7. eCommittee, Supreme Court of India is also working on the paperless digital court pilot project. Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Madhya Pradesh and Kolkata have been selected for the paperless digital court pilot project. The pilot project will be launched soon.

**12. e-SUMMONS:** **IMPLEMENT ELECTRONIC SERVICE BY EMAIL/SMS OF INITIAL COMPLAINTS**

* **LEGAL BASIS:**
	1. Delhi has notified Delhi Courts Service of Processes by Courier, Fax and Electronic Mail Service (Civil Proceedings) Rules, 2010 on 09.02.2011.
	2. Mumbai has notified Bombay High Court Service of Processes by Electronic Mail Services (Civil Proceedings) Rules, 2017 on 03.05.2019.
* **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:**
1. Rules have been notified to enable service of summons through email and sms alert.
2. The advocates are required to register their / or client’s email id and mobile number to access this facility.
3. **Committee on e-Summons:**
	1. The committee on e-Summons was constituted on 03.11.2020 to facilitate sending online summons through emails and SMS alert by obtaining database of companies registered with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA).
	2. The software patch for consuming database of companies registered with the MCA has been provided to commercial courts in Mumbai, Delhi, and Bengaluru City to facilitate sending of online summons in commercial disputes.
4. **ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION: FINANCIAL INCENTIVES FOR PARTIES TO ATTEMPT TO MEDIATION/CONCILIATION**
* **LEGAL BASIS:**
	1. Section 16 of Court Fee 1870 states that in case the court refers the dispute to any of the modes of settlement provided under Section 89 of the CPC, then the plaintiff shall be entitled to the refund of the full amount of the court fee.
* **IMPLEMENTATION STATUS:**
	1. **Delhi:** In 2010, the Delhi Government amended the Court Fees Act to state that in case of settlement before hearing, the Court shall refund half the amount of all the fees paid in respect of the claim or claims in the suits to the parties.
	2. **Mumbai:** Circular of Maharashtra State Legal Services Authority dated 20th June 2018 giving reference to WP No: 49/2014- Sanjeev Kumar [Harakchand](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CHP%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Word%5CMumbai-Sec.%2016%20Full%20Court%20Fee%20Refund.pdf) [C:\Users\HP\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\Mumbai-Sec. 16 Full Court Fee Refund.pdfKankaria](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CHP%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Word%5CMumbai-Sec.%2016%20Full%20Court%20Fee%20Refund.pdf) [C:\Users\HP\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Word\Mumbai-Sec. 16 Full Court Fee Refund.pdfvs](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CHP%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Word%5CMumbai-Sec.%2016%20Full%20Court%20Fee%20Refund.pdf). Union of India and Other refund of court fee Act[.](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CHP%5CAppData%5CLocal%5CMicrosoft%5CWindows%5CINetCache%5CContent.Word%5CMumbai-Sec.%2016%20Full%20Court%20Fee%20Refund.pdf)
1. **COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEES CONSTITUTED BY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**
2. **Committee On e-Summons**:
	1. The committee on e-Summons was constituted on 03.11.2020 to facilitate sending online summons through emails and SMS alert by obtaining database of companies registered with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA).
	2. The software patch for consuming database of companies registered with the MCA has been provided to commercial courts in Mumbai, Delhi and Bengaluru City for testing to facilitate sending of online summons in commercial disputes.
3. **Committee On Simplification Of Forms And Rules**:
	1. The Department of Justice has constituted the Committee to work on simplification of Rules and Forms relating to Pre-Institution Mediation and Settlement and to examine the overall functioning of the Pre-Institution Mediation system including rationalization of Mediation fees.
	2. The said Committee is also tasked to prepare the draft Commercial Court Rules as per Section 21A(2)(b) of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015.
	3. First draft of the Commercial Courts Rules, 2021 has been finalised and is under the examination of Department of Legal Affairs.
4. **Committee On Linkage Of Property Registration With Court Proceedings**: Department of Land Resources has constituted a committee for linkage of property registration with court proceedings by drafting standard operating procedures and to launch pilot project. The pilot project has been tested successfully in Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Maharashtra. Twenty Six states (UTs)governments have received clearances from the High Courts for linkage of land records and registration database with NJDG.
5. **Committee with Law Firms:**
	1. Three Sub-Committees with representatives from Law Firms has been set-up for suggesting reforms on following:
		1. Time Standards and Delays
		2. Pre-Institution Mediation & Settlement and
		3. eCourt services.
6. **OTHER MAJOR REFORMS UNDERTAKEN**
7. **Special Courts for Infrastructure Project Contracts:** 23 High Courts have set up designated Special Courts for Infrastructure project contracts disputes as per Section 20B of the Specific Relief (Amendment) Act, 2018. Further, High Courts of Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Allahabad and Calcutta have allocated dedicated days in a week/month for hearing of such disputes related to infrastructure project contracts.
8. **Special Benches for high value commercial disputes:** High Court of Delhi, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Allahabad, Jammu & Kashmir, Sikkim, Patna and Madras have set up Special Benches for dealing with high value commercial disputes i.e. above Rs. 500 crores. Other High Courts are also considering the proposal.
9. Delhi and Bombay HC has set up dedicated court for expeditious disposal of high value commercial disputes i.e. above Rs. 100 crores.
10. **Specialised online course on Business and Commercial Laws:** A three-month online certificate course on Business and Commercial Laws has been launched in collaboration with National Law University, Delhi which has been specifically designed for lawyers, company secretaries and chartered accountants for familiarizing them with commercial law, procedures and eCourt Service.
11. **Commercial Court Guide:** Commercial Court guide being prepared by National Law University, Delhi.
12. **PUBLIC OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**
13. **Delhi High Court:**
	1. Conducted 2 workshop on reforms implemented under Enforcing Contracts Indicator in Delhi Judicial Academy for lawyers and Commercial Court judges in Sept and Nov 2019.
	2. 15 workshops on reforms implemented under Enforcing Contracts Indicator conducted in 6 Delhi District Court Complexes for training of Judicial Officers / Lawyers since October, 2018.
	3. A workshop for Delhi High Court lawyers on reforms implemented under Enforcing Contracts Indicator on 26 April 2019.
14. **Bombay High Court:**
	1. 5 workshops conducted in High Court/Bombay City Civil Court complexes for training of Judicial Officers / Lawyers in Mumbai since October, 2018.
	2. Maharashtra Judicial Academy training work shop on Commercial Court Act for lawyers and Commercial Court judges in August and Dec 2019.
15. **Karnataka High Court:**
	1. Conducted 11 workshops/trainings sessions for Judicial Officers of Commercial Courts since November, 2019.
16. **Calcutta High Court:**
	1. To conduct training for the Commercial Court Judges, District Judges and other ADJs, a batch of 42 officers on 20.2.21 followed by the training of Court staff and advocates for the month of February.
17. **e-Committee of Supreme Court**
	1. e-Committee organized an Online Training Workshops for Mumbai(14.06.2020) and Delhi (27.06.2020) commercial lawyers on e-filing and use of eCMTs in eCourts Services web portal and App.
	2. Video Tutorial for e-filing in English, Hindi and eight regional languages has been prepared and circulated for advocates and is available on e-filing portal help desk and also on YouTube Channel created for e-Courts services.
	3. Manual of step by step guide for e-filing and brochures on “how to register for e-filing” has been prepared and made available for all stakeholders both in English and Hindi under the e-filing portal.
	4. District level awareness programme, manuals and video tutorials in regional languages launched on 25.07.2020.
18. **SEMINARS/WEBINARS ORGANISED BY DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**
	1. 3 Webinars organized by DoJ with CII for commercial lawyers from Delhi, Mumbai and South Indian metro cities on reforms implemented under Enforcing Contracts Indicator.
	2. National Webinar organized by DoJ with Invest India with commercial law firms of Delhi on reforms implemented under Enforcing Contracts Indicator through video conference held on 19.09.2020. 3 Sub-Committees formed to seek suggestions.
	3. Webinar organized by DoJ with ASSOCHAM on reforms implemented under Enforcing Contracts Indicator for corporate firms/lawyers on 10.10.2020.

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