

**INDIA'S FIRST DISTRICT LEVEL E-COURT INAUGURATED  
ON 08.02.2010 AT DISTRICT EAST, KARKARDOOMA COURTS**

India's first District level E-Court has been inaugurated on 08.02.2010 at District East, Karkardooma Courts by Hon'ble Chief Justice of High Court of Delhi in the presence of Hon'ble Judges of High Court as well as other dignitaries.

It's a pilot project executed under the guidance of Computer Committee of High Court of Delhi headed by Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.D. Ahmed and for this project a separate Project Monitoring and Review Committee (PMRC) was constituted, which is headed by Hon'ble Dr. Justice S. Murlidhar. Funds for this project were sanctioned by TIFAC, an autonomous body under Ministry of Science and Technology and the project has been executed by C-DAC Noida.

This E-Court is a pilot project and after testing the technology in this Court, this experience will be utilized for making more Courts paperless. E-Court is beneficial for all stake holders. The entire existing files of a Fast-Track Court which is to be converted into E-Court, have been digitized and a touch screen has been installed on the dais of Ld. Judge. He can view any file of the E-Court in digitized form by searching for the same date-wise, name-wise or Act/Section wise. There is a provision of a document visualizer and any document can be projected on the LCD Screens installed in the E-Court, so that the same are visible to the accused, witnesses or the prosecutor in the same Court, as well as when they are connected through Video-Conferencing.

At any given point of time, this Court can be connected to four distant locations, which may be the Jail where the accused is lodged, Forensic Lab from where Forensic Expert is to be examined, Hospital where Doctor is to be examined or any other remote location where either the ISDN based Video-Conferencing facility or at least a laptop with a Webcam connected to internet through broadband is available. This will not only revolutionize recording of evidence but it will also enable the E-Court to record evidence of the witnesses who are incapable of coming to the Court due to health reasons, old age or when they are abroad.

This E-Court is already connected to all the Jails, other Court Complexes in Delhi as well as to the office of DCP (East). Efforts are underway to provide video-conferencing facilities at Forensic Lab, Rohini, Delhi, GTB Hospital, Hedgewar Hospital and Lal Bahadur Shastri Hospital. In the near future all the Police Stations will be

has been provided for E-Court. Very soon the lawyers will be able to inspect court files of their own cases while sitting in their offices through internet connectivity. The E-filing facility will be activated in the near future to enable the lawyers to file their cases/petitions and applications etc. in the E-Court through internet in digital form. In the E-Court itself, lawyers can bring their own laptops and on their desks, facility for internet, display of their presentation on the LCD screen as well as for power supply has been made. After the evidence has been recorded, the same will be digitally signed by the Ld. Judge and the copies of the same will be provided to the accused as well as to the prosecution within minutes.

Even for obtaining certified copies of the digitized files of E-Court, there is no need to wait for the file to come to the Copying Agency and the officials in the Copying Agency will be able to access digital file through secured login and passwords, prepare certified copies, digitally sign them and handover to the applicants within minutes. Even the outstation lawyers will be able to argue their matter through video-conferencing and they will be able to obtain copies of records of their cases via internet after payment of necessary court fees, for which a secured payment gateway will be provided.

There will be no need for the police officials to travel all the way to the Courts and wait for their turn to give evidence. The police officials will perform their normal duties in the Police Station and as and when their evidence will be required to be recorded, they will be directed via an SMS to be available in the video-conferencing studio attached to their respective Police Station. Similarly, the precious time of the doctors as well as Forensic Experts will be saved as their evidence will be recorded through video-conferencing and there will be no need to leave their respective work places.

The overall impact of establishment of E-Court will result in quick disposal of cases, reliability of the evidence recorded and to bring more transparency in the functioning of the District Courts. It is just a beginning and very soon this E-Court movement will spread to other Court Complexes in Delhi and thereafter throughout India.