

INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON INTERNET

With the guidance and assistance from National Informatics Centre, Supreme Court is making extensive use of information technology in its working. A number of web applications have already been implemented and newer applications are in the process. The information relating to constitution of the Court, its jurisdiction, rules, Judges, calendar, etc., is readily available on its site <http://www.supremecourtindia.nic.in/>. At present, the following information in relation to court cases is available on the web:-

(i) Cause Lists :

(<http://causelists.nic.in>)

All the cause lists such as Weekly Lists, Advance Lists, Final Lists and Supplementary Lists are available on the internet and it is possible to locate the case through the name of either party or through case number. This facility enables the litigants to find out, without contacting their advocate, as to whether their matter is listed for hearing on a particular date or not. It is possible for the advocates to generate cause list only of their cases and thereby avoid scanning through a large number of pages of the list to locate such cases. Cause lists can be accessed immediately after it is issued by the Court.

ii) Case Status

(<http://www.courtnic.nic.in>)

This website can be accessed through internet to ascertain the status of pending as well as disposed of cases. Case status gives information such as lower court details, names of parties and advocates, the date on which the matter was last listed and the date on which the matter is likely to be listed next. If the matter is already disposed of, information such as date of disposal can be obtained using this facility. Whenever a case is filed in the Supreme Court, its details such as diary number generated at the time of filing, date of filing, lower court details, name of parties etc. are entered in the computer. All this information is available on the

site. The status can be accessed through case number, title, advocate's name or lower court details. It is possible for a litigant to maintain his own case file by downloading all details including orders passed from time to time. Similarly an Advocate can download particulars of all his cases and thereby maintain his own database.

(iii) Digitally signed judgments and orders

Parallel to the signing of daily orders on hard copies, Court Masters/Stenographers now sign digitally on electronic copies using digital signatures. Digitally signed orders are available on Court website. Litigant can download the electronic copies which can prove the authenticity of the signor and integrity of the document. As digitally signed documents are fully secured and authentication can be proved via internet, anyone can trust these documents. However, such orders cannot be used as certified copies, for which one has to apply to the Copying Agency of the Court. All the previous orders passed in a case are also available in chronological order. This facility saves a lot of time and expenses, since one does not have to travel to the Supreme Court to obtain a copy of the order passed in his case and can have access to it while sitting in his own place.

(iv) Judgments

(<http://www.judis.nic.in>)

With the assistance of National Informatics Centre, a web enabling retrieval system, Judgment Information System (JUDIS) has been implemented, thereby making available, on internet, complete text of all reported judgments of the Supreme Court from 1950 till date. Unreported judgments and signed orders are also now being uploaded on the website. Judgment can be accessed through party name, advocate's name, date of judgment and also through free text search which enables the user to retrieve all the judgments on a particular subject. It is also possible to find out which judgments were delivered during a particular period or which judgments with a particular name were delivered during that period. The judgments are available on this site within 24 hours on their

being delivered in the Court. This facility is of great help to those advocates who cannot afford to own a law library and also enables a litigant to trace precedents on the subject of his/her own case.

(v) Filing defects (<http://casestatus.nic.in>)

As soon as a case is filed in the Supreme Court, it is scrutinized to make sure that the file is free from filing defects. If the scrutiny clerk finds any defect in a case, the case is not registered (case number is not allotted) and the list of filing defects found in the case, is sent to the Advocates-on-Record/Petitioner-in-person who filed the case, for rectification. These identified filing defects are also displayed on the Supreme Court's website for the benefit of the litigant public.

The litigants thus come to know for what reason his/her case is not listed for hearing in the Supreme Court. He/She can access Filing Defects information either through Diary No. or his/her own name.

(vi) E-kiosks

E-kiosks have been installed in the premises of Supreme Court in order to enable the litigants and advocates to have access to computerized information, without actually owning a computer. This facility is of immense use of those who do not own a computer and still want to utilize E-facilities.

(vii) Interactive Voice Response System (I.V.R.S.)

Interactive Voice Response System has been installed in the Court thereby enabling a person to know the position of his case on telephone without using the internet. This facility is of immense use to those who do not own a computer or do not have the facility of internet available to them. Telephone Number of I.V.R.S. is 24357276.
