

Vol. 8 | No. 5 September-October, 2009

ICT in Gujarat State Judicialy

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 IndiaTech Excellence Awards
 2009

Courtesy By

Shri P P Bhatt, Registrar General Ms. Sonia Gokani, Registrar (I.T.) High Court of Gujarat, Sola, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Editorial Team

Dr. Neeta Shah Ms. Monali Shah ICT in Gujarat State Judiciary

("To rejuvenate the Legal and Judicial System in Gujarat through effective use of Information and Communication Technology(ICT)")



Introduction

The Gujarat judiciary comprises of nearly 800 courts situated in approximately 246 court complexes throughout the country. In the Gujarat Judiciary, effort for computerization of some of its processes has been going on since 1994. The journey of computerizing 4 city courts and 24 district courts has began since 1988. Need was felt to make the program of ICT enablement of the Gujarat Judiciary mission critical.

Keeping pace with the development of ICT in other segments in state of Gujarat, an Endeavour is being made to reach to all talukas and also to the villages and so as to jell with the services made available at village level.



Vision

" To rejuvenate the Legal and Judicial System in Gujarat through effective use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT)"

Background

India has one of the oldest legal systems in the world. The journey of Computerization began in 1995-96 of Gujarat High Court as well as of District Courts in a phased manner beginning with Unixware (1.0) operating system on servers and dumb terminals at end user level. Delay in the judicial process has always been the bane of Indian judiciary system.

For delay in most cases is to provide more time for justice to be brought forth through collection of evidences, in practice, the delays often work at killing the available evidences.

Over a period of time, the accumulated cases in the courts have grown so much that the Judges have to spend a large part of their time just in finding dates for adjournments. The lawyers themselves have developed a vested interest in the adjournments since it keeps them artificially employed over a longer time. In the process, honest litigants feel harassed and dishonest litigants encash the benefits of the delay.

Most evidences are destroyed by the time they are taken up for scrutiny as witnesses forget the events and make mistakes. Criminals make hay of this scenario by dodging the law for as long as they can.

Objectives

- To help judicial administration of the courts in streamlining their day-to-day activities
- To assist judicial administration in reducing the backlog of cases
- To provide transparency of information to the litigants
- To provide easy and centralized access to legal and judicial databases to the judges
- To record the accused and witness's statement/deposition from remote locations
- To establish Electronic Filing (E-Filing) facility
- To make the courts as paperless as possible
- To increase transparency and accountability of judicial system
- To enable easy tracking of cases



- To build a national grid of key judicial information available 24 x 7 in a reliable and secure manner
- Holistic growth.
- Conceptualized dream of a Paper-less Court.
- Reaching to the grass-root level

Development Goals & Achievements

Development Goals	Achievements
Set up of required Physical & ICT Infrastructure in all City/District courts	 Site Preparation Site Preparation completion reported by the district committees for 130/246 court complexes. District court complexes - 42/68 Taluka court complexes - 88/178 So far, 62/130 complexes have submitted completion certificates.
Ensure availability of dedicated skilled IT Manpower in all City/District courts and in all Taluka Courts.	System officers are posted in all the District court to manage and coordinate maintenance of ICT infrastructure, training to judges and court staff, maintain customized application, OS, office tools and the like.
Ensure 100% computer literacy for Judicial staff and more than 90% computer literacy for administrative staff	Computer literacy for Judicial staff was achieved through training partners.
Reducing the existing backlog of pending cases	The pendency in Gujarat High court was brought down from 1,22,843 to 91,088 as on 28.6.2009 considering the pendency of cases filed till end of 2008. (Annexure- 'A')
Set up Server Farm (Primary Site) & BCP Site for Central Database across the State	State level data Centre to be maintained by NIC



Ensure GSWAN/NICNET & redundant connectivity in High Court, City & District Courts and Broadband Connectivity / GSWAN connectivity in Taluka courts	All the district courts in the state are connected via GSWAN. A dedicated BSNL broadband connection will also be provided at each court complex as back- up connection to provide a reliable and redundant network.
To facilitate auto generation and online transmission of various monthly, quarterly, half-yearly & yearly reports from City/District courts/Taluka Courts Gujarat High court	PPMS and JMS software's are used via NICNET/ GSWAN/ BROADBAND to facilitate the processes.
Make operational Video Conferencing enabled/Digital Courts rooms in High Court, City & District courts	Video conferencing of High Court and subordinate courts has been undertaken by the E-Committee and the same is in process on centralized basis with the coordination of NIC.

Strategy Adopted

To design and implement a suitable ICT solution to facilitate the Judiciary to achieve its objectives of facilitating quality administration, timely Justice in the Gujarat Judiciary. It was decided to implement ICT in entire Gujarat Judiciary from filing to disposal and further appeals in the higher judiciary.

Comprehensive Case Information System (CCIS) is the software developed by National Informatics Centre used for streamlining day to day functions of High Court and Lower courts. Comprehensive Case Information System handles Inquiry, entry of Interim Order/Judgment and Issue of Process, in short the entire life cycle of case.

The various applications covered in CCIS are:

- Filing & Registration of cases
- Caveat matching
- Business listing (Daily /Weekly court board printing)
- Issue of Processes (Notices/Writs/Warrants)
- Orders/Judgments Entry
- Certified copy
- Certified copy accounting



- Generation of statistical reports
- Advocate wise business list
- Advocate wise registered matters list
- Advocate wise full case details printing
- Fixed Deposit Monitoring system (Nazir dept)
- Transfer of Lower Court Judges ('A' Branch)
- Case information inquiry
- Simple copy generation
- Display board.
- Online Recruitment Process
- Judicial Officers Personnel Information system
- Nazir- Cash Management System
- Web-Portal

Stakeholders

- o Government Central & State
- o Judicial system
- o Judges
- o Lawyers
- o Paralegals
- o Registrars
- o Clerks
- o Stenographers
- o Sole Proprietorship / Partnership firms
- o Co-operative societies
- o Non Government Organizations (NGOs)
- o Police Department
- o Ministry of Information Technology (MIT), Govt. of India
- o National informatics Centre (NIC)
- o Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of Gujarat
- o National Crime Record Bureau

Features

- Standardized common codification for the entire State
- Advocate entry by Advocate Registration number (Sanad number)
- Advocate-wise Cause List



- eGov@Gujarat
 - Single installation can serve more than one establishment
 - Supports
 - > Bilingual
 - multiple advocate entry
 - Online Caveat matching
 - Role and time based user permission
 - Online Case Status and Orders/Judgments
 - SMS facility to know the case status
 - IVR facility to know the case status
 - Automated pooling of softcopies of Reportable Judgments for Reporters.

Other Features

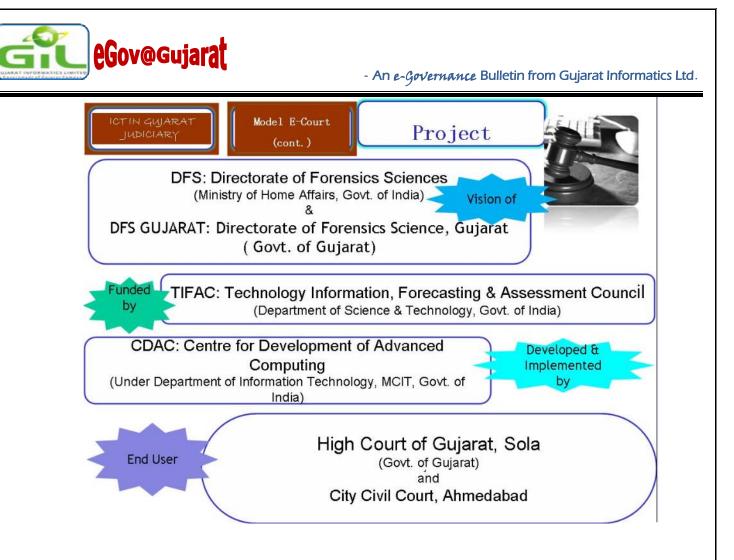
Multi Point Video Conferencing

Video Conferencing from court to jail and vice-versa is facilitated in courts of City Civil & Sessions Court, Ahmedabad, Rajkot, Vadodara, Surat, Jamnagar, Banaskantha at Palanpur, Porbandar, Junagadh, Bhavnagar, Mehsana, Ahmedabad (Rural).

• Timely Justice And Effective Court Administration

MODEL ECOURT

Model ECourt, a pilot project envisaged by Directorate of Forensic Science, TIFAC, DST and CDAC for tamperproof authenticated digital recording of court room proceedings along with the multipoint video conferencing facilities among courtroom, Jail, Office of Police Commissioner and Forensic Laboratory, is successfully started to function in City Civil Court, Ahmedabad. The object is for synergizing science & technology with judicial processes with an enormous scope of complete atomization of court processes.



BENEFIT OF THE ICT INTERVENTIONS

- Retrieval and synchronization made easy and manageable by standardized coding
- Usage of unique Advocate Code checks the legitimacy of practicing advocate.
- Auto generated data for all prescribed Registers, processes and monitoring of service
- Data updation, Daily Cause list and Orders & Judgments through web link on daily basis.
- Grouping and bunching of cases for speedier disposal
- Help judicial and administrative staff of the courts in streamlining their day-to-day activities and thereby lead to timely & efficient disposal of pending/fresh cases
- Increase transparency and accountability by providing online & real time case information and status to the litigants and thereby reduce red tapism, bureaucracy, and corruption
- Creation of e-Library (Statue Laws & Case Laws) to provide easy, centralized & costeffective access to legal and judicial database to the judges and other concerned stakeholders



- Provide a single gateway through multiple channels (Portal, IVR, Kiosk) for all the stakeholders for easy and real time access to various services of the courts
- Provide an integrated system across the state which helps in standardizing the practices and procedures.
- Increase the efficiency and productivity of administrative staff by enabling auto generation and online transmission of various monthly, quarterly, half-yearly & yearly reports
- Provide Video Conference and Digital Recording facility in courts to reduce the transportation cost, save police personnel time & avoid risk of accused getting fled while attending court hearings
- Maintaining court dairy

Security

Tamperproof

- Proprietary unique codec is incorporated
- o Watermarking on Video files

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- o No Delete/cut/edit option
- Secure
 - o MD-5 encrypted password
 - o SQL Server 2000 with full Security
 - o Application mapped with Machine IDs like IP/MAC

Road Ahead

- E-filing
- Online Query for precedent, citation, statutes etc.
- Online Caveat Matching
- Auto Generation of Summons
- Tracking of issuance of service of summons
- Access to International Database
- Web based Feedback Reports
- Tracking
- Legal Info Database
- National grid of E-data
- Multi-point Videoconferencing facility for all districts
- Digital Signature
- Transfer of documents & accessibility through E-Library
- Information Kiosk for litigants, advocates etc.
- Case Status on Mobile through Short Message Service for remaining districts

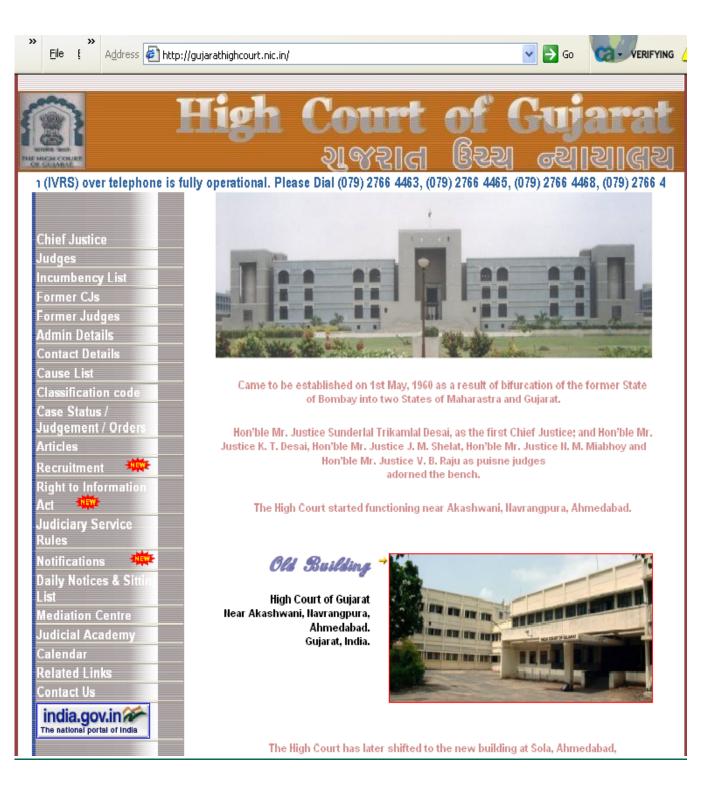


Impact

	PUBLIC INTERFACE APPLICATIONS
IMPACT	INQUIRY COUNTER
The response of the litigants to the inquiry counter is	Varied information is available at the Inquiry Counter,-
overwhelming. The counter has over the last 10 years collected revenue of appx. Rs. 180 lacs.	Case Status – This is about providing High Court of Gujarat's pending and disposed case status information to litigants/ advocates. This information is available at a charge of Rs. 5 per query. Detailed information related to the case beginning from the date of filing to the orders passed, proceeding dates & final disposal is available.
Simple copies issued are also considered authentic for the purpose of filing a	Simple copy of the order/judgment - This is about providing a copy of the order / judgment to the general public immediately after it is signed by the judges concerned.
case. Certified copies can be produced later on as and when made available	List of Registered matters – This involves providing a list of the cases filed by the advocates over a particular period.
by the Decree department.	Advocate diary – Passbook facility for the advocates indicating their deposits and withdrawals due to printing of cause lists, orders, filing lists, etc
	Advocate Cause List – This is about providing advocate wise cause list to all the registered advocates.
Classification codes, important articles,	<u>Gujarat High court Website</u>
incumbency list, contact details, sitting and former Judges are available on	Gujarat High court Website was Launched by Honb'le The Chief Justice Mr. D. S. Sinha on 08-08-2002.
these sites with current roaster.	The site for viewing cause lists is, http://gujarathighcourt.nic.in
	All public notices and sitting modification list is make available on this site.



Screen Shots



SCA/7013/2009 (Conv. From ST/7027/2009) Page No : 1

Status : * Pending * 1 : 1) Advocates Sr./Ext Name of the Petitioner (Total : 1) ____ 1 SUNIL & ADO PRAKASHBHAI MR HR PRAJAPATI:1 KEVALRAMANI Advocates Sr./Ext Name of the Respondent(Total : 3) ------1 STATE OF GUJARAT GOVERNMENT PLEADER:1,3 POLICE COMMISSIONER RULE SERVED BY DS:1,2 2 JAIL SUPERINTENDENT 3 Filing Date : 13/07/2009 District : VADODARA Ready ? Current Status : Pending : NO Office Objection : NIL Listing Stage : URGENT ADMISSION (FIRST BOARD) Subject : N/A Act : PREVENTION OF ANTI-SOCIAL ACTIVITIES ACT, 1985 Section : WRIT PETITIONS - OTHERS Court Action : RULE/ADMIT SJ/DB : Single Jud SJ/DB : Single Judge Last date of Listing : 14/07/2009 Court : 16 MS. JUSTICE H.N. DEVANI Lower Court Details * Sr.Case Details LC-Station Judgmt.Dt Desgn Police Station ----- -1/ ****** 11 ****** * Court Fee Details * Document Type Sr. Date Court Fee Lawyer Name _____ 13/07/2009 MEMO OF PETITION 55.00 MR HR PRAJAPATI 51/08/2009 AFFIDAVIT OF DS 0.00 MR HR PRAJAPATI Technical Support by NATIONAL INFORMATICS CENTRE (NICNET) Date 01/09/2009 At 16:59 Note : As per informations available in Computer. (Recieved Rs.5 only) Case Status Simple Copy CA/11/2009 Ord. Date: 02/05/2009 国大国 IN THE HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT AT AHMEDABAD CIVIL APPLICATION No. 11 of 2009 In CIVIL REVISION APPLICATION (STAMP) No. 158 of 2008

HARISHCHANDRA AMBALAL SHAH AND ANOTHER Versus

KANTABEN RAMESHCHANDRA BHOJAK

Appearance : MB_DN_TIME

•Shitele

MR BN LIMBACHIA for the Applicants

CORAM : HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE RAVI R.TRIPATHI

Date : 02/05/2

ORAL ORDER

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The present Civil Application is filed seeking condonation of delay of 59 days.

<u>RULE</u> returnable on 22.06.2009.

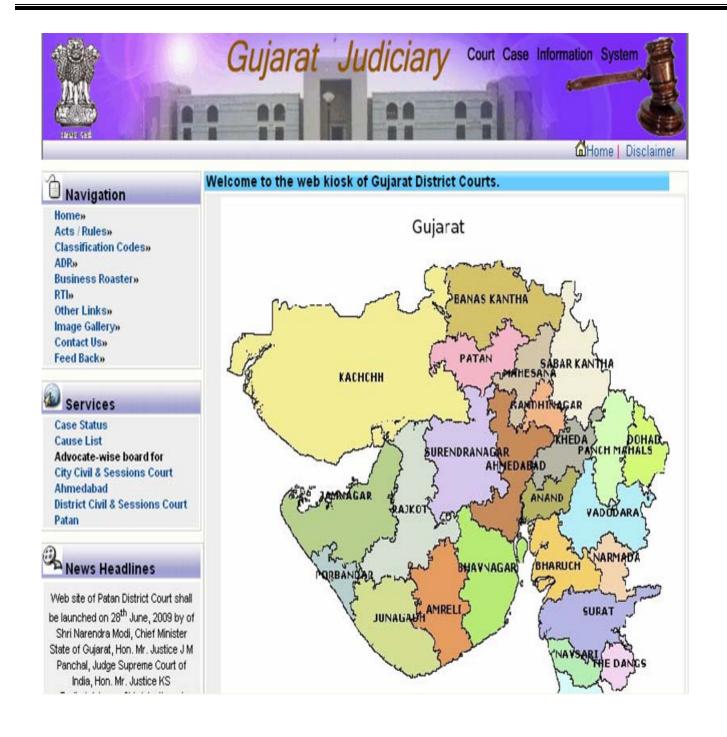
It will be open for the applicants to serve the parties at Mumbai by direct service by Speed Post at their own costs, in addition to the regular mode of service.

(Ravi R.Tripathi, J.)

Note: The print is as per the information entered in the Computer. In case of any discrepancy, inaccuracy, error or incompleteness,kindly contact and bring to the notice of the Deputy Registrar for necessary corrections. No. of Payes. 1 Charge @ Rs.J.00/- per Paye . Rs.J

Simple Copy of Orders/ Judgments





Web Portal of Gujarat District Judiciary

(http://gujcourts.guj.nic.in)



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Avigation	Case Status Information: Search by Case Number	
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Business Roaster»		Case Details
RTI» Other Links»	Case Type	CRIMINAL REVISION APPLICATION
Image Gallery»	Filing No.	29/2009 Filing date: 05-05-2009
Contact Us» Feed Back»	Case No.	29/2009 Registration date: 05-05-2009
	Case code	203500000292009
D Services		
Case Status		CASE STATUS
Cause List Advocate-wise board for	Next Hearing Date	20-06-2009
City Civil & Sessions Court	Purpose of hearing	FINAL HEARING/
Ahmedabad District Civil & Sessions Court	Court No & Judge	1 - Principal District Judge
Patan		ORDERS PASSED
News Headlines		Order No. 1 Dated 20-6-2009 💹
		LITIGANT DETAILS
	Petitioner(s) & Advocate(s)	1) Petitioner - MODI SANDIP RAMJIBHAI PATAN, BALIYAPADA ROAD, RAJKAWADO
Web also of Dates District Occurt also		Advocate - VELANI PANKAJKUMAR BACHUBHAI
Web site of Patan District Court shall be launched on 28 th June, 2009 by of Shri Narendra Modi, Chief Minister State of Gujarat, Hon. Mr. Justice J M Panchal, Judge Supreme Court of India, Hon. Mr. Justice KS		1) Respondent - THE STATE OF GUJARAT PATAN, BALIYAPADA ROAD, RAJKAWADO
	Respondent(s) & Advocate	Advocate - VORA ANGIRAS RAMESHRAY



<u>eGovernance News</u>

CSI-Nihilent eGovernance Awards 2009

The Computer Society of India has instituted a series of awards for recognizing the contributions made in the field of e-Governance in the country. These awards have been sponsored by Nihilent Technologies Pvt. Ltd. The awards are given for recognizing the efforts made in e-Governance area at the State, Department, District and Project level.

The nomination process was on-line. The judging process was exhaustive to cover the understanding at various stages of nominations. The selection committee members have been drawn from all the stake holders covering Government, Industry and Academics.

Award Ceremony was held on 9th October, 2009 at Hotel VITS, Pune. Gujarat had won following four major awards:

Sr. No.	Winner	Category
1	Finance Department	Award of Excellence -Department Category
2	Junagadh District	Special Recognition -District Category
3	ICT in Judiciary	Award of Excellence -Project Category G2G/G2C
4	GUVNL	Special Recognition: Information Security Management System -Project Category G2G/G2C









WEB CORNER

Gujarat High Court (www.gujarathighcourt.nic.in)

> Website for CSI-Nihilent eGovernance Awards

www.csinihilentegovernanceawards.org/ For electronic subscription to the bulletin, please email us with your email address at:

webmaster@gujaratinformatics.com

or visit us at:

www.gujaratinformatics.com

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