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eGovernance in Legal Department

PREFACE

eGov in LD	
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Legal Department has initiated an eGovernance drive in the department in year 2000 by establishing Local Area Network within Department. TSP Project was taken up in year 2004 within its HoDs and subsidiary offices. The main focus of the eGovernance drive is on:

- Building an information system which will bring about:
- Higher transparency of information
- Interaction with the Citizen through the website
- Legal Case Management Information System

Management Information System providing the required infrastructure (Computers, Connectivity, Environment etc.) to achieve the objectives of e Governance.

Empowering the employees with proper training and usage of IT, to enable smooth transition from manual to computerized system and to make all the employees computer literates.

In this issue, we brief you on the details of the eGovernance activities in LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

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LEGAL AID AUTHORITY LOGO



Background:

The Legal Department as whole is responsible for the following assignments.

- (1) To monitor entire state litigation
- (2) To act as a legal advisor by way of submitting various, opinions sought by the concerned administrative departments, either as a pre litigation or post litigation matter.
- (3) To co-ordinate between the High court and various departments of the Govt. for administration of courts in the state.
- (4) To overview the functioning of all Dist. Govt. Pleaders offices, High court Govt. Pleaders Offices, Charity commissioners offices, WAKF Board, Court fees inspector offices and Gujarat National Law University.

Legal Department is mainly carrying out activities related to:

- Civil opinion to the state Government departments & various Branch & Corporations.
- Criminal Acquittal Appeals.
- Criminal Post Litigation opinion.
- Works relating to following matters of entire Gujarat State, Mofussil litigation against Government in court of Civil Judge (SD)
- Appeals in Dist court, High court and Supreme Court.
- Appeals in High Court Supreme Court in arbitration award.
- Issuing instruction in suits / appeals filed against central Government.

- Opinion in pending litigation matters.
- Gujarat State Legal Service Authority.
- Establishment and Administration of Judiciary.
- Charity organization.
- WAKF Board
- Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar.
- Establishment of Public Prosecutor
- Establishment of Inspecting Officers (Court Fees)
- Appointment of Law officer like Advocate General, Additional Advocate General, Government solicitors Advocates on record in Supreme Court of India.
- Gujarat state Arbitration Tribunal.
- All Matters regarding Land Acquisition.
- Institution of suits by state Government in the court of Civil Judge (S.D.)
- Filing of petition before the MAC Tribunal on behalf of Government HC & SC.
- To Issue Instruction to Government solicitors, GP, AG / AAG, for appearance in the High Court in all type of petition directly filed by or against Government in High Court and Supreme Court under the respective Act.
- To represent / defend in the matter of petition by or against Government in High Court of other states.
- To file in writ in High Court against Judgment of Labor Court / Tribunals.
- To file all type petition in Supreme Court.



- All Litigation matters field in C.A.T. by or against Government.

About LD-IITS

Legal Department has chosen **M/s. Silver Touch Computers Pvt. Ltd.** as their Total Solution Provider (TSP).

The name of the project being implemented is **Legal-IITS** (Legal Dept's Integrated Information Technology Solution).

Salient Features of Legal-IITS

- Bi-lingual interface
- Web enabled
- Seamless integration with the IMD website and the HODs/Boards/Corporations
- On-line status of documents to Citizens and IMD
- Grievance Handling
- System Generated Alarms/Reminders/E-mails
- Accuracy of data
- Availability of historical data for reference
- Document Scanning & Storage for all the permanent record of Charity Commissioner

Challenges of Legal-IITS

Successful implementation and roll out of the LD-IITS project involves many challenges:

The biggest challenge is creating IT awareness, appreciation for automated systems and removal of

fear of computerized system from the users of Legal-IITS.

LD with the help of the TSP has taken this challenge very seriously and has started rigorous training programs to achieve this.

Legal Department continuously requires information from the HODs operating under it. Interfacing LEGAL-IITS system with Charity Commissioner, DGP Office, Government Pleader Office, Chief Inspecting Officer (Court Fees), who are operating in varied conditions will also be a challenge.

Training at LD

Training of all the employees on usage of computers, well before implementation of IMD-IITS is being carried out through various innovative ideas:

- General IT & Sensitisation training was provided to all the employees of Legal Department.
- The extensive in-house training is held with emphasis on online practical and theory session.
- Training to all HoDs and District offices will be schedule after the installation of required Hardware & Software.

LD Website

The LD website can be viewed at <http://www.gujlegal.gov.in/>

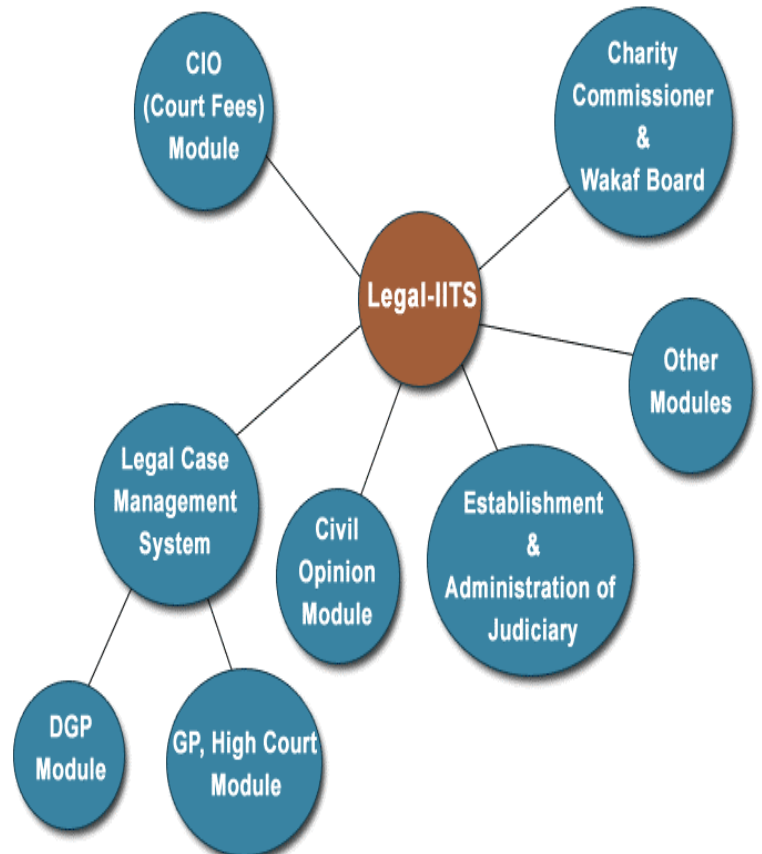
Front page of Legal Website:



Following information is available online:

- Policy
- Organization Chart
- Roles & Responsibilities
- Notary List
- Lok Adalat
- Charity Commissioner & WAKF
- Various Forms

Overview of Legal-IITS





Brief Details about the various modules of LD-IITS

Legal Case Management Module:

Legal Department is responsible for Civil & Criminal litigation entirely against & on behalf of the Gujarat State.

This module provides facility to store all the information of various cases of Government like Criminal Post Litigation opinion and Criminal Acquittal Appeals, Mofussil litigation against Government in court of Civil Judge (SD), Appeals in District court, High court and Supreme Court.

This module also provides facility to issue instruction in suits / appeals filed against State Government to Tribunals, District Courts, High Court & Supreme Court.

Civil Opinion Module:

Legal Department acts as an advisor by way of submitting various, opinions sought by the concerned administrative departments, either as a pre-litigation or post litigation matter. This module will provide functionalities related to this.

Establishment & Administration of Judiciary:

This module provides the facility to Establishment and Administration of Judiciary in the state. It also provides facility for Appointment & Establishment of P.P., A.P.P, Law Officers & I.O.C.F. It will provide information on no of court establishment in the various Districts of state.

Other Modules:

Library: Legal Department is having large knowledgebase of 35,000 books pertaining to various Law subject. Legal IITS will have complete online Library Management module.

Liaison Branch: Legal Department is having liaison office at Gujarat High Court. Module will provide facility to feed important proceeding in High Court, which will be directly available to Legal Department.

Notary: This module provides facility of Appointment of Notary in Gujarat State.

DGP Office Module:

This module will be implemented at all District Govt. Pleader Office of Legal Department across Gujarat State. Legal Department issue Institution to Government solicitors, GP, PP for appearance in the District Court in all type of petition directly filed by or against Government in District Court using Legal Case Management Module. Such instruction will be directly available at DGP office online for necessary action.

CIOCF – Chief Inspecting Officers (Court Fees) Module:

Inspecting Officer (Court Fees) (IOCF) supervises case filed and pending in various level courts functioning in Gujarat state for prescribed court fees livable on each case. Chief Inspecting Officer (Court Fees) (CIOCF) is head of all Inspecting Offices and supervises activities of different Inspecting Offices. This module provides facility for maintaining details of Court visits



and Inspection of cases. Primary details of CFR filed by IOCF, Disposal of CFR, and Updating Court Fees Recovery Details.

E-governance Initiatives in the offices under LEGAL DEPARTMENT

LEGAL DEPARTMENT is having various offices under it like District Government Pleader Office, Charity Commissioner & WAKF Board, Chief Inspecting Officer (Court Fees), Gujarat State Legal Aid Authority, M/s Silver Touch Computers Pvt. Ltd. is selected for developing integrated solution. For Government Pleader, Gujarat High Court Office, M/s VMF SoftTech Limited is selected for total computerization.

Efforts are being made to have a seamless integration between all the offices under it and LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

E-Governance in Charity Commissioner Office:

Charity Commissioner is a nodal agency under Legal Department of Government of Gujarat. The organization is working as per provisions of the Bombay Public Trust Act 1950. About 1.8 lac trusts have been registered with charity organization.

Major Functions:

1. Registration of Trust
2. Inspection of trusts
3. Submission & Assessment of accounts of the trusts
4. Scrutiny of accounts of the trusts
5. Administrative General

6. P.T.A fund generation for the charity organization
7. Changes in trust, inquires & Complaints against trusts

Features of the Charity Organization Software:

- Effective reporting and presentation of required data through EIS-MIS reports
- Easy monitoring of various details related to Trust across Gujarat
- Transparency through citizen centric interface through which application would be made available to the citizen
- Single source of authentic records of Trust information for the Head Office & District Office.
- 100% Gujarati Interface Modules. Charity Commissioner has following modules encompassing the various processes of the branches at Head Office and District Offices.

- Judicial Branch
- Section 35/36
- OT/AG/TCT
- Account
- Inspection
- Copy
- Trust Registration
- Inspector
- Trust Account Assessment & Accounting
- MIS / EIS Reports



Hardware Infrastructure at Legal Department

Existing and proposed hardware infrastructure at LD is as follows:

- Currently in Legal Department, each officer, branch, stenographer and typist having at least one PC with GSWAN connectivity.
- Each branch, stenographer and typist having a printer
- There will be additional computer with some of the branches of Legal Department on requirement basis.
- All the HoDs / Boards under LEGAL DEPARTMENT will be connected through GSWAN, and hence, they all will be having a seamless integration with LEGAL DEPARTMENT and with each other.
- Legal Department will have one Application Server & one database Server for storing the centralized data at the Department.
- Charity Commissioner office will have total 120 Computers at 28-office location all over Gujarat with GSWAN connectivity.
- All District Government Pleader (DGP) Offices will have 2 Computers and 1 Printer at 22 locations all over Gujarat with GSWAN connectivity.
- Chief Inspecting Officer (Court Fees) will have 1 Computer and 1 Printer each at 8 locations all over Gujarat with GSWAN connectivity.
- Government Pleader Office, High Court will have 40 Computer and Server with GSWAN connectivity directly to Legal Department.
- WAKF Board will have Computer & direct connectivity to Legal Department.



NISG Approve Rs. 1.4 Crore to GIL for Village Information System (eGram) for 100 villages in Visnagar and Patan Taluka falling under 'Gyan Ganga Rural Connectivity Project'

Dept. of Information Technology (DIT), Govt. of India, in collaboration with UNDP, has initiated ICT for development (ICTD) Project driven by objective of 'making ICT work for people'. The vision of ICTD is translate this objective into definitive reality by harnessing advances in ICT and opportunities to re-construct government, citizens and business interfaces with the objective of better governance and by establishing institutional mechanisms to facilitate initiative towards synergistic utilization of ICT as an enabling tool for efficiency and effectiveness.

- Gujarat Informatics Ltd. has initiated 'Gyan Ganga' Project with the objective to provide rural connectivity. The front end is the up-scale version of Mahitishakti.
- Panchayat Dept. has initiated eGram Project with the successful pilot at Vanukal at Bhavnagar Dist.

Gujarat Informatics Ltd. had submitted a project proposal for Village Information System (eGram) to National Institute for Smart Government (NISG), combining the above 2 initiatives. Visnagar and Patan Talukas are proposed for this project and **100 villages** will be covered for all the Gram Panchayat falling under coverage area of Gyan Ganga Project.

The presentation and discussion regarding the proposal was held before the high level Technical Committee at NISG, Hyderabad on 2nd September 2004. The Project proposal is approved with the **theme of 'Use of ICTs for transforming Rural Governance'**.

The project duration is 1 year. Total fund approved for the project is **Rs.1.4 crore** for covering 100 villages. 100-village panchayat will be equipped with required hardware and connectivity under this project. The required database creation, capacity building of village panchayat staff and promotion of the services are other components covered under this project.



Web Corner

Government of India Directory
<http://gioidirectory.nic.in>

Legal services in India
<http://legalservicesindia.com/>

Gujarat National Law University
<http://www.gnl.u.ac.in>

Please look out for this section for URLs of
Government websites

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