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FROM THE DESK OF THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE

I have the privilege to present the annual report of the West Bengal Judiciary for the year 2022-23 which gives me an opportunity to place the achievements throughout the year as well as the vision for the upcoming year 2023-24. This report gives the details of key accomplishments for the judiciary of this state during the year 2022-23 and I would like to highlight just a few of them.

The majestic structure of Calcutta High Court which bears the history of Indian Judiciary systems stands tall close to the eastern bank of river Hooghly. One of the major challenges that the Calcutta High Court faces being the oldest High Court of India is the dearth of space which was duly addressed and an Administrative Block of



the High Court was unveiled on 1st March, 2023 during the tenure of my predecessor Hon'ble Justice Prakash Shrivastava. The said building is now used for accommodating various administrative departments which has helped the administration to vacate number of court rooms of Sesqui-Centenary Building which was earlier occupied by the administrative departments.

The demand of a separate District and Sessions division at Alipurduar by the legal fraternity of North Bengal for over a decade was fulfilled with the assistance rendered by my colleague Brother and Sister Judges, the Principal Secretary (Judicial Department), the members of the Registry and the District Judge of Jalpaiguri which was inaugurated on 29th April, 2023.

Information Technology has become more user-friendly for courts in the state. We recognized the virtual mode of hearing which is essential to fulfill our mission for access to justice for all. New measures are adopted ensuring greater transparency in the areas of court proceedings through live streaming and personal information disclosure. The key ICT achievements are the introduction of PIS (Personal Information System), e-ACR, e-RTI Portal, e-Gatepass and Android Mobile Application among others.



Major initiatives which are in the pipe-line are the File Tracking System, Digitization of Records, FASTER System, Cloud based paperless court software application, Digital Signature Certificates for Hon'ble Judges and Officers.

In view of the increase of the strength of Judges and the creation of new courts, steps are taken to develop the infrastructure in the district judiciary and in this report both the achievements as well as visions are discussed in details. The IT infrastructure in district judiciary has also been developed with the changed management and training programme. A video conferencing facility between Courts and Correctional Homes, procurement of hardware for district judiciary, DLSA and WBJA revamped the LAN connectivity throughout the district. The Virtual Court dealing with e-challan traffic cases in respect of four traffic guards was inaugurated on 15th September, 2022.

In order to reduce the pendency of cases, measures have been taken for implementation of the Case Flow Management System and target oriented disposal of old cases and effort can be seen from the number of disposal. The total number of judgments delivered by the Calcutta High Court is about 8,311 and 1,14,969 number of judgments were delivered by the district judiciary.

Towards an effective and equal delivery of justice to the weaker section, a Legal Aid Defense Counsel System (L.A.D.C.S.) is introduced to provide legal services in different districts in the state. The Vulnerable Witness Deposition Scheme (V.W.D.C.) has also been inaugurated in several districts and estimates for the others are pending before the government for administrative approval. Another major challenge we have undertaken during the period is to fill up the vacancies of various cadres of High Court employees and staffs and details are discussed vividly in this Annual Report which would show the sincere ability on the part of the Registry and the support staff of the High Court at Calcutta.

l appreciate the sincere assistance given to me by my Brother and Sister colleagues, who are also part of various Committees, for their continuous support in discharging my day-to-day administration at every level. In every court office, our Judges and employees share something in common - a fervent belief that their work matters irrespective of their role or responsibility. I also expect that their continuous support will further ensure better performance in the next year and will create an example in the process of development and giving access to justice to all.

Kolkata, 11.08.2023 T.S. SIVAGNANAM

Chief Justice







FROM THE COMMITTEE'S DESK

The annual report of an institution chronicles its yearly achievements, challenges, initiatives and aspirations. High Court at Calcutta, spanning history from the 19th century till today, has remained steadfast in its commitment to judicial independence, integrity and upholding the rule of law.

With the advent of the information age in the 21st century, the Court has evolved and is adopting new technology like the ICT initiatives to provide easy and affordable justice to all. Annual Report 2023 is a humble endeavour to document these tireless efforts and remain accountable to the citizens of the country which the institution seeks to serve.

The first chapter of the report deals with the High Court. After narrating a brief history of the Court, the chapter gives a vivid account of its existing judicial setup, that is to say, the number of judges manning the Court, various committees and the registry. It also describes the physical infrastructure and human resources available to dispense justice. Initiatives undertaken to improve and modernize these processes including ICT initiatives have also been documented. Case statistics have been supplied to show the endeavours taken to meet the constitutional ideals of timely justice, particularly the disposal of arrears. Further, the improvements and activities in the High Court have been enumerated in the chapter. Finally, it rounds up with a touch of colourful aesthetics through the timeless paintings and artworks which adorn the lofty portals of the Court building.

Apart from the Principal Seat at Kolkata, Calcutta High Court also functions from two Circuit Benches, one at Port Blair in Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the other one at Jalpaiguri in North Bengal. The second chapter is papered with resplendent images that highlight the infrastructure, case statistics and staff pattern of the Circuit Benches.

In addition to adversarial adjudication, the Court through its allied organs plays a significant role in offering alternative dispute redressal mechanisms like Lok Adalats, mediations as tools for resolution of disputes. Prompt quality legal aid and assistance to the needy and other weaker sections like women and children is an avowed constitutional goal. Ongoing judicial education is a must for capacity building and competence of its justice delivery system. These aspects are catered to by the following allied organs:—

- West Bengal State Legal Services Authority;
- High Court Legal Services Committee;
- Mediation and Conciliation Committee;
- Juvenile Justice Secretariat:
- West Bengal Judicial Academy.



The programs undertaken by the allied organs and their impact have been narrated in the third chapter.

Bar and Bench are the two wheels of the chair of justice. A vibrant and knowledgeable Bar is essential for the effective delivery of justice. The fourth chapter is devoted to the offices of the Additional Solicitor General, Advocate General, the three wings of the Bar and their activities.

The quality of judicial pronouncements is the most important indicator of a Court's contribution to the development of law. The fifth chapter includes a summary of significant judgments delivered by the judges of this court during the year.

The sixth chapter of the report deals with district judiciary- the first institution administering justice in the judicial hierarchy. Each district has been portrayed chronologically and particulars relating to its judicial set-up, infrastructure and achievements throughout the year have been laid down this chapter.

The report concludes with a vision statement enumerating the new initiatives the Court seeks to implement in the coming years. The report also contains an appendix elaborating the statistics on pendency and disposal of different case categories, infrastructural projects, notified rules, budgetary allocation and its utilization.

The committee hopes and trusts the publication of the report would give a vivid account of the functioning of the judiciary in the State and reinforce public trust and confidence in the institution.

Finally, the committee respectfully expresses its profound gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court for his continuous support and guidance. The committee also records its deep appreciation for the contribution and assistance rendered by the Hon'ble Judges, the Registry member led by Ms. Chaitali Chatterjee Das, Ms. Nabanita Ray, Mr. Kallol Chattopadhyay, Mr. Sanjay Mukhopadhyay, Mr. Syed Dilwar Hossain, Mr. Mandip Saha Roy, law clerk cum research assistants Ms. Sanjana Roy and Mr. Anirudh Goyal, and the staff members of High Court, members of the three wings of the Bar, the judicial department of the Government of West Bengal and the Saraswaty Press in preparation of the Annual Report.

JOYMALYA BAGCHI SHAMPA SARKAR RAI CHATTOPADHYAY

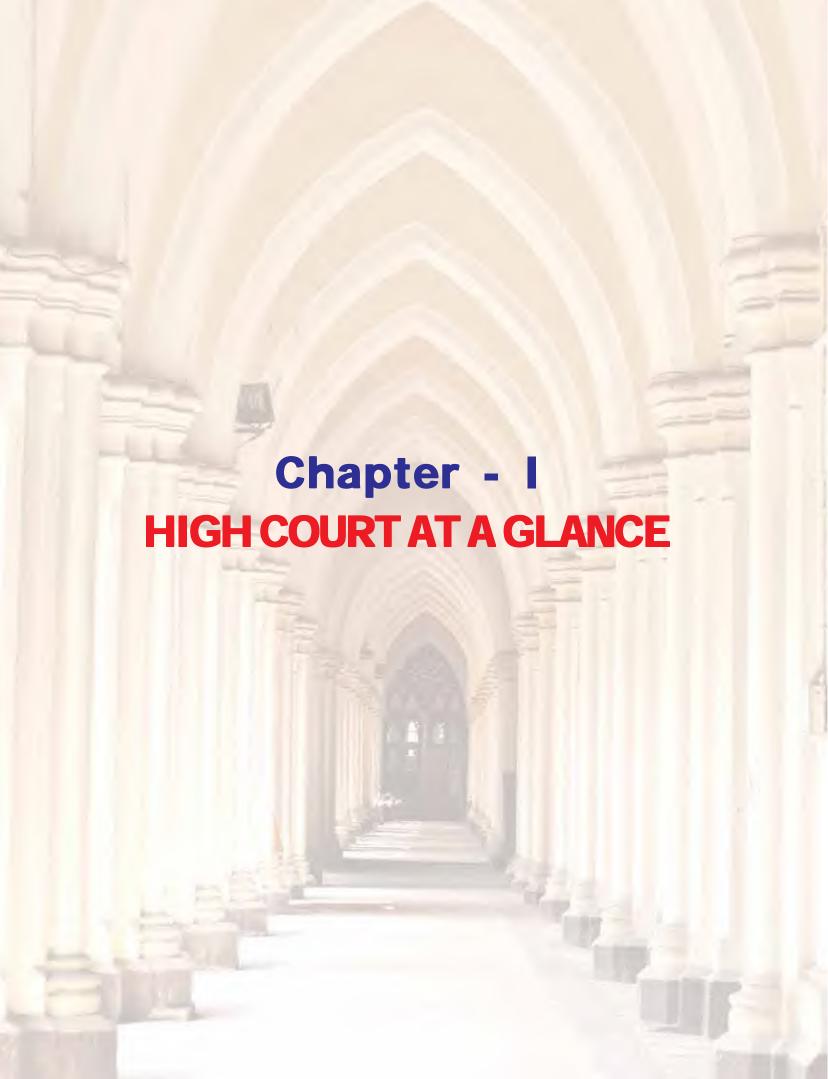




Introduction

The constitutional goal of equal justice to all is the guiding light for the judiciary. An independent and competent judiciary that is easily accessible, ensures vibrant democracy and governance by the Rule of Law. Fair and timely justice secures social, political, economic and equality to the citizen of the nation. Public trust and faith is the source of legitimacy to the judiciary. The publication of annual report is a process to gain such trust. The report is an effort to achieve transparency and a step towards judicial empowerment and participation of the people of India in the justice delivery system.









HISTORY

तदेतत्क्षत्रस्य क्षत्रं यद्धर्मस्तस्माद्धर्मात् परं नास्त्यथो अबलीयान् बलीया समाश सते धर्मेण यथा राज्ञैवम्।

Law is the King of Kings, far more powerful and rigid than they; nothing can be mightier than Law, by whose aid, as by that of the highest monarch, even the weak may prevail over the strong.

Brihadaranyakopanishad 1-4.14

The Temple of Justice

Being the oldest high court in the country and in its 162nd year of existence, the majesty of the High Court at Calcutta stands firm on its glorious past, commendable present and aspiring future. Prior to the establishment of the High Court at Calcutta, the Supreme Court of Judicature at Fort William in Calcutta functioned as British India's highest court from 1774 until 1862.

The High Court at Calcutta, formerly known as the High Court of Judicature at Fort William, was brought into existence by the Letters Patent dated May 14, 1862, issued under the Indian High Courts Act, 1861. The High Court of Judicature at Fort William was formally opened on July 1, 1862, with Sir Barnes Peacock as its first Chief Justice.

The Main Building of the Calcutta High Court, situated on the eastern bank of the river Hooghly, was designed by Mr. Walter B. Granville and completed in 1872. This impressive grand sandstone edifice is built in the neo-Gothic style of architecture and is said to be a perfect replica of the 'Stadt Haus' or 'Cloth Hall' at Ypres in Belgium. It has red brick facing with the stucco dressings above an elegant vaulted cloister of Barakur sandstone with capitals of Caen stone. Not only is the Main Building almost as old as the High Court itself, it continues to energetically function to this day in all its graceful splendour.

One needs to keep in mind that the High Court at Calcutta is not what it is today merely because of the stately Main Building or for having the distinction of being the first Chartered High Court to be set up in India. It goes without saying that the large number of distinguished judges and celebrated lawyers who toiled day and night has enriched the High Court's illustrious legacy for nearly two centuries. Therefore, it is not just the brick or the mortar that make one proud of the High Courts' magnificence, but the stellar galaxy of legal luminaries that have graced its grandeur with their exceptional wisdom, either as a part of its bar or bench over the years. In the words of Sir Harold Derbyshire (Former Chief Justice, Calcutta High Court):



"I was very interested soon after coming to England in 1946 to hear one member of the judicial committee of the Privy Council say to another lawyer; you must remember that the Calcutta High Court is independent. Long may it remain so!"

Judges and Justice

Coming into existence through the Letters Patent, the High Court at Calcutta earlier consisted of a Chief Justice and other puisne judges not exceeding 15 in number. At present, the High Court has a sanctioned strength of 72 judges including the Chief Justice.

Sir Barnes Peacock was the first Chief Justice of the High Court at Calcutta who was joined by Justice Sambhu Nath Pandit as its first Indian Judge way back in 1863. A host of legal luminaries such as Justice Dwarka Nath Mitter, Justice Ramesh Chandra Mitter, Sir Chunder Madhab Ghosh, Sir Gooroodas Banerji and Sir Asutosh Mukherjee succeeded Justice Sambhu Nath Pandit's legacy. Justice Phani Bhusan Chakravarti was the first Indian to become a permanent Chief Justice of the High Court at Calcutta, and Justice Sankar Prasad Mitra was its longest serving Chief Justice.

Justice Bijan Kumar Mukherjea became the first judge from this High Court to be elevated as the Chief Justice of India. Justice Sudhi Ranjan Das, Justice Amal Kumar Sarkar, Justice Ajit Nath Ray, Justice Sabyasachi Mukharji, and Justice Altamas Kabir were other eminent judges from this Court to hold the office of Chief Justice of India.

The history of the High Court would not have been complete without reference to the emergence of women in the profession. The first lady Judge of this premier High Court was Justice Padma Khastagir. Since then, this Court has held the distinction of having two judges, namely Justice Ruma Pal and Justice Indira Banerjee, being elevated as Hon'ble Supreme Court judges. Presently, there are nine lady judges in the High Court, which is not only one of the highest in the entire country but is also a testament to gender parity in the discipline of law.

At the Bar

No chronicle of an institution will be complete without reminiscing about the intellectual giants who have created its illustrious past and elevated it to its present stature. Not only were they erudite legal scholars but by their vigorous involvement in public life through invaluable contribution in the struggle for independence of their motherland, these legal luminaries have set an enviable standard in the legal profession. Many have contributed in the fields of literature, art and culture by way of eloquent advocacy and astute analysis of the legal principles, and their active participation in public life and law-making has created vibrant jurisprudence as well as productively espoused the cause of the underprivileged.

Right from its inception, the stature and prominence of the High Court at Calcutta has been amply hailed and glorified by its Bar. Truly a galaxy of stellar personalities, the Calcutta Bar has been



hallowed with greatness by revered personalities like Babu Rajendra Prasad, W. C. Bonnerji, Deshbandhu C. R. Das, Rashbehari Bose, and many others. In the post independence years, the Bar enjoys the privilege of having two of its distinguished members, namely Niren De and Milon K. Banerji, adorning the office of the Attorney General of India. Lastly, any discussion on the crucial contribution of the Bar would remain incomplete without due reference to Somnath Chatterjee who held the office of the Speaker, Lok Sabha from 2004 until 2009.

The Cases That Were and That Will Be

The High Court at Calcutta has portrayed its aura of greatness by conscientious dispensation and prudent administration of justice in umpteen landmark cases that were not only sensational, but also grave in their social and political impact. It steadfastly strove to create traditions of vigilant solicitude for the personal liberty of the common man.

In Re: William Tayler¹ was one of the initial cases that were adjudicated by the first Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, Sir Barnes Peacock along with Justice Dwarkanath Mitter. The Chief Justice herein, despite entrenched racial prejudices in the colonial administration, upheld the judicial supremacy and defended its independence by protecting his colleague against libellous attack from disgruntled litigants. Similarly, in the famous Bhawal Sannyasi Case that created momentous sensation all over the country, the Court had set up a precedential example of absolute impartiality and inquisitive analysis in imparting justice. The Alipore Bomb Case tried in the Court unveiled the bravery of the great revolutionaries who opposed the Partition of Bengal in 1905. The records of landmark cases like the Muzaffarpur Conspiracy Case, Dakshineshwar Bomb Case, Midnapore Magistrate's Robert Douglas Murder Case, Masterda Surya Sen Appeal Case, Howrah Gang Case, etc., that are still preserved with care and dignity hailing this Court as a gold mine of historical data pertaining to the dauntless struggle of our forefathers for freedom.

In view of the huge development in science and technology, the current economic scenario of the country is undergoing rapid transformation and the justice delivery system is now on trial being challenged by rapidly changing ground realities.

Being at the crossroads of old traditions and new challenges, the judiciary must not lose its focus on the core constitutional values of upholding the common man's right to justice. The justice delivery system must not remain the 'patrimony of the rich', but must become an 'inheritance of the poor'. The law and the Courts cannot remain a 'two-edged sword of craft and oppression'; rather it must be vibrant enough to become the 'staff of honesty and shield of innocence'.

=======



History



Sir Barnes Peacock, KT. First Chief Justice (1862-1870)



Shri Phanibhusan Chakravartti First Indian Chief Justice (1952-1958)

Elphinston Jackson

Sumboonath Pundit Sir G. Campbell

Sir A. G. Macpherson F. A. B Glover Sir J. B. Phear C. Steer

J. P. Norman



C. V. Trevor

H. V. Bayley

W. Seton Karr

Sir B. Peacock

Sir W. Morgan

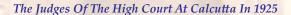
G. Loch

The Judges Of The High Court At Calcutta In 1865





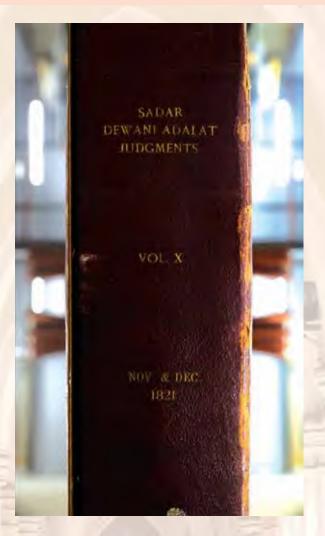
1st row–Suhrawardy J., Rankin J., Cuming J., Panton J., Pearson J., C. C. Ghosh J., Buckland J., Page J., B. B. Ghosh J., 2nd row–Greaves J., Richardson J., Mookerjee J., Sanderson C. J., Chatterjea J., Walmsley J., Newbould J.,





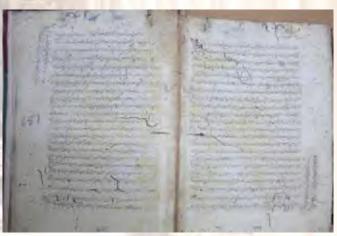
High Court Sessions Prisoners' Staircase & Sentry Post





Sadar Dewani Adalat Judgments - Vol. X (Nov & Dec 1821)





Glimpses of Farsi Judgment





Will of Woomes Chunder Bonnerjee, 28.06.1906



get and may accounted properties - again above and the Cannail of Canada (colored) we be small with thirty of me to small while the delivery of me to small with thirty to a small wind, the formation was the meaning of the termination of the formation was the terminate of the accounter of the state of the state of the state of the terminate of

Will of Rash Behary Ghosh, 23.05.1920







Victorian Seal – VICTORIA DEI GRATIA BRITANNIARUM REGINA FIDEI DEFENSOR, Victoria by the grace of God, Queen of the Britains, Defender of the Faith



Letters Patent, 1862





Court document of Khudiram Bose





Court documents of Rani Rashmoni with her Original Signature (left) and Michael Madhusudan Dutta (right)



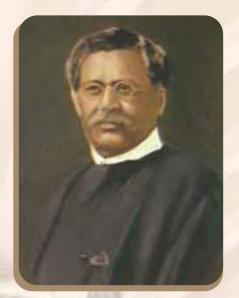


Court document and Newspaper cutting of Howrah Gang case

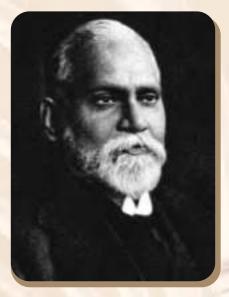


Court document of Ullaskar Dutta (top) and Barin Ghosh (bottom)

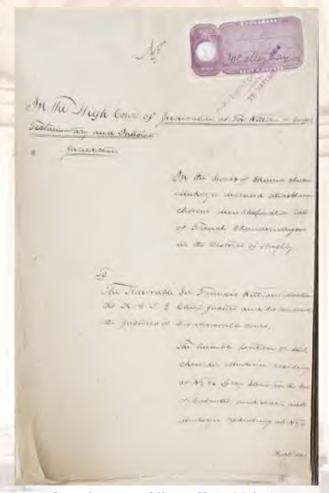




Rashbehary Ghose



Bhupendra Nath Basu



Court document of Shama Churn Mukerjee



JUDGES

The High Court at Calcutta has a sanctioned strength of 72 out of which permanent is 54 and Additional is 18. As on 01.07.2022 the working strength was 46 which has become 52 as on 30.06.2023.

The Hon'ble Justice Prakash Shrivastava was the Chief Justice of the High Court at Calcutta till the forenoon of 31st March, 2023. Upon relinquishment of the Office by His Lordship, The Hon'ble Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, the then Senior most Puisne Judge and Judge-in-Charge, Administrative Department, Sworn-in as the Chief Justice of High Court at Calcutta with effect from the forenoon of 11th May, 2023.

During the period, 10(ten) Hon'ble Judges have Sworn-in and 4(four) Hon'ble Judges have also relinquished the Office on superannuation.

Status of vacancy vis-à-vis sanctioned strength of Hon'ble Judges in the High Court as on 30.06.2023:

HIGH COURT JUDGES

As on 30.06.2023

	Bar	Service	Total
Sanctioned Strength Permanent – 54 Additional – 18	48	24	72
Working Strength	31	21	52
Vacancies	17	03	20



Judges of Calcutta High Court in the Supreme Court of India



The Hon'ble Justice Indira Banerjee, Judge, Supreme Court of India (Till 23.09.2022)



The Hon'ble Justice Aniruddha Bose, Judge, Supreme Court of India



Judges of Calcutta High Court in the Supreme Court of India



The Hon'ble Justice Dipankar Datta, Judge, Supreme Court of India (from December 12, 2022)



The Hon'ble Justice Rajesh Bindal, Judge, Supreme Court of India (from February 13, 2023)



Judges from Calcutta High Court elevated as Chief Justices of other High Courts



The Hon'ble Justice Biswanath Somadder, Chief Justice, Sikkim High Court



The Hon'ble Justice Sanjib Banerjee, Chief Justice, Meghalaya High Court





The Hon'ble Justice Prakash Shrivastava, Chief Justice [Hon'ble Chief Justice till forenoon of 31st March, 2023]



Farewell of the Hon'ble Chief Justice Prakash Shrivastava





The Hon'ble Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, Chief Justice [Hon'ble Acting Chief Justice from 31st March, 2023 to 10th May, 2023] [Hon'ble Chief Justice from 11th May, 2023]



Oath Ceremony of the Hon'ble Chief Justice T.S. Sivagnanam



HON'BLE JUDGES [01.07.2022 - 30.06.2023]



The Hon'ble Justice Indra Prasanna Mukerji



The Hon'ble Justice Chitta Ranjan Dash



The Hon'ble Justice Harish Tandon



The Hon'ble Justice Soumen Sen



The Hon'ble Justice Joymalya Bagchi



The Hon'ble Justice Subrata Talukdar



The Hon'ble Justice Tapabrata Chakraborty



The Hon'ble Justice Arijit Banerjee



The Hon'ble Justice Debangsu Basak



The Hon'ble Justice V.M. Velumani



The Hon'ble Justice Rajasekhar Mantha



The Hon'ble Justice Sabyasachi Bhattacharyya



The Hon'ble Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya



The Hon'ble Justice Shekhar B. Saraf



The Hon'ble Justice Rajarshi Bharadwaj



The Hon'ble Justice Shampa Sarkar



The Hon'ble Justice Ravi Krishan Kapur



The Hon'ble Justice Arindam Mukherjee



The Hon'ble Justice Biswajit Basu



The Hon'ble Justice Amrita Sinha





The Hon'ble Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay



The Hon'ble Justice Jay Sengupta



The Hon'ble Justice Bibek Chaudhuri



The Hon'ble Justice Subhasis Dasgupta [Till the forenoon of 22.02.2023]



The Hon'ble Justice Suvra Ghosh



The Hon'ble Justice Md. Nizamuddin



The Hon'ble Justice Tirthankar Ghosh



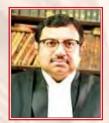
The Hon'ble Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharyya



The Hon'ble Justice Saugata Bhattacharyya



The Hon'ble Justice Kausik Chanda



The Hon'ble Justice Aniruddha Roy



The Hon'ble Justice Rabindranath Samanta [Till the forenoon of 24.06.2023]



The Hon'ble Justice Sugato Majumdar



The Hon'ble Justice Bivas Pattanayak



The Hon'ble Justice Ananda Kumar Mukherjee [Till the forenoon of 05.08.2022]



The Hon'ble Justice Krishna Rao



The Hon'ble Justice Bibhas Ranjan De



The Hon'ble Justice Ajoy Kumar Mukherjee



The Hon'ble Justice Ananya Bandyopadhyay



The Hon'ble Justice Rai Chattopadhyay





The Hon'ble Justice Subhendu Samanta



The Hon'ble Justice Shampa Dutt (Paul)



The Hon'ble Justice Siddhartha Roy Chowdhury



The Hon'ble Justice Raja Basu Chowdhury



The Hon'ble Justice Lapita Banerji



The Hon'ble Justice Biswaroop Chowdhury



The Hon'ble Justice Partha Sarathi Sen



The Hon'ble Justice Prasenjit Biswas



The Hon'ble Justice Uday Kumar



The Hon'ble Justice Ajay Kumar Gupta



The Hon'ble Justice Supratim Bhattacharya



The Hon'ble Justice Partha Sarathi Chatterjee



The Hon'ble Justice Apurba Sinha Ray



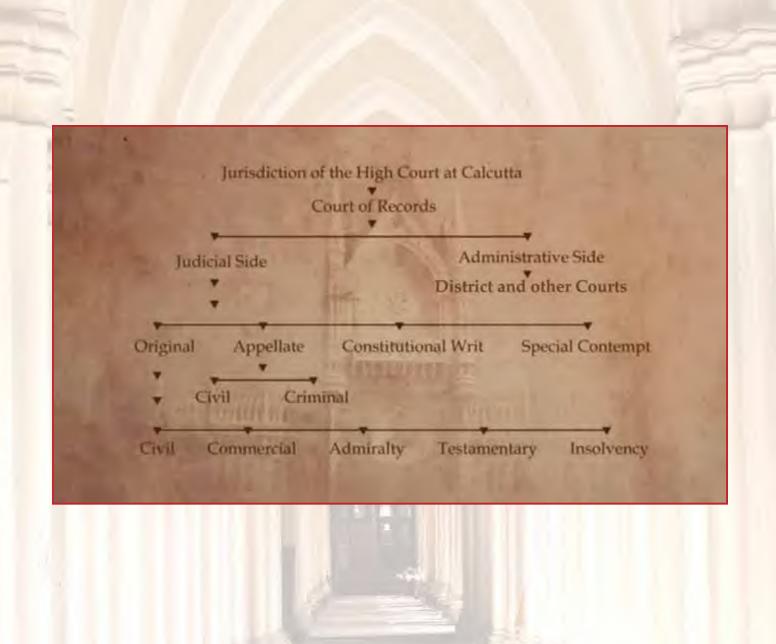
The Hon'ble Justice Md. Shabbar Rashidi



CASE STATISTICS

	CE CLOCK FOR HIGH CO	
AGEW	ISE PENDENCY & LISTE	D TODAY
Calc	utta High Court - Origin	al Side
AGE(YEARS)	PENDENCY	LISTED TODAY
0-5	8,134	361
6-10	3,115	131
11-20	2,585	56
21-30	2,094	33
31-40	1,488	4
>40	341	28
TOTAL	17,757	613

VIRTUAL JUSTICE CLOCK FOR HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA			
INSTITUT	TION, DISPOSAL & CAS	SE CLEARANCE RAT	E
C	alcutta High Court - A	ppellate Side	·
DURATION	INSTITUTION	DISPOSAL	CCR
Today	215	266	124%
Last Day	294	418	142%
Last Week	1,616	2,654	164%
Last Month	6,416	10,305	161%
This Year	39,087	47,390	121%
Last Year	58,067	72,247	124%
TOTAL	1,620,977	1,434,115	88%

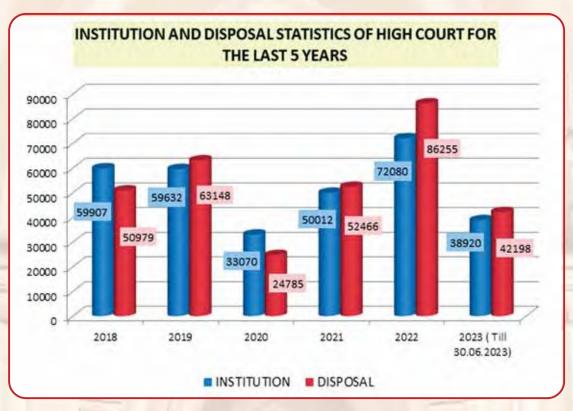


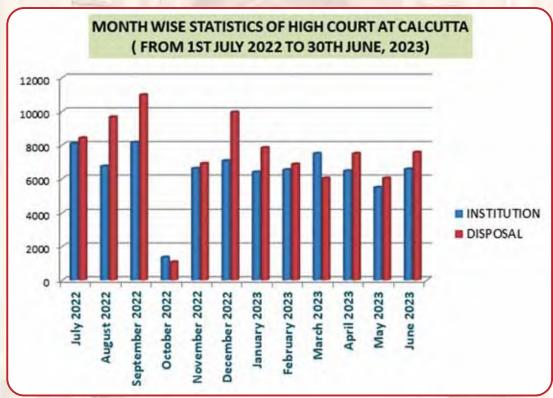


CASE STATISTICS

	Hig	gh Court		
Institution, Di	sposal and Per	ndency from 01.07.	2022 to 30.06.202	3
CIVIL				
Category	Pendency as on 01.07.2022	Institution from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Disposal from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Pendency as on 30.06.2023
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	84268	24044	28011	80301
Company Matters	1592	0	781	811
Contempt (Civil)	33916	1521	6187	29250
Review (Civil)	397	279	128	548
Matrimonial Matters	0	329	292	37
Arbitration Matters	1669	828	864	1633
Civil Revisions	8292	3446	2547	9191
Tax Matters (Direct & Indirect)	105	616	581	140
Civil Appeals	53092	1971	3195	51868
Land Acquisition Matters	202	533	624	111
MACTMatters	411	822	878	355
Civil Suits (Original Side)	3504	281	865	2920
Other than above	6003	1746	1862	5887
	CI	RIMINAL		
Writ Petition (Articles 226 & 227)	19	0	0	19
Criminal Revisions	16645	4893	7370	14168
Bail Applications	6654	15761	14791	7624
Criminal Appeals	12788	538	882	12444
Death Sentence Reference	21	05	19	07
Contempt (Criminal)	88	27	10	105
Misc. Criminal Applications	37	0	0	37
Other than above	0	0	0	0









COMMITTEES OF HIGH COURT





SL. NO.	NAME OF THE COMMITTEES
1.	Administrative Committee
2.	Transfer Committee of WBJS Officers
3.	Committees concerning Recruitment, Promotions of WBJS Officers, Evaluation of Potentiality, creation of new Courts including Family Courts.
4.	Committees constituted under direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India
5.	Committee concerning ACR of WBJS Officers
6.	Rule Committee
7.	Committees concerning Building and Infrastructure (High Court), Court Rooms, Judges' Chambers & High Court Cars.
8.	Committee pertaining to Commercial Court, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division.
9.	Safety and Security Committee
10.	Computer, E- Court, Digitization and Translation Committee
11.	Committees concerning reduction of Arrears for High Court & District Judiciary, Case Flow Management, Physical verification etc.
12.	Committee pertaining to Chief Justices' Conference
13.	Juvenile Justice and POCSO Committee
14.	High Court Level Monitoring Committee under CSS and other Subordinate Infrastructure Committee



SL. NO.	NAME OF THE COMMITTEES
15.	Committees concerning Legal Services, Mediation and Judicial Academy
16.	Litigation Committee
17.	RTI Committee
18.	Library Committee
19.	Recruitment & Promotion Committee for the employees of High Court
20.	Hospitality, Independence Day and Republic Day Committees
21.	Committee for Designating Senior Advocates
22.	Committee for the Hon'ble Judges relating to providing different Allowances
23.	Committee to look after grievances of Retired Hon'ble Judges and Judicial Officers
24.	Committee regarding implementation of Shetty Commission
25.	Purchase and Finance Committee
26.	Committee concerning Prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women
27.	Committee for the Special Pay Commission of the employees of High Court, Calcutta
28.	Employees' Grievance and Anomaly Committee (High Court)
29.	Miscellaneous Committees (Sentence Remission Committee, Archive & restoration of old records Committee, Covid Committee etc.)
30.	Special Committees



Registrars (present)

Standing (Left to Right)

Sanjay Mukhopadhyay, Mandip Saha Roy, Lokesh Pathak, Ashis Kumar Hazra, Ambarish Ghosh, Debaprasad Nath, Kallol Chattopadhyay, Ajay Kumar Singh, Syed Dilwar Hossain

Sitting (Left to Right)

Subhradip Mitra, Nabanita Ray, Chaitali Chatterjee (Das), Chandrani Mukherjee (Banerjee), Bijoyesh Ghosal





Registrars as on 30.06.2023

Standing (Left to Right)

Syed Dilwar Hossain, Umesh Singh, Kallol Chattopadhyay, Biswarup Bandyopadhyay, Ajay Kumar Singh, Chandrani Mukherjee (Banerjee), Ambarish Ghosh, Chaitali Chatterjee (Das), Arun Kiran Bandyopadhyay, Lokesh Pathak, Mandip Saha Roy, Sanjeev Kumar Sharma, Debaprasad Nath, Plaban Mukherjee



Bijoyesh Ghosal, Registrar, Circuit Bench at Port Blair till 05.11.2022



Subhrajit Basu, Registrar, Circuit Bench at Port Blair



Chiranjib Bhattacharya, Registrar, Circuit Bench at Jalpaiguri



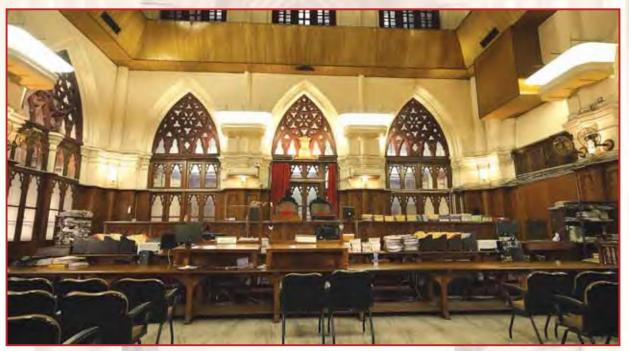
REGISTRY - A GLIMPSE

SL.	DESIGNATION	NAME			
	PRINCIPAL BENCH				
	Registrar Smt. Chaitali Cl				
1.	Registrar (Inspection-I)	Shri Subhradip Mitra			
2.	Registrar (Original Side)	Smt. Chandrani Mukherjee (Banerjee)			
3.	Registrar (Judicial Service)	Shri Biswarup Bandyopadhyay			
4.	Registrar Administration (Lawazima & Office Management)	Smt. Nabanita Ray			
5.	Registrar (Inspection-II)	Shri Bijoyesh Ghosal			
6.	Registrar (Vigilance)	Shri Debaprasad Nath			
7.	Registrar (Information Technology)	Shri Kallol Chattopadhyay			
8.	Central Project Coordinator	Shri Sanjay Mukhopadhyay			
9.	Secretary, High Court Legal Services Committee	Shri Sanjeev Kumar Sharma			
10.	Registrar (Recruitment & Management)	Shri Ashis Kumar Hazra			
11.	Registrar (Commercial Courts Division)				
12.	Registrar (Protocol) With additional charge of Secretary, Juvenile Justice Committee	Shri Lokesh Pathak			
13.	13. Registrar Administration Shri Ambarish Ghosh (General, Infrastructure & Estate)				
	OFFICERS IN THE RANK OF C	IVIL JUDGE (SR. DIVISION)			
14.	Additional Secretary, Juvenile Justice Secretariat, High Court, Calcutta	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
15.	Joint Registrar (Commercial Courts Division)	Shri Mandip Saha Roy (in-charge)			
	CIRCUIT B	BENCHES			
16.	Registrar, Circuit Bench at Jalpaiguri	Shri Chiranjib Bhattacharya			
17.	Registrar, Circuit Bench at Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Shri Subhrajit Basu			





Lawn, Main Building



Court Room No. 1



INFRASTRUCTURE

HIGH COURT BUILDINGS

At present there are 5 (five) buildings in the High Court premises, viz. High Court Main Building, Centenary Building, Sesqui-centenary Building and Annex Building including the New Administrative Block at New Secretariat Building. Apart from the Court Rooms and Hon'ble Judges' Chambers, the said Buildings/Complexes housed the Chambers of Registry Officials, different Departments/Sections/Offices, rooms for the three wings of Bar, Advocates' Clerks including the offices of the Ld. Additional Solicitor General and Ld. Advocate General etc.

The fifth one is the New Administrative Block at Block-"B" (1st floor to 9th floor) of the New Secretariat Building, 1, K. S. Roy Road, Kolkata - 700 001, lately handed over by the Government for accommodating the Offices of the Ld. Registrars and other Judicial and Administrative Departments of this Hon'ble Court.

That apart, land admeasuring 10 acres has been allotted at Rajarhat for construction of new High Court complex keeping in view the future expansion.

Details of the Buildings are given below:

	Calcutta High Cour	t Building Com	plex	
SI. No.	Building Name	Shadow free Rooftop Area	Height of Building (Meters)	Type of roof R.C.C/ GI Sheet/ Asbestos
01	High Court Main Building	7300 Sqm	25.2	Kori Borga Roof
02	Sesqui-centenary Building	1300 Sqm	42.5	R.C.C
03	Centenary Building	1600 Sqm	17.7	R.C.C
04	Annex Building	1300 Sqm	24.2	R.C.C
05	New Administrative Block, High Court, Calcutta at Block 'B' (1st floor to 9th floor), New Secretariat Building	6900 Sq.ft in each floor build up area.		R.C.C

NUMBER OF COURT HALLS		
Main Building	23 + 1 (Video Conference Room)	
Centenary Building	14	
Sesqui-Centenary Building	24	
Annex Building	02	

NUMBER OF JUDGES' CHAMBERS		
Main Building	20	
Centenary Building	13	
Sesqui-Centenary Building	28	
Annex Building	03	





Judges' Lounge, Main Building



Front View, Main Building





Judges' Lounge, Sesquicentenary Building



High Court Auditorium



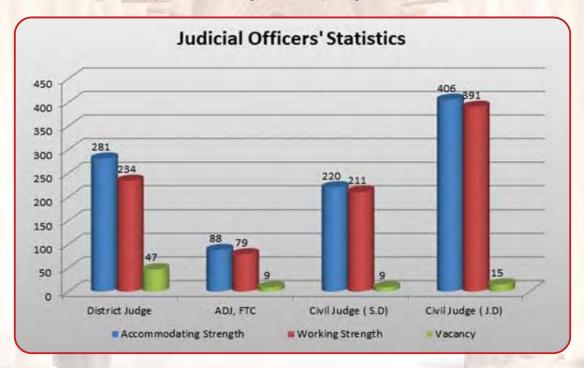
HUMAN RESOURCES

SANCTIONED STRENGTH, WORKING STRENGTH VIS-À-VIS VACANCY OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS COMING UNDER JURISDICTION OF HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA

(As on 30.06.2023)

	CADI	RE	SANCTIONED STRENGTH	ACCOMMODATING STRENGTH *	WORKING STRENGTH	VACANCY
	District Judge Level)/SG Sca Scale		281	281	234	47
	Combined cadre of Civil Judge	ADJ, FTC	88	88	79	09
-	(Senior Division)	Civil Judge (Senior Division)	243	220	211	09
	Civil Ju (Junior Di	•	406	406	391	15
	Tota	ıl	1018	995	915	80

^{*} Maximum number of berths (Courts/posts) available at given time for posting of officers.







Office — New Secretariat Building



Office — Main Building





Offices at the High Court

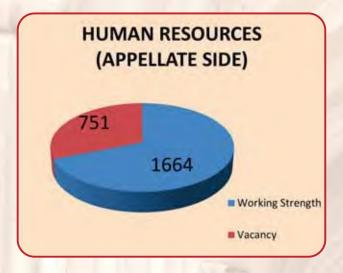




DETAILS OF STRENGTH OF STAFF IN THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA:

As on 30.06.2023

ESTABLISHMENT	SANCTIONED STRENGTH	WORKING STRENGTH	VACANCY
Appellate Side	2415	1664	751
Original Side	635	475	160
TOTAL	3050	2139	911







Office — New Secretariat Building



ICT INITIATIVES

During the period 01.07.2022 - 30.06.2023

COMPOSITION OF THE COMPUTER COMMITTEE

Hon'ble Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, Chief Justice (Chairperson)
Hon'ble Justice Tapabrata Chakraborty
Hon'ble Justice Debangsu Basak
Hon'ble Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya

The Committee is assisted by the Registrar (IT), the Central Project Coordinator, Joint Registrar (Commercial Courts Division), Additional Secretary, Juvenile Justice Secretariat and the Technical Director, National Informatics Centre and NIC Representatives.

e-RTI Portal–This is a portal, associated with the official website of this Hon'ble Court, to file RTI applications/ first appeals online alongwith payment gateway.

HARDWARE RESOURCE MANAGER – This software helps to manage all the hardware resources through the modules of Stock Intake, Distribution, Repairment, and Disposal. It also helps in hardware audit and e-waste management.

PERSONAL INFORMATION SYSTEM – This software manages details of the Judicial Officers having AI integrated system of providing system suggested next place of posting for the Judicial Officers, ensuring speedy communication between the Judicial Officers and the High Court with a paperless approach to the annual confidential reports of the Judicial Officers.







ANDROID / IOS APP – The mobile version of the High Court's official website is available in Android and IOS opperating system. The mobile apps and Personal Information Software (e-ACR) facility along with Virtual Justice Clock, e-filing 1.0 in City Civil Court and 4 Commercial Courts of West Bengal and e-sewa Kendras in several districts were inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud virtually in a programme held on 01.03.2023 in presence of the Hon'ble Chief Justice Prakash Srivastava (as His Lordship then was) and Hon'ble Justice and Chairman of Computer Committee of Calcutta High Court Justice T.S. Sivagnanam (now the Hon'ble Chief Justice of High Court at Calcutta) and Hon'ble Justice I.P. Mukerji.







CUSTOMIZED DISPLAY BOARD – Display Board module in CIS 1.0 has been customized, and is already functional in the Principal Bench of the High Court at Calcutta as well as in two Circuit Benches of the High Court. A mechanism has also been developed to show the data of the display board from CIS 1.0 to the website of the High Court at Calcutta.



VIRTUAL JUSTICE CLOCK – The Virtual Justice Clock provides live data about institution, age, disposal and case clearance rate and other relevant data of the High Court. This clock has been developed by our in-house IT team with the help of NIC, High Court Unit.

PERIODIC TASK INTIMATION – Tasks assigned to the Registrars and other officials of the High Court can be monitored through this software. This helps in timely compliance of directions of this Hon'ble Court and the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

U/2 (2.8)	ISE PENDENCY & LISTE Itta High Court - Appella	
AGE(YEARS)	PENDENCY	LISTED TODAY
0-5	77,890	12,221
6-10	44,082	3,094
11-20	45,392	1,607
21-30	16,004	129
31-40	5,944	33
>40	4,177	10
TOTAL	193,489	17,094

E-GATEPASS – This software is an online module to permit entry of the litigants, visitors and other stakeholders in the High Court premises.

INVESTMENT & BANK GUARANTEE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM – A system has been developed to maintain details of the bank deposits with the Original Side of the High Court enabling to track all the details including date of maturity of the bank deposits.

DIGITAL SIGNATURE CERTIFICATES FOR THE HON'BLE JUDGES AND COURT OFFICIALS- This will enable this Hon'ble Court to provide the web copy of orders & judgements embedded with the digitally signed by the court officials.

DIGITIZATION PROJECT

- The project runs at two locations, one at West Bengal Judicial Academy for disposed of records & another at Calcutta High Court premises for current records.
- The project aims at scanning 80 crores of pages during the period of 3 years.
- Total pages scanned for the whole project up to 31st March 2023: 3,30,31,836 including 39,62,624 pages of current records and 2,90,69,212 pages of old records.



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Swearing-in Ceremony of the Hon'ble Justice T. S. Sivagnanam



Hon'ble Chief Justice with nine Hon'ble Judges post swearing-in ceremony



ACHIEVEMENTS & ACTIVITIES - AT A GLANCE

HIGH COURT

- The Swearing-in Ceremony of the Hon'ble Justice T. S. Sivagnanam as the Chief Justice of this Hon'ble Court was conducted on 11.05.2023.
- The New Administrative Block, High Court, Calcutta was inaugurated virtually by The Hon'ble The Chief Justice of India in the august presence of the Hon'ble The Chief Justice of High Court, Calcutta on 01.03.2023.
- The new Alipurduar Judicial District and Sessions Division was inaugurated on 29.04.2023 by way of segregating the Jalpaiguri District.



Swearing-in ceremony of Hon'ble Justice V. M. Velumani



INFRASTRUCTURAL DEVELOPMENTS IN DISTRICT JUDICIARY

COURTS INAUGURATED

- Railway Magistrate's Court was inaugurated at Sealdah on 30.08.2022.
- Court of Additional District & Sessions Judge, 2nd Court, Baruipur, South 24 Parganas was inaugurated on 28.06.2023.

COURT HALLS AND RESIDENTIAL UNITS INAUGURATED

- Residential Quarter for Judicial Officers and staff was inaugurated on 29.11.2022 at Jangipur in the District of Murshidabad.
- 5 (five) numbers of Court Halls were inaugurated on 11.01.2023 at Buniadpur in the district of Dakshin Dinajpur.
- 12 (Twelve) numbers of Residential Units [Residential Quarter (G+6)] at Bishnupur, Bankura, were inaugurated on 04.02.2023.
- Newly created Judicial Officers' Quarter (G+1) at Alipurduar was inaugurated on 29.04.2023.



Inaguration of Court Halls at Buniadpur in the district of Dakshin Dinajpur.



Inaguration of District Court at Alipurduar



VWDC INAUGURATION

• Vulnerable Witness Deposition Centres (VWDC) at Diamond Harbour, South 24 Parganas and Tamluk, Purba Medinipur were inaugurated on 28.09.2022 through virtual mode.

POCSO COURTS INAUGURATION

• In compliance with the direction passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, 3 (three) exclusive POCSO Courts in the districts of North 24 Parganas, Murshidabad and Howrah, out of the sanctioned 7 (seven) Courts in the first phase, have started functioning on and from 11.11.2022, 21.11.2022 and 03.12.2022 respectively.

ICT ACHIEVEMENTS

- Digital Signature Certificates for the Judges and Officials.
- Introduction of e-ACR through PIS (Personal Information System) of all the Judicial Officers of the State of West Bengal including Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- Introduction of e-Gatepass facilitating smooth entry of the litigants, visitors and other stakeholders in the High Court premises.
- Live Streaming of Court Proceedings in 19 Courts in the Principal Bench as well as Circuit Bench, Jalpaiguri of the High Court.
- Revamping of LAN network in the High Court and the District Judiciary.
- Providing video-conferencing equipments & systems to the District Judiciary.
- Monitoring of uploading of judgments and orders in the CIS on regular basis.
- Implementation of Virtual Justice Clock for the all the Benches of the High Court at Calcutta and the District Court of the State of West Bengal.
- Facilities of virtual hearing of all the Benches of the High Court at Calcutta.







Virtual Inauguration of POCSO Court



Cricket match between Chief Justice's XI and Advocate General's XI, 2023





Celebration of International Yoga Day



Independence Day Celebration – 2022









RECRUITMENT

Actions aiming at timely filling up of vacancies of Judicial Officers

The process of filling up of vacancies in West Bengal Judicial Service was severely hampered and deviated from time-schedule during the Covid period. However, during the period 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023, following the mandate in Malik Mazhar Sultan's case, steps have been taken for filling up of vacancies of Judicial Officers. The process of recruitment in 25 number of vacancies in the cadre of District Judge (Entry Level) through Normal Promotion (65% quota) for the year 2022 is complete. Successful officers will be given promotional posting very shortly. The recruitment process through Limited Competitive Examination (10%) and Direct recruitment from Bar (25%) are in final stages and most likely to be completed shortly. The process of filling up of vacancies declared in the cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division) is going on. All efforts are being made to bring the process back as per time-schedule of Malik Mazhar Sultan's case from year 2024 onwards.





DIRECT RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF DISTRICT JUDGE (ENTRY LEVEL), 2021 AND DISTRICT JUDGE (ENTRY LEVEL), 2022.

SI. No.	Name of the Examination	Related Notification No.	Event	Date
1.	Direct Recruitment to the post of District Judge (Entry Level), 2021	3522 – RG	Result of Written Competitive Test and scheduled for Viva- voce/Personality Test published.	19.07.2022
2.	Direct Recruitment to the post of District Judge (Entry Level), 2021	_	Interview/Viva-voce held on	10.08.2022
3.	Direct Recruitment to the post of District Judge (Entry Level), 2021	4129-RG	Merit-wise Final Result published	25.08.2022
4.	Direct Recruitment to the post of District Judge (Entry Level), 2022	781-RG (DRB) & 782-RG (LCE)	Employment Notification published	07.02.2023
5.	Direct Recruitment to the post of District Judge (Entry Level), 2022	_	OMR based Preliminary Examination (Phase-I) held on	14.05.2023
6.	Direct Recruitment to the post of District Judge (Entry Level), 2022	5132-RG	Result of Preliminary Examination (Phase-I) published	19.05.2023
7.	Direct Recruitment to the post of District Judge (Entry Level), 2022	6103-RG along with Corrigendum No. 6131-RG	Revised Result of Preliminary Examination (Phase-I) published along with Schedule of Written Competitive Test (Phase-II) published	27.06.2023 and 28.06.2023



BASIC GRADE POSTS AS WELL AS PROMOTIONAL POSTS ON THE APPELLATE SIDE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS HON'BLE COURT FILLED UP DURING THE PERIOD

BASIC GRADE POSTS (DIRECT RECRUITMENT)

	Name of posts	Number of Posts filled in for the period from 01.07.2022 till 30.06.2023	Concerned Appointment Order Nos.
	System Analyst (Programming) (Group-A)	3 posts	Appointment Orders – (33, 45 and 48) of 2022
	Senior Programmer (Group-A)	1 post	Appointment Order – 41 of 2022
40.7	Data Entry Operator (Group-C)	119 posts	Appointment Orders – (12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 18, 20, 25 and 34) of 2023
	Driver (Group-C)	2 posts	Appointment Orders – (43 and 46) of 2022
	Farash** (Group-D)	3 posts	Appointment Order – 45 of 2023
	Law Clerk-cum-Research Assistant (contractual post)	14 posts	Appointment Orders – (20, 25, 31, 35, 36, 37, 38, 40, 50) of 2022 and (09, 11, 19, 47, 49) of 2023

^{**} Compassionate Appointment

PROMOTIONAL POSTS

Name of posts	Number of Posts filled in for the period from 01.07.2022 till 30.06.2023	Concerned Appointment Order Nos.
Joint Registrar (Group-A)	2 posts	Appointment Orders – 49 of 2022 and 15 of 2023
Deputy Registrar (General Branch) (Group-A)	7 posts	Appointment Orders – 53 of 2022 and 38 of 2023
Deputy Registrar (Court) (Technical Branch) (Group-A)	2 posts	Appointment Order – 37 of 2023
Deputy Registrar (Protocol and Medical Protocol) (Protocol Wing) (Group-A)	3 posts	Appointment Order – 39 of 2023



Name of posts	Number of Posts filled in for the period from 01.07.2022 till 30.06.2023	Concerned Appointment Order Nos.	
Assistant Registrar (General Branch) (Group-A)	10 posts	Appointment Order - 24 of 2023	
Section Officer (Group-A)	11 posts	Appointment Orders - (08, 21, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36) of 2023	
Accountant/Cashier (Group-A)	11 posts	Appointment Orders - (08, 21, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36) of 2023	
P.A./Stenographer Grade-B (Group-B)	3 posts	Appointment Order - 21 of 2022	
Special Assistant (Legal) (Group-A)	1 post	Appointment Order - 52 of 2022	
Superintendent (Group-B)	12 posts	Appointment Orders - (03, 08, 21, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35 and 36) of 2023 [A/o Nos (28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33) of 2023 are to be read with Office Order No. 78 of 2023]	
Senior Translator (Group-B)	1 post	Appointment Order - 40 of 2023	
Senior Commissioner of Affidavit (Group-B)	1 post	Appointment Order - 40 of 2023	
Upper Division Assistant (Group-B)	15 posts	Appointment Orders - (03, 10, 21, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35 and 36) of 2023 [A/o Nos (28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33) of 2023 are to be read with Office Order No. 78 of 2023]	
Muharrir Grade-I (Group-C)	1 post	Appointment Order - 50 of 2023	
Muharrir Grade-II (Group-C)	2 posts	Appointment Orders - (50 and 51) of 2023	
Record Arranger (Group-C)	18 posts	Appointment Orders - (42, 43 and 44) of 2023	



Name of posts	Number of Posts filled in for the period from 01.07.2022 till 30.06.2023	Concerned Appointment Order Nos.
Bank Clerk (Group-C)	2 posts	Appointment Orders - (50 and 51) of 2023
Duftry (Group-D)	25 posts	Appointment Orders - (42, 43 and 44) of 2023
Jamadar (Group-D)	5 posts	Appointment Order - 06 of 2023

^{**} That apart, certain promotional posts, viz. Stenographer Grade-A, Assistant Court Officer, chain promotions due to vacancy arisen in the post of Section Officer, Superintendent, Muharrir Grade-II, Senior Supervisory Grade Salaried Typist and Extra Typist (Regular), have also been filled up during the tenure, with retrospective effect, the dates of effect of such promotions are prior to the period commencing from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023).

EMPLOYEES OF THE ORIGINAL SIDE, HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA APPOINTED ON PROMOTION

NAME OF POSTS	NO. OF VACANCY FILLED UP	VIDE ORDER NO.
JOINT REGISTRAR (ADMIN.)	1 Post	Estb. No.06/2023 dated 03.03.2023
DEPUTY REGISTRAR (ESTB & COURT MANAGEMENT)	1 Post	Estb. No. 29/2022 dated 23.12.2022
DEPUTY REGISTRAR (ADMIN.)	1 Post	Estb. No. 30/2022 dated 23.12.2022
DEPUTY REGISTRAR (COURT RECORDING)	1 Post	Estb. No. 31/2022 dated 23.12.2022
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR (GENERAL BRANCH)	6 Posts	Estb. No. 20/2023 dated 27.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 20/2022 dated 14.09.2022
	1 Post	Estb. No. 04/2023 dated 04.02.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 21/2023 dated 28.03.2023
SECTION OFFICER	1 Post	Estb. No. 24/2023 dated 29.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 26/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 28/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 30/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 32/2023 dated 31.03.2023
TOTAL	8 Posts	



NAME OF POSTS	NO. OF VACANCY FILLED UP	VIDE ORDER NO.
	1 Post	Estb. No. 20/2022 dated 14.09.2022
	1 Post	Estb. No. 21/2023 dated 28.03.2023
ACCOUNTANT	1 Post	Estb. No. 24/2023 dated 29.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 28/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 30/2023 dated 30.03.2023
TOTAL	5 Posts	
	1 Post	Estb. No. 04/2023 dated 04.02.2023
CASHIER	1 Post	Estb. No. 26/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 32/2023 dated 31.03.2023
TOTAL	3 Posts	
	1 Post	Estb. No. 21/2022 dated 14.09.2022
	1 Post	Estb. No. 05/2023 dated 04.02.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 22/2023 dated 28.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 25/2023 dated 29.03.2023
ASSISTANT TO REGISTRAR	1 Post	Estb. No. 27/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 29/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No.30/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No.33/2023 dated 31.03.2023
TOTAL	8 Posts	
	1 Post	Estb. No. 21/2022 dated 14.09.2022
	1 Post	Estb. No. 05/2023 dated 04.02.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 09/2023 dated 04.03.2023
SUPERINTENDENT	1 Post	Estb. No. 22/2023 dated 28.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 25/2023 dated 29.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 27/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 29/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No.30/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No.33/2023 dated 31.03.2023
TOTAL	9 Posts	



NAME OF POSTS	NO. OF VACANCY FILLED UP	VIDE ORDER NO.
PRESERVATION ASSISTANT	1 Post	Estb. No. 21/2022 dated 14.09.2022
	1 Post	Estb. No. 05/2023 dated 04.02.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 09/2023 dated 04.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 22/2023 dated 28.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 25/2023 dated 29.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 27/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 29/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No.30/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No.33/2023 dated 31.03.2023
TOTAL	9 Posts	
SUPERVISORY GRADE SECTION WRITER	1 Post	Estb. No.34/2023 dated 13.04.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No.34/2023 dated 13.04.2023
TOTAL	2 Posts	
	1 Post	Estb. No. 21/2022 dated 14.09.2022
	1 Post	Estb. No. 05/2023 dated 04.02.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 09/2023 dated 04.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 22/2023 dated 28.03.2023
UPPER DIVISION ASSISTANT	1 Post	Estb. No. 25/2023 dated 29.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 27/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 29/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No.30/2023 dated 30.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No.33/2023 dated 31.03.2023
TOTAL	9 Posts	
GRADE I SECTION WRITER	6 Posts	Estb. No.42/2023 dated 20.05.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No.42/2023 dated 20.05.2023
TOTAL	7 Posts	
SENIOR BENGALI MOHURRIR	1 Post	Estb. No. 07/2023 dated 04.03.2023
MOHURRIR GRADE I	1 Post	Estb. No. 08/2023 dated 04.03.2023
MOHURRIR GRADE II	1 Post	Estb. No. 08/2023 dated 04.03.2023
RECORD ARRANGER	6 Posts	Estb. No. 23/2023 dated 28.03.2023
JAMADAR	1 Post	Estb. No. 26/2022 dated 05.12.2022
GRADE I PEON	1 Post	Estb. No. 26/2022 dated 05.12.2022
	1 Post	Estb. No. 27/2022 dated 09.12.2022
	1 Post	Estb. No. 11/2023 dated 18.03.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 36/2023 dated 13.04.2023
	1 Post	Estb. No. 37/2023 dated 13.04.2023
TOTAL	5 Posts	



EMPLOYEES ON THE ORIGINAL SIDE, HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA APPOINTED DIRECTLY/COMPASSIONATELY			
	NAME OF POST	NO. OF VACANCY FILLED UP	VIDE ORDER NO.
	ANT REGISTRAR (FROM EGAL PROFESSION)	1	Estb. 24/2022 dated 22.11.2022
	PEON	1	Estb. 39/2023 & 40/2023 dated 01.05.2023 (APPOINTMENT ON COMPASSIONATE GROUND)

TRANSLATION OF REPORTED & REPORTABLE SUPREME COURT AND HIGH COURT JUDGMENTS

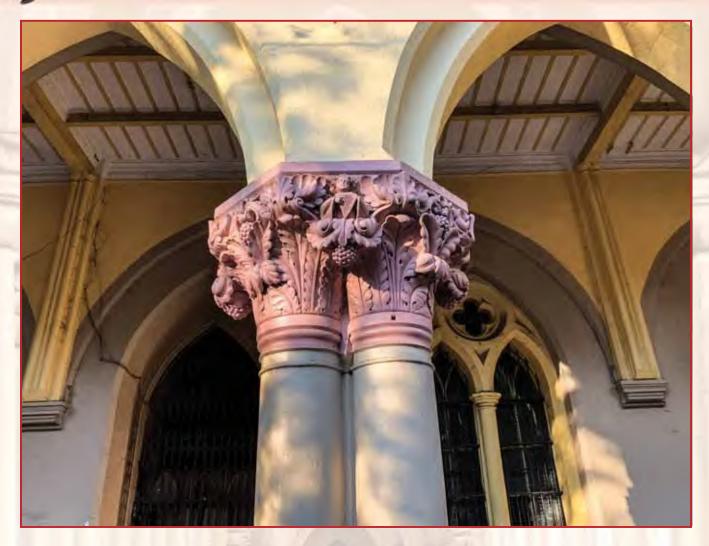
In compliance with the desire and direction of The Hon'ble The Chief Justice of India, the task of translating the reportable Judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India as well as this Hon'ble High Court in the local regional language of the State (Bengali) has been taken up by this Hon'ble High Court. The work of translation is being done with the assistance of SUVAS (Supreme Court Vidhik Anuvad Software), based on Artificial Intelligence, developed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

The AI Assisted Legal Translation Advisory Committee of this Hon'ble High Court is monitored by the Hon'ble Justice Debangsu Basak and the Hon'ble Justice Rai Chattopadhyay and assisted by the Registrar (Information Technology) and the Additional Secretary, Juvenile Justice Secretariat of the High Court.

Translation of reportable Judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and this Hon'ble High Court have already been undertaken and many of those have been completed also. The work of translation is going on in full swing with the vision to translate all reportable Judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India relating to this State and this Hon'ble High Court on real time basis in near future.

Presently a module has been developed in-house to upload the Judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and this Hon'ble High Court in English as well as in vernacular language in the official website of this High Court and the process of uploading the judgments is going on with a considerable number of judgments being already uploaded.





ART WORKS IN THE COURT

The High Court at Calcutta, not only bears the glory of becoming the oldest Chartered High Court in India but also unique in the aesthetic as well as artistic beauty of the different parts of the High Court Buildings.

Every nook and corner specially the Chamber and Court Room of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice, the corridor leading to it, Judges' Lounge of the Main Building, Judges' Library reflect the marvellous works of art.

The timeless paintings, sculptures and priceless records remain witness to the glorious history of the nation.





Sir Elijah Impey served as the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal from 1774 to 1783.



Sir John Russell Golvin was the British Governor of the North-West Indian Province who was killed in the 1857 uprising.



Sir Richard Garth served as the Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court from 1875-1886



Charles Binny Trevor
One of the first puisne Judges of the
High Court of Judicature at Fort William





was the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal from 1813 to 1822. He was also the first Principal of Hindu College, Kolkata.



SIR BINOD MITTER

A Barrister-at-law who joined the High Court at Calcutta in 1897.

He became the Standing

Counsel and officiated for some time as the Advocate General and was also an invaluable member of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.



SAMBHU NATH PANDIT

He was the Senior Government

Pleader before earning the distinction

of being the first Indian to

become a Judge of

the Calcutta High Court in 1863.



DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD
The first President of the Indian
Republic began his professional
life as a Vakil of
the Calcutta High Court
where he practiced till 1916.





Sir Chunder Madhub Ghose was appointed a Judge of the Calcutta High Court in 1885 where he served for about 22 years.



DEVA PRASAD SARVADHIKARY
An erudite scholar who served as the
President of Incorporated
Law Society of
Calcutta from 1928 to 1935.
He was earlier the Vice-Chancellor of
Calcutta University (1914-18).



DR. ATUL CHANDRA GUPTA
A pleader, litterateur, and professor
of Roman Law and Jurisprudence
at Calcutta University. Later, he
concentrated on his legal practice,
soon becoming one of the
best known lawyers in India.



DR. RADHABINOD PAL
A jurist who served as a Judge of this
Court and later as Vice Chancellor of
Calcutta University. Further, he was
the only Indian member to be
appointed to the International
Military Tribunal for the Far East's
trials of Japanese war crimes
committed during World War II.



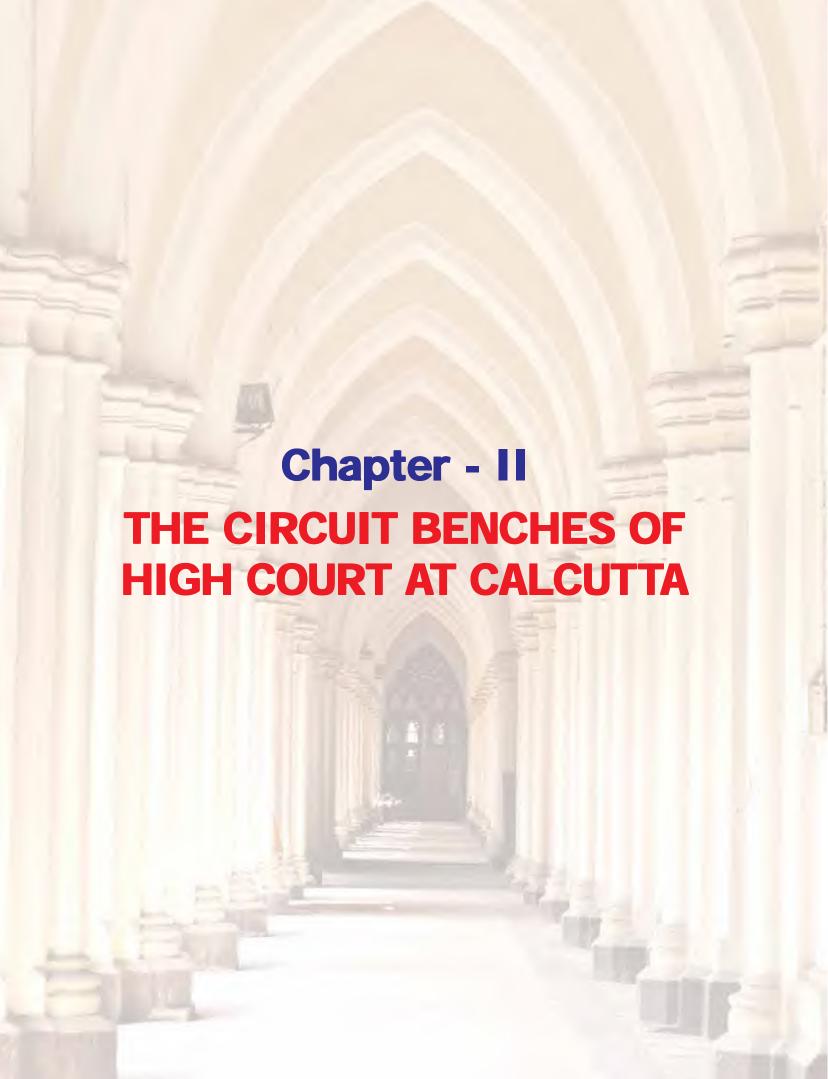




Exquisitely sculptured allegorical figures on the pillars of the Calcutta High Court



Ceremonial objects of this Hon'ble Court







CIRCUIT BENCH AT PORT BLAIR, ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS



"Rules for cases arising in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands" was framed by the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta in exercise of the power conferred on it by Article 225 of the Constitution of India read with Section 14A of the Andaman & Nicobar Islands Regulation.

Pursuant to framing of the Rules as above, one or more Judges of the High Court used to visit Andaman & Nicobar Islands by way of Circuit whenever the Hon'ble Chief Justice entrusted from time to time.

By notification no. 4636 dated 13.07.1961 it was provided that such visits shall be made at least once in a year or more frequently if the volume of work so requires unless the Chief Justice with the approval of the Central Government otherwise directs.



On 08.06.1983 the Administrative Committee of the Hon'ble High Court, Calcutta resolved that the sitting of Circuit Bench of the High Court in Andaman & Nicobar Islands be held during 1st half of March, last half of September and last half of December every year.

The Circuit Bench by virtue of the resolution dated 08.06.1983 was used to be held each year on 1st half of September and last half of December till 1991. Subsequently a decision was taken by the Hon'ble Court in the Full Court meeting that one or more Judges of the High Court shall visit the Islands by way of Circuit whenever the Hon'ble Chief Justice from time to time may appoint, in order to exercise in respect of cases arising therein the jurisdiction and powers vested in this Court by the Constitution of India and the Calcutta High Court (Extension of Jurisdiction) Act, 1953. It was further provided that such visit shall be made at-least once in a month unless the Chief Justice otherwise directs.

The Circuit Bench used to be held in the District Court Complex as there was no separate Court Building of the Hon'ble High Court.

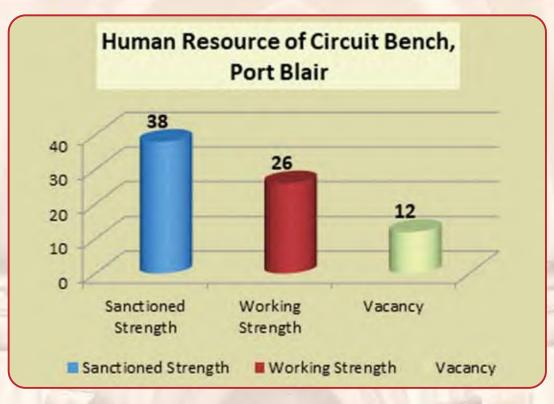
The sanctioned strength of the staff is 38 out of which 26 is the present working strength. Apart from permanent staff, there are 9 DRMs.

Initially the Hon'ble Judges who visited the Islands to hold Circuit Court used to reside at Government Circuit House or Guest House. However in the year 2002, two (02) Bungalows were constructed for the purpose of residence of the judges visiting Islands for the purpose of holding Circuit Court. These Bungalows have been termed as Judge's Bungalows at Goodwill Estate.

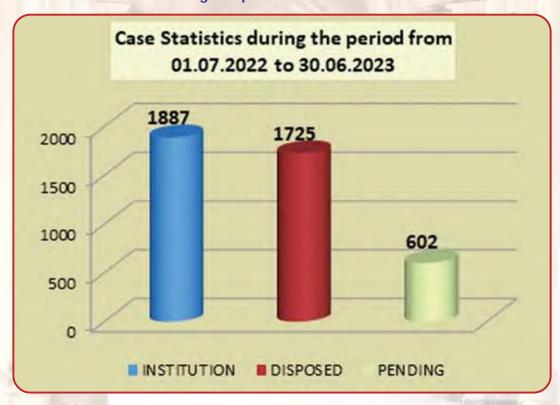
At present there are 11 Circuit Courts held in a year. The period of each Circuit Bench is 10 working days.

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Case Statistics during the period from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023







Court Building at Port Blair



Goodwill Estate — Judge's Bungalow



CIRCUIT BENCH AT JALPAIGURI



Present Circuit Bench Building at Sadar Dak Bungalow, Jalpaiguri

The long cherished dream of people of North Bengal to have a Circuit Bench of the Hon'ble Calcutta High Court was materialized on 24.01.2013, when the President of India signed the order for establishment of the Calcutta High Court, Circuit Bench at Jalpaiguri. As there was no permanent structure, Hon'ble Calcutta High Court agreed to start Circuit Bench temporarily, in a temporary accommodation, till completion of the permanent structure. Thereafter infrastructure for temporary Circuit Bench was made ready by the State Government at Sadar Dak Bungalow of Jalpaiguri Zilla Parishad and ceremonial inauguration of the same was made on 09.03.2019 and the Circuit Bench started to function on and from 11.03.2019.

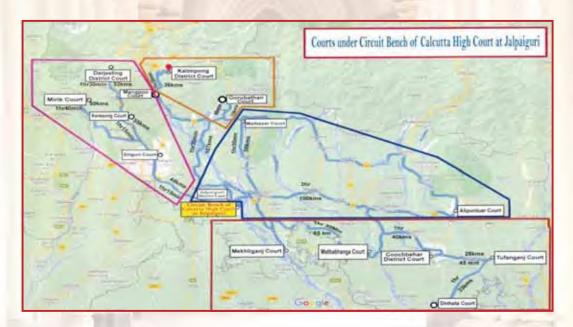
Work for construction of Permanent Court Building along with Chief Justice Bungalow, Judges Bungalow, Auditorium (330 seats capacity), staff quarters, Judges Club with swimming pool, open car parking space along with allied works was commenced on 12.02.2021. Initial cost of the project was Rs. 352,24,12,032/- which subsequently enhanced to Rs. 376,87,41,648/- due to hike of tender by 20.98%.



In the permanent structure, there is provision for construction of 13 court rooms including one bench of Hon'ble Chief Justice. Size of each court room is 45'X65' and that of Chief Justice's is 94'X65'. Main library measuring 100'X65' will be constructed on the first floor along with another library for Hon'ble Chief Justice measuring 60'X30'. Beside each Judge's chamber, a library measuring 15'X15' will be constructed. There is provision to construct 10 Judge's Bungalows with future provision for 5 more. Presently about 30% of entire project work has been completed and the agency has given 31.03.2024 as the target date of completion of only the Court building.



An aerial view of the construction work of main court building at Paharpur.



Map of the Present Jurisdiction of District Courts under the Circuit Bench at Jalpaiguri



Opening of canteen

Earlier there was no canteen at the temporary building of the Circuit Bench at Sadar Dak Bungalow and there was a demand from the lawyers and litigants to open a canteen inside the court premises of the Hon'ble Building Committee. To address the issue, a tender was called on 04.11.2022 and subsequently the lowest bidder was awarded with the contract of opening a canteen inside the Court premises. All the infrastructural facilities, including the facility of running water and drinking water has been provided by the Circuit Bench Authority and the canteen was inaugrated on 27.02.2023 and the same is running without any disturbance.

Increase in the Judges' strength at the Circuit Bench

At the time of inauguration of Circuit Bench at Jalpaiguri, four Hon'ble Judges held the Circuit. However, since the pendency of cases were very low, from subsequent Circuits, only three Hon'ble Judges used to come. From the year 2022, number of filing of cases increased and with that the demand for an Additional Judge was also made by the local Bar. Thereafter, since 01.05.2023 the fourth bench has been functioning.





Judges' Chamber





Hon'ble Judges' Bungalow at Jubilee Park, Jalpaiguri.



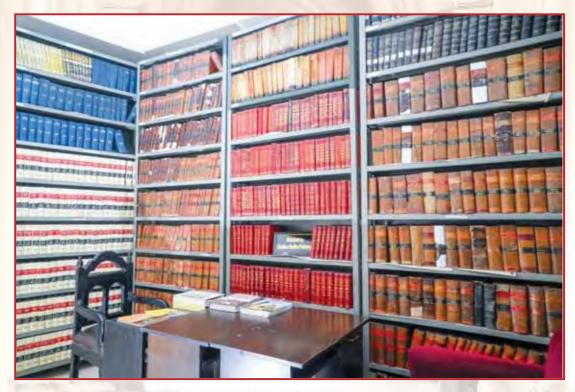
Teesta Bhavan, Jalpaiguri



Library

During the last year a huge number of books were purchased for the Judges' Library. Suggestions and advice were received from the Hon'ble Judges from time to time. During the period 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023 we had subscribed SCC on line, AIR online and Live Law. We already had on line subscription of Manupatra. We have also purchased full set of Halsbury' Laws of England (fifth edition), full set of SCC and AIR, apart from other reference books. A sum of Rs. 23,56,690 (Rupees Twenty Three Lakh Fifty Six Thousand Six Hundred Ninety) was expended during last year for purchasing the books.



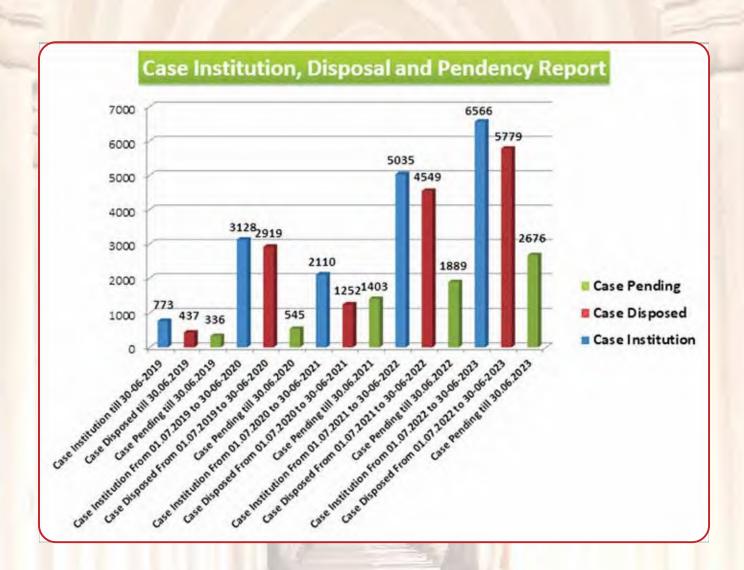


Judges' Library



Statistics

With the progress of time number of filing as well as disposal of cases increased manifold. Whereas the total number of cases filed up till 30.06.2019 was 773 and disposal rate was 437, total number of case filed during the period from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023 was 6566 and the number of disposal during that period was 5779. In comparison to the same period in 2021-22, there is an increase of 130% in filing and an increase of 127% in disposal, in the year 2022-2023.





Legal Aid

From 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023 a total number of 39 legal aid counsels were appointed to provide legal aid to the litigants. 17 of those appointments were made on the basis of order of the Hon'ble Court while 22 appointments were made by the Calcutta High Court Legal Service Committee on the prayer of the parties. During the Circuit from 05.06.23 to 16.06.23, a total number of 44 cases were filed by DLSA, Jalpaiguri through Legal Aid Defence Counsel System (LADCS), out of which 39 cases were disposed.

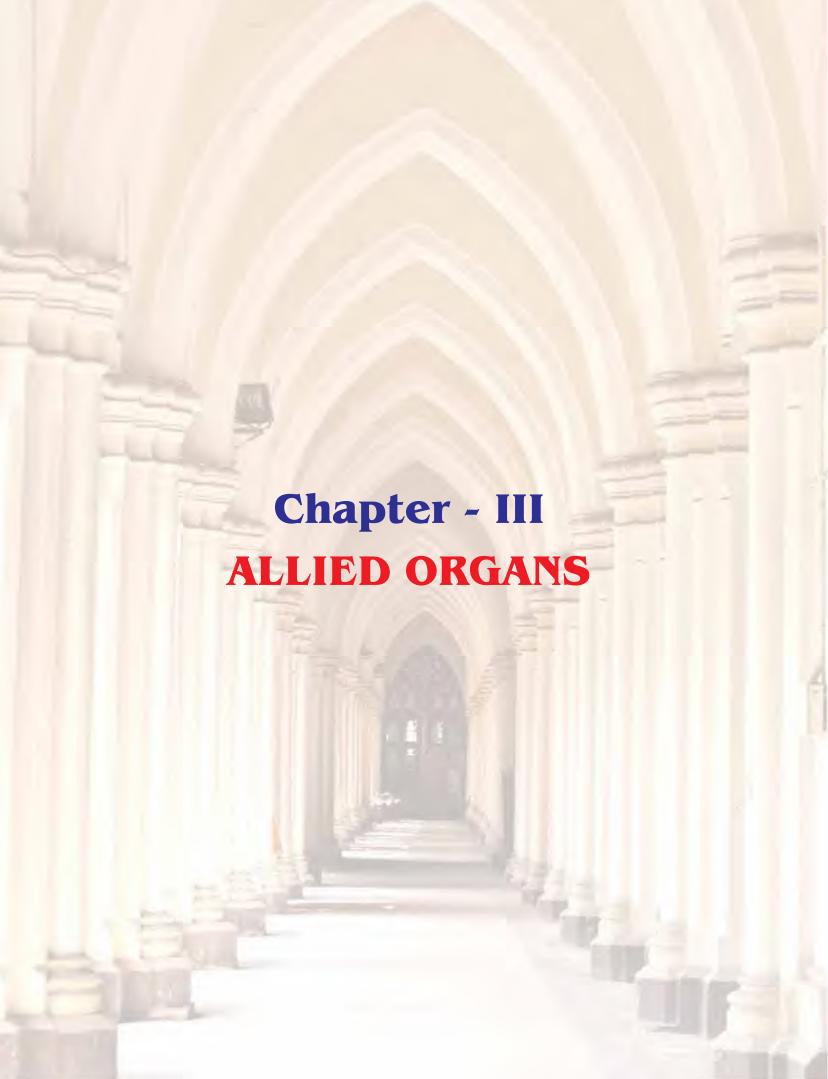
Mediation

During 2022-23, four cases were referred to mediation, out of which one case was successfully mediated while in another case the mediation failed and at present two cases are pending. During 2021-22, only one case was referred to mediation which could not be settled. During 2020-21, four cases were referred to mediation, out of which one case was settled out of in three cases.



Mediation Centre









WEST BENGAL STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

Hon'ble the Chief Justice (Patron-in-Chief)

Hon'ble Justice I. P. Mukerji, Hon'ble Executive Chairman, SLSA, West Bengal.

Member Secretary, SLSA for the State of West Bengal assists the Committee.



VARIOUS INITIATIVES OF WEST BENGAL STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY



INITIATIVE TO MAKE SLSA, W.B AS



STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY HAS TAKEN INITIATIVE TO CHANGE FROM MANUAL OFFICE SYSTEM TO E-OFFICE SYSTEM WHERE LEGAL AID SEEKER WILL REGISTER HIS CASE IN THE FRONT OFFICE AND IMMEDIATELY HIS REQUIREMENT WILL BE PLACED BEFORE THE APPROPRIATE DESK IN E-MODE.

THIS SYSTEM MAY HELP IN EASY CASE TRACKING OF LEGAL AID SEEKER AND SPEEDY REMEDY CAN BE PROVIDED TO HIM.
THIS INFRASTRUCTURAL WORK IS GOING ON AT THE OFFICE OF STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY WEST BENGAL.



HON'BLE JUDGES IN THE PROGRAMME ON "RISING AWARENESS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND CHILD WELFARE"

AT CONVENTION CENTRE, RAJARHAT, NEWTOWN.



Hon'ble Justice U. U. Lalit, the then Chief Justice of India (Centre)

Hon'ble Justice Prakash Shrivastava, the then Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court (Right)

Hon'ble Justice T. S. Sivagnanam, Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court (Left)







Honb'le Chief Justice and Patron in Chief of WBSLSA Prakash Shrivastava, Hon'ble Justice and Executive Chairman of WBSLSA T.S. Sivagnanam and Hon'ble Justice Soumen Sen in the Exhibition on "75 Years of Judicial Administration Justice Delivery Process and the Journey of the Legal Aid System "on the Occasion of Pan India and Outreach Campaign as Part of "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" at Sesquicentenary Building, High Court, Calcutta.

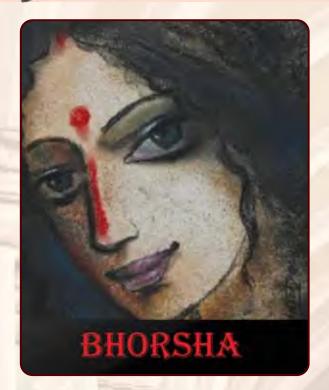






Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court and Patron in Chief, the then Executive Chairman of WBSLSA in the first National Lok Adalat of the Year 2022.

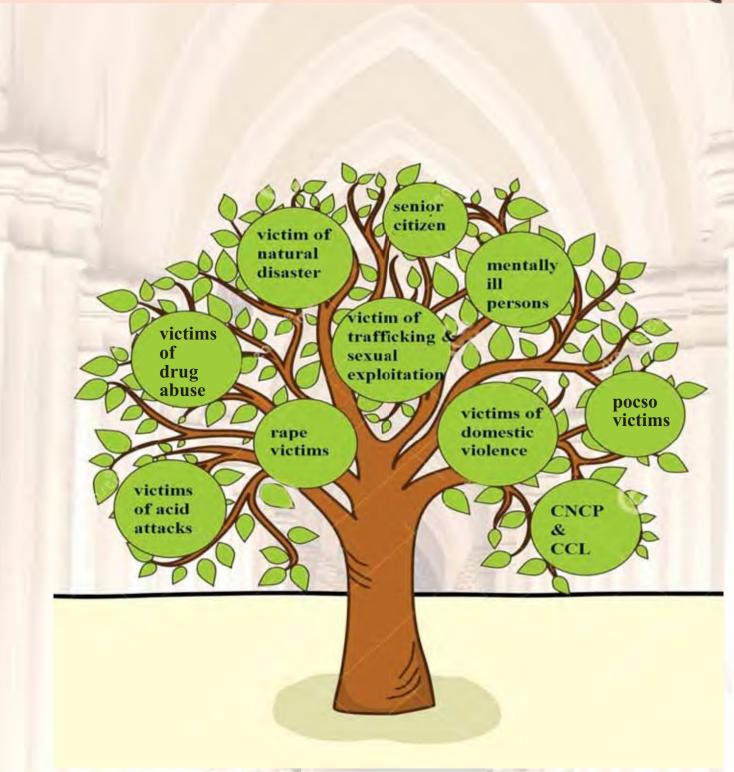




BHORSHAONE STOP SUPPORT CENTRE









- BHORSHA -

where thousands dream come together



A CREATION OF
State Legal Services Authority, West Bengal.







Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court and Patron in Chief, the then Executive Chairman of WBSLSA in the opening of "BHORSHA" one stop support Centre.



Total Number of Legal Aid Clinics In the West Bengal - 1047





Total number of PLVs in the State - 1417

Total number of Panel Advocates in the State - 3275

Total number of Retainer Advocates in the State - 75

Victim Compensation from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023

Total number of Victims - 309 Amount disbursed - 7,99,63,000/-



Launch of "Legal Aid Defense Counsel System" in 10 Districts of West Bengal

- O In the process of strengthening and making Legal Services more professional, NALSA adopted a legal aid delivery based model i.e 'Legal Aid Defense Counsel System' for providing Legal Aid in Criminal matters on the lines of public defender system on pilot basis for a period of 02 years.
- Under the directions of NALSA and able guidance of Hon'ble Executive Chairman WBSLSA, Legal Aid Defense Counsel System has been made fully functional in 10 Districts of West Bengal. Namely Kolkata, South 24 Parganas, Howrah, Hooghly, Purba Medinipur, Nadia, Malda, Uttar Dinajpur, Dakshin Dinajpur and Jalpaiguri. It was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court and Patron in Chief, the then Executive Chairman of WBSLSA through Virtual Mode on 18th January, 2023 to provide qualitative and competent legal services in criminal matters to all persons.



08 Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsels, 17 Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsels & 29 Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsels have been engaged in 10 Districts for Implementation of Legal Aid Defense Counsel System.





Objectives:

- To provide qualitative and competent legal services in criminal matters to all eligible persons.
- To manage and implement legal aid system in professional manner in criminal matters.

Glimpses of LADCS at West Bengal:

In February 2023 LADCS has become functional in 10 (ten) Districts of West Bengal. The districts in which presently LADCS are functional, are as follows; Kolkata, Purba Medinipur, Howrah, Hooghly, Nadia, South 24 Parganas, Malda, Jalpaiguri, Uttar Dinajpur and Dakshin Dinajpur. Process of implementation of LADCS in more Six districts is going on and it will become operational very soon.



❖ Performance of LADCS Since inception i.e. from February, 2023 to June, 2023

Total cases referred - 6410

Total cases disposed of - 3181

Total no. of sessions cases referred - 712

Total no. of sessions cases disposed - 23

Total no. of magistrate tribal cases referred - 1311

Total no. of magistrate tribal cases disposed of - 27

Total no. of bail applications moved by LADC - 4387

Resizing the panel of Legal Aid Counsels:

- In West Bengal the total number of legal aid panel advocates are 3275
- Out of legal aid panel advocates presently total number of remand advocates in the state are 195
- Total number of retainer lawyers out of panel advocates are in the state - 75

After implementation of LADCS, the concerned district gradually has stopped engaging panel lawyers in the criminal matter.

No fresh panel has been approved by the Hon'ble Executive Chairman for the districts where LADCS have been implemented.



ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR SECRETARIES OF DLSAS'

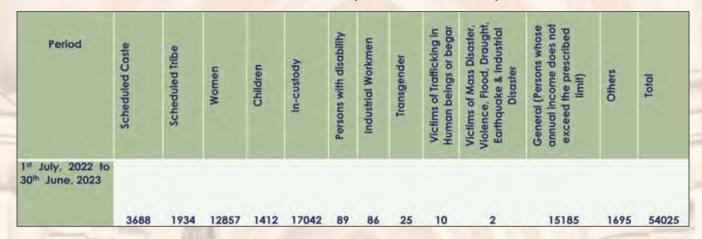
TWO DAYS RESIDENTIAL ORIENTATION TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR THE SECRETARIES OF DISTRICTS LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY WAS ORGANISED AT WEST BENGAL JUDICIAL ACADEMY, KOLKATA ON 20.04.2023 AND 21.04.2023 AS PER THE DIRECTION OF THE HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE OF CALCUTTA HIGH COURT MR. T. S. SIVAGNANAM THE THEN EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF WBSLSA.



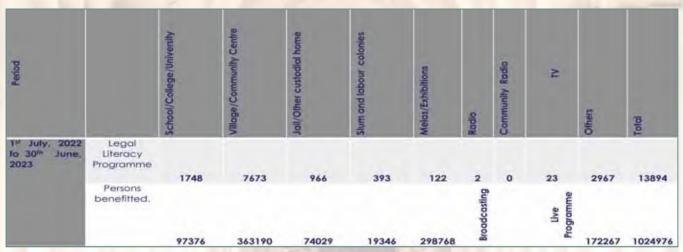




STATISTICAL INFORMATION IN RESPECT OF LEGAL SERVICES BENEFICIARIES FOR THE PERIOD FROM 1^{ST} JULY, $2022-30^{TH}$ JUNE, 2023



STATISTICAL INFORMATION IN RESPECT OF LEGAL LITERACY/LEGAL AWARENESS CAMPS / PROGRAMMES



CASES DISPOSED OF THROUGH MONTHLY LOK ADALAT (U/S. 19 OF THE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES ACT, 1987)

period	Benches	Pre-litigation matter disposed of	Post-litigation cases disposed of		[otal
	Benc			Disposed of	Settlement Amount
1st July, 2022 to 30th June, 2023	293	10,315	3,850	14,165	69,87,59,566/-



CASES DISPOSED OF THROUGH NATIONAL LOK ADALAT

Period	Bench es	Pre-litigation matter disposed of	Post-litigation cases disposed of		rotal .
				Disposed of	Settlement Amount
1st July, 20 to 30th Jun 2023	22 1571 1e,	40,683	8,07,421	8,48,104	1281,53,72,973/-

CASES DISPOSED OF THROUGH MEDIATION

Period	Cases referred	Cases settled	Cases not settled
1 st July, 2022 to 30 th June, 2023	4632	1438	2693

PROVIDING PANEL ADVOCATES

Period	No. person Providing Panel Advocate	Advice /Counselling rendered	Other services Rendered
1 st July, 2022 to 30 th June, 2023	21695	29780	2550



In the district Kalimpong a mega Legal Awareness Camp on the subject "Balancing Biodiversity and Existential Crisis of Forest Dwellers—role of DLSA" was organized by DLSA Kalimpong

on 6th May, 2023 at Community Hall Lava, Kalimpong. The program was graced by the Hon'ble Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, the Hon'ble Chief Justice, High Court at Calcutta & Executive Chairman, West Bengal State Legal Services Authority as the Chief Guest; Hon'ble Guest of Honour Justice I. P. Mukerji, Hon'ble



Seniormost Judge, High Court at Calcutta; Hon'ble Guest of Honour Justice Sabyasachi Bhattacharyya, Hon'ble Judge, High court at Calcutta; and Hon'ble Guest of Honour Justice Bibek Chaudhuri, Hon'ble Judge, High Court at Calcutta & Zonal Judge, Kalimpong (four Hon'ble Justices) along with Dr. Durga khaitan, the Ld. District Judge, Kalimpong & Chairperson of Kalimpong DLSA, Ld. Judicial Officers of Kalimpong Judgeship, Ld. Deputy Secretaries of West Bengal State Legal Services Authority, Smt. R. Vimala, District Magistrate Kalimpong, Sri Chitrak Bhattacharya, Divisional Forest Officer Kalimpong, Smt. Aparajita Rai, Superintendent of Police, Kalimpong, Dr. Subrata Ray, Chief Medical Officer of Health, Kalimpong, Sri Pravakar Dewan, President of Kalimpong Bar Association and Ld. Members of Kalimpong and Gorubathan Bar Associations.







PROJECT SURYODAY- "REACHING THE UNREACHABLE"

DLSA Jhargram has started a Project Suryoday - "Reaching the Unreachable" for Schedule Tribe Community of District Jhargram who are deprived of basic food and other facilities in want of essential documents like AADHAR, Ration, Voter Card, ST & Birth Certificate. In this manner, DLSA, Jhargram with the help of administration, has successfully issued 1117 Caste Certificates, 394 AADHAR Cards and 194 Ration Cards thus far.







ISSUANCE OF DISABILITY CERTIFICATE

The Para Legal Volunteers of DLSA Jhargram, under the supervision of the Secretary, DLSA, Jhargram, have surveyed through door to door campaigns and identified many disabled persons who do not have any disabled certificate and therefore are deprived of all the necessary facilities throughout District Jhargram. Our PLVS took the eligible disabled persons to Jhargram Medical College and Hospital, and made them appear in front of the Medical Board. The Medical Board extended their hands in helping the persons to go through necessary Medical Check Ups. Total Nineteen(19) disabled persons got the disability Certificate so far with the initiative of DLSA, Jhargram.







STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY, ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

Hon'ble the Chief Justice (Patron-in-Chief)

Hon'ble Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya, Hon'ble Zonal Judge, Andaman & Nicobar Islands & Hon'ble Executive Chairman, Andaman and Nicobar State Legal Services Authority

Member Secretary of the Andaman and Nicobar State Legal Services Authority assists the Committee.

Write-up by Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya, Executive Chairperson, Andaman & Nicobar SLSA

INTRODUCTION

The Andaman & Nicobar Islands is an Indian archipelago located in the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean, consisting of 836 objects including 572 islands, with 38 of them inhabited. Its total area is 8,249 Sq. Kms. with a population of 4.34 lakhs (as of 2019 census). These islands form a long and narrow broken chain that extends over 700 kilometers from North to South and has a coastline of 1,962 kilometers.

THE JUDICIARY OF THE ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS

There are 8 courts in Port Blair, including the Court of the District and Sessions Judge, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Judge Family Court, Chief Judicial Magistrate-cum- Civil Judge (Senior Division) South Andaman District, Joint Civil Judge (Senior Division), Judicial Magistrate-cum-Civil Judge (Junior Division), and 1st, 2nd, and Additional Courts. Car Nicobar and Campbell Bay Courts function as Circuit Courts during the first two working days and first week of every month respectively. Mayabunder has 3 courts. The Judicial Magistrate at Mayabunder holds Circuit Court at Diglipur every working Friday.



HIGHLIGHTS

As of 30.06.2023, the District Court and Subordinate Courts have resolved 2984 cases, compared to 8511 and 10124 cases in 2022 and 2021, respectively. The construction of Vulnerable Witness Deposition Centers is currently underway at the District Court Complex in Port Blair and the Sub-Divisional Court Complex in Mayabunder.

LEGAL SERVICE INITIATIVES

The District Legal Services Authority of Andaman and Nicobar Islands conducted a total of 21 legal service initiatives from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. The legal service initiatives include Legal Awareness Camps, Plastic Removal Drives, and Victim Compensation Programmes.

15 Legal Awareness Camps were conducted across multiple venues, covering far-reaching areas of up to distance of 529 KMs which included, Campbell Bay, Car Nicobar, Diglipur, Mayabunder, Port Blair, Prothrapur, and South Andaman. The Legal Awareness Camps delved into the subjects "Haq Humara bhi toh hai @ 75", Women Empowerment, POCSO Act, D.V. Act, Free Legal Aid and LSA Act, 1987.

A Centre for Science and Environment Report on Managing Plastic Waste in India estimated that plastic waste generation was approximately 1850 T/annum during 2018-19. Andaman has banned plastic bags below 50 microns, has adopted segregated plastic waste disposal and recycling methods. 4 Plastic Removal Drives were conducted in Port Blair, and Marina Park Beach, with a focus on Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.

Under the scheme "Andaman and Nicobar Islands Compensation Victim Assistance Scheme/Survivors of Sexual Assault/other Crimes, 2019", a sum of Rs. 7,00,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakhs) was awarded as Grant of Compensation.

Commencing from August 2023 onwards, Awareness Programmes on NDPS Act, POCSO Act, Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 shall be conducted by the DLSA, A&N across Hut Bay, Car Nicobar, Campbell Bay, Port Blair, (Manpur, Tirur, Chouldari, Guptapara, Mithakhadiand any other such far reaching areas), covering distances of 117 KMs, 274 KMs and 529 KMs. In addition, upcoming activities include providing legal assistance to vulnerable groups through Legal Awareness Camps at (i) Children's Home; (ii) Old-Age Homes; and (iii) Correctional Home, within 5-10 KMs. Plastic Removal Drives and Van Mahotsav Programmes shall be conducted at proposed venue of Port Blair covering 5-10 KMs.

INFRASTRUCTURE

There are 5 court complexes viz. District Court Complex at Port Blair, Sub-Divisional Court Complex at North & Middle Andaman, Mayabunder, Court Complexes at Car Nicobar and Campbell Bay and Circuit Court Complex at RK Gram, Diglipur. There are 9 court halls in Port Blair, including the Child-Friendly Court under the POCSO Act, 3 court halls at the Sub-Divisional Court Complex in N&M Andaman and Mayabunder, 1 court hall (Govt. owned) at RK Gram in Diglipur, 1 court hall in each Car Nicobar, and Campbell Bay respectively. A land is identified at R.K. Gram, Diglipur for the



construction of a Double-Storied RCC building with two court halls and two attached residential accommodations for Judicial Officers. The administration has approved the proposal and work is due to commence soon.

ICT INITIATIVES

Video conferencing facilities are available between courts in Port Blair and the District Correctional Home in Prothrapur. The CIS is currently using a proxy server as the main server has been non-functional for 2 years. Approval and funding have been obtained for 2 new servers, which are in the process of being procured through GeM. Once obtained, the servers shall be made functional. LAN connectivity is complete in court rooms and chambers of the Presiding Officers. It will be made functional once the servers are procured. The process of LAN connectivity is under progress at the Sub-Divisional Court Complex in Mayabunder, and in the Court Complexes in Car Nicobar, Campbell Bay, and Diglipur.

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

The Andaman and Nicobar State Legal Services Authority, since after its coming into effect in the Islands for the first time in 1998, has rendered commendable service by bringing all the poor and needy people, aboriginal tribes and inhabitants of these Islands under the common umbrella of the common Justice delivery system by eradicating financial, social discrimination in the true letter and spirit of the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India percolated through the directives of the NALSA from time to time.





Thus both the SLSA & DLSA by their joint venture from 1999 have been able to provide the speedy, cheaper, hassle free and time bound disposal of their respective grievances by way of alternate dispute redressal mechanism.

Both the SLSA and DLSA, Andaman & Nicobar Islands have held several legal awareness Camp at the distant parts of the Islands sea such as, beach clean drive (Plastic renewable drive), providing legal aid clinic in the Jail premises, by way of distribution of books to the children at Children Home. Notwithstanding the existing geographical and other barriers, the Authority also conducted legal awareness programme for the women as per the guidelines of National Commission of Women at Campbell Bay, Car Nicobar, Mayabunder, Diglipur and Port Blair. Sit and draw competition among school children, beach cleaning drive on the eve of PAN India Azadi Ka Amrit Mohatsav outreach programme. The Authority also conducted Legal Awareness camp in the Andaman Law College on different topics and ideas, organized Nukkad Natak, Melo Drama to spread legal awareness on Human Trafficking prohibiting child marriage, domestic violence, child sex abuse, Mediation and Conciliation on fortnight basis etc.



Last but not the least, National Lok Adalat are being held regularly as per the direction of NALSA from time to time. In future, the Authority proposes to establish the separate and exclusive office of the Member Secretary SLSA, Secretary DLSA and implementation of LADCS scheme.











CALCUTTA HIGH COURT LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

Hon'ble Justice Chitta Ranjan Dash (Chairperson)
Sri Jayanta Mitra, Senior Advocate
Sri Partha Sarathi Sengupta, Senior Advocate
Sri Joydip Kar, Senior Advocate
Sri Abhrotosh Majumdar, Senior Advocate
Sri Sandipan Ganguly, Senior Advocate
Sri Paritosh Sinha, Advocate
Ms. Aruna Chatterjee, Advocate
Ms. Chandreyi Alam, Advocate
Sri Dip Narayan Mitra, Advocate

The Committee is assisted by Secretary, Calcutta High Court Legal Services Committee.





ACTIVITIES OF CALCUTTA HIGH COURT LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

A. LOK ADALAT

- 1) Lok Adalat organized by the CHCLSC during 01.07.22 to 30.06.23 = 07
- 2) Total No. of cases taken up during the period = 1084
- 3) Total No. of cases settled during the period = 757
- 4) Quantum of amount settled in total during the period = Rs. 30,91,45,902.49P

LOK ADALATS / NATIONAL LOK ADALATS, ORGANISED BY THE CHCLSC FROM 01.07.2022 TO 30.06.2023

LOK ADALAT / NATIONAL LOK ADALAT	DATE	NO. OF CASES PLACED	NO. OF CASES SETTLED	QUANTUM OF AMOUNT SETTLED
LOK ADALAT/	02.07.2022	152	84	Rs. 3,01,27,706.16P
NATIONAL LOK ADALAT				
LOK ADALAT/	13.08.2022	338	269	Rs. 12,63,86,897.33P
NATIONAL LOK ADALAT				
LOK ADALAT/	24.09.22	116	89	Rs. 1,90,57,000/-
NATIONAL LOK ADALAT				
LOK ADALAT/	12.11.22	149	103	Rs. 3,98,54,408/-
NATIONAL LOK ADALAT				
LOK ADALAT/	11.02.23	138	97	Rs. 3,52,50857/-
NATIONAL LOK ADALAT				
LOK ADALAT/	25.03.23	46	31	Rs. 1,56,67,034/-
NATIONAL LOK ADALAT				
LOK ADALAT/	13.05.2023	145	84	Rs. 4,28,02,000/-
NATIONAL LOK ADALAT				
	TOTAL	1084	757	Rs. 30,91,45,902.49P

During this period, apart from MAC matters, 73 education matters and 11 Land matters were finally settled in the Lok Adalats.









B. LEGAL AID

- Total no. of Advice rendered by the Learned Judicial Officers in the Front Office from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023 = 1246.
- Total no. of Advocates engaged in favour of the litigants/ prisoners, (excluding changes of advocates and excluding engagement of senior to a junior or vise versa) by the CHCLSC / by the Hon'ble Courts and subsequently, where, CHCLSC had regularized such appointments / by the CHCLSC, in compliance with the directions of Hon'ble Courts, for Calcutta High Court matters from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023 = 750.
- Total no. of Advocates engaged, by the CHCLSC, **for Supreme Court matters** from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023 = **24.**
- Total no. of Advocates engaged by the CHCLSC / by the Hon'ble Courts of Circuit Bench and subsequently, where, CHCLSC at Circuit Bench had regularized such appointments for cases of Calcutta High Court Legal Services Committee, Circuit Bench at Jalpaiguri from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023 = 39.



Apart from the aforesaid achievements during the period, the Hon'ble Justice Soumen Sen, the then Chairperson of Calcutta High Court Legal services Committee visited the Jhargram Correctional Home on 10.09.2022 and 11.09.2022 with a view to scrutinize the conditions of the mentally ill Prisoners in continuation of His Lordship's earlier visits to ten different Correctional Homes for the same purpose.





The Mediation & Conciliation Committee, High Court, Calcutta

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

Hon'ble the Chief Justice (Patron-in-Chief)
The Hon'ble Justice C.R. Dash (Patron)
Hon'ble Justice Harish Tandon (President)
Hon'ble Justice Soumen Sen (Member of the Board)
Hon'ble Justice Subrata Talukdar (Member of the Board)
Hon'ble Justice Arijit Banerjee (Member of the Board)
Hon'ble Justice Suvra Ghosh (Member of the Board)

The Secretary, Calcutta High Court Legal Services Committee acts as the Member Secretary.

The mission of the Calcutta High Court Mediation Centre is to promote, strengthen and support resolution of disputes, both pre-litigation and post litigation, through the process of mediation by creating a congenial atmosphere. The object of pre-litigation mediation in commercial disputes as enshrined in the law is to achieve the goal of ease of doing business in our country in order to boost investment. The Mediation Centre aims at dispute resolution at all stages of conflict and at creating awareness among the public.



High Court Mediation Centre



What is Mediation?

Mediation in India is a voluntary process where the disputing people decide to mutually find a solution to their legal problem by entering into a written contract and appointing a mediator. The decision-making powers remain with the disputing parties, with the mediator acting as a buffer to bring them to an understanding. The parties can hire ADR lawyers to represent them before the mediator and explain the situation in a professional way. The difference between arbitration and mediation are that arbitration is a more formal process than mediation. An arbitrator needs to be formally appointed either beforehand or at the time of need. A mediator can be anyone, of any designation, can be appointed formally or casually depends on the wish of the parties. The mediation law in India has been made user friendly and pretty flexible.

The Mediation movement in West Bengal started in 2009-10, when His Lordship, Hon'ble Justice Mohit Shantilal Shah was the Chief Justice of the High Court at Calcutta. For the first few years, the number of cases resolved by mediation was very low as was the number of referrals.

However, since then massive efforts were made to popularise mediation in West Bengal by organizing periodic seminars, sensitisation programmes, Regional programmes etc.

Mediation Committee, High Court, Calcutta started its own dedicated You Tube Channel, through which messages of mediation were broadcasted on regular basis.

Regional Conferences on Mediation were organized in the various districts of West Bengal involving the different stakeholders including the litigants, Advocates and local administration.

Mediation Fortnights were organized on every district and taluka (sub-division) Court level, when huge number of cases were mediated and resolved successfully.

Sensing the importance of Online Dispute Resolution, the Hon'ble Calcutta High Court inserted the online mediation rules into the Civil Procedure Mediation Rules, 2006 of the High Court, Calcutta.

From the year 2020, the Hon'ble Court has taken another leap forward by implementing the Preinstitution Mediation at Calcutta High Court, Mediation Centre as well as at the other various ADR centres of West Bengal and published the Standard Operating procedure for the same.

At present pre-litigation Mediations are also being held in non-commercial cases also as per the observations made by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in *K. Krishna Rao - Vs. - D.A. Deepa - 2013*.

Motor Accident Mediation Authorities (MAMA) have been constituted at the district and subdivisional Court levels as per the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in *MR Krishna Murthi v. New India Assurance Co. Ltd. 2019 SCC Online SC 315.*

Periodic Mediation Newsletters are published and distributed throughout India to make people know about the mediation activities in West Bengal and spread awareness amongst the stakeholders.





Regional Conference on Mediation, 2022











Regional Conference on Mediation, 2022





MEDIATION STATISTICS OF THE HIGH COURT, CALCUTTA

Pre-litigation Mediation

Pre-litigation mediation in Commercial disputes has taken its birth in the state of West Bengal since 2021 as per Section 12A of the Commercial Courts Act, 2015 and with the publication of the Standard Operating Procedure for Pre-litigation Mediation in Commercial Disputes, by the State Legal Services Authority, West Bengal on the 11th day of December, 2020.

For Pre-litigation mediation under sec.12A of the Commercial Court's Act, 2015 the chart is as follows (started from 2021):-

SI No.	Year	Applications filed	NON STARTER	FAILED	SETTLED
1.	2021	76	46	15	04
2.	2022	125	83	13	10
3.	2023 upto 31st July	53	21	03	15

Calcutta High Court mediation disposal statistics :

Year	Cases Referred	Cases settled	Cases not settled
2012	18	05	13
2013	42	09	16
2014	36	11	09
2015	24	00	02
2016	16	03	13
2017	35	07	17
2018	35	07	21
2019	47	02	40
2020	14	03	17
2021	59	07	34
2022	144	38	98
2023 upto 31st July	54	10	30





Mediation Room

Conference Room at Mediation Centre





Office Room at Mediation Centre



Capacity Building —

Regarding the captioned subject matter, this is to submit that the Hon'ble Mediation and Conciliation Committee, High Court, Calcutta, has been organising training programmes for Judicial Officers, Advocates and Experts since 2009 and at present there are as many as 330 Trained and active Mediators amongst which —

- Hon'ble Judge Mediator 5 (Being elevated since MCPC training)
- Hon'ble Retired Judge Mediators 8 (Including three Hon'ble Judges who are not trained by MCPC)
- Judicial Officer Mediators- 58 (including the retired Judicial Officers)
- Advocate Mediators of High Court, Calcutta 90 (Principal Bench at Kolkata)
- Expert Mediators, High Court, Calcutta 04
- Advocate Mediators of High Court, Calcutta 05 (Circuit Bench Jalpaiguri)
- Advocate Mediators of different district of West Bengal 141
- Advocate Mediators of Andaman & Nicobar Islands 19
- Pro-bono mediators All Trained Judicial Officers and three High Court Mediators namely–
 1. Smt. Ashoka Guha Roy Bera, 2. Smt. Minakshi Chakraborty and 3. Dr. Subhasish Muhuri

Another training programme for the Advocates of the different district and Subdivisions of West Bengal are currently under process.

The mission of the Calcutta High Court Mediation Centre is to promote, strengthen and support resolution of disputes, both pre-litigation and post litigation, through the process of mediation by creating a congenial atmosphere. The object of pre-litigation mediation in commercial disputes as enshrined in the law is to achieve the goal of ease of doing business in our country in order to boost investment. The Mediation Centre aims at dispute resolution at all stages of conflict and at creating awareness among the public.

Sanjeev Kumar Sharma Member Secretary Mediation and Conciliation Committee High Court, Calcutta



JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

Hon'ble Justice I. P. Mukerji, Chairperson Hon'ble Justice Harish Tandon Hon'ble Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya

The Committee is assisted by the Secretary, Juvenile Justice Secretariat and Additional Secretary, Juvenile Justice Secretariat

FROM THE DESK OF HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE I.P. MUKERJI, CHAIRPERSON OF THE HON'BLE JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

It is my great privilege and honour to share my views on proper implementation of the Juvenile Justice Act. Many steps have been taken by the Hon'ble Juvenile Justice Committee, High Court at Calcutta. The State Level Multi Stakeholder Consultation on proper implementation of POCSO Act, 2012 was convened on 19.10.2022 at the Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, Kolkata. The consultation meeting was a momentous opportunity to reflect upon and identify the key bottlenecks and suggest the perfect solution under the leadership of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prakash Shrivastava, Chief Justice, High Court at Calcutta in presence of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, Judge, High Court at Calcutta and Executive Chairperson of State Legal Services authority, West Bengal, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Harish Tandon, Chairperson, Juvenile Justice Committee, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Soumen Sen, Judge, High Court at Calcutta and member of the Juvenile Justice Committee and Hon'ble Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya, Judge, High Court at Calcutta and Member of the Juvenile Justice Committee. The Principal Secretary of Department of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare, Smt. Sanghamitra Ghosh was also present in the said consultation.

The Hon'ble Juvenile Justice Committee comprising The Hon'ble Justice Harish Tandon, the then Chairperson, Juvenile Justice Committee; The Hon'ble Justice Soumen Sen, the then Member, Juvenile Justice Committee and The Hon'ble Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya, Member, Juvenile Justice Committee in consultation with The Hon'ble Justice Sabyasachi Bhattacharyya, the then Judge-incharge, Murshidabad had been pleased to inaugurate the newly constructed Child Friendly Court at Berhampore, through virtual mode. Now total 16 child friendly Courts are functional in different district of West Bengal and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. Among them 3 are exclusive POCSO Courts.



Definitely children in a difficult situation are waiting for a saviour and to bring them out from their distress. Therefore, home visits are very much essential to ensure the safe environment for the children and to protect them from all sorts of violations; recently, different Homes of Purba Medinipur were inspected by the Hon'ble Justice Harish Tandon, member of the Juvenile Justice Committee on 15.04.2023. The Juvenile Justice Secretariat's distributed 1099 books in Homes around all over West Bengal.

Achievements of Juvenile Justice Secretariat, High Court at Calcutta

The Juvenile Justice Secretariat of High Court at Calcutta organizes the Juvenile Justice Committee Meeting once in every month to fix the issues to ensure the child's right, availability of legal aid, better medical facilities, adequate safety and protection and to provide at least basic residential facilities to the children for improvement in quality of services. In short, a stricter implementation of Juvenile Justice Act 2015 is focused only in the meetings of the Juvenile Justice Committee.

- > State Level Multi-Stakeholders Consultation on implementation of POCSO Act 2012
- Inauguration of the Child Friendly Court, Berhampore at Murshidabad
- Books Distribution among the Homes
- Home Inspection and Meeting of the Juvenile Justice Committee
- Administrative approval and sanction of funds





State Level Multi-Stakeholders Consultation on implementation of POCSO Act 2012 in West Bengal on 19.11.2022













The State Level Consultation was inaugurated by The Hon'ble the then Chief Justice, High Court at Calcutta Sri Prakash Shrivastava in presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, Judge, High Court at Calcutta and Executive Chairperson of State Legal Services authority, West Bengal, Hon'ble Justice Mr. Harish Tandon, the then Chairperson, Juvenile Justice Committee, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Soumen Sen, Judge, High Court at Calcutta and the then Member of the Juvenile Justice Committee and Hon'ble Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya, Judge, High Court at Calcutta and Member of the Juvenile Justice Committee. The Principal Secretary of Department of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare, Smt. Sanghamitra Ghosh was also present in the said consultation.



Inauguration of the Child Friendly Court, Berhampore at Murshidabad













The Hon'ble Justice Committee comprising The Hon'ble Justice Harish Tandon, the then Chairperson, Hon'ble Justice Committee; The Hon'ble Justice Soumen Sen, the then Member, Juvenile Justice Committee and The Hon'ble Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya, Member, Juvenile Justice Committee in consultation with The Hon'ble Justice Ravi Kishan Kapur, the then Judge-in-charge, Dakshin Dinajpur and The Hon'ble Justice Sabyasachi Bhattacharyya, the then Judge-in-charge, Murshidabad had been pleased to inaugurate the newly constructed Child Friendly Court at Balurghat through virtual mode.

The establishment of Child Friendly Courts in these districts remains vital in safeguarding the interest and wellbeing of child in every stage of judicial process, incorporating child friendly procedures.

Book Distribution in the Homes

A small step to bring the essence of education in life, the children's desire to study towards making better future was appreciated by the Juvenile Justice Secretariat's end through distributing 1099 books among the Homes around all over West Bengal. The details of books distribution is as mentioned below:

SL. NO.	District	Name of the Homes where Books are Sent	Number of Books Sent
1.	Bankura	Chamtagora Adibasi Mahila Samity, Chamtagora	> 39
2.	Birbhum	> Satyananda Boys Home	> 37
3.	Cooch Behar	Nirasay Nari o Sishu Seva Bhaban	> 38
4.	Kolkata	Future Hope (Children Home for Little Girls)	> 40



SL NO.	District	Name of the Homes where Books are Sent	Number of Books Sent
5.	Dakshin Dinajpur	Nivedita Girls Home	> 38
6.	Darjeeling	> Children Home (Boys & Girls)	> 38
7.	Hooghly	➤ Gopal Nagar Nivedita Welfare Society	> 38
		> Children Home for Girls	> 39
8.	Howrah	> Chiranabin Home for Girls	> 37
9.	Jalpaiguri	➤ Korok Childrens Home	> 39
10.	Jhargram	➤ Bikash Bharati Welfatre Society	> 39
11.	Kalimpong	> Bal Suraksha Abhiyan Trust, Boys	> 39
12.	Malda	> Saishali Shishu Kanya Abas	> 38
13.	Murshidabad	Ananda Ashram	> 38
		Shilayan Home (Girls)	> 38
14.	Nadia	Nadia District Observation Home for boys	> 38
15.	North 24 parganas	Dhubashram	> 38
		Deepika Home of Hope	> 38
16.	Paschim Bardhaman	Durgapur Indira Pragati Society	> 37
17.	Paschim Medinipur	Motherchack Nabadoy Kishalay Sangha	> 37
18.	Purba Bardhaman	➤ Children's Home for Girls	> 36
		➤ Chetana Community Care Centre for CNCP Girls	> 38
19.	Purba Medinipur	> Sister Nibedita Childrens Home	> 37
		> Uttaran CCI	> 37
20.	Purulia	Anandamath	> 39
21.	South 24 Parganas	Noor Ali Memorial Society	> 40
		> Asha Bhavan Centre	> 37
22.	Uttar Dinajpur	Observation Home run by St John Ambulance Association	> 37
		> CNCP Boys Home Kunor	> 35



Home Inspection by the Hon'ble Juvenile Justice Committee

Homes of Purba Medinipur were inspected by the members of the Juvenile Justice Committee on 15.04.2023.









Home visits ensure safe environment for the children encourage active participation in confidence building measures.



WEST BENGAL JUDICIAL ACADEMY

COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE FOR WEST BENGAL JUDICIAL ACADEMY.

Hon'ble The Chief Justice (Patron-in-Chief)
Hon'ble Justice I.P. Mukerji (Chairperson)
Hon'ble Justice Arijit Banerjee
Hon'ble Justice Ananya Bandyopadhyay

The Committee is assisted by Registrar (Protocol).







Main Administrative Building

West Bengal Judicial Academy

WBJA was established in 2005 directly under the control of the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta and subsequently was registered as a Society under the W.B. Societies Registration Act, 1961. It was earlier started at Bijan Bhawan, Salt Lake and subsequently shifted to its permanent campus at Rajarhat, New Town, Kolkata and started functioning therefrom since 22.05.2017. The campus comprises of 12 storied Main Administrative Building, adjacent Hostel Building and staff quarters. Four Seminar Halls and two Conference Halls are equipped with Video Conferencing facilities including Live YouTube Streaming facility.

The permanent campus of the West Bengal Judicial Academy which is covering an area of about 5 acres of land is situated at the following address:

B-10, Action Area III, Rajarhat, New Town, Kolkata-700160





Main Administrative Building

SI No.	Floor	Rooms
1	Ground	Reception Room, Library Rooms, Study Room, Librarian Chamber
2	1 st	VIP Lounge, Conference Hall 1, Conference Hall 2, Academic Hall 1 (with Video Conferencing Facilities), Toilet for differently abled persons
3	2 nd	Store Room, Office Rooms (2), Computer Lab
4	3 rd	Director, Additional Director, Administrative Officer, Accounts Officer and Accounts Section, Main Office Staff Rooms, IT Server Room
5	4 th	Academic Hall 3, Academic Hall 4, Dining Hall, Handicapped Toilet, Office Room
6	5 th	Faculty Lounge, Group Discussion Room(Archive), Academic Hall 2, Office Room
7	6 th	Nearing completion
8	7 th	Used for Digitization program of the High Court at Calcutta
9	8 th	Used for Digitization program of the High Court at Calcutta
10	9 th	Used for Digitization program of the High Court at Calcutta
11	10 th	Nearing completion
12	11 th	Nearing completion
13	Rooftop	Solar Panels

N.B.:

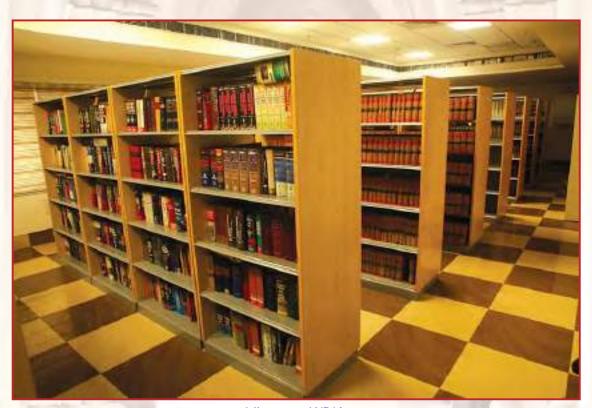
Academic Hall— 4 Academic Halls (Accommodating 60 Heads in each Academic Hall)

Conference Hall — 2 Conference Halls (Accommodating 160 Heads in each Conference Hall)





Conference Hall



Library at WBJA





Academic Hall



Judges Lounge at WBJA



HOSTEL BUILDING

SI No.	Floor	Rooms
1	Ground	Club House, Dining Room, Reception, IT Server Room, Hostel Store Room, Gym Room, Indoor Game Room, Doctor Room
2	1 st	Club House, Officer's Room (Total-16)
3	2 nd	Officer's Room (Total-16)
4	3 rd	Officer's Room (Total-16)

Group C Staff Quarter Total 24 Quarters in 3 Floors comprising of two wings

Group C Staff Quarter

SI No.	Floor	Rooms
1	1 st	Total 8 Quarters (2 Wings) - 4 in each Wing
2	2 nd	Total 8 Quarters (2 Wings) - 4 in each Wing
3	3 rd	Total 8 Quarters (2 Wings) - 4 in each Wing





Group D Staff Quarter Total 16 Quarters in 4 Floors

Group D Staff Quarter

Sl No.	Floor	Rooms	
1	Ground	Total 4 Quarters (1 Quarter For Police Camp)	
2	1 st	Total 4 Quarters	
3	2 nd	Total 4 Quarters	
4	3 rd	Total 4 Quarters	

Additional Rooms:

1 Pump Room, 1 Fire Room, 4 Security Rooms (Main Gate), 2 Electrical Panel Rooms, 2 Transformer Rooms, AC Chiller Rooms, 2 ST Rooms (Electric Supply)





TRAINING SESSIONS BY HONOURABLE JUDGES



























Staff Strength Position:

,	SI. No.	Name of the Post	Post Creation G.O.	Sanctioned Strength	Men-in- Position	Vacant
	1	Director	8772-J/JD/3H-10/04 dated 23.11.2005	1	1	-
	2	Additional Director	8772-J/JD/3H-10/04 dated 23.11.2005	1	1	-
	3	Administrative Officer	8772-J/JD/3H-10/04 dated 23.11.2005	1	1	-
1	4	Hand Hold Faculty	5458-J/JD/O/3H-01/12 dt. 04.09.2012	1	-	1(vacant from October, 2015)
	5	Accounts Officer	551-J/JD/O/5C- 07/2010 dated 30.01.2012	1	1	-
	6	Librarian	8730-J dt. 27.12.2011	1	-	1
	7	Assistant Librarian	4360-J/JD/3H(IV)- 28/10 dated 23.09.2013	1	-	1
	8	Stenographer	8772-J/JD/3H-10/04 dated 23.11.2005	1	1	-
	9	Accountant	8772-J/JD/3H-10/04 dated 23.11.2005	1	1	-
	10	Clerk-cum-Typist	8772-J/JD/3H-10/04 dated 23.11.2005	1	1	-
	11	Data-Entry-Operator	8772-J/JD/3H-10/04 dated 23.11.2005	1	1	-
	12	Accounts Clerk	8772-J/JD/3H-10/04 dated 23.11.2005	1	1	-
	13	Group-'D'	Two posts vide no. 8772-J/JD/3H-10/04 dated 23.11.2005 & five posts vide no. 8730-J dt. 27.12.2011	7	5	2



Various programmes conducted for the period from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023.

Induction Level Training Programmes (in Physical Mode)

- 1. Induction Level training programme for District Judge (Entry Level) from 28.11.2022 to 09.12.2022.
- 2. Induction Level training programme (Phase-I) for Civil Judges (Junior Division) [2020 batch] on probation from 05.01.2023 to 04.03.2023.
- 3. Induction Level training programme for District Judge (Entry Level) from 27/04/2023 to 11/05/2023.
- 4. Induction Level training programme (Phase-II) for Civil Judges (Junior Division) [2019 batch] from 27.06.2023 to 19.07.2023.

Online Training Programmes conducted during the period

- (1) Refresher Course on Pre-emption under West Bengal Land Reforms Act for the Civil Judge (Junior Division) held on 05.07.2022.
- (2) Sensitization Programme on Trafficking of Women and Children for the Judicial Magistrates held on 05.07.2022.
- (3) Refresher Course on Effective Trial of Cases by Tribunal under Motor Vehicles Act for the Additional District Judges held on 04.07.2022 & 06.07.2022.
- (4) Refresher Course on Power and Duties of Drawing and Disbursing Officer with special emphasis on W.B. Treasury Rules, West Bengal Financial Rules for the Civil Judge (Junior Division) held on 06.07.2022 & 07.07.2022.
- (5) Training Programme on Information Technology Act with special emphasis on Cyber Crime for the Judicial Magistrates of all ranks held on 08.07.2022.
- (6) Course on Law of Injunction & Specific Relief Act for the Civil Judge (Junior Division)/ Civil Judge (Senior Division) held from 13.07.2022 to 15.07.2022.
- (7) Trial under Negotiable Instrument Act for the Judicial Magistrates of all ranks held on 15.07.2022 & 16.07.2022.
- (8) Training Programme on Registration Act, Indian Stamp Act for the Civil Judge (Senior Division) & Civil Judge (Junior Division) held on 18.07.2022 and 19.07.2022.
- (9) Refresher Course on W.B. Court Fees Act & Suit Valuation Act for the Civil Judge (Senior Divn.) & Civil Judge (Junior Division) held on 21.07.2022.



- (10) Procedure to be followed at the time of deputing commissioner under Order 26 Rule-9 C.P.C & under Order 39 Rule-7 C.P.C, Analogous hearing of Civil Suits and Admissibility & Relevancy of document Duty of court when objection raised for the Civil Judge (Junior Division) held from 25.07.2022 to 27.07.2022.
- (11) Execution in Civil Cases for the Civil Judge (Junior Division)/ Civil Judge (Senior Division) held on 29.07.2022 & 30.07.2022.
- (12) Training Programme on Stress Management for Judicial Officers of all ranks on 01.08.2022.
- (13) Training Programme on Goods and Services Tax for the Judicial Magistrates of all ranks to be held on 02.08.2022.
- (14) Refresher Course on Guardians and Wards Act, 1890 and Hindu Minority & Guardianship Act, 1956 for District Judges & Additional District Judges on 03.08.2022 and 04.08.2022.
- (15) Refresher Course on Remand (Police and Judicial), TI Parade, Complaint Petition (Sec. 200 to 204), Disposal Properties under the Code of Criminal Procedure for Judicial Magistrates of all ranks from 03/08/2022 to 06/08/2022.
- (16) Refresher Course on West Bengal Service Rules for the Judicial Officers of all ranks to be held on 08.08.2022.
- (17) Training Programme on Criminal Revision and Criminal Appeal for the Additional District Judges and Additional District Judges (FTC) to be held on 10.08.2022 and 11.08.2022.
- (18) Training Programme on Summary Trials and Partition for the Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) & Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.) to be held on 10.08.2022 & 11.08.2022.
- (19) Training Programme on Contempt of Courts Acts, 1971 & Disciplinary Proceedings for Judicial Officers of all ranks on 11.08.2022 & 12.08.2022.
- (20) Refresher Course on 'Criminal Rules and Orders' for the Judicial Magistrates of all ranks on 20.08.2022.
- (21) Refresher Course on 'Electronic Evidence' for the Judicial Officers of all ranks on 25.08.2022.
- (22) Refresher Programme on 'Limitation Act' for Judicial Officers of all ranks on 31.08.2022.
- (23) Online Training Programme on "Information Technology Act with special emphasis on cyber crimes" on 08.09.2022 for the Judicial Magistrates of all ranks.
- (24) Online Refresher Course on "Execution in Civil Cases" for Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) & Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.) on 08.09.2022 & 09.09.2022.



- (25) Online Training Programme on "Procedures to be followed at the time of deputing commissioner under Order 26 Rule 9 C.P.C. & under Order 39 Rule-7 C.P.C, Analogous hearing of Civil Suits and Admissibility & Relevancy of document- Duty of Court when objection raised" for Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.) from 12.09.2022 to 14.09.2022.
- (26) Online Refresher Course on "W.B.Court Fees Act & Suit Valuation Act" on 14.09.2022 for Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) & Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.).
- (27) Online Refresher Course on "Trial of NDPS Act Cases for the Presiding Officers of NDPS Court" held on 19.09.2022 and 20.09.2022.
- (28) Online Training Programme on "Civil Appeal" for the Additional District Judges, Additional District Judges (FTC) & Civil Judges (Sr. Divn.) held on 20.02.2023 & 21.02.2023.
- (29) Online Workshop on "Commercial Courts Act" for the Additional District Judges held on 23.02.2023 & 24.02.2023.
- (30) Online Training Programme on "Grant of Bail" for Judicial Magistrates of all ranks held on 06.03.2023.
- (31) Online Training Programme on "Motor Vehicles Act" for the Additional District Judges held on 09.03.2023 & 10.03.2023.
- (32) Online Refresher Course on "Medical Jurisprudence" for JM/MM held on 13.03.2023 & 14.03.2023.
- (33) Online Sensitization Programme on "Trafficking of Women and Children" for JM/MM held on 16.03.2023.
- (34) Online Training Programme on "Information Technology Act with special emphasis on Cyber Crimes" for Judicial Magistrates of all ranks held on 17.03.2023.
- (35) Online Training Programme on "Registration Act, Indian Stamp Act" for Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) & Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.) held on 20.03.2023 & 21.03.2023.
- (36) Training on "Juvenile Justice Act, 2015" for Principal Magistrates of JJB held on 24.03.2023 & 25.03.2023 (in physical mode).
- (37) Online Workshop on "Commercial Courts Act" for the Additional District Judges held on 27.03.2023 & 28.03.2023.
- (38) Online Refresher Course on "Cyber Laws" for Judicial Magistrates of all ranks held on 19.04.2023.



- (39) Online Training on "Motivation" for Judicial Officers of all ranks held on 20.04.2023.
- (40) Online Refresher Course on "Indian Succession Act, 1925 with special stress on Probate & Letter of Administration" for Additional District Judges and Additional District Judges (FTC) held on 17.04.2023 & 18.04.2023.
- (41) Online Sensitization Programme on "Trafficking of Women and Children" for Judicial Magistrates including Metropolitan Magistrates held on 19.04.2023.
- (42) Online Training on "The Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 & Disciplinary Proceedings" for Judicial Officers of all ranks held on 17.04.2023 & 18.04.2023.
- (43) Online Refresher Course on "Pre-emption under West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1955" for Civil Judges (Jr. Divn.) held on 25.04.2023.
- (44) Online Refresher Course on "W.B. Court Fees Act, 1970 & Suits Valuation Act, 1887" for Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) & Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.) held on 29.04.2023.
- (45) Online Training on "Motivation" for Judicial Officers of all ranks held on 02.05.2023.
- (46) Online Refresher Course on "Power and Duties of Drawing and Disbursing Officer with special emphasis on The W.B. Treasury Rules & The West Bengal Financial Rules" for Civil Judges (Jr. Divn.) held on 03.05.2023 & 04.05.2023.
- (47) Online training on "Mobile Forensic in Criminal Investigation" for Magistrates of all ranks held on 08.05.2023.
- **48)** Online Training on "e-Commerce & Copyright violation in Internet" Judicial Officers of all ranks held on 10.05.2023.
- (49) Online training on "Execution in Civil Cases" for Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) & Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.) held on 11.05.2023 & 12.05.2023.
- (50) Online Refresher Course on "Medical Jurisprudence" for Magistrates of all ranks held on 15.05.2023 & 16.05.2023.
- (51) Online Training Programme on "Discussion on the Law of Bail with special reference to the guidelines in (i) Siddharth vs. State of UP & (ii) Satender Kumar Antil vs. CBI" for Judicial Officers of all ranks held on 17.05.2023 & 18.05.2023.
- (52) Online Training Programme on "Civil Appeal" for the Additional District Judges, Additional District Judges (FTC) & Civil Judges (Sr. Divn.) held on 19.05.2023 & 20.05.2023.



- (53) Online Training Programme on "Registration Act, 1908 & Indian Stamp Act, 1899" for Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) & Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.) held on 29.05.2023 & 30.05.2023.
- (54) Online Training Programme on "Trial under the Negotiable Instruments Act" for Judicial Magistrates of all ranks held on 30.05.2023 & 31.05.2023.
- (55) Online Training Programme on "Motivation" for Judicial Officers of all ranks held on 01.06.2023.
- (56) Online Sensitization Programme on "Trafficking of Women and Children" for Judicial Magistrates held on 02.06.2023.
- (57) Online Training Programme on "Bengal Money Lenders Act, 1940" for Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) & Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.) held on 03.06.2023.
- (58) Online Refresher Course on "Effective trial of cases by Tribunal under Motor Vehicles Act with special reference to Gohar Mohammad Case" for Additional District Judges & Additional District Judges (FTC) held on 05.06.2023 & 06.06.2023.
- (59) Online Refresher Course on "Mohammedan Succession Laws" for Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.) held on 12.06.2023 & 13.06.2023.
- (60) Online Training Programme on "The Wildlife (Protection) Act,1972 & Indian Forest Act, 1927 for Magistrates of all ranks held on 14.06.2023 & 15.06.2023.
- (61) Online Refresher Course on "West Bengal Service Rules" for Judicial Officers of all ranks held on 14.06.2023 & 15.06.2023.
- (62) Online Refresher Course on "Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, and Hindu Minority & Guardianship Act, 1956" for District Judges & Additional District Judges held on 16.06.2023 & 17.06.2023.
- (63) Online Refresher Course on "Electronic Evidence" for Judicial Officers of all ranks held on 19.06.2023.
- (64) Online Refresher Course on "Specific Relief Act, 1963 (Specific Performance of Contract & Declaratory Suits)" for Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.) & Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.) held on 21.06.2023 & 22.06.2023.



SOME GLIMPSES OF INDUCTION LEVEL TRAINING PROGRAMME

The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Tirthankar Ghosh, Judge, High Court at Calcutta interacting with the civil judges (junior division) batch 2020 during the Induction Level Training on the laws of bail with reference to Satender Kumar Antil case at the Academy





The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ajoy Kr. Mukherjee, High Court at Calcutta interacting with the civil judges (junior division) batch 2020 during the Induction Level Training on Civil Rules & Orders at the Academy

Dr. Shyamal Gupta, Judge-Mediator, State Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission, conducting a session with the civil judges (junior division) batch 2020 during the Induction Level Training on Judicial Ethics at the Academy





E-COMMITTEE SPECIAL DRIVE TRAINING & OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

- i. Refresher programme for Court Staff **(ECT_9_2022)** on 29.06.2022, 30.06.2022, 30.07.2022, 29.08.2022, 30.08.2022 and 31.08.2022.
- ii. Refresher programme for Court Staff & NSTEP Training (ECT_8_2022) for Sheristaders, Head Clerks, Accountants, Nazirs & Process Servers posted in all the District Head Quarter and the Sub Divisions on 29.07.2022.
- iii. Induction Level training programme for District Judge (Entry Level) [ECT-18] for Additional District & Sessions Judges on 1.12.2022, 02.12.2022 & 9.12.2022.











SPECIAL PROGRAMMES CONDUCTED BY WBJA

- Inaugural Ceremony of Physical Training Classes on 27.09.2022 through video linkage at the Conference Hall of the West Bengal Judicial Academy, with the august presence of the Hon'ble Chief Justice, High Court at Calcutta, Hon'ble Member Judges of the Committee for West Bengal Judicial Academy and other Hon'ble Judges of High Court at Calcutta.
- This programme was followed by a training session of Judicial Officers on "Judgment Writing" conducted by Hon'ble Justice Madhumati Mitra, former Judge of the High Court at Calcutta.



The Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prakash Shrivastava, Chief Justice, Calcutta High Court addressing the Audience on 27.09.2022



Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, Judge, Calcutta High Court addressing the audience on 27.09.2022





Vote of Thanks by Sukumar Ray, Director, West Bengal Judicial Academy on 27.09.2022

 One day Seminar on "Principle of Diversion" held on 02.04.2023 conducted by West Bengal Commission for Protection of Child Rights, Government of West Bengal in collaboration with WBJA in the august presence of Hon'ble Justice Ananya Bandyopadhyay, Judge, High Court at Calcutta, Hon'ble Dr. Shashi Panja, Minister in charge, Department of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare, West Bengal and other dignitaries.







• Sensitisation/Orientation Programme for the Secretaries of District Legal Services Authorities held on 20th & 21st of April, 2023 in the august presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, Chief Justice, High Court at Calcutta.



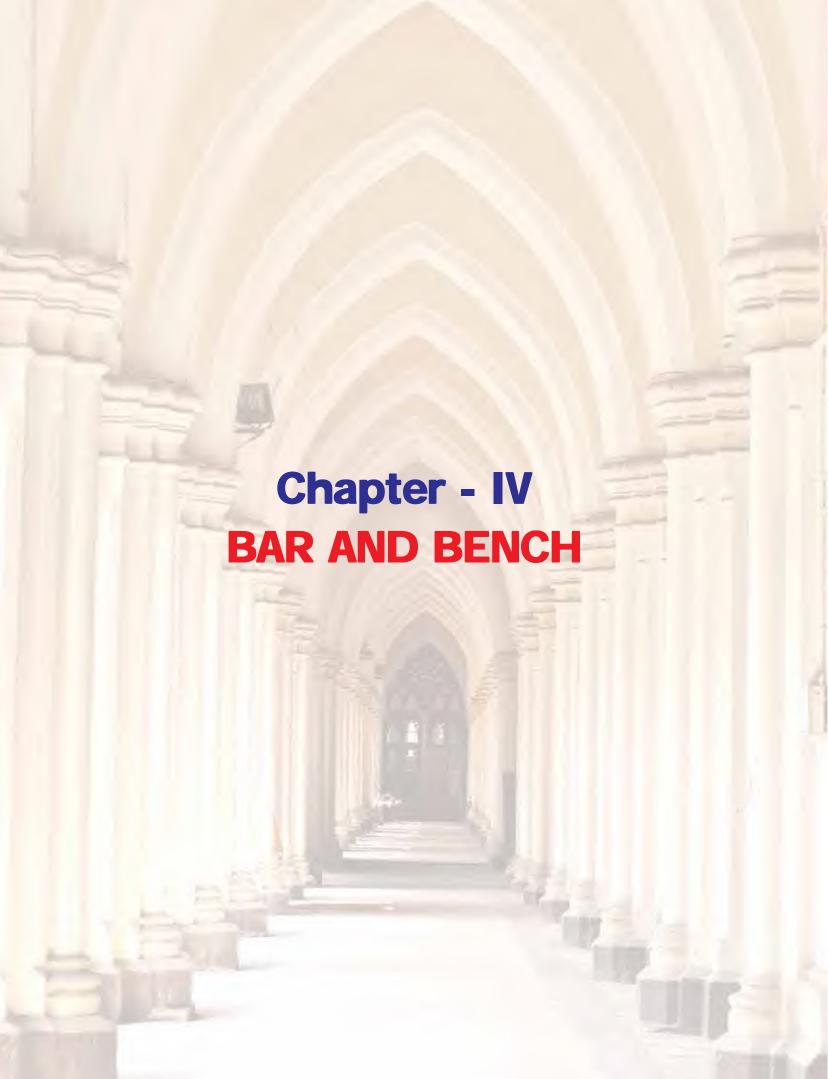
 Symposium in both physical and online mode for collecting feedback regarding conducting cases relating to human trafficking held on 28.06.2023 in the august presence of Hon'ble Justice Ananya Bandyopadhyay, Judge, High Court at Calcutta, District Judges and Chief Judicial Magistrates of West Bengal and other dignitaries.

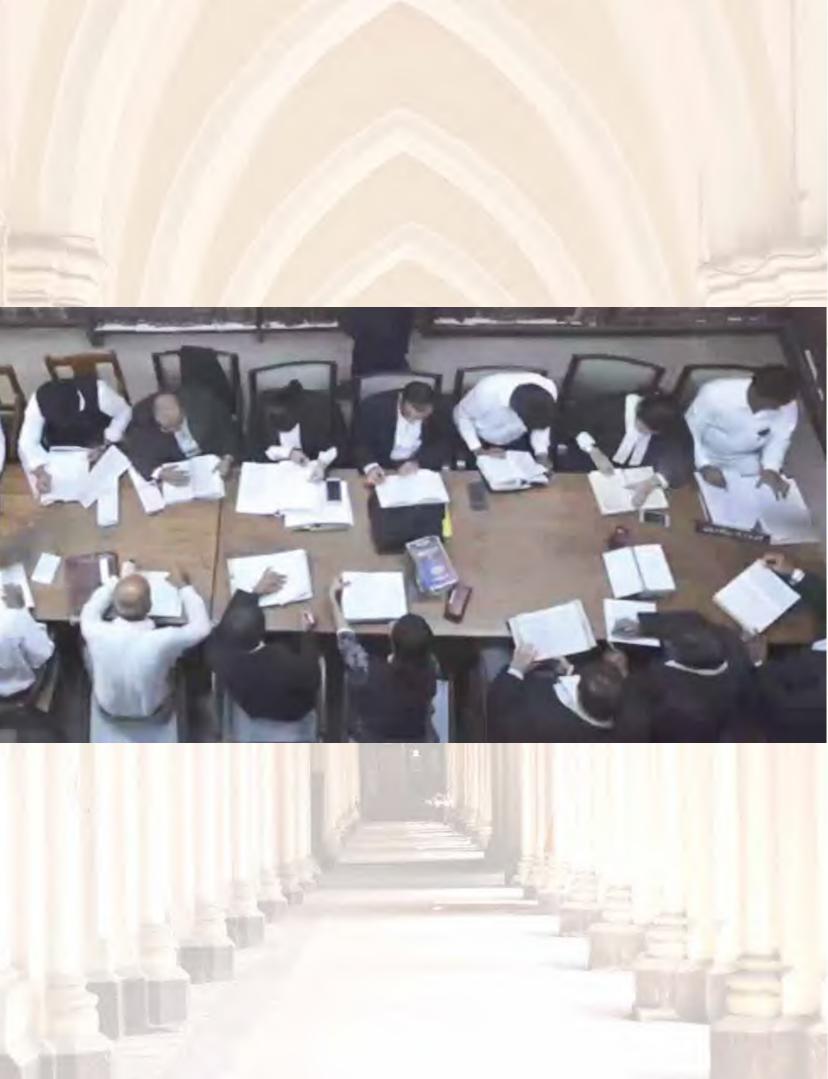


Hon'ble Justice Ananya Bandyopadhyay, Hon'ble Judge, Calcutta High Court addressing the Participants on 28.06.2023



Judicial Officers in the rank of District Judges, CJMs and other Dignitaries present on the occasion on 28.06.2023







OFFICE OF THE LEARNED ADDITIONAL SOLICITOR GENERAL OF INDIA

The legal matter pertaining to the Union of India in the Hon'ble High at Calcutta is headed by Shri Ashok Kumar Chakrabarti, Learned Additional Solicitor General of India, assisted by two Deputy Solicitors General of India, Shri Dhiraj Trivedi and Shri Billwadal Bhattacharyya.







The panel of Counsel for the Union of India consists of 83 Sr. Counsels Gr. I Advocates and 176 Sr. Counsels Gr. II Advocates.

The Branch Secretariat, Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India, Kolkata, is the concerned Department receiving petitions on behalf of Union of India as are filed before the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta. The said Branch Secretariat is also responsible for maintaining records pertaining to litigants concerning the Union of India. In terms of information received from the Branch Secretariat, Kolkata from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023, the total number of cases pertaining to Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta that has been processed is 6062.

The Branch Secretariat does not deal with matters pertaining to Revenue (Direct and Indirect Taxes, Central Excise etc.), Customs, Enforcement Directorate. These Departments have their own panel of Counsels. However, the Learned Additional Solicitor General and the Learned Deputy Additional Solicitor Generals appear even in case of these Departments on requests to that effect being made case specific, by the Departments. The CBI also does not come under the purview of the Branch Secretariat, Ministry of Law and Justice.

Circuit Bench at Jalpaiguri

 There is 1 (one) Learned Deputy Solicitor General of India namely Mr. Sudipto Mazumdar, for the Circuit Bench of Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri. Moreover, there are 3 (three) Senior Panel Counsels and 8 (eight) Central Government Counsels for the Circuit Bench at Jalpaiguri.



There are 3 (three) Senior Panel Counsels and 5 (five) Central Government Counsels for the Union of India, for the Circuit Bench at Port Blair.



OFFICE OF THE LEARNED ADVOCATE GENERAL OF WEST BENGAL

The post of the Advocate General traces its origins to 1774, making the post older than the High Court at Calcutta by more than 80 years. Following the promulgation of East India Company Regulation Act, 1773, the Supreme Court of Judicature at Fort William at Bengal was constituted by the Royal Charter on March 26, 1774. Shortly thereafter, the Supreme Court of Judicature was set-up at the old Court House and the post of the Advocate General was created by the Council of Directors of the East India Company. In 1915, the post of Advocate General became a statutory post under the Government of India Act, 1915. Thus, for the first time, the Advocate General of Bengal was appointed by the King



of England. After the passage of the Government of India Act, 1935, the Advocate General came to be appointed by the Governor of Bengal. In independent India, with the adoption of the Constitution of India, the post of the Advocate General became a constitutional post under Article 165 of the Constitution of India.

The first Advocate General was Charles Newman from the year 1774 to 1781. Sir S.M. Bose served as the first Advocate General of West Bengal post-Independence. The present Advocate General Soumendra Nath Mookherjee, Barrister & Senior Advocate, assumed office on September 14, 2021.

The Advocate General is the Chief Legal Advisor of the State Government and represents the State Government. The Advocate General is assisted by a team of more than 330 lawyers comprising the Additional Assistant Advocate General, Additional Advocate General (Jalpaiguri Circuit Bench), the Government Pleader, the Senior Standing Counsel, the Junior Standing Counsel, the Additional Government Pleaders, the Senior Government Advocates, the Junior Government Advocates and other State Advocates on the civil panel. The office of the Advocate General is located on the Second Floor of South-East wing of the High Court building.

On the criminal side, the Public Prosecutor leads the Government panel and they appear for and represent the State of West Bengal in Bail, Anticipatory Bail, Criminal Revisions, Criminal Appeal, Death Reference, and Appeal against Acquittal matters. The Government panel consists of 20 Government retainers (including the Additional Public Prosecutor, the Senior Government Advocates, and Junior Government Advocates) along with about 75 paneled lawyers.

The terms and conditions of engagement of the Advocate General are specified in the Legal Remembrancer's Manual. The Legal Remembrancer's Manual also provides for terms and conditions of service, the duties, the manner of appointment, etc., of the State advocates for conducting cases at the High Court at Calcutta.

The Office of the Advocate General is committed to assisting in all e-initiatives and digitization efforts to make access to justice easier and more transparent, such as the upgradation of IT infrastructure in court rooms and making virtual courts more accessible throughout the State.



BAR ASSOCIATION, HIGH COURT, CALCUTTA

The Calcutta High Court has a history dating from 1726. The High Court of judicature at Fort William in Bengal was established under the provisions of the High Court's Act of 1861 on 1st July, 1862. The Vakeels Association, High Court, Calcutta was constituted also on 1st July, 1862 with forty Vakeel Members of the Sadar Court Bar Library. At the inception Registrar of the Sadar Court used to be the Ex-Officio President, and the Senior Government Pleader used to be the Ex-officio Vice



President of the Library. The first elected President of the Vakeels Association was Basanta Coomar Bose from 1st December, 1921 to 1923. After the Bar Councils Act, 1926 came into force, in 1928, the name of the Vakeels Association was changed and it was decided to have the present name i.e. Bar Association, High Court, Calcutta. At present rapid changes are taking place in the whole setup. Every year more than 500 members enrolled themselves in our Association and at present we have more than 12,000 members in our Association.

At present the Committee consisting of 15 members, namely Mr. Arunava Ghosh (Hony President), Mr Kollol Mondal (Hony. Vice President), Mr. Biswabrata Basu Mallick (Hony. Secretary), Mrs. Sonal Sinha (Hony. Asstt. Secretary), Mr. Wasim Ahmed (Hony. Asstt. Secretary), Mr. Joydip Banerjee (Hony. Treasurer), Mrs. Sangeeta Roy, Mrs. Kakali Naskar, Mrs. Sutapa Banerjee, Mrs. Debjani Sahu, Mrs. Amrita Pandey, Miss. Mary Dutta, Mrs. Parna Roy Chowdhury, Miss. Sanjukta Samanta and



Mr. Suman Saha are the Committee Members of the Association. The present Association has done excellent performance towards serving their members. It is the largest wings amongst the three wings of the Bar. The present Association organized the Medical Camps for the members, provided fully equipped library with latest journals and books, newly renovated air conditioned conference rooms, provided new cafeteria for their members, took appropriate steps for providing Wifi facilities to the Bar Association rooms, submitted the proposal for providing



health cards to their members. The present Committee felicitated The Hon'ble Justice Dipankar Datta, The Hon'ble Justice of the Supreme Court of India and also organized so many programs regarding portrait unveiling of the legendaries practiced in this Chartered High Court. This Committee has always maintained a cordial relationship with the Bench and the Administration of this Chartered Court.

BAR LIBRARY CLUB, HIGH COURT, CALCUTTA

The Bar Library Club established on 15th June 1825, is almost two centuries old and is perhaps the oldest Law Bar in the whole Asia. Fifty years after the Supreme Court at Calcutta was established on 22nd October, 1774 and thirty seven years before the High Court at Calcutta was established in 1862, the



Calcutta Bar Library Club was established, thanks to Mr Longueville Clarke, a distinguished Barrister practising in the Supreme Court at Calcutta and treasurer of the Club since foundation till 1840 and subsequently Secretary till 1862. The Hon'ble Justice Buller allotted a room in the Court House for the use of the members of the Club, and the Registrar, James Weir Hogg, gave all his books at a concession. In 1975, the Calcutta Bar Library Club framed written Rules, which have since been replaced by the present Constitution in 2015. The Club started with 16 members, all Europeans, including 10 Barristers. That number rose to 240 in 1925. At present there are approximately 400 number of members.

Various eminent personalities have been members of the Club over time including Gyanendra Mohan Tagore (the first Indian Barrister who became a member in July 1866), Monomohan Ghose, W.C. Bonnerjee (the first President of the Indian National Congress), Dr. Radha Binod Pal (Member of the International Military Tribunal for the Far East for the trial of the war crimes in Japan during Second World War and the only Judge who dissented from the Majority judgment in the Tokyo Trials), Sarat Chandra Bose, Sir Sudhansu Mohan Bose (former Advocate General of West Bengal), Hem Sanyal, Niren De (former Attorney General of India), N.C. Chatterjee, Subimal Roy (who was elevated directly from the Bar to the Bench in the Supreme Court of India), Ashoke Kumar Sen, Siddhartha Shankar Ray (former Chief Minister of West Bengal), Subrata Roy Choudhury (well-known jurist who specialised in public international law), Somnath Chatterjee (former Speaker of the Lok Sabha), Ajit Kumar Panja (former Union Minister), Satyabrata Mookherjee (former Union



Minister), Atul Prasad Sen (poet, lyricist, composer, who had later shifted his practice to Lucknow) and Mihir Sen (the long distance swimmer), to name but a few. Since its inception the Bar Library Club was an exclusive male preserve until the likes of Mrs Namita Gopal, Mrs Maya Ray, Mrs Padma Khastgir, Mrs Manjula Bose, Mrs Leila Seth, Mrs. Protibha Bonnerjea, Mrs Urmibala Mookherjee and Mrs. Ruma Pal (who later became a judge of the Supreme Court of India) joined as members. The celebrated poet Michael Madhusudan Dutt, the third Indian Barrister, was however not admitted to the membership of the Club. Up to 1853, the Advocate General was appointed and sent out directly from England, However, in 1853, Mr William Ritchie became the first member of the Club to be appointed to that office. Ever since, most appointees to the office have been members of the Club.

The first meeting of the Club was held on 15th June, 1825 with the then Advocate General, John Pearson in the Chair. The fee committee was introduced in 1827 and in 1873 the system of listing defaulting Attorneys was introduced. The system of election of new member by ballot was introduced in 1833. In 1845 it was decided that no practising attorney could be a member of the Club. Meetings held by the members of the Bar Library Club since its inception have often seen interesting resolutions being passed. At a meeting held on 29th May 1852, the Club passed a resolution that the name of a member, who was guilty of a marital offence, be erased from the list of members, and that his admission fee be returned. A few years later, on 4th July, 1860, a resolution was passed which "gave rise to the rule that no conversation which takes place between members within the Club should be repeated outside": "That it is essential to the maintenance of harmony and good feelings of the profession that no publicity shall be given to conversation which shall take place in the Bar Library."

The Bar Library Club is both a library and a club. It is a fairly comprehensive Law Library, and as a club it has been a centre of good fellowship. In the words of the legendary journalist and artist Desmond Doig, "There is a sense of judicious levity, particularly in the Bar Library, to suggest that the law has a sense of humour, and a heart". The library consists of Reports, Text Books, Codes of Law, and miscellaneous books, which include Common Law Pleading, Statutes and State Trials. Some of these rare tomes still adorn the shelves of the library, though a few, like the Hyde Papers, are now with the Victoria Memorial for better preservation. One of the valued possessions of the Club is the "Suggestion Book" (popularly called the "Scrap Book"), in two volumes, which is the repository of the wit and humour of the members who love to laugh, sometimes even at their own expense, and which also contains a number of legal cartoons. Unfortunately, today only one of the volumes seems to be available. Apart from books, the Club possesses a number of portraits of some distinguished members whose names are bound up with the traditions of the Calcutta Bar.

The Club maintains an account under the name of style of "Barrister's Benevolent Fund" which is intended to cater to the financial exigency for old, infirm and ailing Barristers in case of need. Similarly to cater to the requirement of the staff, another account is maintained under the name and style of Bar Library Club Account "Staff and Benevolent Fund".



On 15th June, 1925, the centenary of the Club was celebrated under the Presidency of Mr. Satish Ranjan Das, Advocate General, at a dinner at the Dalhousie Institute, in course of which Mr. Das delivered a speech. A commemorative volume was also brought out that year. In 1975, the Club celebrated its Sesqui-centenary. A commemorative volume was also brought out that year.

Under the present Constitution the Committee comprising of a President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Committee Members are elected for a term of 2 years. The last election of the Committee was held on 16th December, 2022. Wherein the Executive Committee was constituted as follows:-

- 1. Mr. Surendra Kumar Kapur President
- 2. Mr. Ajoy Krishna Chatterjee Vice-President
- 3. Mr. Sakya Sen Secretary
- 4. Mr. Nilendu Bhattacharya Treasurer
- 5. Mr. Sayantan Basu- Executive Committee Member
- 6. Ms. Piyali Sengupta- Executive Committee Member
- 7. Mrs. Nolle Dey (Banerjee) Executive Committee Member

The Club organised the Annual Cricket festival and Sports for its members and their families on 14th January, 2023 at East Bengal Club Ground. A Bar Dinner was held on 16th June, 2023 to commemorate the 199th Foundation Day of the Club where the Ld. Advocate General Mr. Soumendra Nath Mookherjee and Hon'ble Justice Indira Banerjee (Retd.), Judge, Supreme Court of India and other senior Members of the Club were felicitated.

The rich traditions of the Bar Library Club, courtesy to fellow members and adherence to certain well-cultivated norms were not built in a day. They were slowly and steadily developed by a galaxy of members. The Bar Library Club has had an eventful history spanning nearly two centuries, eventful not only for the members of the Club, but also in the context of the history of modern India. As Late Anil Chandra Ganguli, Barrister-at-Law, once pithily put it: "The Bar Library Club has been not merely a Club for the professional purpose of its members but also a rich fountain from which have sprung multi-coloured streams of thought, flowing through numerous channels of national life-legislation, adjudication, law reporting, administration of law, commissions on law, interpretation of law, literature, journalism, education, physical culture, social service, politics, and last but not the least, search for the Self".



INCORPORATED LAW SOCIETY, HIGH COURT, CALCUTTA



The Incorporated law Society at its inception, in or about 1854, was known as Calcutta Attorneys Association and Ramanath Law was the first Indian to enroll as Attorney on 17th February, 1857 of the Supreme Court which was subsequently abolished and replaced by the High Court of Judicature at Fort William in Bengal. Subsequently, the Incorporated Law Society was formed on 06th June, 1908.

The work of Attorneys being the members of the Society were principally founded on

conducting law suits by appointing Barristers or counsels, arranging the papers and preparing briefs, sending legal notices on behalf of the clients and advising the clients on evidence, drafting of Wills, Agreements, various types of Deeds and other allied legal works. The process of Attorneyship examination and conferment of the certificate was then conducted by the High Court. The last of such examination was held in the year 1975.

The Incorporated Law Society of Calcutta registered under the West Bengal Society Registration Act, 1961. Presently the society is having about 430 members.

The membership of Incorporated Law Society is no longer confined to Attorneys or solicitors but it has opened its gate to enroll advocates. The Society is run through its Council. The present Council members of the society consists of Dip Narayan Mitra as President, Jaydip Kar as Vice-President, Paritosh Sinha as the Secretary, Kaushik Mandal as the Assistant Secretary, and the Council Members are Soumya Majumdar, Anirban Pramanick, Suvradal Choudhury, Siddhartha Banerjee and Nandini Khaitan.

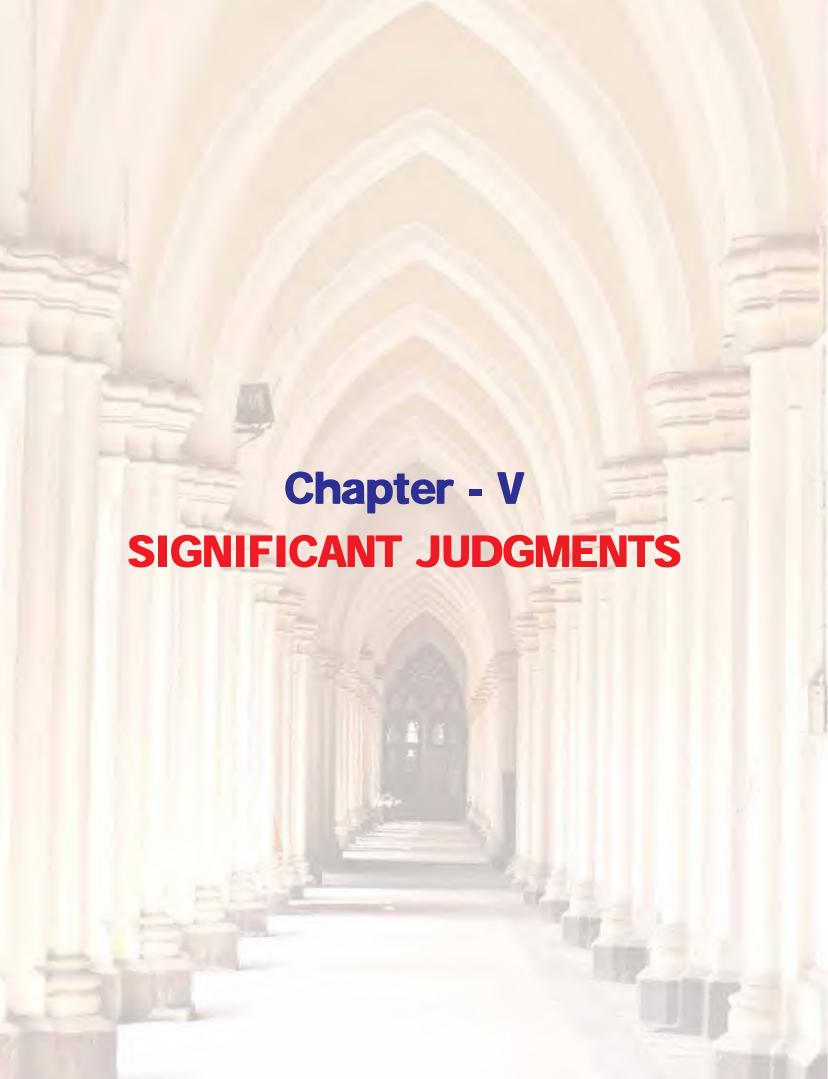
The society's library situated on the first floor of the main building reads in antiquity and has some excellent collection of old and rare law books and journals, as well as books on conveyancing.

In the last year, the Society's Council meetings were held on diverse dates, including on 27th April, 2022, 4th August, 2022, 6th September, 2022, 21st December, 2022 and 10th March, 2023 to discuss the various issues relating to administration of the Society, relating to representation to the Hon'ble Chief Justice on determination issues and other various ancillary matters.

The Society also held a "Break-up party" prior to the Puja Vacation for its members on 30th September, 2022. This is a tradition followed by the Society since long.

The Society also organized a picnic with a musical programme for its members on 7th January, 2023.









HON'BLE CHIEF JUSTICE T.S. SIVAGNANAM

PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF INCOME TAX - FIVE, KOLKATA AND ORS. VS. SWATI BAJAJ AND ORS.

Coram: Justice T.S. Sivagnanam and Justice Hiranmay Bhattacharyya

Citation: MANU/WB/1271/2022

The Tax Commissioner deleted disallowance made by the Assessing Officer (AO) on account of Long Term Capital Gains. The question before the Court was whether the Commissioner erred in deleting disallowance made on account of Long Term Capital Gains. It was held that the shares of penny stock which were closely held as general public was not interested in these stocks due to poor financials of listed companies. It had been established that the Promoters/Directors of penny stock companies were also involved and they allowed entry operators to manage affairs of company in return of commission paid to them and the investigation had also indicated as to how the scheme of merger was being misused. Therefore, impugned order stood set aside.

JUSTICE I.P. MUKERJI

SHUBHAM SURANA VS. STATE OF WEST BENGAL

Coram: Justice I.P. Mukerji and Justice Biswaroop Chowdhury

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 92

The question before the Court was in continuing offences, where one part is committed while the accused is a juvenile and the other part is committed when he was not, whether the accused would be treated under the special law governing juveniles or under the ordinary law. The Court purposively interpreted the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, substantially and procedurally, to hold that if a small part of the continuing offence which is incidental or a small component of the actus reus is committed after the person ceased to be a juvenile then he would continue to enjoy the protection of the Juvenile Act for the reason that the mens rea for committing the offence during the post juvenile period was minimal compared to the mens rea for the prior period.

If on the other hand, the substantial portion of the offence continues after a juvenile ceased to be so, then certainly the mens rea for committing the offence was substantial during the period he ceased to be so. The Court also held that if the offences can be segregated into one committed whilst a juvenile and other ceasing to be one, then separate trials can be held.



JUSTICE CHITTA RANJAN DASH

INDIAN OIL CORPORATION LTD. & ORS. VS. PRABIR KUMAR BAIDYA & ORS.

Coram: Justice Chitta Ranjan Dash and Justice Partha Sarathi Sen

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 1132

The distributorship of LPG cannot be canceled without following the principles of natural justice and in the absence of any evidence justifying such cancellation. The Court held that the oil company acted unfairly and arbitrarily, and directed the issuance of LPG distributorship.

JUSTICE HARISH TANDON

THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL & ORS. VS. CONFEDERATION OF STATE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, WEST BENGAL & ORS.

Coram: Justice Harish Tandon & Justice Rabindranath Samanta

Citation: MANU/WB/0770/2022

Per Justice Harish Tandon

An original application was brought by an organization of salaried persons before the division bench seeking relief from disgruntled inaction and discriminatory action on the part of the State towards the payment of the Dearness Allowance to its employees. After considering the facts of the case it was decided that if the State Government had earlier agreed to pay the Dearness Allowance as per the Central Government's adoption of the 6th Pay Commission, suddenly the State Government cannot withhold payment of Dearness Allowance without cogent reasons. There must be a reasoned decision. Secondly, there cannot be any differentiation in respect of the State Government employees based on their status as it would amount to unreasonable classification within a homogeneous class.

JUSTICE SOUMEN SEN

SONA MAJUMDAR VS. KISHORILAL AGARWAL & ANR.

Coram: Justice Soumen Sen and Justice Uday Kumar

Citation: AIR Online 2023 Cal 869

The issue in the appeal was with regard to enforcement of an oral agreement for sale and the right of a subsequent transferee to be impleaded in a suit for specific performance. The Court held that the contract which is uncertain cannot be made certain in a suit for specific performance of contract. Specific performance cannot be granted and allowed to be enforced at the instance of a party who has



failed to aver and prove that he has performed or has always been ready and willing to perform the essential terms of the contract which are to be performed by him other than the terms the performance of which he has been prevented to perform or has been waived by the defendant. Any person seeking benefit of the specific performance of contract must manifest that his conduct has been blemishless throughout entitling him to the specific relief. If the agreement propounded is oral, the evidence produced must be reliable, acceptable and cogent. The evidence in support of the oral agreement must be consistent and provide a clear indication that the intention of the parties was to enter into such an agreement. The plaintiff has to establish that vital and fundamental terms for sale of immovable property were concluded between the parties orally and a written agreement if any to be executed subsequently would only be a formal agreement incorporating such terms which had already been settled and concluded in the oral agreement.

JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI

BECHURAM BAG VS. STATE OF WEST BENGAL

Coram: Justice Joymalya Bagchi & Justice Bivas Pattanayak

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 419

In a case based on circumstantial evidence, prosecution relied on CDRs and cell tower location to prove accused and the victim were at the same spot. Cell tower location data was sought to be proved through Investigating Officer. No expert from the service provider was examined to lead evidence regarding range of the tower, topography and geographical coordinates of the area. The Court held that an Investigating Officer is an incompetent witness to prove these facts and establish the presence of the accused and victim at the same place.

JUSTICE TAPABRATA CHAKRABORTY

PRANAV KHAITAN VS. STATE OF WEST BENGAL

Present: Justice Tapabrata Chakraborty

Citation: MANU/WB/1923/2022

A habeas corpus petition was filed by the petitioner, seeking custody of his son, a citizen of America by birth, who was allegedly being illegally detained by his wife and her family in India. The objection against maintainability of writ petition was turned down and the Court held that several factual circumstances bear sufficient indication that a part of the cause of action arose within the territorial jurisdiction of the Court. Most importantly, the Court held that the principle of comity of courts cannot outweigh the consideration of the child's welfare. Therefore, merely because a foreign court has taken a certain view in respect of a child's custody, the High Court in exercise of its writ jurisdiction in a habeas corpus petition, is not prevented from taking a contrary stand, subject to the child's welfare. Habeas corpus proceedings are not meant for justifying or examining legality of custody, but 'welfare of the minor' must be adjudged upon considering every factor which may have a bearing on the



overall development of the child. Since the child had been living with his mother in a joint-family setting and studying in a renowned school for a lengthy period of time, the Court held that a sudden shift to the U.S.A. would be contrary to the child's welfare. As such, the Court refused to grant custody of the child to the petitioner. However, in due appreciation of a father's role in the upbringing of a child, the Court granted visitation rights to the petitioner, subject to the conditions specified in the judgment.

JUSTICE ARIJIT BANERJEE

HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENT ALLIANCE LEAGUE AND ORS. VS. DEBAL RAY AND ORS.

Coram: Justice Arijit Banerjee and Justice Apurba Sinha Ray

Citation: MANU/WB/0321/2023

The issue that was raised in the writ petition was with regard to the protection of the environment, forests, and wildlife at large and in particular, the indiscriminate killing of thousands of wild mammals, birds and reptiles which are protected under various Schedules to the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972 and other statutory provisions. The Court held that every species has the right to life and security, subject to the law of the land which may curtail such right due to human necessity but the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act should be followed in letter and spirit as the right to life includes right to live with care and dignity amongst animals.

JUSTICE DEBANGSU BASAK

SHEIKH RAHAMTULLA AND OTHERS VS. NATIONAL INVESTIGATION AGENCY

Coram: Justice Debangsu Basak and Justice Md. Shabbar Rashidi

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 493

The issue considered was whether delay beyond 90 days can be condoned by applying Section 5 of Limitation Act, 1963, in filing of an appeal under Section 21 of the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 ('Act of 2008'). The issue was considered by three different High Courts. The Kerala High Court in 2015 SCC OnLine Ker 39625 held that the time period stipulated in Section 21 of the Act of 2008 was mandatory. The Delhi High Court in 2019 SCC OnLine Del 9158 and the Jammu and Kashmir High Court in GLA (D) No. 46 of 2022 GLM No. 1474 0f 2022 held otherwise. The Act of 2008 is a special law wherein Section 21(5) second proviso of the said Act prohibits extension of period of limitation for the purpose of entertaining an appeal after the expiry of 90 days. To read Section 5 of the Limitation Act into Section 21(5) 2nd proviso of the NIA Act, substitution of the word "no" with "an" appearing in Section 21(5) 2nd proviso would be necessary which in turn would render entirety of the 2nd proviso otiose and superfluous. Therefore, the issue was answered in negative.



JUSTICE SABYASACHI BHATTACHARYYA

CHANDAN CHATTERJEE AND OTHERS VS. GITA SUNDARARAMAN AND OTHERS

Present: Hon'ble Justice Sabyasachi Bhattacharyya

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 1407

Dispute arising out of MoU between partners/trustees regarding transfer of partnership business and trust for which an application was made under Section 11 of Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. After considering the facts, it was decided that Clause 3 of Arbitral Scheme of 1996, framed by Hon'ble Chief Justice is discretionary (whether to reject an application under Section 11 for non-production of original agreement) and production of original/certified copy of agreement mandatory under Section 8; but under Section 11, non-filing of the original agreement is irregular but not outright unlawful. Objection as to insufficient stamp curable by impoundment – *N.N. Global (2023 SCC OnLine SC 495)* does not preclude option of reference under Section 11 upon impoundment of arbitration agreement, if insufficiently stamped.

JUSTICE MOUSHUMI BHATTACHARYA

LINDSAY INTERNATIONAL PVT. LTD. & ORS. VS. LAXMI NIWAS MITTAL & ORS.

Present: Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya

Citation: AIR 2022 Calcutta 88

The question here was whether non-permissibility of bifurcation of subject-matter or causes of action in a suit is relevant in an application under Section 8 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. It was held that the Court must give a decisive push to the arbitral process once it is satisfied that, prima facie, a valid arbitration agreement exists in a matter which is arbitrable. The suit was filed by Lindsay against two group of defendants with separate claims and causes of action and hence, it cannot be said that the claims against the two groups are so inextricably interlinked being incapable of piecemeal adjudication. The Court also held that reference to arbitration would not result in bifurcation of composite causes of action or splitting-up of necessary and proper parties. A contrary interpretation would be destructive to the legislative intent to promote arbitration. The dictum of Sukanya Holdings of a judicial authority referring parties to arbitration does not survive the amendment of 2016 to Section 8 of the Act which stipulates "notwithstanding any judgment, decree or order of the Supreme Court or any Court". It was held that Sukanya Holdings is no longer good law at the stage of reference in an application under Section 8 of the Arbitration Act.



JUSTICE SHEKHAR B. SARAF

CHAIRMAN BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR SHYAMAPRASAD MOOKHERJEE PORT, KOLKATA VS. UNIVERSAL SEA PORT PRIVATE LTD.

Present: Justice Shekhar B. Saraf
Citation- MANU/WB/1546/2022

The petitioner floated a tender for cargo handling equipment, which the respondent won. A 10-year agreement was signed. Due to a revision in the Schedule of Rates (SoR) allowed to others, the respondent sought rate revision, but the petitioner refused. The respondent initiated arbitration, and the sole arbitrator ruled in favour of the respondent, demanding parity in rates. The Court set aside the award under Section 34(2A) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, by holding that the arbitrator's interpretation to be patently illegal because arbitrators (a) are not permitted to apply the rights outlined in the fundamental rights of the Indian Constitution or equity, (b) go beyond the explicit understanding/agreement between the parties.

JUSTICE RAJARSHI BHARADWAJ

DAMODAR VALLEY CORPORATION VS. BLA PROJECTS PRIVATE LIMITED

Coram: Justice Prakash Shrivastava and Justice Rajarshi Bharadwaj

Citation: AIR Online 2023 Cal 321

The authority which floats the tender and has authored the tender documents is the best judge as to how the documents have to be interpreted, as long as there is no malafide/arbitrariness.

JUSTICE SHAMPA SARKAR

JORAGACHI LOHADAHA FERIGHAT YATRI O NOU PARIBAHAN SAMABAY SAMITY LIMITED AND ANOTHER VS. STATE OF WEST BENGAL AND OTHERS

Present: Justice Shampa Sarkar

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 122

The petitioners have prayed for a direction upon the Amlai Gram Panchayat to settle Lohadaha ferry ghat in their favour in terms of sub-paragraph (iii) of paragraph 281 of the West Bengal Land Reforms Manual, 1991. The declaration was that the petitioner as the sole Boatman's Co-operative Societyof 'hereditary patnis' in Bharatpur - I block, was entitled to settlement of the ferry ghat without participating in any public auction. The object behind incorporation of Part-IX to the Constitution was to enable the Panchayati Raj to function as units of self-government and in order to achieve such object, it is essential that the gram panchayats function independently and in a de-centralized manner in terms of the provisions of the Panchayat Act and the Rules framed there under. Land Reforms



Manual is merely a hand book of procedure for land reforms, and administration, but not applicable to the Panchayats Act. Thus, it was held that Paragraph 281(iii) of said Manual cannot have overriding effect over West Bengal Panchayat Act, 1973. The Co-operative Society, hereditary pathis, cannot have preferential right for grant of ferry ghat without any public auction.

JUSTICE RAVI KRISHAN KAPUR

E.D. ENTERPRISES PRIVATE LIMITED VS. KAISER BEGUM & ANR.

Present: Justice Ravi Krishan Kapur

Citation: 2022 SCC OnLine Cal 4428

This is an application under Order XII Rule 6 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. The suit is filed for eviction and mesne profits. The plaintiff sought a decree for judgment upon admission on the ground of inferences. In the facts and circumstances of the case, there was a clear and unequivocal admission that there existed a relationship of landlord and tenant. The rent payable was Rs.1,61,000/-. The defendant had been duly served a notice under Section 106 of the Transfer of Property Act, 1882. It was held that there were no triable issues. There was no question of the parties having to lead any further evidence save and except on the mesne profits. Hence, a decree for judgment upon admission was directed.

JUSTICE AMRITA SINHA

AKHIL BANDHU SAHA VS. THE MEMBER SECRETARY, STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY & ORS.

Present: Justice Amrita Sinha

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 408

The order of the Member Secretary, SLSA referring the petitioner for psychiatric treatment opining that the petitioner shows strong symptoms of mental illness was challenged in the writ petition. The petitioner contended that the said order is without jurisdiction, contrary to the provisions of the Mental Health Care Act, 2017 and has been passed without following the principles of natural justice. The Court upon taking note of various provisions of the Act, 2017 opined that a person cannot be said to be suffering from mental illness only upon judging his behaviour or after going through certain communications made by the said person. If a litigant is aggrieved by any order passed by a judicial officer, it is always open for him to challenge the same before the superior forum. A litigant cannot and should not make wild and untrue allegations against the Hon'ble Judges of the Hon'ble Court who passed the order. The same is not permissible.



JUSTICE ABHIJIT GANGOPADHYAY

RAMESH MALIK AND OTHERS VS. STATE OF WEST BENGAL AND OTHERS

Present: Justice Abhijit Gangopadhyay

Citation: 2022 SCC OnLine Cal 3997

The Court noted endemic corruption in the appointment of teachers in government primary schools of the State of West Bengal and invoked its *suo motu* jurisdiction to direct a Court monitored CBI investigation to unearth the truth and punish the guilty.

JUSTICE JAY SENGUPTA

SHUKLA MONDAL ALIAS SUMI VS. STATE OF WEST BENGAL

Present: Justice Jay Sengupta

Citation: AIR Online 2022 Cal 1160

This was an application for repatriation. The petitioner is a victim lady, allegedly trafficked to India for purpose of commercial sexual exploitation. The victim wants to return to her own country. It was held that success in trial cannot be a ground to stall repatriation of victim lady to her own country. Hence, the application for repatriation allowed.

JUSTICE BIBEK CHAUDHURI

ROHIT PAL VS. STATE OF WEST BENGAL

Present: Justice Bibek Chaudhuri

Citation: 2022 SCC Online Cal 610

The question here was whether the act of touching the chest of a child who is not physically developed due to malnutrition comes within the purview of Section 7 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 when the sexual intent of the offender is not proved. It was held that it is absolutely immaterial whether breasts of a 13 years old girl were developed or not. The specific part of the body of a girl of 13 years of age shall be held and term as breast for the purpose of Section 7 of the POCSO Act even if her breasts are not developed due to certain medical grounds. The accused was sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for three years and also to pay fine of Rs.10,000/-.



JUSTICE MD. NIZAMUDDIN

PEERLESS HOSPITEX HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH CENTER LTD. VS. PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER OF INCOME-TAX

Present: Justice Md. Nizamuddin Citation: (2022) 137 Taxmann 359

Here the assessee, a multi-speciality hospital, paid referral fees to doctors for referring their patients to the, assessee hospital. Since acceptance of payments in nature of freebies/commission/bonus by medical practitioner was prohibited and punishable offence under the regulations of Indian Medical Council, expenditure incurred by assessee as referral fees would also be prohibited and would not be allowed as deduction under section 37(1). The AO issued reopening notice after expiry of four years on ground that expenditure claimed as referral fees paid to doctors was an expense prohibited by law and was to be disallowed under Explanation 1 to section 37(1). Since the said claim was already considered and allowed during regular assessment merely in view of Notification of MCI Regulations, 2002 which were available during regular assessment would be mere change of opinion. The Court ruled in favour of the assessee hospital.

JUSTICE TIRTHANKAR GHOSH

MANUJA BIBI VS. CENTRAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION, SC-II, NEW DELHI & ORS.

Present: Justice Tirthankar Ghosh Citation: 2022 SCC OnLine Cal 2526

When the saviour becomes a slayer, the duty of the Courts to provide justice to the wronged becomes paramount. The said case pertains to an incident of custodial death wherein the deceased was brutally assaulted and tortured by the officers of the local police station, which subsequently resulted in his death. The CBI relied upon a report of the Joint Medical Board including experts from AIIMS, New Delhi and the post-mortem report to infer that the death of the deceased was due to cardiac arrest. Prosecution insisted before this Hon'ble Court that the accused officers should be charged under Section 304A of IPC. However, CBI failed to take into account the fact that in the CCTV footage, blood was trickling down the cheeks and ear of the deceased as a consequence of torture inflicted by the accused officers. Considering the facts of the case, this Court opined that CBI over emphasised on the medical evidence ignoring the circumstances which caused the death of the deceased. This Court took into account the arrest of the deceased on questionable grounds, assault at the police station, the sporadic CCTV footages, and unexplained bodily injuries directing the trial Court to frame charges under Sections 304 Part II, 324, 342, 218 of IPC read with Section 34 of IPC. This case is a clear example of non-application of mind by the investigating agencies while arriving at their conclusion by exclusively relying on medical and technological evidence. The order of the learned Magistrate framing charges was set aside and the case was directed to be committed to Court of Sessions for framing charges under Section 304 Part II, 324, 342, 218 of IPC.



JUSTICE SAUGATA BHATTACHARYA

RABINDRA NATH SEN VS. UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Present: Justice Saugata Bhattacharya

Case no- W.P.A. 25888 of 2016

The writ petition was remanded to the Single Bench for reconsideration by the Hon'ble Division Bench. Here, the question arose for consideration whether the writ petitioner being the Chief Executive Officer of NTPC on his deputation to DVC as Chairman is entitled to draw pay, perks and allowances which he could have drawn had he not been transferred to the post of Chairman of DVC on deputation since DVC disputes entitlement of the petitioner to draw such benefits being its Chairman based on decision of the Ministry of Power, Government of India. As petitioner was repatriated to NTPC two days before his retirement, it has been construed that petitioner was deputed to DVC on transfer and not by way of deputation appointment. It has been decided since petitioner was deputed to DVC on transfer he needs to be considered as a member of the lending organisation. Therefore, Court directed DVC as well as Ministry of Power, Government of India to pay all benefits to the petitioner which he would have drawn had he not been deputed as Chairman of DVC.

JUSTICE KAUSIK CHANDA

INDRANIL MUKHERJEE VS. THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL AND OTHERS

Present: Justice Kausik Chanda

Citation: 2022 SCC Online Cal 1564

Where the compensation has been directed to be paid upon conclusion of a proceeding under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, the legal heirs, who have inherited the estate of the deceased are liable to repay the fine or compensation amount when an application under Section 421 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, is filed. The order of interim compensation under Section 143A of the said Act will cease to exist when the trial comes to an end due to the death of the accused and, therefore, an interim compensation awarded under Section 143A of the said Act cannot be recovered from the estate of a deceased accused, who died before the conclusion of the trial.



JUSTICE ANIRUDDHA ROY

Y VS. STATE OF WEST BENGAL & ORS.

Present: Justice Aniruddha Roy

Citation: MANU/WB/1231/2023

If, ultimately, the minor mother has to sacrifice her life in the event of termination of her unwilling pregnancy at an advanced stage, where the foetus is medically found to be healthy and perfect but the termination might raise a serious question as to the survival of the minor mother as suggested in the medical report, then the question automatically comes before the Court that whose personal life, liberty and dignity shall be protected as guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. In such situation, the Court cannot proceed to grant any relief for medical termination of the pregnancy of the minor mother/girl.

JUSTICE SUGATO MAJUMDAR

MADHU SUDAN DUTT & ORS. VS. MALABIKA DUTT & ORS.

Present: Justice Sugato Majumdar

Citation: 2023 SCC Online Cal 423

The issue here was who would succeed to the estate of a Hindu widow who had expired prior to coming into force of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956. The said estate was purchased by her stridhana. Further, a please was also raised that the properties were purchased by her husband in benami of the widow which led the Court to consider applicability of law relating to benami transaction. The Hindu window left behind her two sons, and another two sons of her predeceased son. The question was whether the sons of a predeceased son should inherit the estate of the widow, purchased by her stridhana property, along with the sons of the widow. The Court referred to various judicial pronouncements on the issue and also considered the text of Dayabhaga translated by Colebrooke, and held that the sons of a predeceased son were not heirs of the estate purchased by stridhana.



JUSTICE KRISHNA RAO

GOODS OF KALPANA SHUKLA, IN RE .. DECEASED

Present: Justice Krishna Rao

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 1137

Wherever, probate sought of bequest in favour of natural heirs, and petitioners sought exemption from furnishing administration bonds/ surety bonds they have ordinarily been exempted, reason being that a person, sole beneficiary under a will, not required to undertake duties of an administrator who in said capacity, expected to maintain true accounts and complete inventory of estate of deceased and administer said estate. Section 291 of The Indian Succession Act envisages furnishing of an administration bond by a sole beneficiary or a sole legatee would lead to absurd consequences, the said sole beneficiary or a sole legatee would then be standing as surety for estate of deceased, which has exclusively devolved upon him, and it would be paradoxical to hold that a person can stand surety for himself.

JUSTICE BIBHAS RANJANA DE

M/S. RANA CHAIRS VS. DIRECTOR GENERAL (TOWN PLANNING) K.M.C & ANR

Present: Justice Bibhas Ranjana De

Citation: 2022 SCC OnLine Cal 3355

M/s. Rana Chairs vs. Director General (Town Planning) K.M.C & Anr wherein one Delhi based company under the name and style of M/s Rana Chairs supplied 519 chairs at the rate of Rs. 440 per unit in response to work order issued by defendants/judgement-debtors. No payment was made in spite of claim. Plaintiff/decree holder filed a suit before Single Bench of Delhi High Court in ordinary original jurisdiction. Suit was decreed ex-parte. Execution case was filed and transferred to this High Court for execution. Meanwhile, Kolkata Municipal Corporation and Commissioner of Kolkata Municipal Corporation challenged the ex-parte judgement before the Division Bench of Delhi High Court but, could not succeed in appeal. In the execution case decree holder prayed for impleading Kolkata Municipal Corporation and Commissioner of Kolkata Municipal Corporation. It was held that Kolkata Municipal Corporation and Commissioner of Kolkata Municipal Corporation even not being party to the suit were to be impleaded for effective execution of the decree. Order 21 Rule 16/22 together with Section 60/146 of the Code of Criminal Procedure Code was discussed.



JUSTICE AJOY KUMAR MUKHERJEE

BIPLAB GANGULY VS. BISWANATH GANGULY AND ANOTHER

Present: Justice Ajoy Kumar Mukherjee

Citation: AIR 2023 Calcutta 465

The issue pertains to declaration of a gift deed as void by the Maintenance Tribunal under Section 23 of Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007. The power of the Tribunal to declare a transfer deed void, such power can be exercised only when the transfer is subject to the condition that the transferee shall provide the basic amenities and basic physical needs to the transferor and such transferee refused or failed to provide such amenities and physical needs. Normally recital in the deed is the best guide to answer the question as to whether such a condition was attached to the transfer. In the event the recital of deed is clear and unambiguous, no extrinsic aid of construction need to be resorted to in order to gather intention of the parties but where there is some ambiguity in the transfer deed, the intention of the parties will have to be gathered from surrounding circumstances.

JUSTICE ANANYA BANDYOPADHYAY

BULU BAG VS. STATE OF WEST BENGAL

Present: Justice Ananya Bandyopadhyay

Citation: AIR Online 2023 Cal 748

This case was one of appreciation of evidence. The allegations that husband, father-in-law and mother-in-law of the deceased lady conspired and murdered her by strangulation and thereafter in order to suppress incident and to hide evidence set her on fire by pouring kerosene oil on her body. There was no direct evidence available and the clarity and decisiveness in evidence of related witnesses were nonexistent. The FSL report eradicates possibility of violence. Further, inconsistencies and contradictions in prosecution evidence implies more than one probability and specific inference leading towards exclusively singular cause of death cannot be reasoned. Offence committed in secrecy of house does not prove accused persons to be guilty in case of their failure to explain any of circumstances where prosecution had not succeeded in proving its case, since initial burden lay on prosecution to prove its case. Hence, the convictions were set aside.



JUSTICE SUBHENDU SAMANTA

Mrs. NANDITA SARKAR VS. TILAK SARKAR & ORS.

Present: Justice Subhendu Samanta

Citation: 2022 SCC OnLine Cal 4091

The prayer herein was for monetary relief including compensation along with other reliefs under Section 12 r/w Sections 18, 20, 22, and 23 of Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005. The factum of domestic violence was proved by the petitioner. The Supreme Court in the judgment of Satish Chandra Ahuja favoured the claim of a widowed wife from her father- in- law. As such, the claim of maintenance by the petitioner from her in-laws in the instant case is justified. The Court exercising its power under Section 397 and 401 of the CrPC, 1973 held that impugned judgment being illegal can be subjected to revisional jurisdiction exercised by the High Court.

JUSTICE SHAMPA DUTT (PAUL)

SRI UTTAM KUMAR BOSE VS. THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL & ANR.

Present: Justice Shampa Dutt (Paul)

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 103

The wife filed a case under Section 498A/406/323/34 IPC on the ground of 'cruelty' of which the petitioner/husband has prayed for quashing. The revisional application was dismissed on the findings that prima facie case of 'mental cruelty', was on record. The bench held that seeking divorce on the ground of wife's infertility amounts to 'Mental Cruelty' within the definition of Section 498A IPC.

JUSTICE SIDDHARTHA ROY CHOWDHURY

CHAKINA KHATUN VS. THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL & ANR.

Present: Justice Siddhartha Roy Chowdhury

Citation: 2022 SCC OnLine Cal 3947

In a proceeding under Sections 376 and 493 of the Indian Penal Code, father of the victim was examined as P.W. cross-examination was deferred. The said witness, however, could not be brought back to witness box and Trial Court expunged the testimony of P.W. The order was challenged before this Court. Non-production of witness by the prosecution on the date of evidence is the root cause for delay in criminal trial. While disposing of the revisional application, it is suggested that in every sessions case, immediately after commencement of trial, the dates fixed should be indicated and the same should be informed to the Police Station for recording of evidence in the presence of the IO, if it is not possible then the Officer-in-Charge shall depute some other official. On failure of any act the Trial Court shall be at liberty to take necessary action.



JUSTICE RAJA BASU CHOWDHURY

TATA CHEMICALS LIMITED VS. STATE OF WEST BENGAL AND OTHERS

Present: Justice Raja Basu Chowdhury

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 628

The issue involved in this case was whether the labour tribunal, in deciding a reference, limited to justifiability of superannuation, could add the principal employer, as a party to the reference, by invoking the provisions of Rule 20D(2) of the West Bengal Industrial Dispute Rules, 1958. The Court after examining the powers of the Tribunal, to add a party to a reference, concluded that the exercise of such powers must relate to the disputes specified in the order of reference or matters incidental thereto. In the facts of the case, the Court having found that the order of reference being limited to an employee–employer dispute, not concerning the Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970, held that the tribunal had committed jurisdictional error in adding the principal employer, having no contractual relationship with the workmen. Accordingly, the order of addition of party was set-aside.

JUSTICE LAPITA BANERJI

TRUSTEES OF BALMER LAWRIE & CO. LTD. VS. BALMER LAWRIE & CO. LTD.

Coram: Justice Subrata Talukdar and Justice Lapita Banerji

Citation: AIR Online 2023 Cal 553

The issue that fell for consideration was whether the retiral benefits could be curtailed by way of a modified pension scheme due to financial non-viability of the appellants. Rejecting the concentration of the appellants, the Court held that retiral benefits cannot be permitted to be curtailed by way of a unilateral amendment of the Trust Scheme, operating retrospectively to the detriment of former employees, who were entitled to payment of entire retiral benefits from the date of their notional retirement. Therefore, payment was directed to be made in accordance with Superannuation Fund Scheme and Superannuation Fund Rules.

JUSTICE BISWAROOP CHOWDHURY

BAHADUR SINGH KATHATIA VS. SMT. PURABI BASU

Present: Justice Biswaroop Chowdhury

Citation: MANU/WB/0277/2023

In the above case, application under Sections 7(1) and 7(2) of the West Bengal Premises Tenancy Act, 1997 was dismissed by the Learned Trial Court on the ground that Limitation Act is not applicable in an application under such Sections as per the Judgment of the Hon'b1e Apex Court in the case of Bijay Kumar Singh and Ors. vs. Amit Kumar Chamariya and Ors. reported in 2020 (1) Indian Civil



Cases 664 (SC). Considering the fact that West Bengal Premises Tenancy Act is a welfare legislation and the fact that Section 40 of the said Act was not placed before Apex Court, it was observed that law laid down in the case of Bijay Kumar Singh should be followed in disposing applications under Section 7(1) and 7(2) of the West Bengal Premises Tenancy Act, 1997 and deviation from the same should be in exceptional circumstances such as where the date of appearance of defendant as fixed in the summons is such that it exceeds one month from the date of receipt of summons by the defendant/tenant, where the defendant/tenant is unable to attend on the date fixed in the summons due to unavoidable circumstances, and lastly, where in the opinion of the Court, refusal to condone delay will result in miscarriage of justice.

JUSTICE PARTHA SARATHI SEN

MANTU ROY VS. STATE OF WEST BENGAL

Coram: Justice Chitta Ranjana Dash and Justice Partha Sarathi Sen

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 673

The Court is of the view that it is not the number or quantity of the evidence but the quality of the evidence of the material is what is necessary to uphold logical reasoning of the case.

JUSTICE PRASENJIT BISWAS

UNION OF INDIA VS. JOY HALDER

Coram: Justice Harish Tandon and Justice Prasenjit Biswas

Citation: AIR Online 2023 Cal 93

A tender was floated for filling up vacancies of semi-skilled Grade Industrial Employees (IES), Group-C in various ordinance factories located all over India. Age relaxation and fee exemption were granted to ex-servicemen and they will be considered without horizontal reservation. The notification inviting applications did not state percentage of horizontal reservation and even the number of seat were not specified for them in each of social reservation categories. Unreserved posts were filled up by Physically Handicapped/ Ex-Servicemen although there was no reservation for them in category of post. There is nothing on record to show that unreserved vacancies for post were earmarked for exservicemen and were actually to be included in 13 combined vacancies of different posts. Held that exservicemen have to be placed in appropriate category in roster meant for reservation of SC/ST/OBC and application form for post should require candidate applying under quota reserved for ex-servicemen to indicate whether they belong to SC/ST/OBC or General Category.



JUSTICE AJAY KUMAR GUPTA

BINOD BANIK VS. THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL & ANR.

Coram: Justice Joymalya Bagchi & Justice Ajay Kumar Gupta

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 421

The victim alleged rape in the year 1999. The appellant was acquitted and parties started residing as husband and wife. An informal marriage was solemnized. Thereafter, the victim lodged second complaint in the year 2009 after getting pregnant. The expression "misconception of fact" in Section 90 of the Indian Penal Code fell for consideration. It was held cohabitation in a relationship which was in the nature of marriage and had continued for a protracted period of time would not constitute "misconception of fact" under Section 90 of the Indian Penal Code and prove the ingredients of rape.

JUSTICE SUPRATIM BHATTACHARYA

WEST BENGAL BOARD OF PRIMARY EDUATION & ORS. VS PRATIVA MONDAL & ORS.

Coram: Justice Subrata Talukdar and Justice Supratim Bhattacharya.

Case No. MAT 1594 of 2018

In the present case, the writ petitioners had appeared in the Teachers' Eligibility Test, 2014 but could not clear the same which is one of the criteria to be eligible for being recruited as an Assistant Teacher under the West Bengal Board of Primary Education. The writ petitioners challenged the assessment of the said examination on the ground that some questions were wrong. The Bench was of the view that those examinees who were definite about the said wrong questions/options which were under discussion might not have attempted those questions, as a person having accurate knowledge of the correct answer would not opt for any of the wrong options. The Court decided that each candidate who appeared in the said examination were equally disadvantaged and/or prejudiced by the said six defective questions/options and hence all be awarded the six marks. The Secretary of the Board was further directed that award of marks to be *in rem* and not *in personam*.

JUSTICE APURBA SINHA RAY

LAKSHMI ROY VS. STATE OF WEST BENGAL & ORS.

Coram: Justice Arijit Banerjee and Justice Apurba Sinha Ray

Citation: 2022 SCC OnLine Cal 4070



This case deals with the fact whether writ court has the power to interfere in civil dispute matters. The Court after considering the facts held that the jurisdiction of writ court should not be unnecessarily drawn into controversy, particularly, when civil courts were sufficiently equipped to deal with such issues in a pending suit for declaration of title, injunction and restoration of possession.

JUSTICE MD. SHABBAR RASHIDI

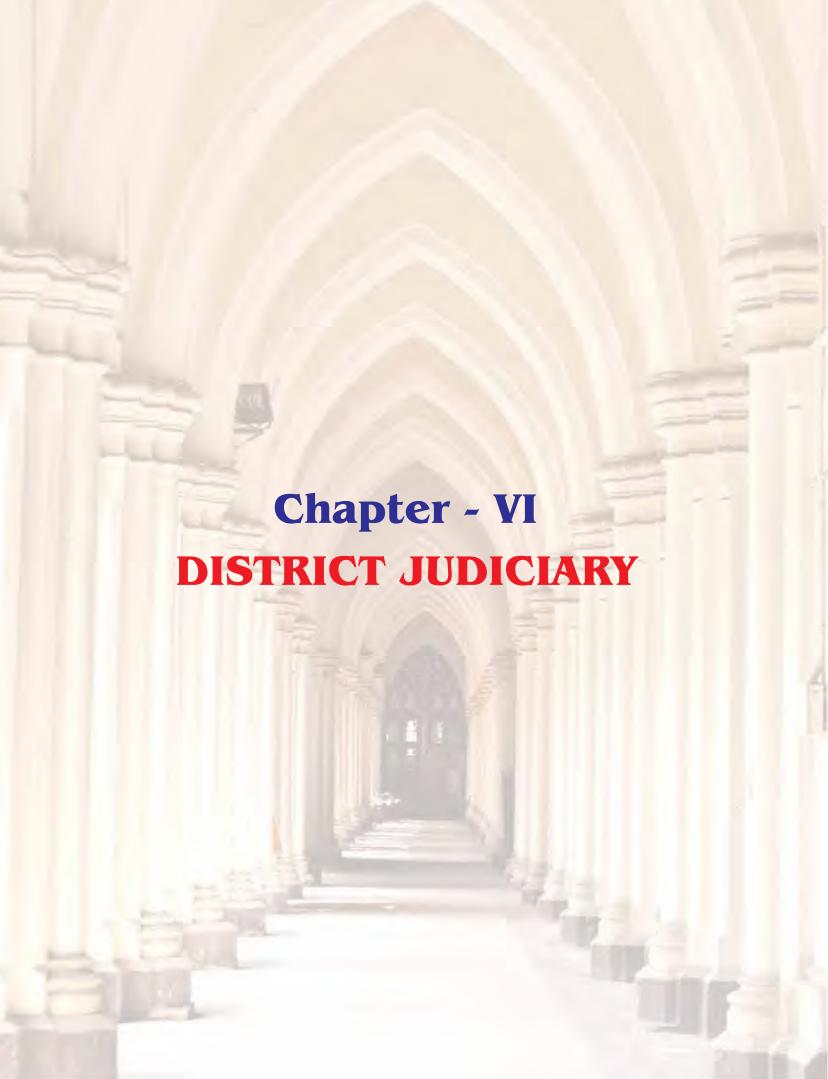
STATE OF WEST BENGAL VS. SANNY CHATTERJEE ALIAS SUNNY CHATTERJEE

Coram: Justice Debangsu Basak and Justice Md. Shabbar Rashidi

Citation: 2023 SCC OnLine Cal 100

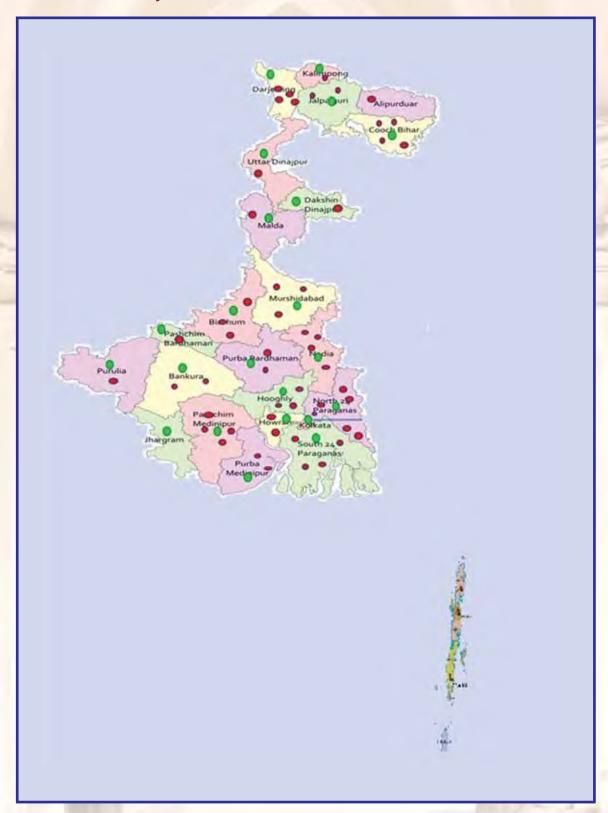
One person lodged a written complaint on 11.03.2022 with Dumdum GRPS stating, inter alia, that, his business was in bad condition, and he had to take loan. In order to pay off the loan amount, he decided to sell out the gold ornaments. Accordingly, he got the gold ornaments converted into gold butts and was travelling in a train to Kolkata carrying the gold butts for selling at a better price. He was intercepted by at least six police personnel pretending to be custom officials. He was forcefully brought down from the train and was taken in a taxi. The aforesaid persons assaulted the complainant inside taxi and extorted all his gold butts and mobile. A little later, the complainant was left by the roadside. A case under sections 379/340/419/420/34 IPC was started against unknown persons miscreants. The accused persons applied for and granted bail under section 438 of the Code of Criminal Procedure by the Learned Sessions Judge, Alipur based on compromise. The Court considered various judicial pronouncements setting forth guiding principles where bail granted in a case may be cancelled, were considered and reiterated. The Court further discussed several cases clarifying that corruption or any illegal act cannot be done in discharge of official duty and as such sanction may not be warranted in such case. The anticipatory bail granted to the accused persons was cancelled.

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FOOTSTEP OF JUDICIARY IN THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL





The High Court at Calcutta has a jurisdiction over the State of West Bengal and the Union Territory of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands covering 24(twenty four) Judicial Districts including the district of Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The newly created Alipurduar Judicial District, segregating from the Jalpaiguri District, started operating with effect from 29th April, 2023.

The Sanctioned strength of Judicial Officers in the State of West Bengal is 1018, with the break-up enumerated below, which includes regular Court posting, Deputation posting, Leave Reserve etc.:

SL.NO.	CADRE	SANCTIONED STRENGTH
1.	District Judge (Entry Level)	281
2.	ADJ,FTC	88
3.	Civil Judge (Senior Division)	243
4.	Civil Judge (Junior Division)	406
	TOTAL	1018



COMMERCIAL COURTS IN WEST BENGAL

The State Government after consultation with the High Court, Calcutta vide notification No. 254-GL dated 15.12.2018 and subsequent notification No. 158-GL dated 20.03.2020 was pleased to specify the territorial and pecuniary jurisdiction of four Commercial Courts operationalized at District Judge Level: Alipore, Rajarhat, Asansol and Siliguri. The territorial/pecuniary jurisdictions of the four Commercial Courts at District Judge Level are mentioned below:

Commercial Co District Judge (Date of Commencem	Level	Territorial Jurisdiction	Pecuniary Jurisdiction	Judges
Rajarhat (Since 05.07.2	<u>.019)</u>	North 24 Parganas, Nadia, Hooghly, Howrah	An amount not less than Rupees Thirty Lakh	Neyaz Alam From 10.09.2020
Asansol (Since 25.11.2	<u>022)</u>	Murshidabad, Birbhum, Bankura, Purba Bardhaman, Paschim Bardhaman, Purulia	Do	Sourav Bhattacharya (05.07.2019 to 25.11.2022) Sk. Kamaluddin From – 02.12.2022
Alipore (Since 05.07.2	<u>019)</u>	South 24 Parganas, Purba Medinipore, Paschim Medinipore, Jhargram	Do	Srikumar Goswami (05.07.2019 to 19.07.2022) Dev Kumar Sukul (27.07.2022 to 16.02.2023) UtpalMisra From - 22.02.2023
Siliguri (Since 05.07.2	<u>019)</u>	Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, Alipurduar, Coochbehar, North Dinajpur, South Dinajpur, Maldah, Kalimpong	Do	Satya Arnab Ghosal (05.07.2019 to 11.11.2021) Argha Deb Khan From - 10.08.2022

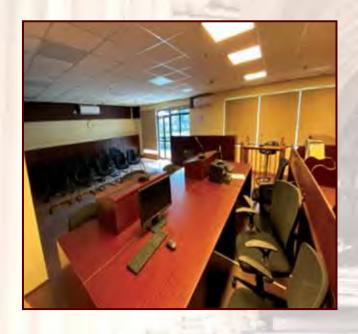




Commercial Court, Rajarhat



Commercial Court, Alipore



Commercial Court, Asansol



Commercial Court, Siliguri



ICT INITIATIVES IN THE DISTRICT JUDICIARY

eSewa Kendra – On 1st March 2023, Dr. Justice D. Y. Chandrachud, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India in presence of Hon'ble Chief Justice and Hon'ble Judges of the High Court at Calcutta virtually inaugurated eSewa Kendras at five (05) District Court Complexes of Cooch Behar, Purba Medinipur, Bankura, Purulia and South 24 Parganas.





eFiling in District Judiciary – On 1st March 2023, Dr. Justice D. Y. Chandrachud, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India in presence of Hon'ble Chief Justice and Hon'ble Judges of the High Court at Calcutta virtually inaugurated implementation of e-Filing at City Civil Court, Kolkata and at three (03) Commercial Court Complexes in the District of South 24 Parganas, Paschim Bardhaman and North 24 Parganas.





ePayment in District Judiciary – e-Payment of Court Fee has been introduced at City Civil Court, Kolkata and at 4 Commercial Courts in the State of West Bengal.

Virtual Court – On 15th September 2022, the Hon'ble Chief Justice, High Court at Calcutta in presence of other Hon'ble Judges inaugurated Virtual Court at 4th Metropolitan Magistrate



Court, Calcutta for dealing with e-Challan traffic cases in respect of 4 (four) traffic guards under Kolkata Police.





Digital Signature Certificates for the Hon'ble Judges and Officials – The Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta has provided digital signature certificates to the Hon'ble Judges as well as Court Officials which will enable this High Court to provide web copy of the orders & judgments embedded with digital signature of the Court Officials.

ICT Management and Training – The Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta with the help of the West Bengal Judicial Academy, under the guidance of the e-Committee, Supreme Court of India has conducted various ICT management & training programmes for the Judicial Officers, Advocates, Law Clerks, Court Staff and other stakeholders on e-Courts Services, e-Filing of cases, e-SCR etc. Below are some glimpse of the training programmes.











Procurement of hardware items under Phase-II of the eCourts Project – During the Phase-II of the eCourts Project the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta has procured different hardware equipments from the fund sanctioned by the Department of Justice, Government of India as well as from the State Government fund for modernizing the IT infrastructure of the Courts, Judicial Academy, DLSAs and TLSCs in the State of West Bengal.

The following hardware items were procured during the Phase-II of the eCourts Project:

- (a) Server and Network Switches.
- (b) Desktop Computers (Core i3 and Core i5) for the Court Complexes.
- (c) Information Kiosks for the Court Complexes.
- (d) Desktop Computers for State Judicial Academy.
- (e) Laser Network Printers and Multifunctional Printers for Court Complexes.
- (f) Display Board Monitors with Thin Clients with Extra Monitor and Splitter.
- (g) Desktop Computers for District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) and Taluka Legal Services Committees TLSCs).
- (h) UPSs for the District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) and Taluka Legal Service Committees (TLSCs).
- (I) Multifunctional Printers for District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs).
- (j) Multifunctional Printers for Taluka Legal Services Committees (TLSCs).
- (k) Justice Clock for the High Court.



- (l) UPSs for Network Room in the Court Complexes.
- (m) Projectors with screen and USB hard-disks in the VC room of the Court Complexes.
- (n) UPS for Desktop Computers in the Court Complexes.
- (o) Videoconferencing equipments for Sub-divisional Courts and Sub Correctional Homes.
- (p) Videoconferencing equipments for the Court Rooms.
- (q) High Speed and Flat-Bed Scanners in the Court Complexes.
- (r) Hardware equipments for the eSewa Kendras.
- (s) Videoconferencing equipments for videoconferencing cabins.
- (t) Hardware equipments for Help Desk counters.

Virtual Hearing of Cases through Video-conferencing – All the Court Rooms in the State of West Bengal are equipped with videoconferencing equipments.

9237 number of cases have been heard through videoconferencing in the District Judiciary for the period from 1st July, 2022 to 30th June, 2023.

To make the Judicial Officers equipped with videoconferencing system, all the Judicial Officers in the State are requested to join through VC with the High Court, everyday from their respective Ejlash.

JustIS Mobile App - The Judicial Officers in the State of West Bengal are using JustIS mobile app through which he/she can get the overall status of cases lying pending in his/her Court. The JustIS app is also made operational for the Hon'ble Portfolio Judges for monitoring the District.

Revamping of LAN Connectivity in the District Judiciary – The LAN connectivity in the District and Subdivisional Court Complexes in the State of West Bengal was set up in the year 2009 – 2010, during the Phase-I of the eCourts Project. As such, revamping of LAN was very much required for a fast network connectivity in order to run the Courts smoothly. The Webel Technology Limited, an agency of the Government of West Bengal was issued Work Order for LAN revamping. The said work is under progress.



District Judiciary

ALIPURDUAR









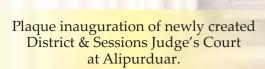


Lighting of Lamp during inauguration of newly created District & Sessions Judge's Court at Alipurduar by the Hon'ble Judge-in-charge and Hon'ble Minister, Judicial Department, Govt of West Bengal.



Cutting of ribbon during inauguration of newly created District & Sessions Judge's Court at Alipurduar by the Hon'ble Judge-in-charge in presence of Hon'ble Minister, Judicial Department, Govt of West Bengal.







Judicial Officers of Alipurduar and Hon'ble Judge-in-charge, Alipurduar Hon'ble Justice Ravi Krishan Kapur.



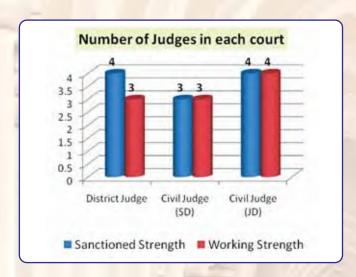
APART FROM THE DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, THE ENTIRE JUDGESHIP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS:

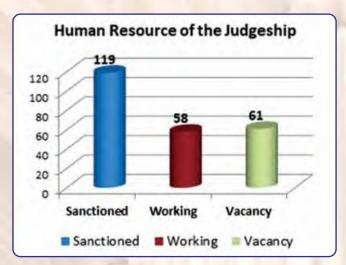
NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	01
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	02
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	01
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	-
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	01
Judicial Magistrate	03
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	-



Case Statistics for the duration 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023

Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of
21,471	15,939	14,392	23,018	2,128





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

Counselling:

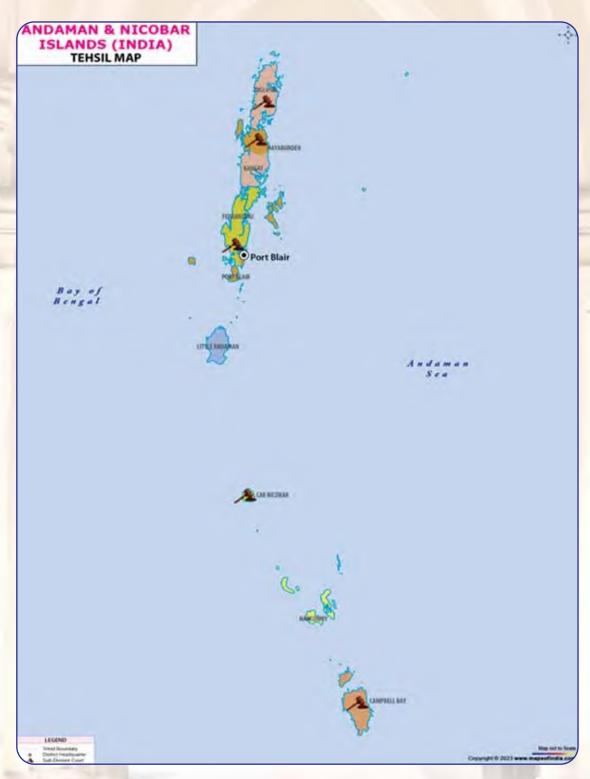
No. of	matters received	No. of matters settled	No. of matters not settled	Pending matters
	43	06	23	14

Number of cases where Legal Aid provided: 129



District Judiciary

ANDAMAN AND NICOBAR ISLANDS







The Andaman & Nicobar Islands is the union territory of India and an Indian archipelago on the Bay of Bengal as well as on the Indian Ocean. There are 572 Islands, of which 38 are inhabited at the juncture of the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea as well as on the Indian Ocean. It was established on 01.11.1956. There are three districts: South Andaman, Nicobar and North & Middle Andaman. The total area is 8,249 Sq. Kms. and the population is 4.34 lakhs (as per census of 2019). The capital and the largest city is Port Blair. It comprises of two Island groups, the Andaman Islands (partly) and the Nicobar Islands separated by 150 km wide 10-degree channel with Andaman Islands to North and Nicobar Islands to the south.



With the falling of the footsteps of the British Empire into this Territory actively commencing post Shipoy Mutiny period in the Year 1857 and subsequently, Andamans specifically the present South Andaman District was established as a Penal Settlement Colony by the British Crown establishing the first place of imprisonment for prisoners and convicts at Viper Islands and subsequently at Cellular Jail at Port Blair with its establishment in the Year 1906 after consuming long ten years commencing from the Year 1896 behind its colossal construction.

On the strength of a Regulation namely the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Regulation III of 1876 as promulgated by the British Empire previously the Chief Commissioner, presently designated as the Lieutenant Governor used to be the District and Sessions Judge in respect of the entire Territory of these Islands on the virtue of the strength of Section 13 of the above Regulation. On the strength of a Promulgation dated 01.06.1950 of the President of India which much later in the year 1967 underwent a Statutory Amendment in the aforesaid provision through which the aforesaid vested power of the Chief Commissioner was repealed leaving upon a provision that there shall be one District and Sessions Judge for the entire Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Thus, paving the way for rising of a new horizon by posting a senior member of Higher Judicial Service as District and Additional Sessions Judge on 22.11.1965, on which date the first Judicial Sitting in these Islands had its venue in the building premises presently better known as "Prayas" which is across the road in front of the present Court Building of the District Court Complex at Port Blair.

Presently, there are altogether eight Courts functioning at the District Headquarters at Port Blair which includes the Court of the District and Sessions Judge, Additional District and Sessions Judge, Judge Family Court, Chief Judicial Magistrate-cum-Civil Judge (Senior Division) South Andaman District, Joint Civil Judge (Senior Division), Judicial Magistrate-cum-Civil Judge (Junior Division), 1st, 2nd and Additional Courts. The Court of the Additional District and Sessions Judge at Port Blair is also designated as Special Court for trying offences both under the POCSO Act and the NDPS Act.







Foundation stone of the District Court Building laid by The Hon'ble The Chief Justice
Shri Sankar Prasad Mitra of
Calcutta High Court on the 26th day of
February, 1973.

Vulnerable Witness Deposition Centre at District Court Complex, Port Blair.





Residential Quarter of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Port Blair.

Residential Quarter of Chief Judicial Magistrate, Mayabunder.



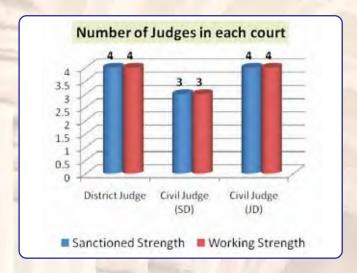
APART FROM THE DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, THE ENTIRE JUDGESHIP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS:

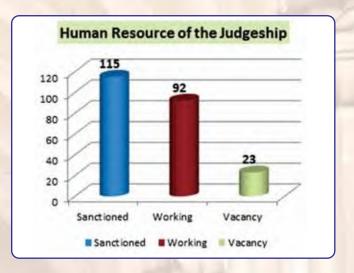
NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	02
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Family Court	01
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	-
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	-
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	-
Civil Judge (Senior Division)-Cum-Chief Judicial Magistrate	03
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	-
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	04
Judicial Magistrate	-
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	-



Case Statistics for the duration (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

	Opening			Closing	5 years old	5 year plus	% of 5 year old cases
	Balance as on	Institution	Disposal	Balance on	Cases	cases	disposed of against
	01.07.2022			30.06.2023	disposed of	pendency	total disposal
4	9,061	11,854	11,495	9,680	253	1,347	39.50%





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
4	8265	3968	Rs. 8,27,47,895

• Legal Awareness Camps held: 22

Mediation :

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation	Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation
123	39

• Number of Cases where Free Legal Aid provided: 145



District Judiciary

BANKURA







According to Government records, the Bankura district, which is situated in the western part of the State of West Bengal, used to be a semi-urban area. With urbanization taking off in Bankura, the Government came up with a policy to purchase new buildings to set up a court building in the district of Bankura. The Bankura Court buildings of the District Judge and of the Magistrate (the existing old Treasury Building) were built in the year 1807. The then District Judge and the District Magistrate was Mr. Willam Blunt. Mr. Brajendra Kumar Sil was the District Judge of Bankura during the period 1881 to 1888 followed by Mr. Plash in the year 1889. The present District Judge's Court and the District Sub-Judge's court were constructed during the period 1918 -20. The District Judges at that time, respectively, were J. Johnson, S. C. Mullick, and G. C. Sen. Subsequently, the Chair of the District Judge of this Judgeship was even occupied by eminent I.C.S. Officers like Mr. Annada Shankar Roy for the period from 1941 to 1943. The present District Judge's Court and the District Sub-Judge's Court [presently the Court of the Civil Judge (Senior Division)] are functioning under the same roof. The district has Sadar and two sub-divisional Courts namely, Bankura Sadar, Bishnupur, and Khatra divisions. There are 18 Courts including Child Friendly Court (POCSO) at Bankura Sadar. The Bar Association of this District was established back in the year 1855.





Inauguration of the newly constructed Judicial Officer's Quarter at Bishnupur by the Hon'ble Chief Justice,
Calcutta High Court.



Felicitation of Hon'ble Judge-in-Charge, Bankura during Inauguration of the newly constructed Judicial Officer's Quarter at Bishnupur by the Hon'ble Chief Justice, Calcutta High Court.



Felicitation of Ld. District Judge, Bankura during Inauguration of the newly constructed Judicial Officer's Quarter at Bishnupur by the Hon'ble Chief Justice, Calcutta High Court.



Inauguration of the newly constructed Judicial Officer's Quarter at Bishnupur by the Hon'ble Chief Justice,
Calcutta High Court.



APART FROM THE DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, THE ENTIRE JUDGESHIP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS:

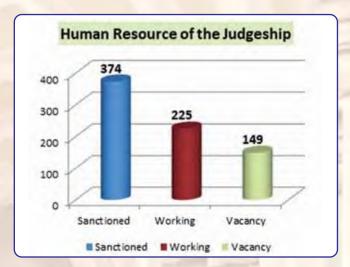
NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	06
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	01
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	04
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	02
Civil Judge (Senior Division)-Cum-Chief Judicial Magistrate	-
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Judicial Magistrate	08
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	06
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Case Statistics for the duration 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023

Opening			Closing	5 years old	5 year plus	% of 5 year old cases
Balance as on	Institution	Disposal	Balance on	Cases	cases	disposed of against
01.07.2022			30.06.2023	disposed of	pendency	total disposal
39,674	10,572	8,645	41,601	1,552	12,403	17.95%





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats :-

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Pre-litigation	Pending cases disposed of
4	1355	6715

• Victim Compensation Scheme :-

Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
6	5	Rs. 13,50,000

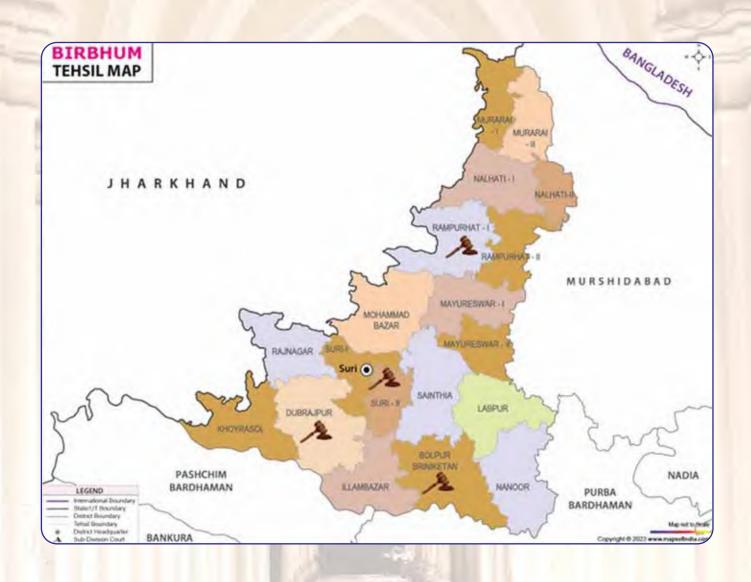
Mediation :-

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation	Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation
249	51



District Judiciary

BIRBHUM



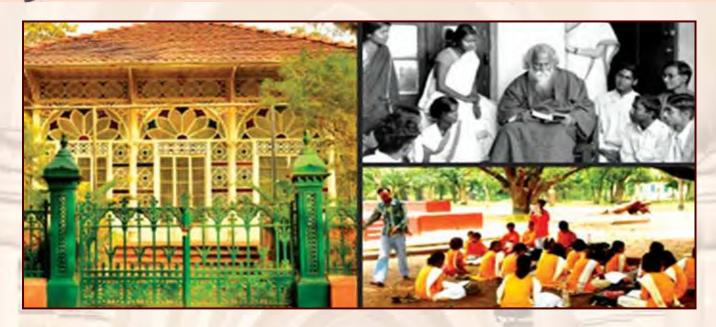




Birbhum district is located in the state of West Bengal, India. With an area of approximately 4545 square kilometers, it is situated in the eastern part of the state. Birbhum district shares its borders with several other districts including Bardhhaman to the south, Murshidabad to the east and Dumka and Godda districts of Jharkhand to the west. The district is known for its rich cultural heritage and historical significance.

Birbhum district has a diverse population consisting of various ethnic groups and communities. According to the latest census the district has a population of over 3 million people. One of the most famous attractions in Birbhum is the town of Shantiniketan the abode of peace which was established by the renowned poet and Nobel laureate Rabindranath Tagore. Shantiniketan is known for its educational institution Visva Bharati University where students from all over the world come to study and experience the unique cultural atmosphere.





Visva Bharati University



Certificate distribution by District Legal Services Authority, Birbhum.



Lok Adalat by District Legal Services Authority, Birbhum.

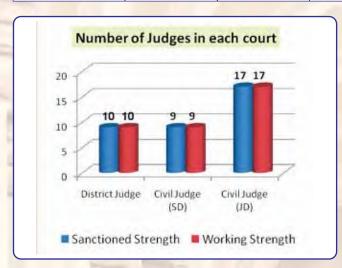


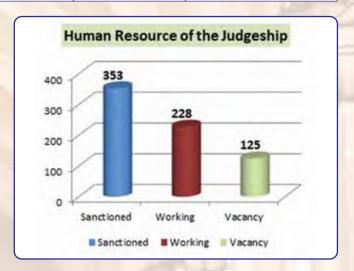
APART FROM THE DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, THE ENTIRE JUDGESHIP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS:

NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	06
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	03
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	03
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	04
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	07
Judicial Magistrate	09
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total disposal
59,581	30,227	26,421	63,387	22,068	13.28%





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	30873	12178	Rs. 19,53,58,745

• Victim Compensation Scheme :

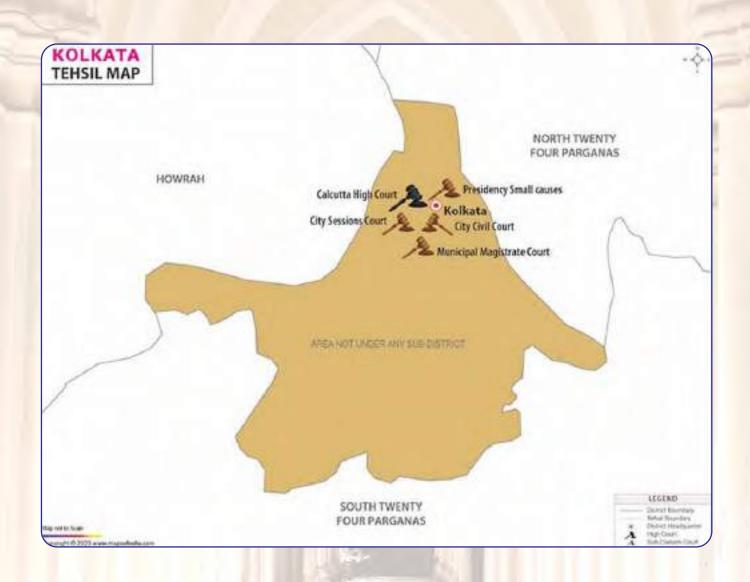
Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
11	5	Rs. 10,05,000

• Mediation:

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation: 319
Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation: 193



CITY CIVIL COURT, CALCUTTA







City Civil Court, Calcutta.

The Judicial Reform Committee, appointed by the Government of West Bengal on 17th December, 1949, unanimously recommended that a City Civil Court should be established for the District of Calcutta to ensure speedy disposal of Civil Cases. The Judicial Reform Committee was presided over by Sir Arthur Trevor Harris, the then Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court consisted of ten Members including Chairman & Secretary. The committee began working on 7.1.1950 and made a report on 24.1.1951 that the City Civil Court should be created to adjudicate specified matters lying under the Original Side Jurisdiction of the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta. The Calcutta City Civil Court was established in 23.2.1957 by City Civil Court Act, 1953. The Pecuniary jurisdiction to try cases of civil nature was enhanced from time to time.







Inauguration of Air Conditioning System in City Civil Court by the Hon'ble Chief Justice, Calcutta High Court.



Inauguration of Air Conditioning System in City Civil Court by the Hon'ble Judges, Calcutta High Court.



Video Conferencing Facility at City Civil Court, Calcutta.



e-Filing Counter at City Civil Court, Calcutta.

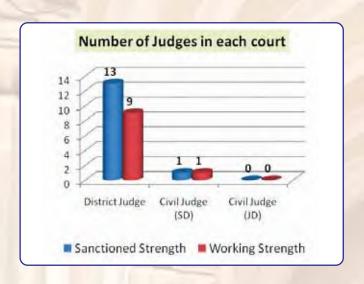


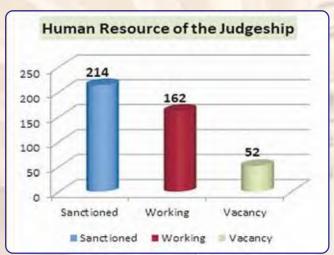
APART FROM THE CHIEF JUDGE, THE ENTIRE JUDGESHIP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS:

NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	12
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	-
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	-
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	-
Registrar	01
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	-
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Judicial Magistrate	-
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	-



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 year plus cases pendency	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total disposal
44,892	14,832	10,058	49,666	19,640	51%





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority, Kolkata for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	587	393	Rs. 18,13,82,145/-

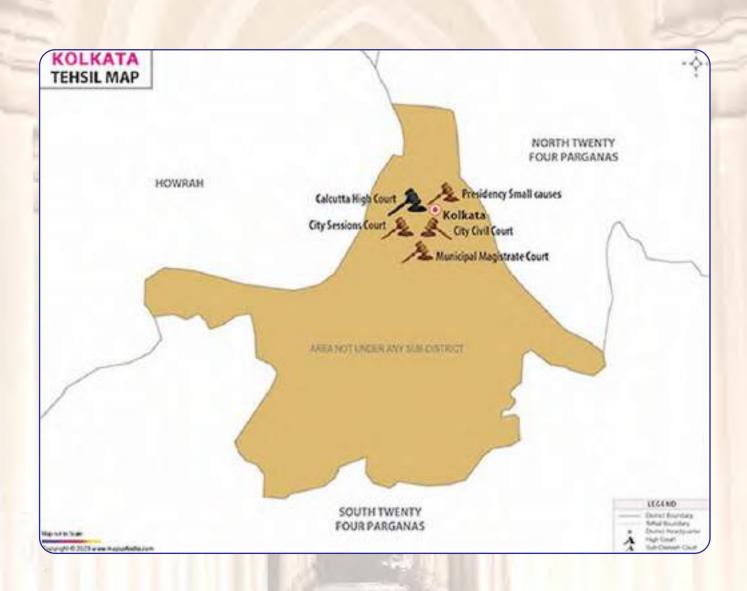
• Mediation:

Cases Received	Settled	Not Settled	Non Starter	Pending
24	01	11	8	7

• Victim Compensation Scheme: 21 applications are pending at DLSA, Kolkata.



CITY SESSIONS COURT







The City Sessions Court at Calcutta which is situated at 2&3, Bankshall Street, Kolkata – 700001 was named after Bankshall Street and the name of the street was derived from the Marine House known by the Dutch name of Bankshall. The Court was also known as Small Causes Court in British India. There are 2 (Two) heritage buildings in the Bankshall Court Complex where judicial work was inaugurated in the year 1915. A new multistoried building was constructed between the said two heritage buildings, which is known as Bichar Bhawan. The Courts of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate and Metropolitan Magistrates are functioning in the said two old buildings. The Court of the Chief Judge, City Sessions Court; Sessions Judge (NDPS Act), City Sessions Court, Calcutta; Special (CBI) Court and Fast Track Courts are also functioning there. The Fast Track Courts started functioning at Bichar Bhawan on and from 15.03.2003 and after bifurcation of City Civil & Sessions Court, Calcutta, City Sessions Court started functioning at Bichar Bhawan on and from 11.08.2005.







Lok Adalat is being organized at City Sessions Court, Calcutta.

Lok Adalat is being organized at City Sessions Court, Calcutta.





Entrance of Metropolitan Magistrate's Court, Calcutta.

Entrance of Senior Municipal Magistrate's Court, Calcutta.

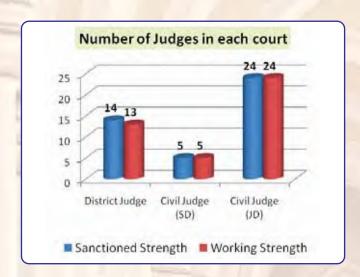


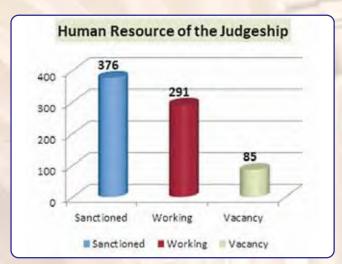
APART FROM THE DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, THE ENTIRE JUDGESHIP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS :

NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	02
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	04
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	04
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	01
Fast Track Court	02
Registrar	01
Chief Metropolitan Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate	02
Senior Municipal Magistrate	01
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	-
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Metropolitan / Municipal Magistrate	23
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total disposal
4,11,164	1,68,110	1,06,361	4,72,913	20,917	22%





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

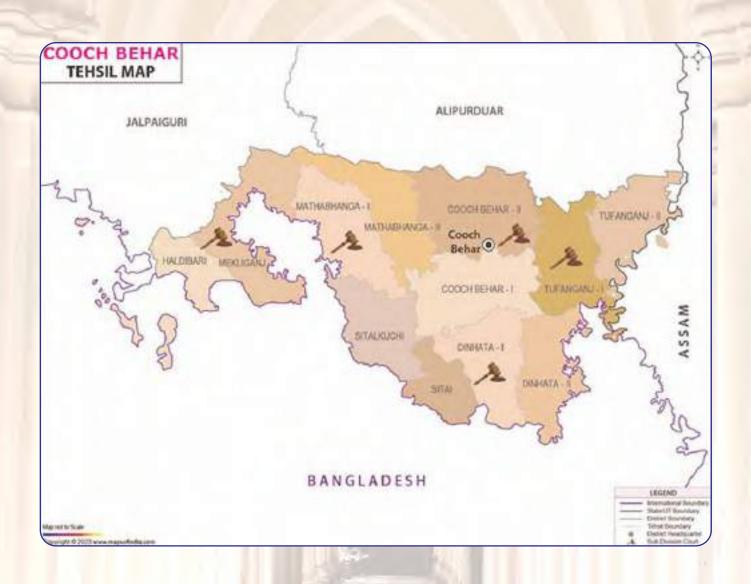
No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of
04	2,21,479	2,15,920

• Mediation:

Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
24	24	Rs. 30,00,000/-



COOCH BEHAR







Front view of District Judge's Court, Sadar, Cooch Behar.

In English, the district is named as Cooch Behar, whereas in Bengali, it is known as Koch Bihar, which means the land through which the 'Koch' Kings use to travel or roam about ('bihar').

Cooch Behar is situated in the foothills of the Eastern Himalayas with remnants of royal heritage. At the end of British rule, under an agreement between the kings of Cooch Behar and the Indian Government, Maharaja Jagaddipendra Narayan transferred full authority, jurisdiction and power of the state to the Dominion Government of India, w.e.f. 12 September 1949. Cooch Behar District became part of the state of West Bengal on 19 January 1950, with Cooch Behar town as its headquarter.





National Lok Adalat being organized by District Legal Services Authority, Cooch Behar.



Inauguration of e-Sewa Kendra by District Judge, Cooch Behar.



Court Building of Tufanganj Sub-Division.



Court Building of Dinhata Sub-Division.



Court Building of Mathabhanga Sub-Division.



Court Building of Mekhliganj Sub-Division.

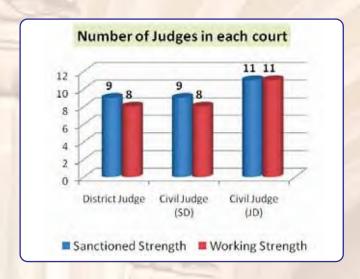


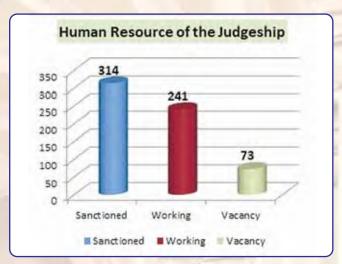
APART FROM THE DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, THE ENTIRE JUDGESHIP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS:

NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	06
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	01
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Commercial Court	-
Fast Track Court	01
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	05
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate cum Civil Judge (Senior Division)	-
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	02
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	02
Judicial Magistrate	04
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	04
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	5 year plus cases pendency	% of 5 years old cases disposed of against total disposal
35,144	18,915	16,782	37,277	1,967	8,322	11.74%





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	6706	4119	Rs. 8,37,73,975 /-

• Victim Compensation Scheme :

Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount	
25	21	Rs. 35,75,000/-	

Mediation :

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation : 225 Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation : 58



DAKSHIN DINAJPUR







The erstwhile judgeship of Jalpaiguri-Malda-West Dinajpur was established during the British Rule in 1890, which was separated in 1981. The judgeship of West Dinajpur was further bifurcated from Malda-West Dinajpur on 16th May, 1983. The judicature of West Dinajpur was divided into Dakshin Dinajpur District Judiciary and Uttar Dinajpur District Judiciary on 24th September, 1992. On 21st September, 1998 a Sub-Divisional Court for Gangarampur Sub-Division was established at Buniadpur under Dakshin Dinajpur District Court, Balurghat.





New Court Building of Gangarampur Sub-divisional Court at Buniadpur of Dakshin Dinajpur.



Inauguration of New Court Building of Gangarampur Sub-divisional Court at Buniadpur by District Judge, Dakshin Dinajpur.



Inauguration of New Court Building of Gangarampur Sub-divisional Court at Bunaidpur by District Judge, Dakshin Dinajpur.



District Judge and other Judicial Officers of Dakshin Dinajpur during the Inauguration ceremony.

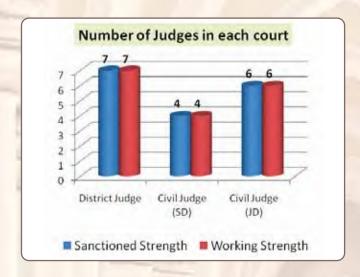


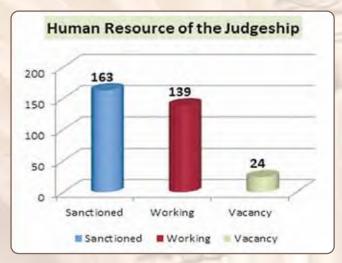
APART FROM THE DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, THE ENTIRE JUDGESHIP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS:

NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	04
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	01
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Commercial Court	-
Fast Track Court	01
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate cum Civil Judge (Senior Division)	-
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	01
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	02
Judicial Magistrate	03
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution 18,127	16,483	26,839	Cases disposed of	cases pendency	disposed of against total disposal
Opening	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	,	J 1	% of 5 years old cases





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04		3400	Rs. 20,88,38,596/-

• Victim Compensation Scheme:

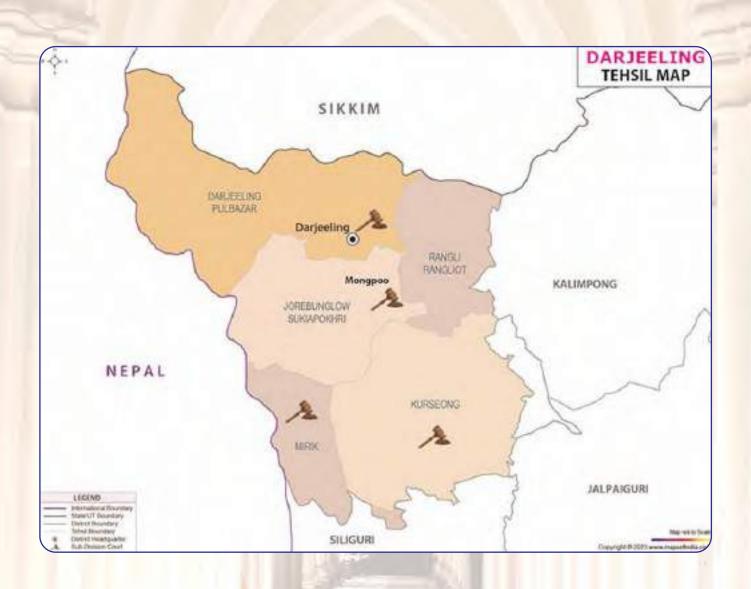
Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount	
72	9	Rs. 22,00,000/-	

• Mediation:

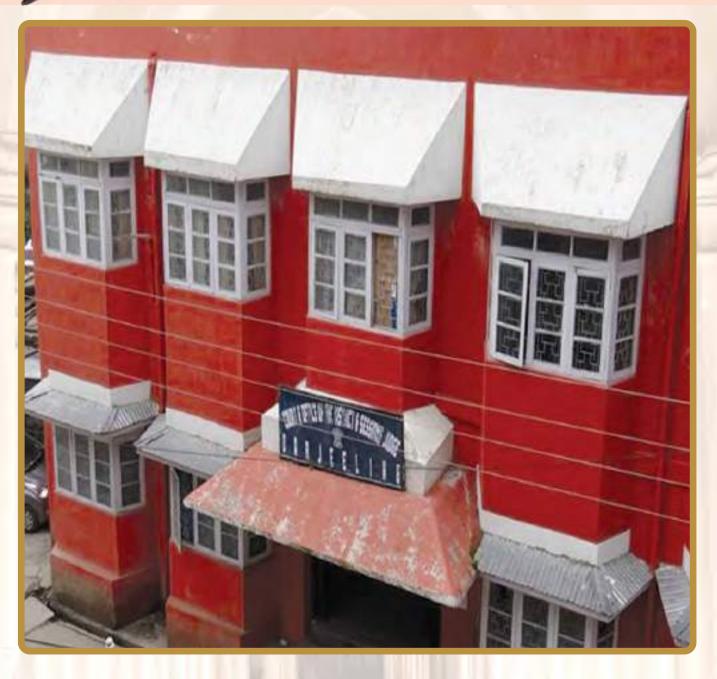
Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation : 110 Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation : 17



DARJEELING







The name of Darjeeling came from the Tibetan Words Dorje-ling i.e., Dorje means, Thunderbolt and ling means Land, that is, Land of Thunderbolt. In 1835 it was annexed by the East India Company with Bengal. Prior to that, Darjeeling formed a part of Sikkim and of Nepal. In 1864, the treaty of Sinchula was executed in which the Bhutan Dooars with passes leading into the hills of Kalimpong were ceded to the British. The Darjeeling District can be said to have assumed its present shape in 1866 having 1234 sq. miles.

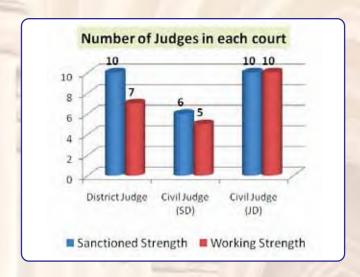


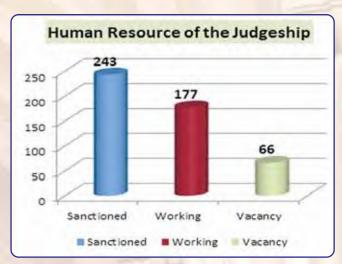
APART FROM THE DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, THE ENTIRE JUDGESHIP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS:

NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	06
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	01
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Commercial Court	01
Fast Track Court	01
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate cum Civil Judge (Senior Division)	01
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	02
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	01
Judicial Magistrate	05
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	03
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total disposal
3,87,468	13,418	11,295	3,89,591	992	8.78%





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	13920	2639	Rs. 90,50,000/-

Victim Compensation Scheme :

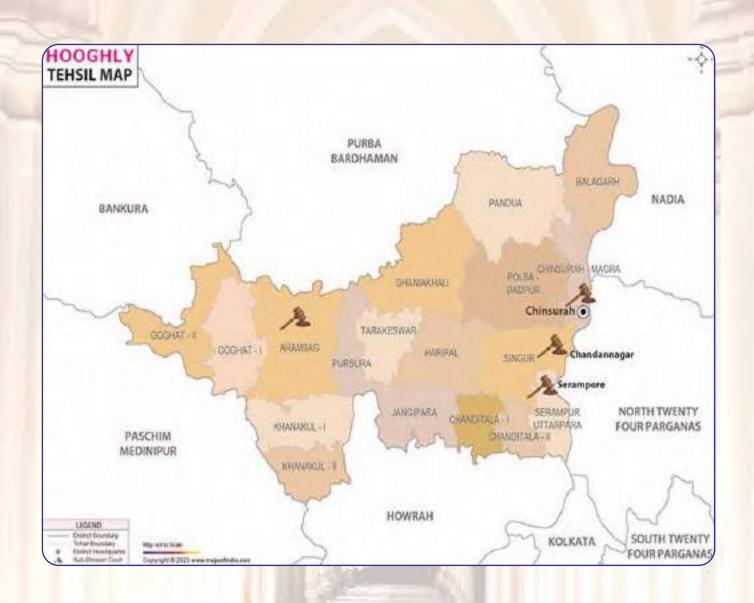
Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount	
04	04	04	

• Mediation:

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation: 91
Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation: 19



HOOGHLY









The town of Hooghly-Chuchura was founded by the Portuguese in 1579. But, the district has thousands of years of rich heritage in the form of the great Bengali kingdom of Bhurshut. The city flourished as a trading port and some religious structures were built. One such structure is a Church dedicated to a charismatic statue of the Mother Mary brought by the Portuguese.

Both Chinsurah and Hooghly played an active role in the Bengal renaissance and the Indian independence movement. "VandeMataram", India's national song, was composed by Bankim Chandra Chattppadhyay at Joraghat in Chinsurah. Kazi Nazrul Islam's famous revolutionary songs were penned while he was imprisoned by the British in Hooghly Jail.

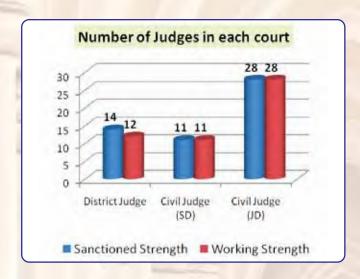


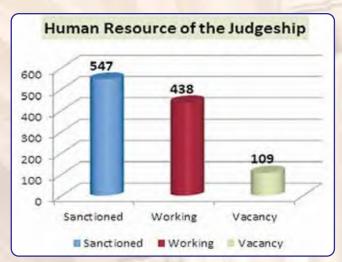
APART FROM THE DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, THE ENTIRE JUDGESHIP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS:

NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	08
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	01
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Commercial Court	-
Fast Track Court	04
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	-
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate cum Civil Judge (Senior Division)	03
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	06
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	13
Judicial Magistrate	14
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years plus Cases pendency	% of 5 years old cases disposed of against total disposal
1,13,419	68,325	62,648	1,19,096	44,874	8.21%





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	30,248	23,100	Rs. 63,56,10,762/-

• Victim Compensation Scheme:

Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
9	4	Rs. 7,25,000/-

• Mediation:

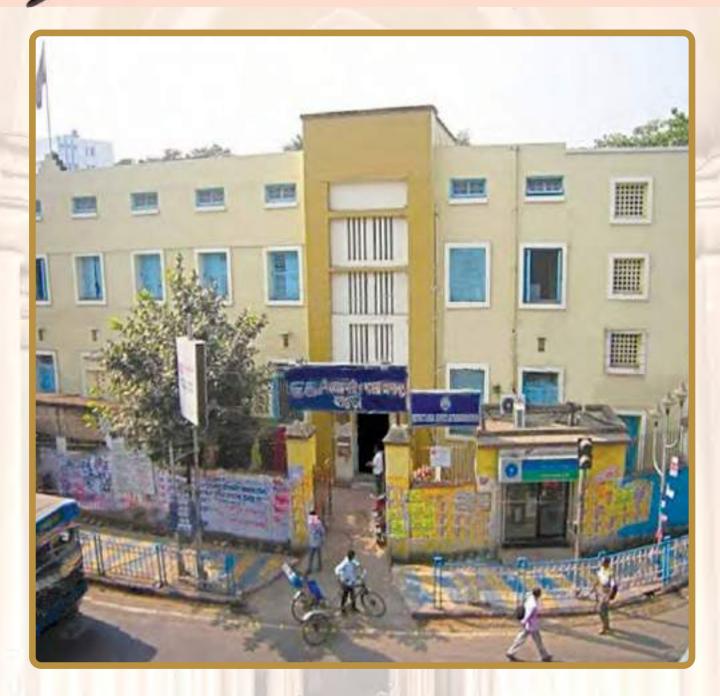
Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation : 337 Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation : 63



HOWRAH







Howrah is one of the densiest district in West Bengal. The Hooghly-Howrah district was formed into separate administrative unit in 1793 and a Judge and a Magistrate were appointed there in the same year. The revenue jurisdiction of the district was separated only in 1819 prior to which it formed part of the Burdwan Collectorate. In 1832, the District Judge was redesignated as the District & Sessions Judge.





On 15.08.2022: DLSA, Howrah has also made an endeavour to provide dry ration (rice, oil, biscuits, mug, salt etc.) to the sex workers of Bandhaghat Area under Golabari PS, so as to observe 75th Independence Day amongst them.



On 29.07.2022: DLSA, Howrah has conducted a camp at Bandhaghat Area under Golabari PS on the sex workers in compliance of Ref: No. 2354(22)/SLSA-118/2021 dated 25.07.2022.



On 18.08.2022: A legal awareness camp / workshop has been organised by the DLSA, Howrah in collaboration with an NGO named Swarnym Foundation for sex workers residing in Domjur Area under Howrah (Sadar) as well as Amta area under the Uluberia sub-division relating to their rights. DL.SA, Howrah has also distributed dry ration (rice, oil, biscuits, mug, salt etc.) amongst those sex workers, whose ration cards are yet to be prepared. Necessary follow-up action in respect of the data collected from the said camp in the matter of issuance of Ration Cards to those sex workers has also been made with the concerned authority and the same is in progress.





From 01.11.2022 to 13.11.2022: DLSA, Howrah has organised Legal Awareness Programmes on the subject of general legal laws, role of DLSAs etc. towards observation of the campaign named "Haq Hamara Bhi To Hai@75" for empowerment of citizens through legal awareness and outreach. During the campaign, total 288 nos. of legal awareness and services camps organised throughout the district of Howrah. 15 awareness and sensitization camps were organized at the Correctional Homes of the district as well as Mobile vans were deputed for legal awareness in the 31 different villages of the district.



On 24.05.2023: One child marraige has been stopped by one PLV of DLSA, Howrah namely Sri Avirup Bhattacharaya on 24.05.2023 at Begri village under Domjur Block.

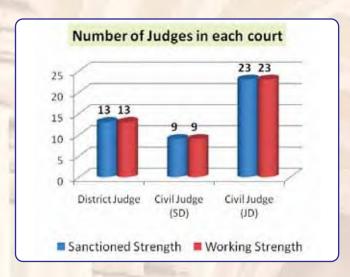


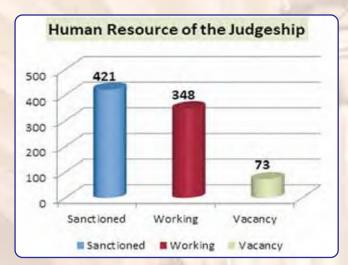
APART FROM THE DISTRICT AND SESSIONS JUDGE, THE ENTIRE JUDGESHIP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS:

NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	08
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	01
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	03
Registrar	01
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	05
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	10
Judicial Magistrate	12
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



	Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	5 years plus cases pendency	% of 5 years old cases disposed of against total disposal
-	1,14,696	31,534	31,622	1,14,608	5,676	56,873	18%





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	24,451	20,189	Rs. 19,09,59,723

Victim Compensation Scheme:

Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount	
14	11	Rs. 35,00,000/-	

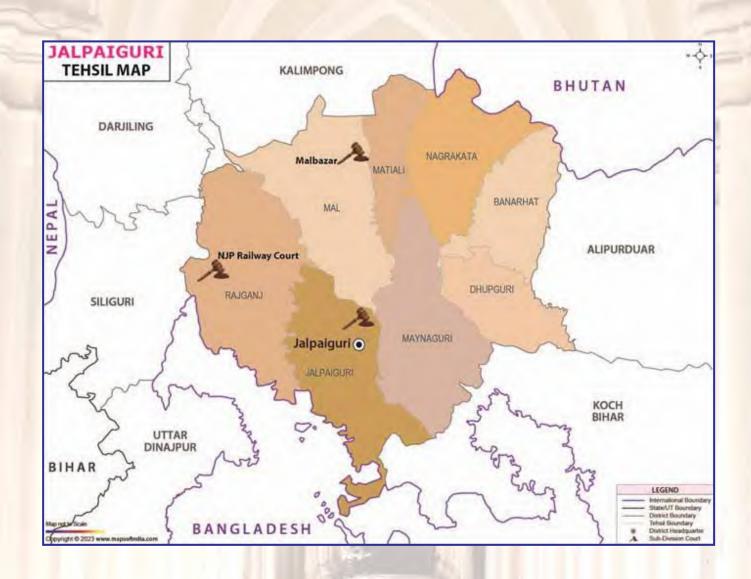
Mediation :

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation : 47 Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation : 23

• Legal Awareness Camps held: 172



JALPAIGURI







The name of the city Jalpaiguri actually comes from the Bhutanese term je-le-pe-gu-ri meaning a place where warm clothes are traded, suggesting a trading center. Another suggestion is that it is from the word Jalpai meaning olive, and Guri meaning place. Jalpaiguri was formed on January 1, 1869. The Jalpaiguri District Court is known as Nawabbari Court. The city is the home to the Circuit Bench of the Calcutta High Court.





District Legal Services Authority, Jalpaiguri, observed World Day Against Trafficking in Person on 30.07.2022



District Legal Services Authority, Jalpaiguri, observed "Legal Literacy Stall at Bangla Moder Garbha, Maynaguri".



District Legal Services Authority, Jalpaiguri, organized National Lok-Adalat



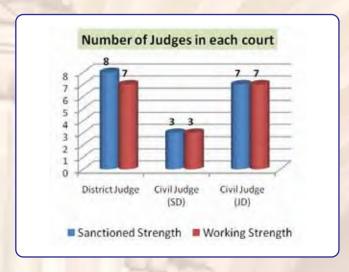
District Legal Services Authority, Jalpaiguri, organized "Legal Awareness Camp" on 19.03.2023.

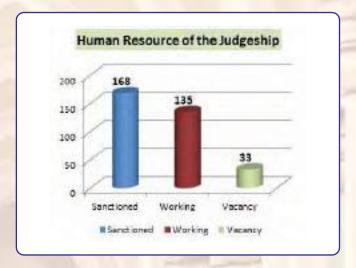


NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	04
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	01
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	02
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	-
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	01
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	02
Judicial Magistrate	04
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance as on 30.06.2023	5 years old cases pendency
50,031	8,117	7,904	50,244	40,185





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	35145	11053	32,99,31,624

• Victim Compensation Scheme :

Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
11	45	Rs. 27,00,000/-

Mediation :

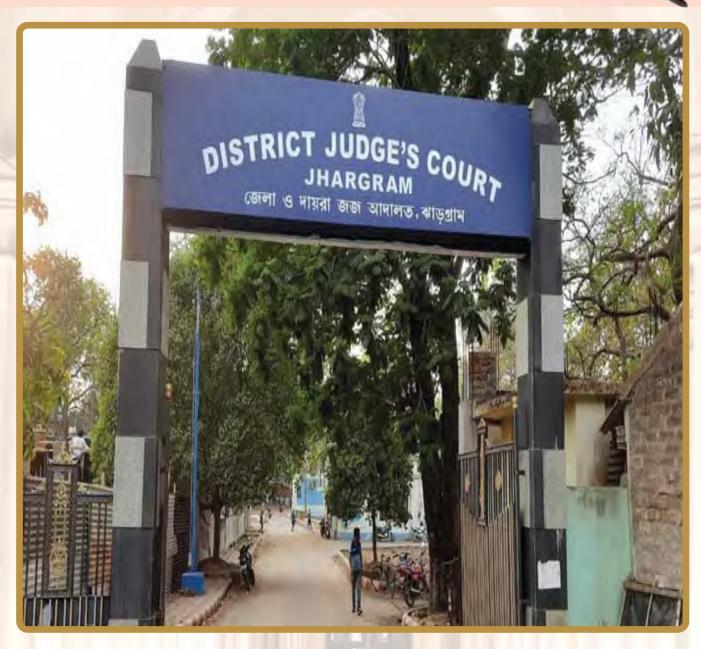
Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation : 132 Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation : 44



JHARGRAM







Jhargram District Court was formed on 30th day of September 2019, after bifurcation from the Paschim Medinipur Judgeship. Jhargram district covers an area of 3037.64 Sq. km. and had a population of 1,136,548 in the 2011 census. 96.52% of the total population was rural and only 3.48% was urban population.





District Court Building of Jhargram



Court Room of District Judge, Jhargram



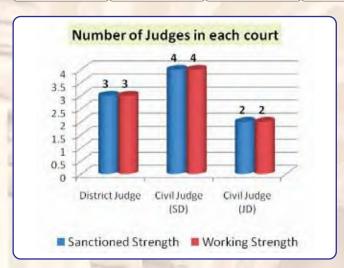
Centralised Filing Counter cum e-Sewa Kendra, Jhargram



NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	02
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	-
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	01
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	01
Judicial Magistrate	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	-



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	5 year plus cases pendency	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total disposal
14,140	3,652	3,243	14,549	511	5,080	15.76





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settled Amount
04	9026	2414	Rs. 2,20,54,962/-

• Victim Compensation Scheme :

Cases Received	Cases Disposed of	Pending as on 30.06.2023
17	3	Rs. 7,00,000/-

• Mediation:

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation: 14
Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation: 5



KALIMPONG







Kalimpong is a small hill town situated in the Himalayan foothills of West Bengal. Perched on a ridge above the Teesta river, it is home to colonial era buildings like Macfarlane Memorial Church named after a Scottish Missionary and Durpin Monastery or Zang Dhok Palri Phodang where sacred Buddhist scriptures have been preserved. The river Teesta flows in the valley below and separates Kalimpong from the state of Sikkim. Deolo is the highest point in Kalimpong with an altitude of 1,704 metres (5,590 ft).

After independence, a house named 'Nirmalaya' situated at 9th Mile, Kalimpong, owned by Smt. Kabita Roy, wife of B.B. Roy of Barasat, 24 Parganas, was taken by the Judicial Department, Govt. of West Bengal on rent for holding Civil Court of Munsif, Kalimpong on the 1st day of December' 1948 under Jalpaiguri district.

Permanent Munsif Court started functioning since the year 1970. The Court was under the Jalpaiguri District till the year 1979. The present court Building was inaugurated on 01.07.1987 comprising of the Court of Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate and Court of Civil Judge (Jr. Divn)-cum-Judicial Magistrate. The Court of Additional District & Sessions Judge became operational since 01.03.2002.

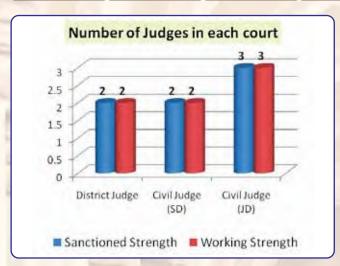
Kalimpong district was formed on 14.02.2017 after splitting from Darjeeling district. It became 21st district of West Bengal. Kalimpong Judgeship came into existence on 17.03.2018.

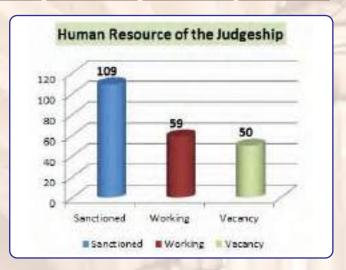


NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	01
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	-
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate cum Civil Judge (Senior Division)	01
Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate	-
Senior Municipal Magistrate	-
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Judicial Magistrate	-
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	02
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	5 year plus cases pendency	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total disposal
1,518	2,619	2,722	1,365	55	138	1.98





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	204	137	Rs. 12,39,075/-

• Victim Compensation Scheme:

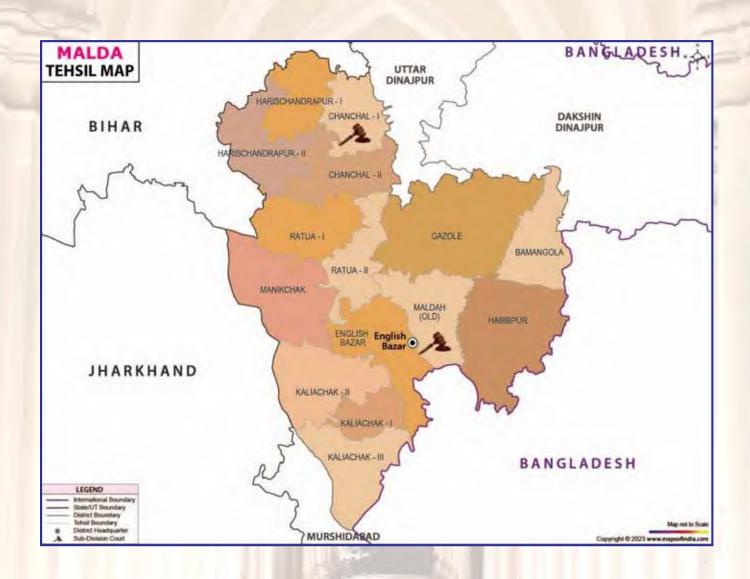
Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
25	24	Rs. 31,76,000/-

• Mediation:

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation : 42
Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation : 14



MALDA







This district was formed out of some portions of outlaying areas of Purnia, Dinajpur and Rajsahi District in 1813. Separate Treasury was established in the year 1832 and the Magistrate and Collector was posted in 1859 in a full fledged manner. The District Judiciary of Malda was part of Sessions Division of Jalpaiguri. Thereafter District & Sessions Judge took over charge on 01.04.1956. The Sessions Division of Malda included the District of West Dinajpur and finally on 16.05.1983 the independent Sessions Division of West Dinajpur was established by way of bifurcation of Sessions Division of Malda. This District has one Sub-Division i.e. Chanchal.





District Legal Services Authority, Malda, organized Mega Legal Awareness Camp on 09.11.2022 at Jahartala High School, Malda.



District Legal Services Authority, Malda, organized Legal Literacy Camp regarding challenges and way forwarded towards implementation of POCSO Act at Dalla Chandra Mohan Bidyamandir at Habibpur, Malda



District Legal Services Authority, Malda, organized Mega Legal Awareness Camp.



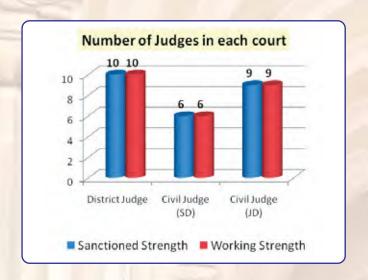
District Legal Services Authority, Malda, organized Legal Awareness Camp in Malda.

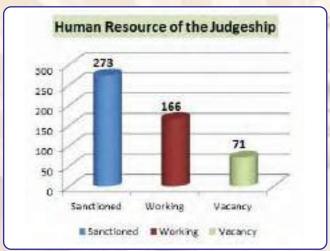


NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	04
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	02
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	03
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	03
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	03
Judicial Magistrate	05
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	5 year plus cases pendency	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total disposal
62,926	24,291	20,674	66,407	1,967	13,507	14.56





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	4602	3153	Rs.12,52,93,962

• Victim Compensation Scheme :

Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
53	8	Rs. 34,50,000/-

Mediation :

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation : 199 Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation :19



MURSHIDABAD







The District Judges' Court is situated at Gora Bazar in Berhampore of Murshidabad district. One needs a brush dunked in history to draw a fine picture of the wonderful past of this district. Pampered by the Ganges, this District has been rich in education and culture. The Sun of free India was eclipsed in the battle of Plassey in the district.

There are five Sub-divisions in this district namely Berhampore, Jangipur, Kandi, Lalbagh and Domkal. Berhampore - situated on the bank of river Bhagirathi, is the sadar sub-division of the district. District & Sessions Judge's Court is situated at Berhampore town and in the every Sub-division there are Civil and Criminal Courts except the Domkal Sub-division. Any permanent Court is yet to be set up in the Domkal Sub-division although the process of establishment of few courts in the Domkal Sub-division is going on. 52 different courts are functioning in this judgeship.





Berhampore POCSO Court (Child Friendly)
Building inaugurated on 22.11.2022



Jangipur Sub-division Court Building



Inauguration of Jangipur Judicial Officer's Quarters Building on 29.11.2022



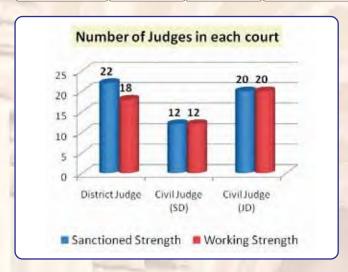
Kandi Sub-division Court Building

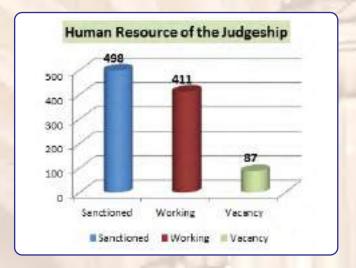


NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	10
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	01
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	01
Fast Track Court	09
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	05
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	05
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	10
Judicial Magistrate	09
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



	Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	5 year plus cases pendency	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total disposal
-	1,93,110	57,795	45,021	2,05,914	4,028	71,860	8.95





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	16623	16209	18,70,99,037

• Victim Compensation Scheme:

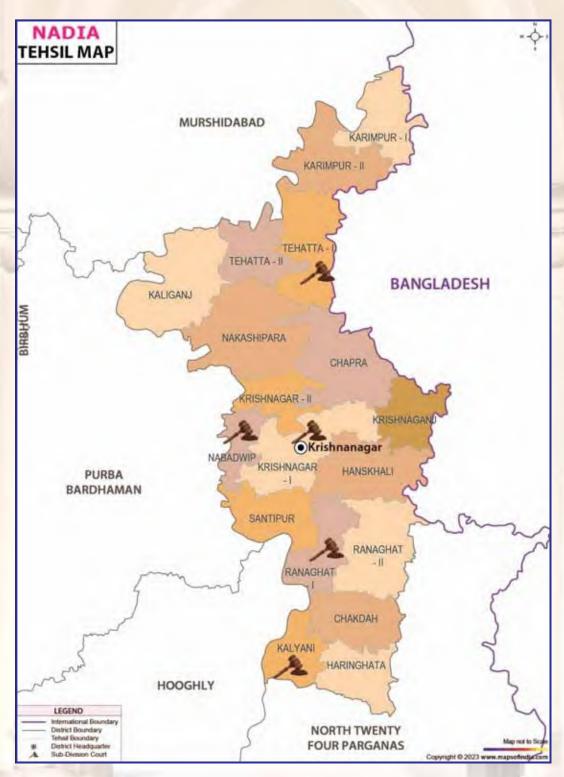
Cases Received	Cases Disposed of	Award Amount
20	13	Rs. 61,00,000

• Mediation :

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation :423
Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation :181



NADIA







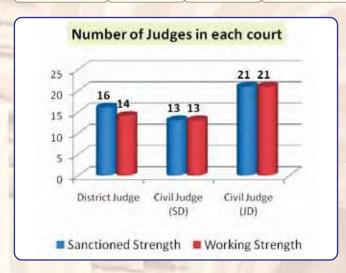
The District Court, Nadia was established in 1871 during the rule of British period. The land for construction of this court was contributed by the Waqf Board in 1965. The Court started with five Sub-Divisions namely Krishnagar, Ranaghat, Kushtia, Meherpur and Chuadanga in the preindependence era. But the Kushtia, Meherpur and Chuadanga Sub-Divisions were excluded from this jurisdiction as those three sub-divisions fell into the territory of the then Purba Pakisthan during the partition of India by the British in 1947. In 1974, the Nabadwip Chowki Court was created under the jurisdiction of Nadia judgeship. The Sub-Divisional courts at Kalyani and Tehatta started in 1983 and 2004 subsequently.

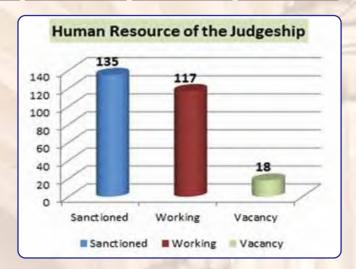


NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	09
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	06
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	05
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	06
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	09
Judicial Magistrate	11
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



	Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	5 year plus cases pendency	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total disposal
-	1,28,960	50,293	44,507	1,34,746	4,911	64,105	11.03





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	22,296	6,733	Rs. 21,12,07,229

• Victim Compensation Scheme:

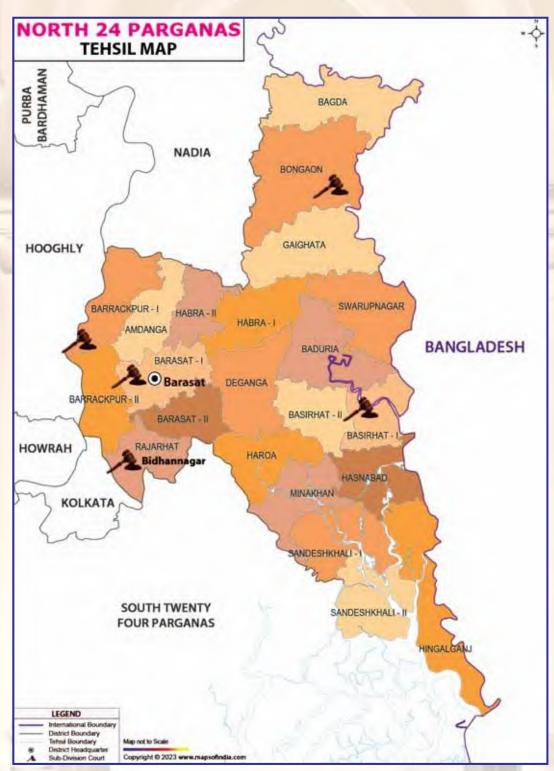
Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
65	50	Rs. 42,50,000

• Mediation :

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation	Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation
306	88



NORTH 24 PARGANAS











The historical roots of North 24 Parganas can be traced back to the ancient kingdom of Gangaridai. Subsequently, it came under the rule of the Guptas, Palas, and Senas. In the 17th century, Maharaja Pratapaditya led the district in a valiant struggle against the Mughals. During the 18th century, the British East India Company assumed control.

Following India's independence, North 24 Parganas was divided into two separate districts: North 24 Parganas and South 24 Parganas. Presently, the district is further divided into five subdivisions: Barasat, Barrackpore, Basirhat, Bongaon, and Bidhannagar.

North 24 Parganas boasts a wealth of historical and cultural landmarks, including the revered Jashoreshwari Kali Temple, the Chanda Bhairab Mandir, the Five-domed Tenga Mosque, and the Govinda Dev Temple. Additionally, it is home to the Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest.





Regional Conference on Mediation and Celebration of World Day for International Justice on 17.07.2022.



Legal Awareness Camp at Ramkrishna Mission, Malancha on 08.04.2023 organised by District Legal Services Authority, North 24 Parganas.



Celebration of International Women's Week in collaboration with NCW on 04.03.2023 to 11.03.2023.



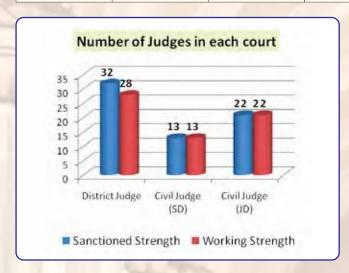
Celebration of International Women's Week in collaboration with NCW on 04.03.2023 to 11.03.2023.

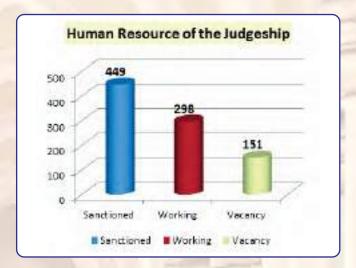


NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	14
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Judge, Commercial Court	01
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	01
Judge, MP & MLA Court	01
Fast Track Court	14
Registrar	1
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	05
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	05
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	09
Judicial Magistrate	12
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance	_	5 years plus	% of 5 year old
Balance as on			on	Cases	Cases	cases disposed
01.07.2022			30.06.2023	disposed of	pendency	of against total
						disposal
2,79,787	86,756	68,510	2,98,033	7,386	1,23,572	11.54





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	33,009	21,443	Rs. 60,18,97,621

• Victim Compensation Scheme :

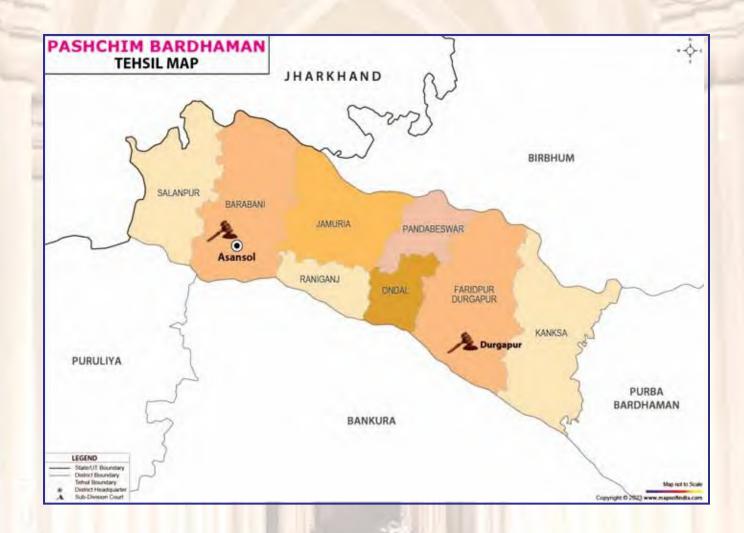
Cases Received	Disposed of
158	56

• Mediation:

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation	Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation	
450	58	



PASCHIM BARDHAMAN







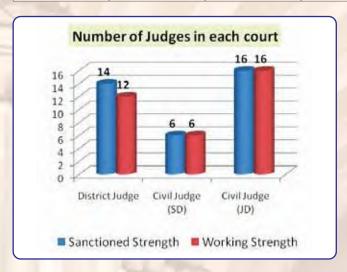
Paschim Bardhaman district is predominantly urban mining-industrial district in West Bengal. The headquarter of the district is Asansol. Its Judiciary was formed on 9th September 2018 after bifurcation of the erstwhile Bardhaman district as the 23rd district of West Bengal and started functioning on the same day at its headquarter. The district comprises two sub-divisions: Asansol Sadar and Durgapur. There are 23 courts at Asansol sadar and 11 courts at Durgapur sub-division. The district legal services authority works from Asansol. There is a sub-divisional legal services authority working at Durgapur sub division.



NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	06
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	01
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	01
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	01
Judge, Commercial Court	01
Fast Track Court	03
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	03
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	06
Judicial Magistrate	09
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	5 years plus Cases pendency	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total
						disposal
1,02,823	54,767	38,591	1,18,999	1,543	25,945	3.99





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	34,817	19,707	Rs.25,99,83,573

• Victim Compensation Scheme:

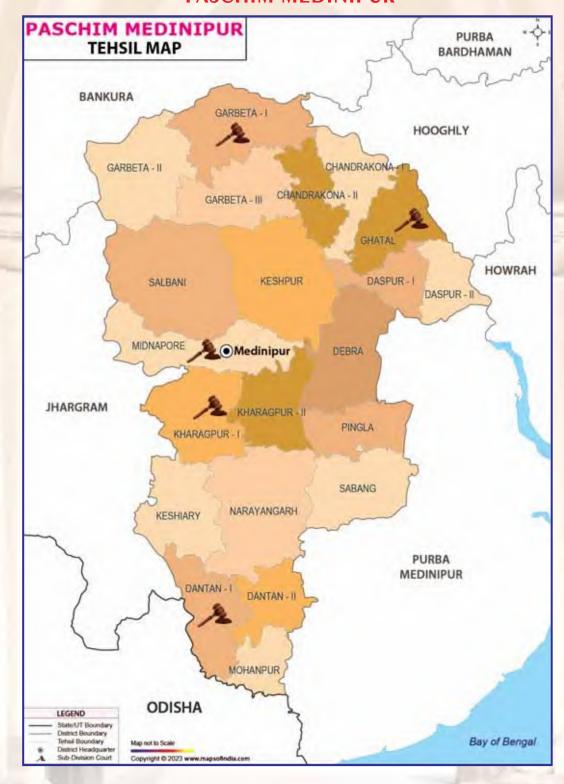
Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
14	4	Rs. 8,00,000

• Mediation:

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation	Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation
221	28



PASCHIM MEDINIPUR







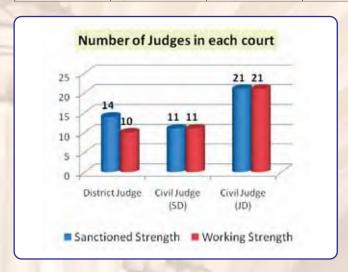
The earliest legal system of Midnapore with gradual development after Muslim Rule began with the administrative plan of 1772 by the then Governor General. It was devised with a District as the unit. The Judicial Plan was integrated with this scheme for revenue collection. On 6th of April 1781, thirteen Courts were established at Midnapore District with a District and Sessions Judge. Medinipur District was bifurcated into Purba and Paschim Medinipur on 01.01.2002. Paschim Medinipur has 3 sub-divisions at Medinipur Sadar, Kharagpur, Ghatal and 2 Chowki Courts at Garhbeta and Dantan.

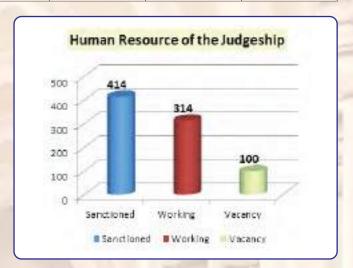


NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	09
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	01
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	03
Registrar	01
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	03
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	05
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	08
Judicial Magistrate	12
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	5 year plus cases pendency	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total disposal
1,00,062	48,945	33,115	1,15,892	25,228	31,548	21.73





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	11433	11433	Rs. 25,99,49,576

• Victim Compensation Scheme :

Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
47	46	Rs. 50,60,000

• Legal Aid:

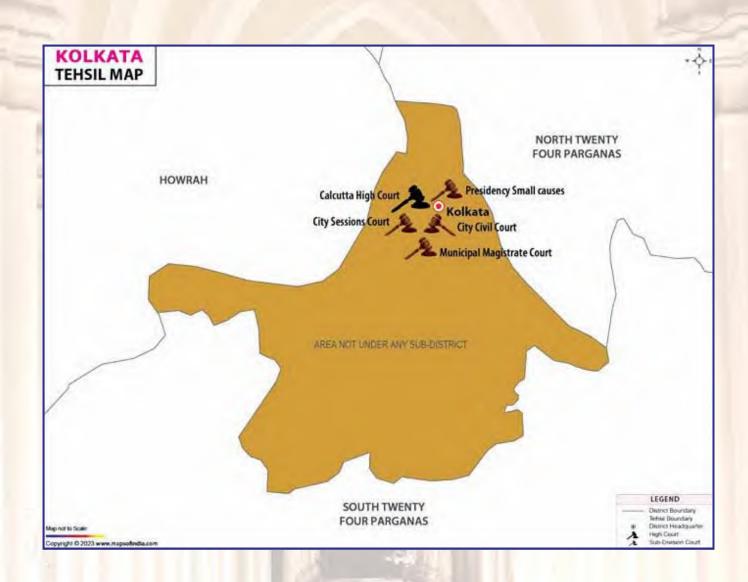
Total Number of Cases where Legal Aid provided: 1107

• Mediation :

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation : 70
Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation : 43



PRESIDENCY SMALL CAUSES COURT







After receiving Dewani from the Moghuls and pursuant to issuance of Crown's Charter, the dispensation of justice in the British Indian locality was streamlined and hierarchy of Dewani and Fauzdari Adalats were created. In the presidency towns of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, Presidency Small Cause Courts were established by the Charter of King George the Second on 8th January 1753 for determination of civil suits of small pecuniary amounts. Thereafter, by the Charter of Justice and the Proclamation, the Court of Requests in the Presidency towns were placed under the control of Supreme Court Judicature at Fort William, which was established on 26.03.1774. The Presidency Small Causes Court was established on 15.03.1850 which were governed by various enactments and orders such as Act IX of 1850 which was remodeled by Act XXVI of 1864 and finally consolidated by passage of Act XV of 1882. Accordingly these courts are the oldest Courts established on request of European traders under name and style of Calcutta Trader's Association as Court of Requests. These courts are governed by the provisions of Presidency Small Cause Courts Act, 1882 and Presidency Small Cause Courts Manual, 1882.



Presidency Small Cause Court, Calcutta

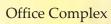




Office Corridor

Department







Court Complex

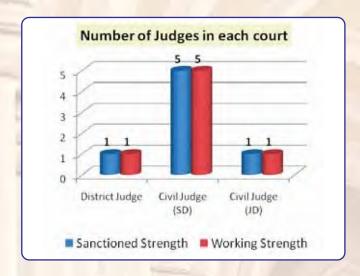


APART FROM THE CHIEF JUDGE, THE ENTIRE JUDGESHIP CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING COURTS:

NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	-
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	-
Registrar	01
Chief Judicial Magistrate	-
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	-
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	05
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	-
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	-
Judicial Magistrate	-
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	-



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 year old Cases disposed of	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total disposal
5,742	751	1,594	4,899	830	52





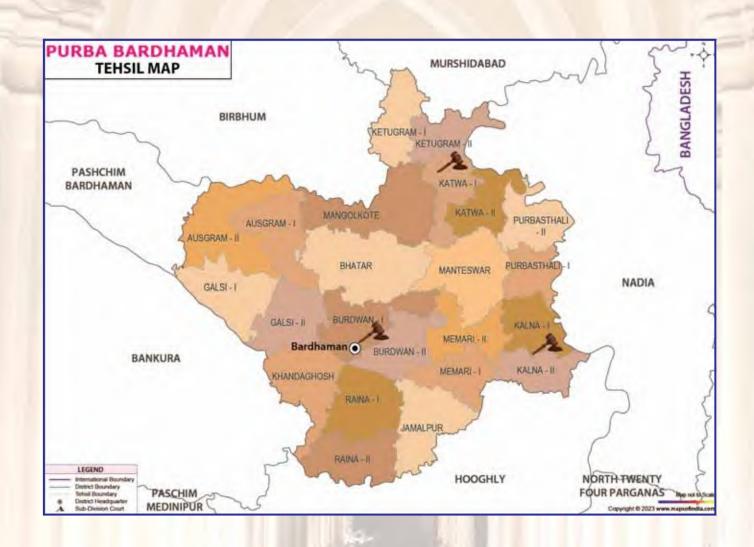
Achievement of District Legal Services Authority, Kolkata for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

- Lok Adalats: 32 records placed.
- Legal Aid provided: 21
- Victim Compensation Scheme: 7 Cases are pending.
- Mediation:

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation	Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation
27	1



PURBA BARDHAMAN







District Legal Services Authority, Purba Bardhaman, organized National Lok-Adalat on 13.05.2023.



District Legal Services Authority, Purba Bardhaman, prevents Child Marriag on 22.09.2022



District Legal Services Authority, Purba Bardhaman, organized Mega Legal Awareness and sensitization Camp.



District Legal Services Authority, Purba Bardhaman, observed "World Day for International Justice" on 17.07.2022.



District Legal Services Authority, Purba Bardhaman, observed Constitution Day on 26.11.2022.





The erstwhile District of Burdwan, was earlier a District in West Bengal. Purba Bardhaman's Judiciary was formed after bifurcation on September' 2018. The District Purba Bardhaman has three sub-divisions being Katwa and Kalna including Burdwan Sadar Sub-division.

Purba Bardhaman District was formed on 07.04.2017 having its headquarter in Burdwan. The place of great revolutionary Rashbehari Bose. It is an agriculturally prosperous District of West Bengal. The undivided Burdwan District was the largest producer of rice in West Bengal.

Katwa is a sub-divisional town and railway junction in Purba Bardhaman District. The town was built at the confluence of Ganga and Ajay. Katwa is a border city of three Districts, namely Purba Bardhaman, Nadia and Murshidabad district.

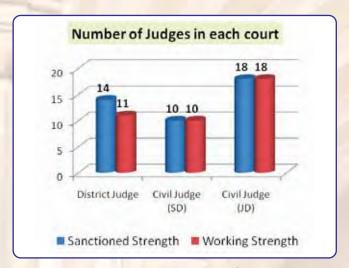
Kalna or Ambika Kalna is another sub-divisional town in Purba Bardhaman District situated on the eastern bank of Bhagirathi River. It has numerous historical monuments. Kalna is around 60 Kms from Burdwan Sadar.



NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	08
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	01
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	04
Registrar	01
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	02
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	05
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	07
Judicial Magistrate	10
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



1	Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	5 year plus cases pendency	% of 5 year old cases disposed of against total disposal
	73,725	16,065	13,632	76,158	604	20,696	4.43





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of
04	35,797	7236

• Victim Compensation Scheme:

Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
10	8	Rs. 58,00,000

• Mediation :

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation : 91 Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation : 30



PURBA MEDINIPUR







Tamluk is the district headquarter of Purba Medinipur district. Though there are some controversies, scholars have generally agreed that present day Tamluk is the site of the ancient city variously known as Tamralipta or Tamralipti. The present town is located on the bank of the Rupnarayan river close to the Bay of Bengal. This ancient port city and kingdom was bounded by the Bay of Bengal in the south, river Rupnarayan in the east and Subarnarekha river in the west.

On 1st January 2002, Midnapore district was bifurcated into Purba Medinipur and Paschim Medinipur. Tamluk is the district headquarter of Purba Medinipur and it is comprised of 4 subdivisions, namely, Tamluk, Haldia, Contai (Kanthi) and Egra. Purba Medinipur Judgeship was created on 15.11.2003. District Court started to function in the old sub-divisional Court building at Tamluk. At present, the Judgeship has 37 Courts in three sub-divisions- Tamluk, Contai & Haldia. Munsif Court at Tamluk was established in the year 1832. At Tamluk Sadar, District Court started functioning in the old sub-divisional Court building. Thereafter, Courts of 4 Additional District Judge, Chief Judicial Magistrate, 2 Civil Judge (Senior Division), 3 Judicial Magistrates, and 4 Civil Judge (Junior Division) have been shifted to New Court Building (G+5) which was inaugurated on 14.12.2021 by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice, Calcutta High Court through Video Conferencing. Contai Sub-divisional Courts have New Court Complex that was inaugurated on 07.01.2015 which accommodates 12 Courts at Contai and 2 Courts in old building. In Haldia subdivision 7 Courts are functioning in a two-storeyed building.





VWDC Centre at Purba Medinipur District Court at Tamluk.



Inauguration of VWDC Centre at Purba Medinipur District Court at Tamluk by District Judge, Purba Medinipur in august presence of Hon'ble Justice (Retd.) Gita Mittal virtually.



VWDC Centre at Purba Medinipur District Court at Tamluk.



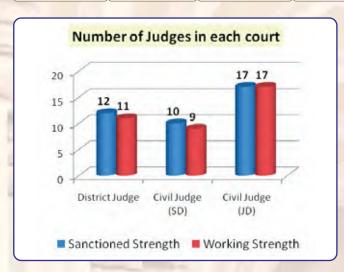
Inauguration of Legal Aid Defense Counsel System under District Legal Services Authority, Purba Medinipur.



NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	06
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	05
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	03
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	05
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	09
Judicial Magistrate	07
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Balance as on 01.07.2022	30,287	26,328	Balance on 30.06.2023	Cases disposed of	pendency 31,208	of against total disposal
Opening	Institution	Disposal	Closing	5 years old	5 year plus	% of 5 year old cases disposed





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	62,608	34,931	Rs.39,80,62,155

• Victim Compensation Scheme :

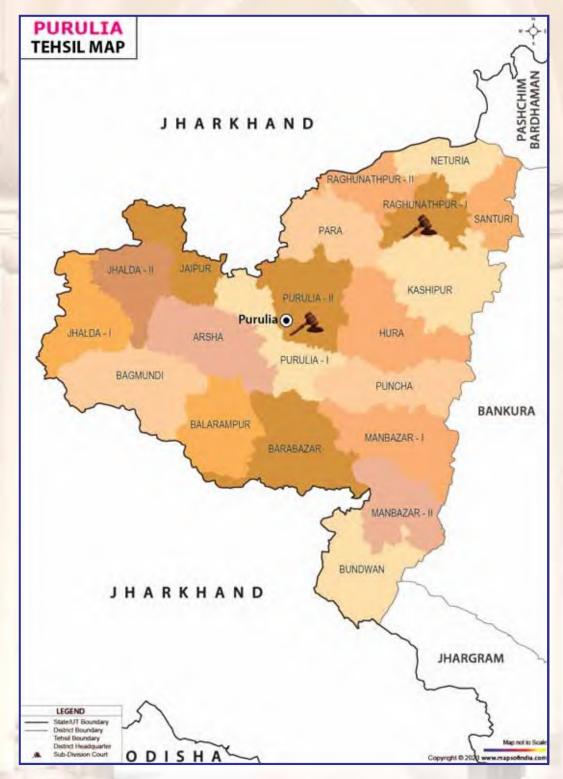
Cases Received	Disposed of	Awarded Amount
28	27	Rs. 41,75,000/-

• Mediation :

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation : 291 Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation : 72



PURULIA







Jaina Bhagavati Sutra of circa 5th century A.D. mentions that Purulia was one of the 16 Mahajanpadas and was a part of Vajra-bhumi in ancient times. However, little is known about Purulia before the East India Company obtained the Diwani of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa in 1765. By the Regulation XVIII of 1805, a Jungle Mahal District composed of 23 paraganas and mahals including the present Purulia was formed. By Regulation XIII of 1833, the Jungle Mahal district was separated and a new district called Manbhum was constituted with its headquarters at Manbazar which was transferred to Purulia in 1838. Purulia District Court is the principal court and is presided over by the District Judge. There are two sub divisions in this district namely Purulia sadar sub division and Raghunathpur.





District Legal Services Authority, Purulia, organized Mega Legal Awareness Camp on 06.11.2022 at Tunturi High School, Purulia.



District Legal Services Authority, Purulia organized a NALSA module Mega Legal Awareness Camp on 06.11.2022.



District Legal Services Authority, Purulia celebrated Legal Services Day at Santamoyee Girls High School Purulia on 09.11.2022.



Observation of Constitution Day on 26.11.2022 by District Legal Services Authority, Purulia.



NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	04
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Family Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	02
Registrar	-
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	02
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	02
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	03
Judicial Magistrate	06
Civil Judge (Junior Division) cum Judicial Magistrate	-
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal	as on	Pendency Cases which are more than 5 years old Cases (as on 30.06.2022)	Cases disposed of (from	% of 5 year old Cases disposed off against total disposal
30,323	23,538	21,855	32,006	12,615	1,561	7.14





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	21963	9953	Rs. 5,70,98,215

• Victim Compensation Scheme :

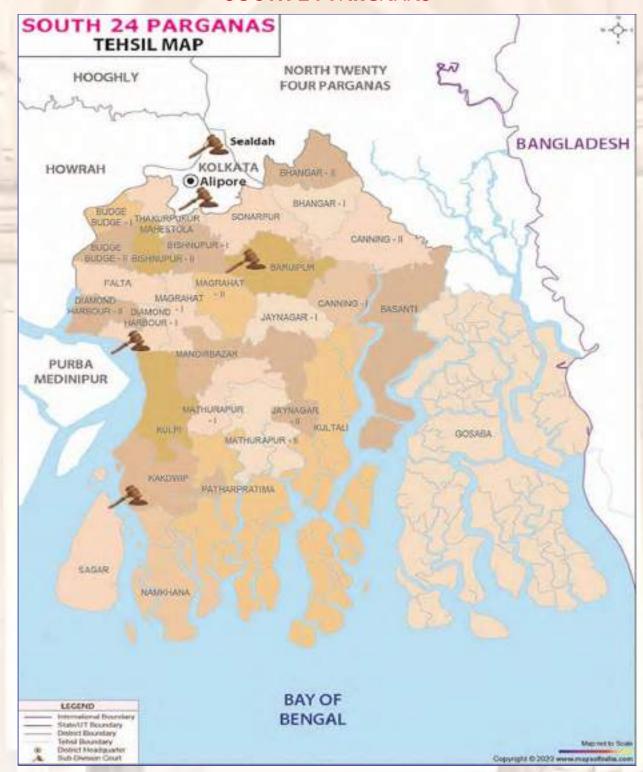
Cases Received	Disposed of	Awarded Amount
5	4	Rs. 14,60,000

• Mediation:

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation: 176 Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation: 19



SOUTH 24 PARGANAS







The present district of South 24 Parganas was carved out from the old district of 24 Parganas by way of bifurcation on 1st March, 1986 incorporating the areas of two sub-divisions Diamond Harbour and Alipore. Later, five subdivisions of the district were made including Kakdwip, Diamond Harbour, Canning, Baruipur and Alipore.

It's name is itself the evidence of historical treaty according to which Mir Jafar, the Nawab of Bengal gave up the possession of 24 mahals or 'parwanas' to the British East India Company and the land that lies at the south of Kolkata up to Culpee would be under the Zamindari and the officers belonging to this Zamindari would be under the jurisdiction of East India Company. The Court building was built in 1957 and was declared as heritage building. The trial of Rishi Aurobindo in the matter of famous Alipore Bomb Case was held in Alipore Court during the period of 1908-09.







PICTURES OF VARIOUS ARTIFACTS AND HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS PRESERVED AT SMARANIYA BICHAR SANGRAHA





Inauguration Ceremony of Legal Aid Defense Counsel System by District Legal Services Authority, South 24 Parganas.



e-SEWA KENDRA



ADR Centre, Alipore, South 24 Parganas.



LOK ADALAT is being conducted by District Legal Services Authority, South 24 Parganas.



Lok Adalat on Land Acquisition matters at Alipore, South 24 Parganas.



Inauguration of 2nd ADJ Court by
Hon'ble Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, in the presence of
the Hon'ble Chief Justice, Calcutta High Court.





Inauguration of Building for VWDC & Bar Association at Diamond Harbour Court Complex.



Awareness Camp on Menstrual Hygiene in Correctional Home



Inauguration of Renovated Sealdah Railway Magistrate's Court.



Inauguration of Video conference Room at ADR Centre, Alipore, South 24 Parganas.



Inauguration of e-Sewa Kendra at Alipore, South 24 Parganas.

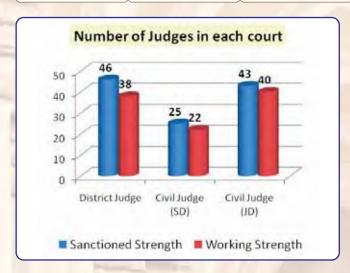


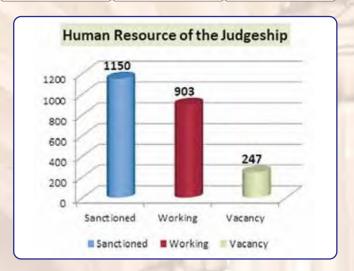
NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	25
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	01
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	02
Judge, Commercial Court	01
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	01
Fast Track Court	15
Registrar	01
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	06
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate-cum-Civil Judge (Senior Division)	01
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	14
Small Causes Court	01
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	21
Judicial Magistrate	21
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Statistical Statement for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

	Opening Balance as on 01.07.2022	Institution	Disposal (from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)	Pendency as on 30.06.2023	5 years old Cases disposed of	5 plus cases pendency
-	3,69,867	68,171	66,453	3,71,585	19,310	1,93,501





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

• Lok Adalats:

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023	Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
04	4602	3153	Rs. 12,52,93,962

• Victim Compensation Scheme:

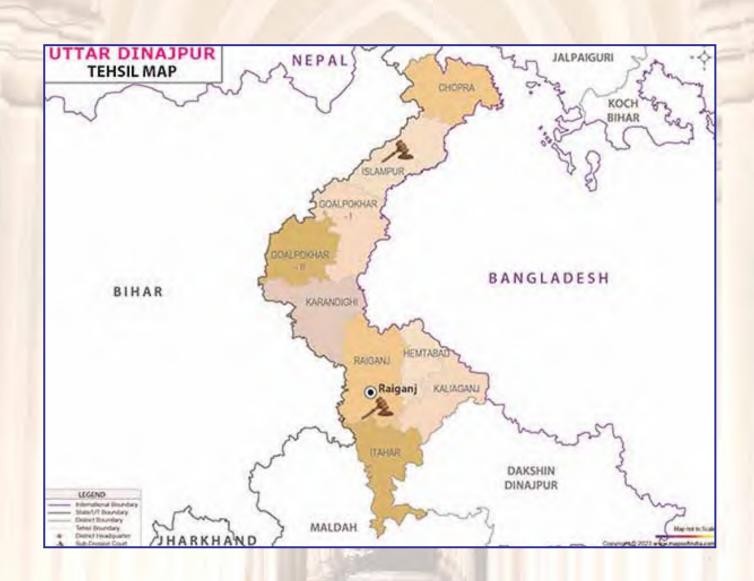
Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
53	8	Rs. 34,50,000/-

• Mediation:

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation: 274
Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation: 45



UTTAR DINAJPUR







Uttar Dinajpur District Judge's Court

Uttar Dinajpur is one of the ten districts of West Bengal which shares its border with Bangladesh. It shares the third longest border of 407.8 km with Bangladesh. There are three LCS (Land Customs Station) in this district among which only one is operational. Uttar Dinajpur district has just been evolved having an area of 3142 sq. km. on bifurcation of West Dinajpur District 31 years ago, on 1stApril, 1992 with only two Sub-divisions, Raiganj and Islampur. Main towns of these two sub-divisions are almost 110 km apart.

Uttar Dinajpur having rich Flora and Fauna, has added a feather to the Wildlife Familiarity in the cartography of the world, since, Kulik Bird Sanctuary is now largest Bird Sanctuary in Asia. From Chopra, (connecting link of the entire North East with the rest part of India) at the extreme North to the Itahar Rajbari at the South, it has carried a versatile existence, being geographically, politically, socially or from the point of neutrality in religion. From being the birthplace of "Maharaja Danujmardan Ganesh", to one of the centre of the Sannyasi Rebellion or one of the prominent centre of "Quit India" Movement, Uttar Dinajpur possesses immense historical importance, as evident through various historical books and documents. Undivided Islampur district was part of the Pundra Kingdom.





Chamber of District Judge, Uttar Dinajpur.



Court Room of District Judge, Uttar Dinajpur.



ADR Center, Uttar Dinajpur.



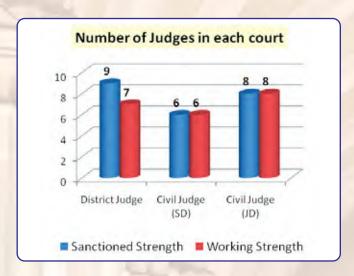
Mediation Center, Uttar Dinajpur.

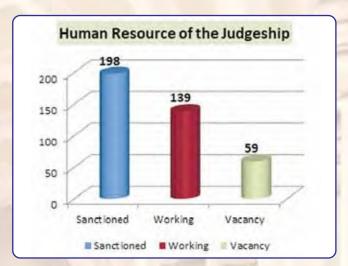


NAME OF THE COURT	NUMBER OF COURT
Additional District & Sessions Judge	04
Additional District Judge cum Judge, Special Court	-
Additional District & Sessions Judge, CBI Court	-
Judge, Commercial Court	-
Judge, Special Court under NDPS Act	-
Judge, Special Court under Pocso Act	-
Judge, Special Court under EC Act	-
Fast Track Court	04
Chief Judicial Magistrate	01
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate	02
Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate-cum- Civil Judge (Senior Division)	-
Civil Judge (Senior Division)	02
Secretary, District Legal Services Authority	01
Civil Judge (Junior Division)	02
Civil Judge (Junior Division) Additional Court cum Judicial Magistrate	01
Judicial Magistrate	04
Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board	01



Opening			Closing	5 years old	5 year plus	% of 5 year old cases
Balance as on	Institution	Disposal	Balance on	Cases	cases	disposed of against
01.07.2022			30.06.2023	disposed of	pendency	total disposal
5,15,902	19,358	15,446	5,19,814	1,672	2,14,613	10.82





Achievement of District Legal Services Authority for the period (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

Lok Adalats :-

No. of National Lok Adalat has been conducted during 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023		Taken up	Disposed of	Settlement Amount
	04	4602	3400	Rs. 20,88,38,596

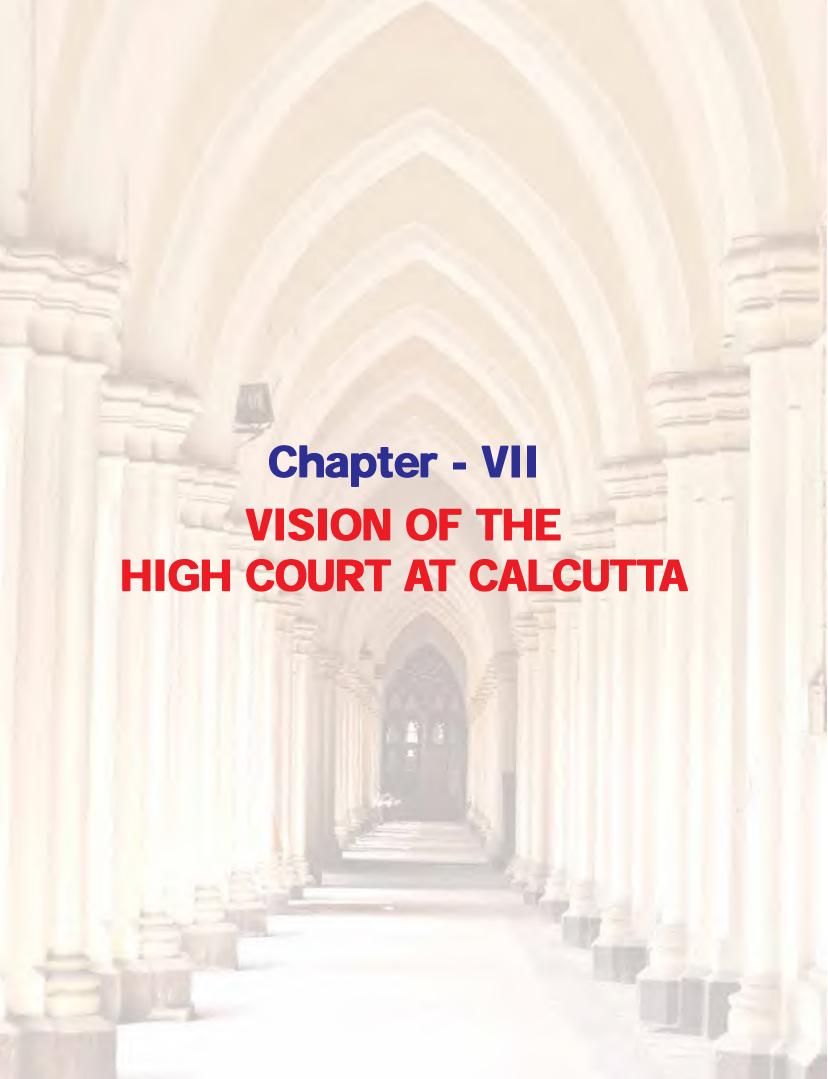
• Victim Compensation Scheme :-

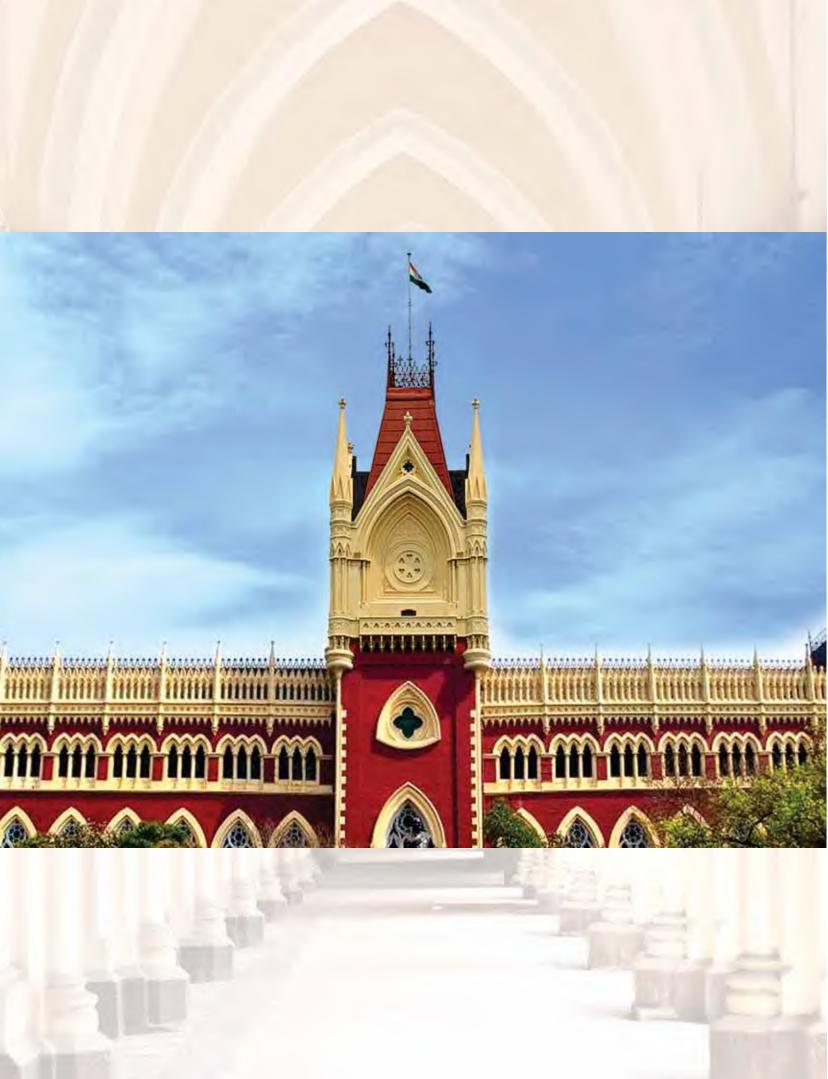
Cases Received	Disposed of	Award Amount
9	5	Rs. 3,00,000/-

Mediation :-

Total Number of Cases referred to Mediation : 74
Total Number of Cases settled through Mediation : 15









E-SERVICES



The e-Courts Project, under the guidance of the Hon'ble e-Committee, Supreme Court of India has been implemented in a phase wise manner throughout the Country.

The Phase-I and Phase-II of the e-Courts Project were focused mainly on ensuring installation of hardware, software and modernizing the IT infrastructure in Courts. The work of Phase-I and Phase-II have been completed as per Action Plan of e-Committee of Supreme Court of India.

Currently we are at the beginning of Phase-III of the e-Courts project and the objective of this phase is to build an accessible, efficient and transparent judicial system and to deliver citizen centric e-Courts services to all the citizens.

The main mission of Phase-III of the e-Courts Project aims at creation of Digital and Paperless Courts and to bring the justice delivery system at the doorsteps of every citizen thus reducing the number of footfalls in the Courts.

To meet the objective of Phase-III of the e-Courts, the vision of the Calcutta High Court is to implement the following e-Initiatives.

Paperless Court and Digitization of Case Records :

- (i) To make the Court of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice, the Commercial Courts and Commercial Appellate Division and the Courts dealing with the bail applications at High Court ready to function as paperless.
- (ii) Consequently, to complete the scanning and digitization of all the case records pending in the aforesaid Courts and uploading of the digitized records in server through Document Management Software.



- (iii) To Initiate the e-Filing in respect of all types of cases in each of the aforesaid Courts of the High Court.
- (iv) Scan and digitize T-10 years case records consisting of 8, 42, 87, 931 pages of the District and Sub-divisional Courts of the State.
- (v) Setting up Judicial Digital Repository within the premises of the High Court at Calcutta with interoperable functionality and retrieval mechanism.
- (vi) To impart training to the staff of the District Courts to gain knowledge about validation of scanned and digitized records.
- (vii) To increase the technical manpower.
- (viii) To take steps for destruction of the disposed of digitized records as per rule.



e-Filing: Implementation of e-Filing 3.0 for all case types in each Benches of the High Court at Calcutta as well as the Districts and Sub-divisional Courts in the State of West Bengal. For that purpose, our vision will be:

- To make provision for dedicated highspeed internet to all the Court Complexes of the State of West Bengal besides the existing facility.
- 2. To operationalize at least one help desk Counter in each of the Court Complexes to facilitate the e-Filing.



3. To organise training programme for learned Advocates and Law Clerks in every fortnight in each court complexes either physically or virtually.



e-Payment of Court fees: To facilitate e-Payment of Court fees at the Circuit Bench of the Calcutta High Court at Port Blair as well as all the remaining District and Sub-divisional Courts of the State of West Bengal.

e-Office: Implementation of the e-Office at the Principal Bench of this High Court and in some pilot districts for the purpose of bringing efficiency, transparency and accountability in official works and to facilitate quick disposal of files and timely monitoring of pending files and reduce the use of papers in office and human resource.



Live Streaming: After commencement of the Live Streaming of the Court proceedings at the Principal Bench and Circuit Bench at Jalpaiguri of the High Court at Calcutta the same is to be implemented in the Circuit Bench at Port Blair and in some pilot locations of the district judiciary.

Digital hearing of Cases: Our focus is to enable the Courts to deploy qualitative digitally enabled hearing based on nature and type of cases. Identification of cases/type of cases where in-person hearing may be retained and other type of cases where various forms of digital hearing can be adopted.

Virtual Courts: As of now only traffic challan cases are dealt with in the Virtual Court. As a part of the judicial process re-engineering, High Court at Calcutta will explore the application of technology, such as, Virtual Court for dealing with other type of cases which require less involvement of judicial mind.

NSTEP: Implementation of NSTEP application in the District Judiciary is essential to enable service of process/summons in electronic form and for that the High Court at Calcutta will take steps to —

- (i) Procure mobile handset for the use of the Bailiff and Process servers of the District and Subdivisional Courts of the State.
- (ii) Amend and implement Civil Rules and Orders of High Court at Calcutta.
- (iii) Impart training to the Bailiff and Process server to acquaint them with the use of technology in service of process.



Mechanism for Online Certified Copy: The project is under process which is exclusively being built up to facilitate the litigants for applying certified copies online and to receive the same via post. The benefit will be extended to the District Courts of this State after successful implementation of the same in the High Court.

FASTER (Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Record): In compliance with the desire and direction of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India to develop FASTER System in the High Court, formation of FASTER Cell is under process in the High Court at Calcutta. With the objective of swiftly transmitting the record of proceedings, orders, judgments, through a standalone Judicial Communication Network to the District and Sub-divisional Courts along with other stakeholders, the process of implementation of the system has taken up in High Court.

Re-designing of the official website of the Calcutta High Court: Process has also been taken up to re-design the official website of the High Court by using latest technological advancement for enhancement of better user experience in terms of the accessibility with modified interface.

e-Mission: High Court at Calcutta under e-Mission will ensure:

- 1) To get online view of all the dates of each case.
- 2) To get all orders and judgments through online.
- 3) To operationalise all the modules of CIS for speedy and efficient case management.

Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS): The focus will be to fetch real time Data by the Court users and to integrate the ICJS with the relevant software fetching Data of e-Prison, Forensic and Directorate of Prosecution.



JUVENILE JUSTICE SECRETARIAT



- 1. The Juvenile Justice Secretariat (J.J.S.) will establish exclusive POCSO Court in each and every district of West Bengal including Andaman & Nicobar Islands in the upcoming year;
- 2. J.J.S. will inspect the child care institutions across the State of West Bengal including Andaman & Nicobar Islands more frequently;
- 3. J.J.S. will take up the task of appointing psychological counsellors for each and every home in the State of West Bengal in consultation with the Department of Health of the Government of West Bengal;
- 4. J.J.S. will request the State Legal Services Authority to conduct legal awareness camps in schools in respect of the rights of a child;
- 5. J.J.S. will conduct meetings more frequently with the Home Department, police authorities for the proper functioning of the Special Juvenile Police Units in the respective districts and proper functioning of the Child Friendly Corner in each and every police station. J.J.S. will ensure that there is a proper child friendly corner in each and every district in the State of West Bengal including Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- 6. The Secretariat will monitor the disposal of cases on monthly basis as per the timeline provided in the Juvenile Justice Act.



- 7. The Secretariat will ensure that all the social worker members in the Juvenile Justice Boards are in place and that none of the Juvenile Justice Boards are not functioning properly merely due to dearth of social worker members in Juvenile Justice Boards.
- 8. The Secretariat will take all necessary measures for upgradation of the infrastructure of the Juvenile Justice Boards across the State of West Bengal including Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- 9. The Secretariat will also ensure that the composition of all the Child Welfare Committees across the West Bengal including Andaman & Nicobar Islands are in place and all of them are functioning in full swing.
- 10. J.J.S. will ensure that there is a Government run child care institution/children home for boys and a separate Government run child care institution/children home for girls in each and every district of West Bengal including Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
- 11. The Secretariat will also ensure timely repatriation of the children to their respective motherland by taking up the matter with the Department of Child Rights and Trafficking and Department of Child Development and Social Welfare.
- 12. The Secretariat will ensure that each and every child of the Child care institutions are given education and each of them have an access to a sufficient and valuable library. In furtherance to it, J.J.S. will monitor that every Child Care Institution has a sound and decent library for the children.
- 13. The Secretariat will monitor the disposal of adoption cases dealt by the District Magistrates on monthly basis and ensure that the timeline for cases relating to adoption under Juvenile Justice Act is being strictly maintained.
- 14. The Secretariat will conduct frequent and surprise visits to State Adoption Agencies to ensure that the process of adoption by the prospective adoptive parents are being completed in a systematic and seamless manner.

West Bengal State Legal Services Authority (WBSLSA)

VISION

West Bengal State Legal Services Authority (WBSLSA) was constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, for providing free and competent Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society to ensure the opportunities for securing Justice and not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or



other disabilities. The vision of West Bengal State Legal Services Authority for upcoming days is as follows.

Court Based Legal Aid

- Presently Legal Aid defence counsel system is functional in ten districts. WBSLSA has the vision
 to make legal aid defence counsel system operational in rest districts. This system will provide
 speedy and transparent legal aid to the marginalised section of the society.
- To resize the panel of legal aid counsels and to include competent lawyer in the panel.
- Speedy disbursement of victim compensation to the victims of different crimes and to ensure their rehabilitation in the mainstream of the society by introducing digital payment facility.
- To make well equipped front office system where from Legal aid seekers can get information about their progress of case in one phone call.
- WBSLSA is in the threshold of conversion into e-office mechanism with a vision to provide hassle free legal aid to weaker section of the society.
- WBSLSA has already implemented PFMS Module for fund management and within a very short span of time this module will be implemented in all districts and WBSLSA has a vision to make fund management system easier, transparent and speedy.

Training and Practices

WBSLSA has successfully conducted two training programmes in last three months in association
with WBJA for the Secretaries and other Stakeholders to bring uniformity in delivery of access to
Justice for all. WBSLSA has a plan to organize more training programmes for the Secretaries and
other Stake Holders with a same vision.

Implementation of NALSA Schemes

WBSLSA is in the process of collecting data of victims of recent Baleswar Train Accident who
were the residents of West Bengal under NALSA Scheme of victim of disaster to connect their
family with their entitlement of compensation under Railways Act. WBSLSA is also in the process
of collecting data of victims of recent electrocution and water logging under same scheme with
same motto.



- WBSLSA has been relentlessly providing benefits to the schedule caste and schedule tribe in the
 tribal areas by providing them identity proof and caste certificates under the dedicated scheme
 for them in Jangal Mahal area. Now WBSLSA is planning to expand the project in other parts of
 West Bengal where tribal people are facing identity crisis and on different reasons they are excluded
 from getting Government benefits.
- WBSLSA has a plan to provide basic education to the street children by connecting them with the main stream of society and to strengthen PLV machinery for restrain the child marriages.
- WBSLSA will increase anti human trafficking awareness programmes in the bordering area of the State and to focus on the rehabilitation of the victims of human trafficking.
- WBSLSA has a plan to provide support system to the victims of acid attack during their medical treatment and also to provide them speedy victim compensation for their immediate relief.

Outreach Programmes

- To make awareness programmes more effective, WBSLSA has decided to conduct a pre camp assessment in every area of the districts and will organize awareness camp according to the need of that locality.
- WBSLSA has decided to organize evening camp in the remotest part of the area with a target to reach the weaker and marginalized section of the society.
- Phase wise door to door campaign is the one of the major priority of the WBSLSA.
- PLVs are to be equipped with basic legal knowledge and they will act promptly as per need of legal aid seekers by providing them legal assistance.
- In correctional homes, special emphasis has to be given to aware the UTPs and Convicts regarding their rights. Panel advocates and PLVs will collect the data of UTPs and Convicts who are deprived from their rights.
- WBSLSA has a plan to organize mega legal awareness camp in all districts of the State where different Government Departments are to be included with a view to provide benefits to the marginalized section of the society hand to hand.



HUMAN RESOURCE VISION

	SI. No.	Name of Promotional Examinations or Recruitment Test	No. of vacancy	*Tentative Date & Month of Notice/ Advt.	Phase or Stage of Exams/ Test	*Tentative Date & Month of Exam/Test
	1.	Promotional Examination for the post of Assistant Registrar, General Branch,	07	Aug' 2023	<u>Phase-I</u> (Written Test)	09.08.2023
		Appellate Side			<u>Phase-II</u> (Viva-voce/ Interview)	Aug′2023
	2.	Promotional Examination for the post of Assistant Registrar, General Branch,	02	Aug' 2023	Phase-I (Written Test)	09.08.2023
		Original Side			<u>Phase-II</u> (Viva-voce/ Interview)	Aug' 2023
	3. Promotional Examination for the post of Assistant Court Officer (ACO),	for the post of Assistant	21	Aug' 2023	<u>Stage-I</u> (Dictation)	28.08.2023
		Technical Branch, Appellate Side			<u>Stage-II</u> (Transcription by use of computer)	
	4.	. Promotional Examination for the post of Assistant Registrar (Court), Technical Branch, Appellate Side	24	Aug' 2023	<u>Stage-I</u> (Dictation	12.09.2023
					<u>Stage-II</u> Transcription by use of computer)	
	5.	Examination for Recruitment to the post of Asst. Registrar (Court Recording), Original side	14	Aug' 2023	Phase-I (Dictation & Transcription in own handwriting)	17.09.2023
					Phase-II Dictation & Transcription by using computer (among short listed candidates)	Oct' 2023



SI. No.	Name of Promotional Examinations or Recruitment Test	No. of vacancy	*Tentative Date & Month of Notice/ Advt.	Phase or Stage of Exams/ Test	*Tentative Date & Month of Exam/Test
6.	Promotional Examination for the post of P.A/Stenographer , Grade-B (From Grade-C to Grade-B)	10	Aug' 2023	Stage-I (Dictation) Stage-II Transcription by	30.09.2023
				Transcription by use of computer)	
 7.	**Examination for Recruitment to the post of System Manager	02	Sept' 2023	Phase-I (Written Test)	Oct' 2023
			<u>Phase-II</u> (Interview)	Nov' 2023	
8.	**Examination for Recruitment to the post of System Analyst (Hardware & Networking)	t 03	Sept' 2023	Phase-I (Written Test)	Oct' 2023
				<u>Phase-II</u> (Interview)	Nov' 2023
9.	 #Examination for Recruitment to the post of LD Assistant (Appellate side and Original side) 	est of LD Assistant te side and	Nov' 2023	Phase-I Prelims (OMR based)	Dec' 2023
				Phase-II Mains (Descriptive)	
				Phase-III Interview	
10.	#Examination for Recruitment to the post of Group-D Staff (Appellate side and	126	Oct' 2023	Phase-I OMR based Test	Nov' 2023
	(Appellate side and Original side)			Phase-II Interview	

^{*}The dates/months of notification, Examinations/ RTs are liable to alteration, if the circumstances so warrant.

^{**}Nomination of Examiners/Experts is under process.

[#] Presentation (power point) of the agencies is scheduled to be held shortly.



CREATION/REGULARIZATION OF POSTS.

- Creation of 72 (seventy two) posts of "Private Secretary to the Hon'ble Judges" in the Technical Branch on the Appellate Side of the Hon'ble Court with consequential reformation of the Stenographical Cadre on the Appellate Side, High Court, Calcutta.
- Sanction towards appointment of translators to the vacant 7 (seven) numbers of posts of Translator on contractual basis on the Appellate Side of the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta.
- Sanction to the creation of 2 (two) permanent posts of technical persons, namely, one post of System Officer and one post of System Assistant for the Circuit Bench of Calcutta High Court at Jalpaiguri.
- Proposal for engagement of 100 (one hundred) clerical staff having knowledge of computer operation and/or Data Entry Operator on contractual basis in the Digitization Project at the West Bengal Judicial Academy, Rajarhat, Kolkata.
- Proposal for creation of the remaining 229 (two hundred and twenty nine) posts out of total 304 (three hundred and four) posts of different categories on the Appellate Side of the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta for the purpose of the Digitization Project of disposed of as well as pending case records.
- Regularization of service of the Software Developers working in the Hon'ble High Court at Calcutta, with the entitlement of pay scale.
- Creation of 22 posts of different categories on the Original Side Establishment of this Hon'ble Court for Commercial duties and Interlocutory Courts.



INFRASTRUCTURE VISION

- Proposal for construction of Hon'ble Judges' Lounge and Baby Feeding Room at the 1st Floor of the Centenary Building, High Court at Calcutta.
- Court Buildings/Courts with completion status of 90% and above and will be inaugurated shortly:

SI. No.	Name of District	Information
1.	Birbhum	Newly constructed Court building (G+4) at Bolpur.
2.	Paschim Bardhaman	New (G+4) storied building at Durgapur.
3.	Uttar Dinajpur	District Court Complex with 02 Court Rooms at Raiganj.
4.	Paschim Medinipur	Two storied Family Court (02 Courts) at Midnapore Judge's Court Campus.
5.	Malda	Composite (G+4) Court building.
6.	Murshidabad	Composite Court building at Domkal.
7.	Hooghly	POCSO Court at Serampore.
8.	Cooch Behar	One (01) ADJ Court Room in the newly constructed 1st Floor of Mathabhanga Court building.
9.	Purulia	New (G+4) Court building.

 Residential Quarters for Judicial Officers with completion status of 90% and above and will be inaugurated shortly

SI. No.	Name of District	Information
1.	Bankura	6 numbers of Residential Type-A Quarters, Bankura.
2.	Murshidabad	2 numbers of Four (G+3) storied Residential Quarters Type-1 at Domkal.
3.	Nadia	06 Units of Quarters at Kalyani.
4.	Jhargram	4 Buildings (3+1) for 19 (18+1) Judicial Officers within Integrated Court Complex at Jhargram.



• New Projects in the Pipeline:

Name of the District	Integrated name of the Project	Total Project cost
North 24 Parganas	Vertical extension (4 th & 5 th floor) of the Court Building at Barasat, District- North 24 Parganas, Under Barasat Division, PWD.	16,03,11,000/- (Civil+Electrical works)
	Construction of (G+5) storied Residential Quarter-I for Munsef at Barasat in the District of North 24 Parganas under Barasat Division, PWD. And Electrical work for the proposed G+5 Storied Residential Munsef Quarter-II at Barasat in the District of North 24 Paraganas.	7,46,59,244/- (Civil + Electrical + Fire Fighting arrangements and fire protection works)
	Construction of two storied with future extension of another one storey POCSO Court at Bongaon.	1,33,90,607/-
Alipurduar	Proposed construction of G+6 Integrated Court Complex at Alipurduar.	64,17,82,748/- (Civil+Electrical works)
Murshidabad	Construction works of Composite Court Building (B+G+10) at Lalbagh Sub-Division of Murshidabad.	44,13,51,096/- (Civil+Electrical works)
	Construction of proposed single storied (with provision of G+3 foundations POCSO Court at Jangipur).	2,32,71,073/-
Howrah	Proposed construction of (G+5) Court Building at Amta Court Campus.	14,71,91,655/-
	Proposed construction of (G+6) Judicial Quarters for Judicial Officers at Amta Court Campus, in the District of Howrah during the year 2019-20 (Civil Works).	3,19,39,873/- (Civil Works)
	Proposed construction of Judicial Officers Quarters at Amta, Howrah—Electrical Installation Work including AC system, Lighting protection System, Lift etc.	86,37,269/- (Electrical Work)



	Name of the District	Integrated name of the Project	Total Project cost
-	Paschim Bardhaman	Construction of proposed G+3 storied Type-A Staff Quarter for Judicial Officers of the Durgapur Sub-Division within existing Residential Complex at City Centre, Durgapur.	3,79,04,947/-
	Nadia	Construction of New Child Friendly POCSO Court Building at Ranaghat in the district of Nadia.	2,12,89,963/-
the state of	Purba Medinipur	Setting up of one (01) permanent Vulnerable Witness Deposition Court in the available room on the ground floor of New Court Building (G+5) at Tamluk.	33,82,904/-

ACCESS TO JUSTICE: NEW COURTS

- Creation of **32** new Courts in the cadre of C.J. (J.D.)/J.M. at different locations in the sub-ordinate judiciary of West Bengal.
- Creation of 09 new Courts in different cadres of WBJS, at different locations in the district of South 24 Parganas.

Creation of:

- 01 new Court of ACJM at Dubrajpur in the Judgeship of Birbhum
- 01 more Court of JM at Ranaghat in the Judgeship of Nadia
- 01 new Court of JM at Kandi in the Judgeship of Murshidabad.
- Creation of 18 new Courts of different cadres of WBJS, at different locations in the district of North 24 Parganas.

Creation of:

- 01 Court of ACJM at Gorubathan in the Judgeship of Kalimpong.
- 01 Court of ADJ at Sadar Jhargram.
- Creation of 9 new Courts of different cadres of WBJS at Domkal Sub-division, in the Judgeship of Murshidabad.
- Proposal for setting up 39 Courts at different sub-divisions and district Sadars of West Bengal Judiciary, for exclusively dealing with offences under NDPS Act.



WEST BENGAL JUDICIAL ACADEMY VISION

UPCOMING TRAINING COURSES TO BE CONDUCTED BY WBJA DURING 2023-24

SL. NO.	TOPIC	TARGET GROUP
1	Refresher Course on Different aspects of Code of Criminal Procedure	Judicial Magistrates
2	Different Aspects of CPC and other Civil Laws	Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.)
3	Different Aspects of CPC and other Civil Laws	Civil Judge (Sr. Divn.)
4	Refresher Course on Cyber Laws	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
5	Stress Management / Motivation / Judicial Ethics	Judicial Officers of all ranks
6	Refresher Programme on West Bengal Premises Tenancy Act, 1997	Civil Judge (Junior Divn.)/Civil Judge (Senior Division)
7	Sensitization Programme on Trafficking of Women and Children	Judicial Magistrates
8	Training of Executive Magistrates	Executive Magistrates
9	Discussion on Civil Rules and Orders	Civil Judge (Junior Divn.)/Civil Judge (Senior Division)
10	Discussion on Criminal Rules and Orders	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
11	Refresher Course on W.B. Court Fees Act, 1970 & The Suits Valuation Act, 1887	Civil Judge (Senior Divn.) & Civil Judge (Junior Division)
12	Refresher Course on Power and Duties of Drawing and Disbursing Officer with special emphasis on The W.B. Treasury Rules & The West Bengal Financial Rules	Civil Judge (Junior Division)
13	Refresher Course on effective trial of cases by Tribunal under Motor Vehicles Act with special reference to Gohar Mohammad Case	Addl. District Judges & Addl. District Judges (FTC)
14	Criminal Revision & Criminal Appeal	Addl. Sessions Judges & Addl. Sessions Judges (FTC)



	SL. NO.	TOPIC	TARGET GROUP
	15	Appreciation of Evidence in Sessions Trial	Addl. Sessions Judges & Addl. Sessions Judges (FTC)
	16	Training programme on the POCSO Act (Physical Mode)	Presiding Officers of the POCSO Courts
	17	Scheduled Caste & Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989- Issues & Challenges (Physical Mode)	Presiding Officers under the SC/ST (POA) Act, 1989
	18	ECT Training Programme	To be decided later on
1	19	ECT Training Programme	To be decided later on
	20	Refresher Course on Electronic Evidence	Judicial Officers of all ranks
	21	Refresher Course on "Judgement Writing"	Judicial Officers of all ranks
	22	Stress Management / Motivation / Judicial Ethics	Judicial Officers of all ranks
	23	Discussion on the Law of Bail with special reference to the guidelines in (i) Siddharth vs. State of UP & (ii) Satender Kumar Antil vs. CBI	Judicial Officers of all ranks
	24	Gender Justice, Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace	High Court Staff & District Court Staff
	25	The Contempt of Courts Act, 1971 & Disciplinary Proceedings	Judicial Officers of all ranks
Ī	26	Refresher Course on Medical Jurisprudence	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
	27	Trial under The Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
	28	Refresher Course on West Bengal Service Rules	Judicial Officers of all ranks
	29	Refresher Course on Role of Judges in referral of cases for Mediation; Mediation and its components and writing of Settlement & referral orders; Challenges and way forward with Questionnaire session	Judicial Officers of all ranks
	30	Refresher Course on Specific Relief Act, 1963 (Specific Performance of Contract & Declaratory Suits)	Civil Judge (Junior Division)/ Civil Judge (Senior Division)



SL. NO.	TOPIC	TARGET GROUP
31	Refresher Course on Matrimonial Laws, Hindu Marriage Act, Muslim Marriage Laws, Divorce Laws in India with reference to recent Supreme Court Decisions	District Judges/ Addl. District Judges/ Addl. District Judges (FTC)
32	Artificial Intelligence and Law	Judicial Officers of all ranks
33	Training Programme on Prevention of Money Laundering Act (Physical Mode)	Judges of PMLA Courts and Additional Sessions Judges
34	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on
35	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on
36	Stress Management / Motivation / Judicial Ethics	Judicial Officers of all ranks
37	Refresher Course on Indian Succession Act, 1925 with special stress on Probate & Letter of Administration	District Judges/Additional District Judges
38	Discussion on Civil Rules and Orders	Civil Judge (Junior Divn.)/Civil Judge (Senior Division)
39	Discussion on Criminal Rules and Orders	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
40	Time Management / Court Management / Case Management & Strategies for disposal of cases & Interlocutory Applications	Judicial Officers of all ranks
41	Training Programme on Summary Trials (Order 37) of CPC & The Partition Act, 1893	Civil Judge (Senior Division)/ Civil Judge (Junior Division)
42	Breach of Protection Order and Remedy u/s 31 PWDV Act; Challenges in execution of order passed under the PWDV Act	Judicial Magistrates
43	Course on Court Procedure	Empanelled lawyers of DLSA/SDLSC
44	Effective Trial of cases by Special Courts under the Prevention of Corruption Act (Physical Mode)	Presiding Officers of PC Act Courts



	SL. NO.	TOPIC	TARGET GROUP
4	45	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on
	46	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on
	47	Stress Management / Motivation / Judicial Ethics	Judicial Officers of all ranks
	48	Discussion on the Law of Bail with special reference to the guidelines in (i) Siddharth vs. State of UP & (ii) Satender Kumar Antil vs. CBI	Judicial Officers of all ranks
	49	Sensitization Programme on Trafficking of Women and Children	Judicial Magistrates
	50	Trial under The Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
	51	Criminal Rules and Orders	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
	52	WB Correctional Services Act, 1992	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
	53	Civil Appeal	Mixed group of ADJ, ADJ(FTC) & Civil Judge (Senior Division)
	54	Refresher Course on Mohammedan Succession Laws	Civil Judge (Jr. Divn.)
	55	Refresher Course on Test Identification parade, Recording of statement u/s. 164 Cr.P.C., Statement of accused u/s. 313 Cr.P.C., Plea Bargaining Complaint Petition (Sections 200 to 204 Cr.P.C.)	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
	56	Role of District Judges as managerial leaders and policy makers (Physical Mode)	District Judges
	57	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on
	58	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on



SL.	TOPIC	TARGET GROUP
NO.		74621 36331
59	Online Training Programme on the Commercial Courts Act, 2015	Presiding Officers of the Commercial Courts in West Bengal &Additional District Judges
60	Refresher Course on Cyber Laws	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
61	Stress Management / Motivation / Judicial Ethics	Judicial Officers of all ranks
62	Training programmes with WBSLSA on various topics, viz., "Victim Compensation, Legal Awareness Programmes, ADR Mechanism & S.89 of CPC etc.	DCPOs, CWC Members, Protection Officers, empanelled lawyers and other stakeholders
63	Refresher Course on Guardians and Wards Act, 1890, and Hindu Minority & Guardianship Act, 1956	District Judges & Addl. District Judges
64	Refresher Course on Medical Jurisprudence	Additional Sessions Judges
65	Discussion on Civil Rules and Orders	Civil Judge (Junior Divn.)/Civil Judge (Senior Division)
66	Execution in Civil Cases	Civil Judge (Junior Division)/ Civil Judge (Senior Division)
67	Refresher Course on Pre-emption under West Bengal Land Reforms Act, 1955	Civil Judge (Junior Division)
68	Bengal Money Lenders Act, 1940	Civil Judge (Junior Division) / Civil Judge (Senior Division)
69	Training Programme on The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 & Indian Forest Act, 1927	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
70	Training Programme on The Arms Act, 1959 & The Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1966	Judicial Magistrates
71	e-Commerce & Copyright violation in Internet	Judicial Officers of all ranks
72	Interactive Workshop for the stakeholders under the NDPS Act (Physical Mode)	Presiding Officers of NDPS Court
73	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on



SL. NO.	TOPIC	TARGET GROUP
74	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on
75	Training programme on The Bengal Excise Act, 1909	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
76	Refresher Course on Electronic Evidence	Judicial Officers of all ranks
77	Stress Management / Motivation / Judicial Ethics	Judicial Officers of all ranks
78	Discussion on the Law of Bail with special reference to the guidelines in (i) Siddharth vs. State of UP & (ii) Satender Kumar Antil vs. CBI	Judicial Officers of all ranks
79	Trial under The Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
80	Refresher Course on W.B. Court Fees Act, 1970 & The Suits Valuation Act, 1887	Civil Judge (Senior Divn.) & Civil Judge (Junior Division)
81	Refresher Course on Role of Judges in referral of cases for Mediation; Mediation and its components and writing of Settlement & referral orders; Challenges and way forward with Questionnaire session	Judicial Officers of all ranks
82	Criminal Revision & Criminal Appeal	Addl. Sessions Judges & Addl. Sessions Judges (FTC)
83	Refresher Course on "Goods and Services Tax" laws	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
84	Disposal of Properties under the Code of Criminal Procedure	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
85	The Limitation Act, 1963	Judicial Officers of all ranks
86	Training Programme on Summary Trials (Order 37) of CPC and The Partition Act, 1893	Civil Judge (Senior Division) & Civil Judge (Junior Division)
87	Refresher Course on Chapter-IX of the Cr.P.C.— Recent trend	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
88	Mobile Forensic in Criminal Investigation	Magistrates of all ranks
89	Refresher Course on The Electricity Act, 2003 (Physical Mode)	Presiding Officers of Electricity Act Courts



SL.			
90	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on	
91	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on	
92	Refresher Course on "Judgement Writing"	Judicial Officers of all ranks	
93	Stress Management / Motivation / Judicial Ethics	Judicial Officers of all ranks	
94	Refresher Programme on West Bengal Premises Tenancy Act, 1997	Civil Judge (Junior Divn.)/Civil Judge (Senior Divn.)	
95	Training Programme on Registration Act, 1908 & Indian Stamp Act, 1899	Civil Judge (Senior Division) & Civil Judge (Junior Division)	
96	Refresher Course on effective trial of cases by Tribunal under Motor Vehicles Act with special reference to Gohar Mohammad Case	Addl. District Judges & Addl. District Judges (FTC)	
97	Civil Appeal	Mixed group of ADJ, ADJ(FTC) & Civil Judge (Senior Division)	
98	Appreciation of Evidence in Sessions Trial	Addl. Sessions Judges & Addl. Sessions Judges (FTC)	
99	Sensitization Programme on Child Psychology, Child Mental Health and Child Behaviour under the JJ Act	Principal Magistrates- 1 day P.Ps & I.O.s- 1 day	
100	Training for Sherestadar, Bench Clerk on CRO, Cr.Ro CF Act, suit valuation Act, Stamp Act, Proper maintenance of register and statement according to rules and orders (Criminal & Civil) guidelines/circulars of High Courts, Effective Districts Courts administrations.	Sheristadar, Bench Clerk	
101	Training programme on the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 (Physical Mode)	Principal Magistrates of Juvenile Justice Board of all districts	



SL. NO.	TOPIC	TARGET GROUP	
102 ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)		To be decided later on	
103	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on	
104	Training programmes with WBSLSA on various topics, viz., "Victim Compensation, Legal Awareness Programmes, ADR Mechanism & S.89 of CPC etc.	DCPOs, CWC Members, Protection Officers, empanelled lawyers and other stakeholders	
105	Stress Management / Motivation / Judicial Ethics	Judicial Officers of all ranks	
106	Discussion on the Law of Bail with special reference to the guidelines in (i) Siddharth vs. State of UP & (ii) Satender Kumar Antil vs. CBI	Judicial Officers of all ranks	
107	Trial under The Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks	
108	Refresher Course on Role of Judges in referral of cases for Mediation; Mediation and its components and writing of Settlement & referral orders; Challenges and way forward with Questionnaire session	Judicial Officers of all ranks	
109	Course on Law of Injunction	Civil Judge (Junior Division)/ Civil Judge (Senior Division)	
110	Refresher Course on Specific Relief Act, 1963 (Specific Performance of Contract & Declaratory Suits)	Civil Judge (Junior Division)/ Civil Judge (Senior Division)	
111	Refresher Course on Matrimonial Laws, Hindu Marriage Act, Muslim Marriage Laws, Divorce Laws in India with reference to recent Supreme Court Decisions	District Judges/ Addl. District Judges/ Addl. District Judges (FTC)	
112	Training Programme on The Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 & Indian Forest Act, 1927	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks	



SL. NO.	TOPIC	TARGET GROUP
113	Refresher Course on Test Identification parade, Recording of statement u/s. 164 Cr.P.C., Statement of accused u/s. 313 Cr.P.C., Plea Bargaining Complaint Petition (Sections 200 to 204 Cr.P.C.)	Judicial Magistrates of all ranks
114	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on
115	ECT Training Programme (Training Schedule not yet received from e-Committee, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India)	To be decided later on

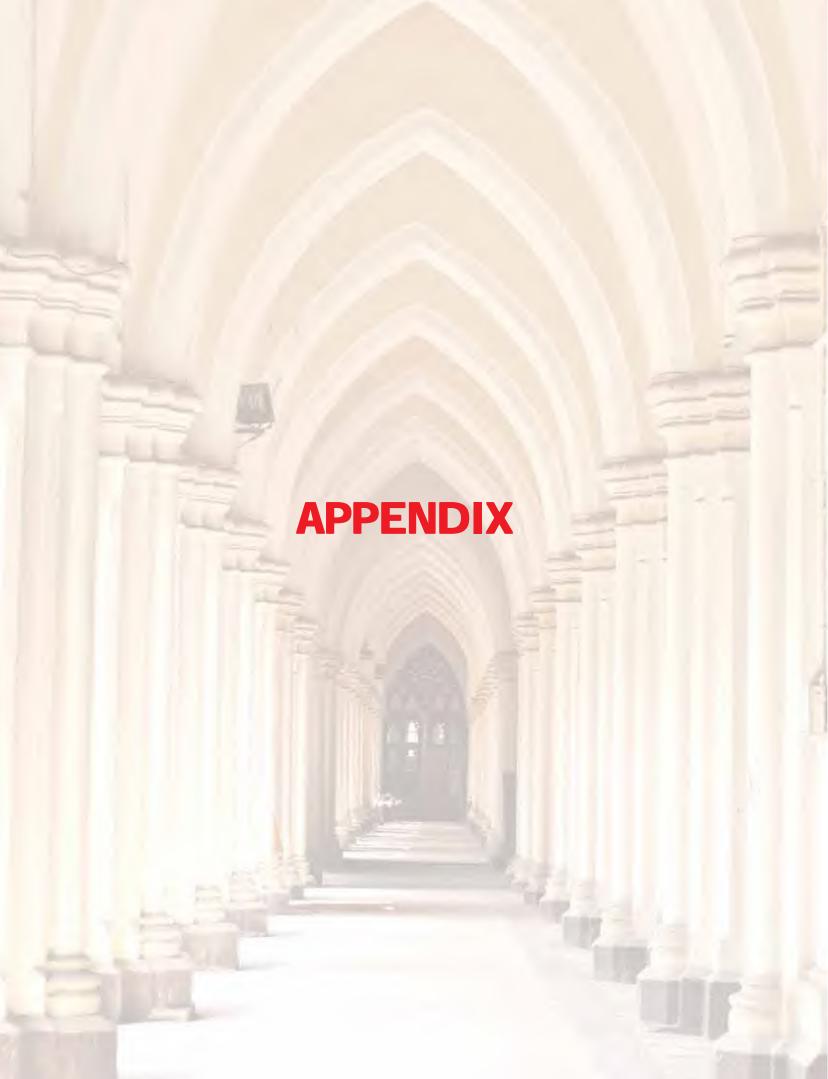
That apart, The WBJA intends to conduct many more Seminars/Symposiums/ Programmes covering different aspects in collaboration with the above mentioned stakeholders in addition to the upcoming programmes mentioned in the table above. The topics of such programmes are yet to be finalised and approved by the Hon'ble Court.

UPCOMING INFRASTRUCTURAL WORK AT WBJA

SI. No.	Name of Work	
1	Vertical extension of the existing Hostel Building (From 4 th floor to 7 th floor) at West Bengal Judicial Academy.	
2	Construction of $G+4$ Storied Building for Director, Additional Director's quarter and Guest House with $(G+5)$ storied foundation within the campus of West Bengal Judicial Academy.	
3	Construction of G+4 storied Auditorium Building within the campus of the West Bengal Judicial Academy.	

Administrative approval has been received in respect of the above three upcoming construction work of WBJA.









GAZETTE NOTIFICATIONS PUBLISHED DURING THE PERIOD FROM 01.07.2022 TO 30.06.2023.

SL. NO.	NOTIFICATION NUMBER	NOTIFICATION DATE	SUBJECT MATTER	DATE OF PUBLICATION
1.	619 – G	23.02.2022	Amendment to the Calcutta High Court (Appellate Side and Original Side) Services (Revision of Pay & Allowances) Rule, 2007, relating to Robe Allowance of the Librarians.	04.07.2022
2.	1916 - G	15.06.2022	Amendment of the qualification prescribed for direct recruitment in 3rd column of Sl. No. 4 of the table contained in 'The Calcutta High Court Service (Recruitment in Computer Section) Rules, 2017.'	04.07.2022
3.	1917 – G	15.06.2022	Amendment to Sub-Rule (4) of Rule- 1 of the Civil Rules and Orders of the High Court, Calcutta, relating to sitting of morning Courts in the districts of West Bengal.	04.07.2022
4.	2301 - G	14.07.2022	Amendments in the Calcutta High Court Criminal (Subordinate Courts) Rules, 1985, in c/w the judgment passed by the Honourable Supreme Court in Suo Moto Writ (CRL) No (S) 1 / 2017.	15.07.2022
5.	3706 – G	22.11.2022	Addition of certain Codes to the corresponding nomenclature of Intellectual Property Matters with regard to Appeals and Original Applications/Petitions, to the existing list appearing in TABLE I of Appendix - I of Chapter XXXIXA of the Rules of the High Court at Calcutta, Original Side, relating to the Computerized Listing of the Cause List of the Original Side.	22.11.2022
6.	439 - G	02.02.2023	Amendments to certain Rules of Chapter XIII B and Chapter XV of the Appellate Side Rules of the High Court at Calcutta, with regard to 'Copies from Compact Discs' and 'Preservation and Destruction of Civil [including Writ] and Criminal Records'.	17.02.2023



No. WB/CPS/K-42(Part I)/2022



Kolkata





Extraordinary Published by Authority

ASHADHA 13]

MONDAY, JULY 04, 2022

[SAKA 1944

PART I - Orders and Notifications by the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA

NOTIFICATION

No. 619-G-23rd February, 2022 — In exercise of the power conferred by Clause (2) of the Article 229 of the Constitution of India and proviso thereunder the Hon'ble the Chief Justice, High Court at Calcutta, with the approval of the Governor of the State of West Bengal, is hereby pleased to make the following amendment to 'The Calcutta High Court (Appellate Side and Original Side) Services (Revision of Pay & Allowances) Rules, 2007', as subsequently amended (hereinafter referred to as the said Rule) namely:

- A. This Rule may be called 'The amendment to the Calcutta High Court (Appellate Side and Original Side) Services (Revision of Pay & Allowances) Rule, 2007'.
- B. This amended Rule will come into force from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Amendment

The expression 'as well as the Librarians including Centenary Librarians' shall be incorporated after the expression '...... Committee Clerk', appearing under the heading 'Robe Allowance' of the existing <u>Rule 8</u> of The Calcutta High Court (Appellate Side and Original Side) Services (Revision of Pay & Allowances) Rules, 2007, promulgated under Court's Notification No. 1084-RG dated 8th March, 2007, thereby amending the said rule in the following manner:

"Robe Allowance shall be paid annually to the Secretariat Officers, Deputy Registrars, Assistant Registrars, Assistant Court Officers and Committee Clerk as well as the Librarians including Centenary Librarians at the rate Rs. 1000/- (Rupees one thousand)."

By order of the Hon'ble Chief Justice,

Sd/-

[ANANYA BANDYOPADHYAY]

Registrar General.

Published by the Controller of Printing and Stationery, West Bengal and Printed by the Superintendent, Government Printing, Kadapara, Kolkata - 700 054.



No. WB/CPS/K-49(Part I)/2022



Kolkata





Extraordinary Published by Authority

ASHADHA 13]

MONDAY, JULY 04, 2022

[SAKA 1944

PART I - Orders and Notifications by the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA

NOTIFICATION

No.1916-G - 15th June, 2022 — In exercise of the power conferred by Clause (2) of the Article 229 of the Constitution of India, the Hon'ble the Chief Justice, High Court at Calcutta, is hereby pleased to amend the qualification prescribed for direct recruitment in 3th column of Sl. No. 4 of the table contained in 'The Calcutta High Court Service (Recruitment in Computer Section) Rules, 2017', in the following manner:-

Amendment

The expression 'hardware and networking of computer' is added after the expression 'software development' and before the expression 'in any public sector undertaking' in Clause (b)(ii) in 3rd column of Sl. No. 4 of the table contained in the said Rule.

By order of the Hon'ble Chief Justice, Sd/-[UDAY KUMAR] Registrar General-in-charge.

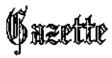


No. WB/CPS/K-50(Part I)/2022



Kolkata





Extraordinary Published by Authority

ASHADHA 13]

MONDAY, JULY 04, 2022

(SAKA 1944

PART 1 - Orders and Notifications by the Governor of West Hengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA

NOTIFICATION

No.1917-G - 15th June, 2022 — In exercise of the powers conferred by Clause (2) under Artical 227 of the Constitution of India and with approval of the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court at Calcutta hereby makes the following amendment to the Sub-Rule (4) of Rule-1 of the Civil Rules and Orders of the High Court, Calcutta, by way of substituting the extant provisions of the said Rule, as follows:

Amendment

R.1 (4). "Ordinarily there shall be no sitting of morning Courts in the districts of West Bengal.

Provided that under extreme climatic conditions affecting the health of litigants and other stake-holders, in dispensation of Fustice, the High Court may prescribe holding of morning Courts in such area and manner as the High Court may deem fit and proper."

By order of the High Court,

Sd/-

[UDAY KUMAR]
Registror General-in-charge.



No. WB/CPS/K-\$3(Pert I)/2022



Kolkata



Gazette

Extraordinary Published by Authority

ASHADHA 24]

FRIDAY, JULY 15, 2022

[SAKA 1944

PART I - Orders and Notifications by the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA

NOTIFICATION

No. 2301 - G - 14th July, 2022 — In view of the judgment passed by the Honourable Supreme Court in Suo Motu Writ (CRL) No (S) 1/2017 and in exercise of the powers conferred by Clauses (2) and (3) of Article 227 of the Constitution of India and with the approval of the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court at Calcutta hereby makes the following amendments in the Calcutta High Court Criminal (Subordinate Courts) Rules, 1985 namely:-

AMENDMENTS

The following Rule 91 A shall be inserted after Rule 91 with a separate heading:

2A. Supply of documents to the accused

Rule 91 A:

Every Accused shall be supplied with statements of witness recorded under Sections 161 and 164 of the Code and a list of documents, material objects and exhibits seized during investigation and relied upon by the Investigating Officer (IO) in accordance with Sections 207 and 208 of the Code.

Explanation:

The list of statements, documents, material objects and exhibits shall specify statements, documents, material objects and exhibits that are not relied upon by the Investigating Officer.

The following Rules 92A and 92B shall be inserted as Chapter IV(A) with the heading:

CHAPTER IV(A)

CHARGE & TRIAL in General

Rule 92A:

- (1) The order framing charge shall be accompanied by a formal charge in Form 32, Schedule II of the Code to be prepared personally by the Presiding Officer after complete and total application of mind.
- (2) After framing of charges, the accused shall be referred to only by their ranks in the array of accused in the charge and not by their names or other references except at the stage of identification by the witness.



PART I

Rule 92 B:

Immediately after framing of charge, the Court shall ascertain if the parties wish to carry out admission of any document under Section 294 of the Code and permit them to do so. Thereafter the court shall hold a scheduling hearing, to ascertain and fix consecutive dates for recording of evidence having regard to the nature of witnesses viz. whether they are material witnesses, eyewitnesses, formal witnesses or expert witnesses. The court then shall draw up a schedule indicating the consecutive dates on which the witnesses would be examined.

The following Rule shall be inserted after Rule 97 (2) in Chapter V:

Rule 97 (3):

Sessions cases may be given precedence over all other work and no other work should be taken up on sessions days until the sessions work for the day is completed. A Sessions case once posted should not be postponed unless that is unavoidable, and once the trial has begun, it should proceed continuously from day to day till it is completed. If for any reason, a case has to be adjourned or postponed, intimation should be given forthwith to both sides and immediate steps be taken to stop the witnesses and secure their presence on the adjourned date.

The heading "Bail Bonds" of Chapter VII be substituted by "Bail and Bail Bonds"

CHAPTER VII

Bail and Bail Bonds

The following Rules shall be inserted before Rule 125 of Chapter VII:

Rule 124 A:

- (1) The application for bail in non-bailable cases must ordinarily be disposed of within a period of 3 to 7 days from the date of first hearing. If the application is not disposed of within such period, the Presiding Officer shall furnish reasons thereof in the order itself. Copy of the order and the reply to the bail application or status report (by the police or prosecution) if any, shall be furnished to the accused or his advocate on the date of pronouncement of the order itself.
- (2) The Presiding Officer may, in an appropriate case in its discretion insist on a statement to be filed by the prosecutor in charge of the case.

The following Rules shall be inserted after Rule 133:

Rule 133 A:

- (1) The deposition of each witness shall be recorded dividing it into separate paragraphs assigning paragraph numbers.
- (2) Prosecution witnesses shall be numbered as PW-1, PW-2 etc, in seriatim. Similarly, defence witnesses shall be numbered as DW-1, DW-2, etc, in seriatim. The Court witnesses shall be numbered as CW-1, CW-2, etc, in seriatim.
- (3) The record of depositions shall indicate the date of the chief examination, the cross examination and re-examination.
- (4) The Presiding Officers shall wherever necessary record the deposition in question and answer format.
- (5) Objections by either the prosecution or the defence counsel shall be taken note of and reflected in the evidence and decided immediately, in accordance with law, or, at the discretion of the Learned Judge, at the end of the deposition of the witness in question.
- (6) The name and number of the witness shall be clearly stated on any subsequent date, if the evidence is not concluded on the date on which it begins.



PART II

THE KOLKATA GAZETTB, EXTRAORDINARY, JULY 15, 2022

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Rule 135 shall be substituted as follows :-

Rule 135

- (1) The deposition of a witness shall be recorded in the language of the witness.
- (2) If he gives deposition in a language other than English or the language of the State, the Presiding Officer shall simultaneously translate the deposition either himself or through a competent translator into English.
- (3) The deposition shall be read over to him by the Presiding Officer in Court. Hard copy of the testimony so recorded duly signed to be a true copy by the Presiding Officer / Court Officer shall be made available free of cost against receipt to the accused or his advocate, to the witness and the prosecutor / complainant's advocate on the date of recording.
- (4) A translator shall be made available in each Court and the Presiding Officers shall be trained in the local language, if he so requests.
- (5) The Presiding Officer shall not record evidence in more than one case at the same time.

Rule 136 shall be substituted as follows:-

Rule 136

- (1) The depositions of witnesses shall, if possible, be prepared on computers, in typed format, on the dictation of the Presiding Officer.
- (2) When the deposition is recorded on a computer by the Presiding Officer himself or under his dictation in open Court, a certificate with the dated signature of the Presiding Officer shall be given to this effect on each page.

The following Rules shall be inserted after Rule 138:

Rule 138 A:

- (1) After recording the deposition of witnesses, marking of the exhibits and material objects, while recording deposition of other witnesses, the witnesses, exhibits and material objects shall be referred by their numbers and not by names or other references.
- (2) Where witness cited in the complaint or police report are not examined, they shall be referred to by their names and the numbers allotted to them in the complaint or police report.

Rule 138 B:

- (1) During cross examination, the relevant portion of the statements recorded under Section 161 of the Code used for contradicting the respective witness shall be extracted. If it is not possible to extract the relevant part as aforesaid, the Presiding Officer, in his discretion, shall indicate specifically the opening and closing words of such relevant portion, while recording the deposition, through distinct marking.
- (2) In such cases, where the relevant portion is not extracted, the portions only shall be distinctly marked as prosecution or defence exhibit as the case may be, so that other inadmissible portions of the evidence are not part of the record.
- (3) The aforesaid Rule applicable to recording of the statements under Section 161 shall mutatis mutandis apply to statements recorded under Section 164 of the Code, whenever such portions of prior statements of living persons are used for contradiction/corroboration.
- (4) Omnibus marking of the entire statement under Section 161 and 164 of the Code shall not be done.

138 C :

The Presiding Officers shall ensure that only admissible portion of Section 8 (sic) or Section 27 Indian Evidence Act, 1872 is marked and such portion alone is extracted on a separate sheet and marked and given an exhibit number.



THE KOLKATA GAZETTE, EXTRAORDINARY, JULY 15, 2022

(PART I

Rule 157 shall be substituted as follows:-

Rule 157

- (1) Prosecution exhibits shall be marked as Exhibit P-1, P-2 etc in seriatim. Similarly, defence Exhibits shall be marked as Exhibit D-1, D-2, etc in seriatim. The Court exhibit shall be marked as Exhibit C-1, C-2, etc in seriatim.
- (2) When a number of documents of the same nature are admitted e.g., a series of rent receipts, the whole series shall bear one number and a sub-number in brackets shall be added to distinguish each paper of the series, thus -

Exhibit P-1, Exhibit P-1(1), Exhibit P-1(2) etc;

Exhibit D-1, Exhibit D-1(1), Exhibit D-1(2) etc;

Exhibit C-1, Exhibit C-1(1), Exhibit C-1(2) etc.

(3) In order to easily locate the witness through whom the document was first introduced in evidence, the exhibit number shall further show the witness number of such witness after the Exhibit number. If an exhibit is marked without proper proof, the same shall be indicated by showing in brackets (subject to proof).

Explanation:

If Prosecution witness no 1 (PW1) introduces a document in evidence, that document shall be marked as Exhibit P-1 / PW1. If proper proof is not offered for that document at the time when it is marked, it shall be marked as Exhibit P-1 / PW1 (subject to proof). The second document introduced by PW1 will be Exhibit P-2 / PW1.

Rule 168 shall be substituted as follows:-

Rule 168

When any article or material connected with the offence charged is produced in a Criminal Court and after being proved is admitted in evidence, it shall be marked by the Court in seriatim as MO-1, MO-2 etc.

Rule 184 shall be substituted as follows:-

Rule 184

- (1) Every judgment shall contain the followings:
- (a) Start with a preface showing the names of parties as per FORM No (M) 34 to ...
- (b) A tabular statement as per FORM No (M) 35 to the Rules.
- (c) An appendix giving the list of Prosecution Witnesses, Defence Witnesses, Court Witnesses, Prosecution Exhibits, Defence Exhibits and Court Exhibits and Material Objects as per FORM No (M) 36 to the Rules.
- (2) In compliance with Section 354 and 355 Cr PC, in all cases, the judgments shall contain:
- (a) the point or points for determination,
- (b) the decision thereon, and
- (c) the reasons for the decision.
- (3) In case of conviction, the judgment shall separately indicate the offence involved and the sentence awarded. In case there are multiple accused, each of them shall be dealt with separately. In case of acquittal and if the accused is in confinement, a direction shall be given to set the accused at liberty, unless such accused is in custody in any other case.



PART []

THE KOLKATA GAZETTE, EXTRAORDINARY, JULY 15, 2022

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- (4) In the judgment the accused, witnesses, exhibits and material objects shall be referred to by their nomenclature or number and not by their names or otherwise only. Wherever, there is a need to refer to the accused or witnesses by their name, the number shall be indicated within brackets.
- (5) The judgment shall be written in paragraphs and each paragraph shall be numbered in seriatim. The Presiding Officers, may, in their discretion, organize the judgment into different sections.

Rule 188 shall be substituted as follows:-

Rule 188

If a vernacular word, not being a technical, revenue or a law term, is used in the judgment, its nearest English equivalent shall be added in brackets immediately after the word.



[PART I

In view of the judgment passed by the Honourable Supreme Court in Suo Motu Writ (CRL) No (S) 1 / 2017 and in exercise of the powers conferred by Clauses (2) and (3) of Article 227 of the Constitution of India and with the approval of the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court at Calcutta hereby makes the following amendments in the Calcutta High Court Criminal (Subordinate Courts) (Forms) Rules, 1985 namely:-

The following Form A to Form C shall be inserted in chapter IV - Miscellaneous Forms as Form No (\dot{M}) 34 to Form No (M) 36 respectively.

Form A

IN THE COURT OF					
Present:Sessions Judge / Magistrate [Date of the Judgement]					
[Case No	/20]				
(Details of FIR/Crit	me and Police Station)				
Complainant	STATE OF				
	OR				
	NAME OF THE COMPLAINANT				
REPRESENTED BY	NAME OF THE ADVOCATE				
ACCUSED	1. NAME WITH ALL PARTICULARS (A1)				
	2. NAME WITH ALL PARTICULARS (A2)				
REPRESENTED BY	NAME OF THE ADVOCATES				



PART IJ	THE KOLKATA GAZETTE	EXTRAORDINARY, JULY 15, 2022	207			
	FORM B					
Date of Offence						
Date of FIR						
Date of Chargesheet						
Date of Framing of	harges					
Date of commencer	ent of Evidence					
Date on which Judge	ement is reserved	<u> </u>	•			
Date of the Judgeme	at					
Date of the Sentenci	ng Order, if any					

Accused details:

Rank of the Accused	Name of Accused	Date of arrest	Date of release on Bail	Offences charged with	Whether sequitted or convicted	Sentence imposed	Period of Detention Undergone during Trial for purpose of Section 428, Cr.P.C.
L .							

Form C

LIST OF PROSECUTION / DEFENCE / COURT WITNESSES

A. Prosecution:

RANK	NAME	NATURE OF EVIDENCE
		(EYE WITNESS, POLICE WITNESS,
		EXPERT WITNESS, MEDICAL WITNESS,
		PANCH WITNESS, OTHER WITNESS)
PW 1		
PW 2		



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B. Def	ence V	/itnesses, if any:	
RAN	RANK NAME		NATURE OF EVIDENCE
			(EYE WITNESS, POLICE WITNESS,
			EXPERT WITNESS, MEDICAL WITNESS,
			PANCH WITNESS, OTHER WITNESS)
DW1			
DW2			
C. Cou	ırt Wit	nesses, if any:	
RAN	K	NAME	NATURE OF EVIDENCE
			(EYE WITNESS, POLICE WITNESS,
			EXPERT WITNESS, MEDICAL WITNESS,
			PANCH WITNESS, OTHER WITNESS)
CW I			
CW 2			
	•		<u> </u>
		LIST OF PROSE	CUTION / DEFENCE / COURT EXHIBITS
A. Pr	osecuti	ion:	
Sr. No.	Exi	sibit Number	Description
1	Exh	ibit P-1/PW1	
2	Exhibit P-2/PW2		
B. De	fence:		
Sr. No.	Exb	ibit Number	Description
1	Exh	ibit D-1/DW1	
2	Exh	ibit D-2/DW2	
			



PART I	THE KOLKATA GAZ	209	
C. Co	ourt Exhibits:		-
Sr. No.	Exhibit Number	Description	
1	Exhibit C-1/CW1		
2 .	Exhibit C-2/CW2		

D. Material Objects:

Sr. No.	Material Object Number	Description
1	MO 1	
2	MO 2	

By order of the High Court,

Sd/-

[UDAY KUMAR] Registrar General.



Registered No. WB/SC - 320

No. WB/CPS/K-120(Part I)/2022



Kolkata





Extraordinary

Published by Authority

AGRAHAYANA 1]

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2022

[SAKA 1944

PART I - Orders and Notifications by the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA

NOTIFICATION

No. 3706 - G. - the 22nd November, 2022. — In terms of Rule 15 of the Chapter XXXIXA of the Rules of the High Court at Calcutta, Original Side, relating to the Computerized Listing of the Cause List of the Original Side, the following Codes to the corresponding nomenclature of Intellectual Property Matters with regard to Appeals and Original Applications/Petitions, are hereby added to the existing list appearing in TABLE I of Appendix - I of the said Chapter.

Appeals.

- a. IPD TMA Appeals under the Trade Marks Act, 1999
- b. IPD CRA Appeals under the Copyright Act, 1957
- c. IPD PTA Appeals under the Patents Act, 1970
- d. IPD GIA Appeals under the GI of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999
- e. IPD PVA Appeals under the Plant Varieties and Farmers Right Act, 2001
- f. IPD SCD Appeals under The Semiconductor Integrated Circuits Layout-Design Act, 2000
- g. IPD AID Appeals under the Designs Act, 2000
- h. IPD ITA Appeals under the Information Technology Act, 2000

Original Applications/Petitions.

- a. IPD ATM Applications under Section 47, 57, 125 of Trade Marks Act, 1999
- b. IPD CR Applications under Section 50 of the Copyright Act, 1957



344	_	THE KOLE	(ATA	A GAZETTE, EXTRAORDINARY, NOVEMBER 22, 2022 [PART I
	C.	IPD - PAT	_	Applications under Section 58/64/71/103 of the Patents Act, 1970
	d.	IPD – GI	_	Applications under Section 27/58 of Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999
	e.	IPD – TT	-	Applications under Section 46(1A) of the Information Technology Act, 2000

The above addendum shall take effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

By the order of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice,

Sd/-

[CHAITALI CHATTERJEE (DAS)]
Registrar General.



Registered No. WB/SC - 320

No. WB/CPS/K-129(Part I)/2023









Extraordinary Published by Authority

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MAGHA 28]	FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2023	[SAKA 1944

PART I - Orders and Notifications by the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA

NOTIFICATION

No. 439-G. — Dated, Calcutta, the 2nd February, 2023.—It is notified for general information that the following amendments, made to the Rules mentioned hereinbelow of Chapter XIII B and Chapter XV of the Appellate Side Rules of the High Court at Calcutta, with regard to 'Copies from Compact Discs' and 'Preservation and Destruction of Civil [including Writ] and Criminal Records' respectively, shall take effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

CHAPTER XIII B.

Title of the Chapter	The expression 'and Digital Storage' is inserted after the existing Title.
Introductory paragraph of the Chapter	The expression 'and Digital Storage' is inserted between the following expressions:preserved in Compact Discs' and ', a new Chapter'.
Rule 1	The expression 'and/or any other digital storage' is inserted after the expression ' generated from Compact Discs' of the Rule.
Rule 2	The expression 'and/or any other digital storage' is inserted between the following expressions of the Rule: ' in the Compact Disc (CD. Rom)' and ', certified copies of such papers'; ' generated from the Compact Disc' and ' and the same shall be certified'; ' certified copy from the Compact Disc' and ', if the record of the case'.
Rule 3(iii)	The expression 'and/or any other digital storage' is inserted between the following expressions of the Rule: ' generated from the Compact Disc' and 'and when such document is a judgment'.



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THE KOLKATA GAZETTE, EXTRAORDINARY, FEBRUARY 17, 2023

[PART I

Rule 5

The expression 'and/or any other digital storage' is inserted between the following expressions of the Rule:-

"... generated from Compact Disc" and "... shall be in the form of print outs".

CHAPTER XV.

Rule 2	The expression 'and/or any other digital storage' is inserted between the following expressions of the Rule:- ' Compact Discs (C.D. Roms)' and ' forever.'.
	The expression 'three Compact Discs shall be prepared in each case and each copy shall be authenticated by the Registrar General. Of the three copies, one shall be kept in the custody of the Registrar General, one shall be kept in the custody of the Superintendent, Record Department and one shall be kept in the custody of the Librarian.' is substituted by the expression 'the digitized data will be stored in the physical/cloud server, owned by the High Court at Calcutta.'.
	The expression 'digitized and' is inserted between the following expressions of the Rule:-
	'Once the papers contained in Part-I are' and ' stored in the Compact Disc'.
	The expression 'and/or any other digital storage' is inserted between the following
	expressions of the Rule:-
]	" stored in the Compact Disc" and " and the same is duly authenticated".
Rule 2 A	The expression 'and/or in any other digital storage' is inserted between the following
	expressions of the Rule:-
	' in the Compact Disc' and ' and shall on expiry'.
Rule 5	The expression 'and/or in any other digital storage' is inserted between the following
	expressions of the Rule:-
<u> </u>	• ' in the Compact Disc' and ' along with Part-I record.';
	• 'record in Compact Disc' and 'being of permanent nature' of Note to the
	Rule
Rule 11 (c)	The expression 'and/or in any other digital storage' is inserted between the following
	expressions of the Rule:-
	' in the Compact Disc' and 'is called for'.
Rule 14	The expression 'and/or in any other digital storage.' is inserted after the expression '
	Records or Documents are preserved in Compact Discs' of Note 1 to the Rule.
	The expression 'and/or in any other digital storage.' is inserted after the expression
	'notwithstanding their preservation in Compact Discs' of Note 2 to the Rule.

By Order of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice, Sd/-

[CHAITALI CHATERJEE (DAS)] Registrar General.

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JUDGMENTS DELIVERED BY THE HON'BLE HIGH COURT

DURING THE PERIOD FROM 01.07.2022 TO 30.06.2023.

	In the Prin	cipal Bench	In the Circuit	In the Circuit
	Appellate Side	Original Side	Bench at Port Blair	Bench at Jalpaiguri
Number of Judgments	7345	635	71	260





JUDGMENTS DELIVERED BY THE DISTRICT COURTS

DURING THE PERIOD FROM 01.07.2022 TO 30.06.2023

SI. No.	Name of the District	Number of Judgments delivered				
1	Bankura	1963				
2	Birbhum	3824				
3	Purba Bardhaman	5335				
4	Paschim Bardhaman	3710				
5	Coochbehar	3314				
6	Dakshin Dinajpur	2688				
7	Darjeeling	1988				
8	Hooghly	3686				
9	Howrah	4525				
10	Jalpaiguri	2119				
11	Alipurduar	1468				
12	City Civil Court	481				
13	PSC	149				
14	City Sessions Court	3457				
15	Malda	2444				
16	Murshidabad	3221				
17	Nadia	12498				
18	North 24 Parganas	11251				
19	Paschim Medinipur	4824				
20	Purba Medinipur	5822				
21	Purulia	1591				
22	Uttar Dinajpur	5650				
23	South 24 Parganas	27115				
24	Kalimpong	511				
25	Jhargram	831				
26	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	504				
	Total	114969				



CASE STATISTICS OF

INSTITUTION (FROM 01.07.2022 TO 30.06.2023)		DISPOSAL (FROM 01.07.2022 TO 30.06.2023)			PENDENCY (AS ON 30.06.2023)				
CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	
55275	21664	76939	65674	23512	89186	183052	34404	217456	

CASE STATISTICS OF HIGH COURT

Month-wise Institution, Disposal 1st July, 2022 -

Month		Opening Baland	e	Institution			
	Civil	Criminal	Total	Civil	Criminal	Total	
July, 2022	193451	36252	229703	6092	2000	8092	
August, 2022	193192	36185	229377	4919	1822	6741	
September, 2022	190413	36043	226456	5837	2320	8157	
October, 2022	187392	36244	223636	491	867	1358	
November, 2022**	187206	36319	223525	4928	1678	6606	
December, 2022	187144	36086	223230	5248	1817	7065	
January, 2023	184590	35757	220347	4453	1939	6392	
February, 2023	183529	35374	218903	4740	1786	6526	
March, 2023	183941	34625	218566	5510	1984	7494	
April, 2023	185554	34477	220031	4594	1869	6463	
May, 2023	184746	34255	219001	3949	1528	5477	
June, 2023	184269	34180	218449	4514	2054	6568	



HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA

CASE DISPOSAL RATIO (DISPOSAL/INSTITUTION*100) (FROM 01.07.2022 TO 30.06.2023)			UNDEF	Y OF 5 PLUS R VARIOUS I S ON 30.06.20	HEADS	DESPOSAL OF 5 PLUS MATTERS (FROM 01.07.2022 TO 30.06.2023)			
CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	
118.813	108.5303	115.918	111663	15400	127063	20393	3769	24162	

FROM 1ST JULY, 2022 TO 30TH JUNE, 2023

and Case Clearance Rate,

30th June, 2023

Disposed of			Closing Balance			Case Clearance Rate (%) (Disposal vis-a-vis institution)		
Civil	Criminal	Total	Civil	Criminal	Total	Civil	Criminal	Total
6351	2067	8418	193192	36185	229377	104.25	103.35	104.03
7698	1964	9662	190413	36043	226456	156.50	107.79	143.33
8858	2119	10977	187392	36244	223636	151.76	91.34	134.57
520	562	1082	187363	36549	223912	105.91	64.82	79.68
4990	1911	6901	187144	36086	223230	101.26	113.89	104.47
7802	2146	9948	184590	35757	220347	148.67	118.11	140.81
5514	2322	7836	183529	35374	218903	123.83	119.75	122.59
4328	2535	6863	183941	34625	218566	91.31	141.94	105.16
3897	2132	6029	185554	34477	220031	70.73	107.46	80.45
5402	2091	7493	184746	34255	219001	117.59	111.88	115.94
4426	1603	6029	184269	34180	218449	112.08	104.91	110.08
5731	1830	7561	183052	34404	217456	126.96	89.09	115.12



LIST OF PENDING CASES IN THE HIGH COURT

(as on 30-6-2023)

Pendency Time	Appellate Side	Original Side		
0 to 5 years	73114	7861		
5 to 10 years	39659	3158		
10 to 20 years	41545	2491		
20 to 30 years	16391	2110		
More Than 30 years	11355	1751		

INSTITUTION AND DISPOSAL STATISTICS OF THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA FOR THE LAST 5 YEARS

YEAR	INSTITUTION	DISPOSAL	COMPARATIVE RATE OF INCREASE IN DISPOSAL WITH PREVIOUS YEAR (%)	CASE CLEARANCE RATE (%) (DISPOSAL VIS-A-VIS INSTITUTION)				
2018	59907	50979	-18.05 *	85.10				
2019	59632	63148	23.87	105.90				
2020	33070	24785	-60.75	74.95				
2021	50012	52466	111.68	104.91				
2022	72080	86255	64.40	119.67				
2023 (TILL 30.06.2023)	38920	42198	7.46 **	108.42				

^{*} For the year of 2018 "Comparative Rate of Increase in Disposal with Previous Year" is calculated with Disposal of 2018 and Disposal of 2017 (62209).

^{**} For the year of 2023 "Comparative Rate of Increase in Disposal with Previous Year" is calculated with Disposal of 2023 (Till 30.06.2023) and Disposal of 1st Half 2022 (39267).



CASE STATISTICS OF HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA

(1st July, 2022 to 30th June, 2023)

Institution and Disposal

Opening Balance (As on 01.07.2022)	Institution	Disposal	Closing Balance (As on 30.06.2023)
229703	76939	89186	217456

MONTH WISE STATISTICS OF HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA (FROM 1ST JULY, 2022 TO 30TH JUNE, 2023)

Month	Institution	Disposal	Case Clearance Rate (%) (Disposal vis-a-vis institution)
July, 2022	8092	8418	104.03
August, 2022	6741	9662	143.33
September, 2022	8157	10977	134.57
October, 2022	1358	1082	79.68
November, 2022	6606	6901	104.47
December, 2022	7065	9948	140.81
January, 2023	6392	7836	122.59
February, 2023	6526	6863	105.16
March, 2023	7494	6029	80.45
April, 2023	6463	7493	115.94
May, 2023	5477	6029	110.08
June, 2023	6568	7561	115.12
Total	76939	88799	115.41



CASE STATISTICS OF DISTRICT COURTS OF

	NAME OF THE COURT	(FI	NSTITUTIO ROM 01.07.20 TO 30.06.2023	022	•	DISPOSAL ROM 01.07.20 O 30.06.2023		AS	PENDENCY ON 30.06.2		
		CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	
	ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS	1176	7142	8318	767	6932	7699	4757	4923	9680	
	ALIPURDUAR	424	4471	4895	301	4003	4304	3829	19807	23636	
	BANKURA	2783	7789	10572	3164	5481	8645	11048	28626	39674	
	BIRBHUM	6528	30690	37218	7036	28776	35812	17355	48833	66188	
	COOCHBEHAR	2192	16723	18915	1890	14892	16782	5140	32137	37277	
Ç	DAKSHIN DINAJPUR	2196	15931	18127	2283	14200	16483	6003	22480	28483	
	DARJEELING	2695	11085	13780	2832	8462	11294	7365	26085	33450	
	HOOGHLY	11087	57238	68325	10179	52469	62648	34728	84368	119096	
	HOWRAH	11293	20241	31534	12024	19598	31622	37422	77186	114608	
	JALPAIGURI	6277	20136	26413	6236	16732	22968	11166	49241	60407	
	JHARGRAM	710	2942	3652	1150	2093	3243	2758	11791	14549	
	KALIMPONG	199	2420	2619	188	2584	2772	286	1079	1365	
	KOLKATA	15377	168076	183453	11602	106338	117940	53513	472682	526195	
	MALDA	4469	19686	24155	5143	15531	20674	12679	53728	66407	
	MURSHIDABAD	10727	47098	57825	9990	35031	45021	41280	164634	205914	
	NADIA	10942	39351	50293	11320	33187	44507	26089	108657	134746	
	NORTH 24 PGS	25571	61185	86756	24834	43676	68510	83012	215021	298033	
	PASCHIM BARDHAMAN	8211	46556	54767	8163	30428	38591	21066	97933	118999	
	PASCHIM MEDINIPUR	7726	33592	41318	8397	24595	32992	28222	71840	100062	
	PURBA BARDHAMAN	8277	25617	33894	7849	22236	30085	26125	50033	76158	
	PURBA MEDINIPUR	9115	21172	30287	9542	16786	26328	27585	76947	104532	
	PURULIA	2333	21205	23538	2061	19794	21855	10337	21669	32006	
	SOUTH 24 PGS	28355	39816	68171	30287	36166	66453	132517	239068	371585	
	UTTAR DINAJPUR	4318	15040	19358	3548	11898	15446	10385	35166	45551	
	TOTAL	182981	735202	918183	180786	571888	752674	614667	2013934	2628601	



WEST BENGAL AND ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS

CASE DISPOSAL RATIO (DISPOSAL/INSTITUTION*100) (FROM 01.07.2022 TO 30.06.2023)				ICY OF 5 PLUS S ON 30.06.202		DISPO	OF 5 PLUS CAS OSED OFF AGA OTAL DISPOSA	AINST	
CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	TOTAL	
65.22	97.06	92.56	852	530	1382	14.73	1.89	3.17	
70.99	89.53	87.93	1349	8666	10015	97.67	26.95	31.90	
113.69	70.37	81.77	3131	9272	12403	24.08	14.41	17.95	
107.78	93.76	96.22	9165	41701	50866	17.72	7.86	9.80	
86.22	89.05	88.72	578	7744	8322	11.11	11.83	11.74	
103.96	89.13	90.93	1816	9737	11553	22.51	11.19	12.76	
105.08	76.34	81.96	2030	8547	10577	12.15	7.66	8.78	
91.81	91.67	91.69	8953	35921	44874	18.16	5.82	7.82	
106.47	96.82	100.28	15518	41355	56873	27.34	24.67	25.68	
99.35	83.09	86.96	3964	29874	33838	8.92	7.55	7.92	
161.97	71.14	88.80	885	4195	5080	17.39	14.86	15.76	
94.47	106.78	105.84	56	73	129	6.38	1.66	1.98	
75.45	63.27	64.29	24861	200276	225137	26.34	20.43	21.01	Ī
115.08	78.89	85.59	3708	9799	13507	14.37	7.91	9.51	
93.13	74.38	77.86	12848	59416	72264	22.82	4.99	8.95	Ī
103.45	84.34	88.50	5817	58255	64072	11.79	10.78	11.03	
97.12	71.38	78.97	30752	92820	123572	12.85	9.60	10.78	
99.42	65.36	70.46	5489	20456	25945	7.66	3.02	4.00	
108.68	73.22	79.85	10714	24020	34734	17.52	23.28	21.81	
94.83	86.80	88.76	10118	21513	31631	18.68	9.24	11.70	
104.68	79.28	86.93	8293	22915	31208	18.26	22.70	21.09	
88.34	93.35	92.85	3579	8889	12468	31.10	4.65	7.14	
106.81	90.83	97.48	51873	141628	193501	18.78	37.66	29.06	
82.17	79.11	79.79	2135	16358	18493	12.74	10.25	10.82	Ī
98.80	77.79	81.97	218484	873960	1092444	17.74	13.73	14.69	



INSTITUTION AND DISPOSAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT COURTS OF WEST BENGAL AND ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS FOR THE LAST 5 YEARS

,							
	YEAR	INSTITUTION	DISPOSAL	COMPARATIVE RATE OF INCREASE IN DISPOSAL WITH PREVIOUS YEAR (%)	CASE CLEARANCE RATE (%) (DISPOSAL VIS-A-VIS INSTITUTION)		
	2018 833843		1023603	-39.87 *	122.76		
	2019 789572 6918		691801	-32.42	87.62		
	2020	2020 434040		-54.91	71.86		
	2021	699647	486933	56.12	69.60		
	2022 903308		774997	59.16	85.80		
	2023 (TILL 30.06.2023)	459483	352534	-5.95 **	76.72		

^{*} For the year of 2018 "Comparative Rate of Increase in Disposal with Previous Year" is calculated with Disposal of 2018 and Disposal of 2017 (1702203).

^{**} For the year of 2023 "Comparative Rate of Increase in Disposal with Previous Year" is calculated with Disposal of 2023 (Till 30.06.2023) and Disposal of 1st Half 2022 (374821).



COURT HALLS IN THE DISTRICT COURTS [AS ON 30.06.2023]

SI. No.	Name of the Districts	Self owned	Owned by State/ Central Government	In Rented Building	Total [1+2+3]
1.	City Civil Court, Calcutta	00	14	00	14
2.	City Sessions Court, Calcutta	45	01	04	50
3.	PSC Court, Calcutta	00	07	00	07
4.	Bankura	31	00	00	31
5.	Birbhum	00	33	01	34
6.	Purba Bardhaman	41	01	00	42
7.	Paschim Bardhaman	31	01	09	41
8.	Cooch Behar	26	00	01	27
9.	Darjeeling	21	01	02	24
10.	Kalimpong	06	00	00	06
11.	Jalpaiguri	14	01	01	16
12.	Uttar Dinajpur	18	03	00	21
13.	Dakshin Dinajpur	16	00	00	16
14.	North 24 Parganas	58	08	00	66
15.	South 24 Parganas	109	01	00	110
16.	Paschim Medinipur	41	00	01	43**
17.	Purba Medinipur	37	00	00	37
18.	Malda	19	00	04	23
19.	Murshidabad	47	03	02	52
20.	Purulia	00	41	00	41
21.	Nadia	47	00	01	48
22.	Howrah	39	04	00	43
23.	Hooghly	50	02	00	52
24.	Jhargram	09	00	00	09
25.	Alipurduar	10	00	00	10
	TOTAL (WEST BENGAL)	715	121	26	863
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	14	01	00	15
	TOTAL (WEST BENGAL INCLUDING ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS)	729	122	26	878

^{**} including 1 (one) Charitable Building



RESIDENTIAL UNITS IN THE DISTRICT COURTS

[AS ON 30.06.2023]

SI. No.	Name of the judgeship	Self owned	Owned by State/ Central Government	In rented building	Total
1.	City Civil Court, Calcutta	00	00	00	00
2.	City Sessions Court, Calcutta	00	00	00	00
3.	PSC Court, Calcutta	00	00	00	00
4.	Bankura	41	00	00	41
5.	Birbhum	12	00	00	12
6.	Purba Bardhaman	13	00	00	13
7.	Paschim Bardhaman	27	00	00	27
8.	Cooch Behar	18	00	12	30
9.	Darjeeling	11	07	00	18
10.	Kalimpong	01	00	00	01
11.	Jalpaiguri	10	00	00	10
12.	Uttar Dinajpur	12	02	00	14
13.	Dakshin Dinajpur	10	00	00	10
14.	North 24 Parganas	22	00	00	22
15.	South 24 Parganas	21	06	00	27
16.	Paschim Medinipur	00	45	00	45
17.	Purba Medinipur	14	00	00	14
18.	Malda	07	05	00	12
19.	Murshidabad	48	00	04	52
20.	Purulia	00	32	00	32
21.	Nadia	32	00	00	32
22.	Howrah	06	00	00	06
23.	Hooghly	17	00	00	17
24.	Jhargram	05	01	00	06
25.	Alipurduar	11	00	00	11
	TOTAL (WEST BENGAL)	338	98	16	452
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	05	06	00	11
	TOTAL (WEST BENGAL INCLUDING ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS)	343	104	16	463



ONGOING PROJECTS OF COURT HALLS AND RESIDENTIAL UNITS IN THE DISTRICT COURTS

(AS ON 30.06.2023)

SI. No.	Name of District	Court Halls	Residential Units	
1.	City Civil Court, Calcutta	00	00	
2.	City Sessions Court, Calcutta	00	00	
3.	PSC Court, Calcutta	00	00	
4.	Bankura	20	06	
5.	Birbhum	09	00	
6.	Purba Bardhaman	00	00	
7.	Paschim Bardhaman	17	00	
8.	Cooch Behar	05	00	
9.	Darjeeling	00	04	
10.	Kalimpong	00	00	
11.	Jalpaiguri	00	00	
12.	Uttar Dinajpur	04	00	
13.	Dakshin Dinajpur	00	00	
14.	North 24 Parganas	00	00	
15.	South 24 Parganas	00	00	
16.	Paschim Medinipur	03	00	
17.	Purba Medinipur	00	10	
18.	Malda	10	00	
19.	Murshidabad	12	10	
20.	Purulia	00	00	
21.	Nadia	00	06	
22.	Howrah	06	00	
23.	Hooghly	02	00	
24.	Jhargram	17	19	
25.	Alipurduar	00	00	
26.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	00	00	
	Total	105	55	
	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	00	00	



DETAILS OF ONGOING PROJECTS (COURT HALLS)

	SI. No.	Name of the Judgeship	Sub- division	No. of Courts rooms/ halls housed in each building	Area of the Court rooms	Estimated cost	Sanctioned amount	Date of commence- ment of the project	Status % complete
and the street of the street o	1.	Bankura	9 Storied Court Building (20 Court room) at Bankura Sadar	20	21000 sq.ft./floor (source of PWD)	43.1204467 Cr	43.1204467 Cr (Administrative Approval received for Rs. 43.1204467 Cr)	March, 2019	47% (as appears from site and concerned Jr. Engineer)
	2.	Birbhum	Bolpur Newly constructed court building (G+4) at Bolpur	09	502 sq.m.	8,96,31,789/-	7,95,08,541/-	01.10.2019	100%
	3.	Paschim Burdwan	Durgapur (G+4) storied building in the sub- division of Durgapur	17	96918.30 sq.ft. (total building area)	23,84,44,745/-	23,84,44,745/-	18.09.2018	90%
	4.	Cooch Behar	Sadar Construction of proposed new (G+4) storied composite court building on the existing vacant land under the judgeship of cooch Behar	04	83.47 sq.m. 81 sq.m. 144 sq.m. 73.5 sq.m.	8,16,15,032/-	8,16,15,032/-	02.08.2019	84%



	SI. No.	Name of the Judgeship	Sub- division	No. of Courts rooms/ halls housed in each building	Area of the Court rooms	Estimated cost	Sanctioned amount	Date of commence- ment of the project	Status % complete
			Mathabhanga (construction of ADJ court room at Mathabhanga including wooden Ejlash, Chamber and toilet, office room in the newly constructed 1st floor of Mathabhanga court building)	01	1625 sq.m.	23,62,627/-	25,47,043/-	22.01.2019	100%
5.	5.	Uttar Dinajpur	District Court Complex at Raiganj- (Construction of two new court rooms in the rank of ADJ of 1st floor of the existing FTC Building at district Court Complex Uttar Dinajpur)	02	106 sq. m.	1,07,40,652/-	1,07,40,652/-	16.05.2019	95%
			Proposed construction of three storied Court Building at Islampur Sub-division	02	366 sq.m.	2,82,00,000/-	2,82,00,000/-	01.10.2013	85%
	6.	Paschim Medinipur	Midnapur (Family Court) Proposed construction	02	73 sq.m.	1,67,13,659/-	1,85,03,036/-	01.02.2019	100%



	SI. No.	Name of the Judgeship	Sub- division	No. of Courts rooms/ halls housed in each building	Area of the Court rooms	Estimated cost	Sanctioned amount	Date of commence- ment of the project	Status % complete
			of two storied Family court at the campus of Midnapur Judges court Paschim medinipur						
1			Dantan (ACJM Court)	01	92.81 sq.m	4,96,16,648/-	5,83,51,000/-	07.03.2019	55%
T T T	7.	Malda	Composite (G+4) court building	10	JM Court- 287.86 sq.m JM Court- 255.015 sq.m CJM Court- 290.776 sq.m ADJ Court- 275.585 sq.m JM Court- 256.745 sq.m	7,07,61,388/-	7,07,61,388/-	01/06/2015	Civil-100% Electrical- 70%
					CIVIL JUDGE (SENIOR DIVISION) Court- 266.10 sq.m ADJ Court- 280.098 sq.m JM Court- 260.31 sq.m ADJ Court- 273.797 sq.m DISTRICT JUDGE Court- 275.737 sq.m	7,66,93,888/-	7,66,93,888/-	10.03.2022	Civil -20%



-									
	SI. No.	Name of the Judgeship	Sub- division	No. of Courts rooms/ halls housed in each building	Area of the Court rooms	Estimated cost	Sanctioned amount	Date of commence- ment of the project	Status % complete
	8.	Murshi- dabad	Composite Court Building at Domkal	Ground floor Court Room-1	85.925 sq.m.	29,21,90,600/-	29,21,90,600/-	09.03.2019	100%
				Ground floor Court Room-2	85.325 sq.m.				
				Ground floor Court Room-3	85.925 sq.m.				
				Ground floor Court Room-4	79.480 sq.m.				
				1 st floor Court Room-5	85.925 sq.m.				
				1 st floor Court Room-6	85.925 sq.m.				
				1 st floor Court Room-7	85.925 sq.m.				
				1st floor Court Room-8	79.480 sq.m.				
				2 nd Floor Court Room-9	85.925 sq.m.				
				2 nd Floor Court Room-10	85.925 sq.m.				
			Composite Court Building within the District	Court Room-I Court	64.02 sq.m.	2,52,45,505/-	6,52,00,000/-	10.12.2021	80%
			Judge's Court Compound at Berhampur.	Room-I	sq.m.				



	SI. No.	Name of the Judgeship	Sub- division	No. of Courts rooms/ halls housed in each building	Area of the Court rooms	Estimated cost	Sanctioned amount	Date of commence- ment of the project	Status % complete
	9.	Howrah	Court Halls of 10 storied court complex at Howrah Sadar	06	12 Cottah 70.10 sq.m. [Each Court Room]	14,73,45,667/-	14,73,45,667/-	2019 22.05.2019	20% 98% At phase-I is completed
W-1 / W	10.	Hooghly	Chander- nagore (Child friendly Special Court under POCSO Act in chander- nagore sub- division)	01	241.04 sq.m.	86,99,891/-	86,99,891/-	December, 2019	
			Serampore (POCSO Court at Serampore)	01	388 Sq.m	68,00,385/-	33,00,000/-		90% Civil construction completed. Estimate for IT and CCTV surveillance infrastructure has already been sent for administrative approval
	11.	Jhargram	Integrated Court Building at Jhargram	17	1823 sq.m.	50,36,17,489/-	50,36,17,489/-	31.01.2021	45%
			Total			207,98,84,432/-	211,69,23,439/-		



DETAILS OF ONGOING PROJECTS (RESIDENTIAL UNITS)

SI. No.	Name of the District	Sub- division	No. of residen- tial units housed in each building	Area of the residential units	Estimated cost	Sanctioned amount	Date of commence- ment of the project	Status % complete
	Bankura	Bankura 6 numbers residential type A Quarter at Bankura	06	1540 sq.ft. per unit	2,06,46,032/- (Revised)	1,89,60,985/- (Admn Approval received for)	29.11.2018	98%
	Darjeeling	Kurseong Type-I, two storied building at Kurseong	04		1,81,42,222/-	1,68,49,472/-	18.05.2015	
	Purba Medinipur	Contai (Construction of proposed Tye-A (G+5) Quarter for Judicial Officers at Contai Court Compound in the District of Purba Medinipur)	10		6.57 Cr.	6.57 Cr.	December, 2021	30%
	Murshida- bad	Domkal (G+3) Construction of 2 (two) numbers of Four Storied	04 (Tower One)	127.25 sq.mtr. per quarter	6,40,16,975/-	5,84,73,000/-	18.06.2019	100%
		(G+3) Residential Quarter Type-I for Judicial Officer at Domkal	06 (Tower Two)					



SI. No.	Name of the District	Sub- division	No. of residen- tial units housed in each building	Area of the residential units	Estimated cost	Sanctioned amount	Date of commence- ment of the project	Status % complete
	Nadia	Kalyani (Six units Quarter for Judicial Officer at Kalyani)	06	603.615 sq.mtr.	1,47,34,639/-	1,50,62,209/- (estimated amount had been revised due to some additional works)	09.10.2012	99%
	Jhargram	Integrated court Complex at Jhargram	19(1+18)	260 sq.m. 3240 sq.m.	10,72,66,923/-	10,72,66,923/-	31.01.2021	98%
		Total			19,39,66,560/-	28,23,12,589/-		





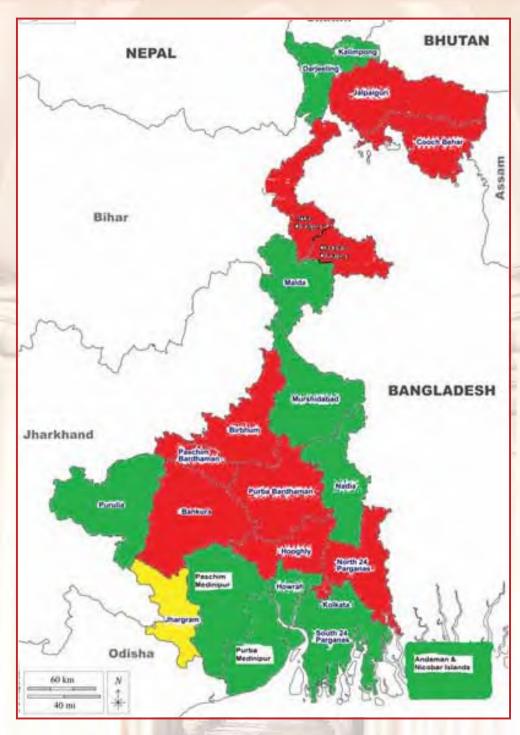
NOTE ON VULNERABLE WITNESS DEPOSITION CENTRES IN WEST BENGAL AND A & N ISLANDS.

- 1. In compliance with the judgement dated 11.01.2022 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, in connection with Miscellaneous Application No. 1852 of 2019 in Criminal Appeal No. 1101 of 2019 (Smruti Tukaram Badade Vs. State of Maharastra & Anr.), the VWDC Committee of this Hon'ble Court comprising of the Hon'ble Justice T.S. Sivagnanam (as the Hon'ble the Chief Justice then was), Hon'ble Justice Amrita Sinha and the Hon'ble Justice Krishna Rao, was constituted by the then Hon'ble the Chief Justice, vide order dated 29.03.2022, which was subsequently reconstituted.
- 2. The Guidelines for recording Evidence of Vulnerable Witnesses, as finalised by the Hon'ble Committee in the light of the guidelines of the Vulnerable Witnesses Committee (New Delhi), was published under Notification No. 2345-RG dated 27.04.2022, with the approval of the then Hon'ble the Chief Justice, and uploaded in the official website of this Hon'ble Court. Later, with the approval of the Hon'ble the then Chief justice, the aforesaid Guidelines were amended by incorporating corresponding rectifications and published under the Court's Notification No. 3688-RG dated 29.07.2022, as well as uploaded in the official website of this Hon'ble Court.
- 3. The Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal, Judicial Department, Govt. of West Bengal, vide the Court's letter no. 1960-G dated 18.06.2022, was requested for causing nomination of a Nodal Officer from the Finance Department, to act as *ex-officio* member of the Committee of this Hon'ble Court, with the appropriate authority of the Government.
- 4. Pursuant to the direction of the Hon'ble (retired) Justice Gita Mittal, the Hon'ble Chairperson of the Vulnerable witness Committee, 4 (four) Judicial Officers, namely Shri Sanjib Daruka, Shri Prasanta Mukhopadhyay, Smt. Sangita Chatterjee and Shri Himanil Bhattacharya, were nominated by the then Hon'ble the Chief Justice, upon unanimous recommendation of the Hon'ble VWDC Committee of this Hon'ble Court, for participating as trainee in the initial training programme of the Vulnerable Witness Committee.
- 5. Moreover, the directions passed from time to time on various issues relating to the VWDC, by the Hon'ble Justice Gita Mittal (since retired), the Hon'ble Chairperson of the Vulnerable witness Committee, were duly complied with.



- 6. The Building for Vulnerable Witness Deposition Centre (VWDC) and Bar Association & Law Clerks at Diamond Harbour Court Complex, South 24 Parganas and the VWDC at Tamluk, Purba Medinipur, were inaugurated on 28.09.2022 by the Hon'ble Justice Gita Mittal (since retired), Hon'ble Chairperson, Vulnerable Witness Committee.
- 7. The judgeships where creation/conversion of VWDC (temporary and/or permanent), are completed and/or functional Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Malda, Murshidabad, Nadia, Purulia, Paschim Medinipur, Purba Medinipur, Howrah, South 24 Parganas and A & N Islands.
- 8. The cost estimates for the aforesaid projects, received from various judgeships from time to time, were forwarded to the Principal Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal, Judicial Department, vide the Court's letter nos. 2258-G dated 11.07.2022, 4002-G dated 08.12.2022, 1171-G dated 23.03.2023, 1563-G dated 18.04.2023, 1836-G dated 02.05.2023 for administrative approval and sanction of funds. In between, a reminder on the issue was also issued to the Principal Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal, Judicial Department, vide the Court's letter no. 1427-G dated 04.04.2023, for administrative approval and sanction of fund.
- 9. The District Judge, A & N Islands, vide the Court's letter no. 2839-G dated 29.08.2022, was requested to take all steps including the step to move the appropriate authority of the A & N Administration for administrative approval and sanction of funds, towards setting up of the permanent VWDCs in the Court Complexes at Port Blair and Mayabunder.





N.B. :-

- Districts marked with **Green** denotes where creation/conversion of VWDC (either on temporary or permanent basis) is completed and/or is functional.
- > Districts marked with Yellow denotes where creation/conversion of VWDC, is under construction.
- Districts marked with **Red** denotes where work of creation/conversion of VWDC has not started yet. In respect of most of such districts, the estimates for the project of such creation/conversion, drawn up by the respective P.W.Ds, have been forwarded to the State Government for Administrative approval and financial sanction, whereupon the work would be started.



HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA

Guidelines for Recording Evidence of Vulnerable Witnesses

NOTIFICATION No. 3688-RG

Dated - 29th July, 2022

Detection and consequent rectification of some minor typing and numbering errors in the Draft Guidelines, necessitates corresponding rectifications to be undertaken in the Hon'ble Court's earlier Notification No. 2345-RG dated 27.4.2022, issued on the subject. Accordingly, an amended Guidelines for Recording Evidence of Vulnerable Witnesses, incorporating such rectifications, is notified hereinbelow.

With the objective of ensuring a safe and conducive environment for recording the evidence of Vulnerable Witnesses in the light of the directions issued by the Supreme Court of India in Smruti Tukaram Badade Vs. State of Maharashtra & Anr. in Miscellaneous Application No. 1852 of 2019 in Criminal Appeal No. 1101 of 2019, the High Court at Calcutta, do hereby, formulate the following Guidelines for Recording of Evidence of Vulnerable Witnesses:-

Preamble

The purpose of this protocol is to present guidelines and recommendations to improve the response of the justice dispensation system towards vulnerable witnesses.

This protocol prescribes guidelines while recording depositions of vulnerable witnesses in order to enable them to give their best evidence in criminal proceedings. Each witness is unique and is to be addressed accordingly. The vulnerability of a witness may emerge from a range of circumstances which include, but are not limited to - nature of crime, threats and intimidation, fear of reprisal, age, developmental levels, gender identity, sexual minorities, ethnicity, religious identity, caste, physical and/or mental disability, lack of infrastructural support, language barriers, geographical location etc. Some of the most challenging cases before judges during the course of their careers are those involving vulnerable witnesses such as children, victims of sexual offences or domestic violence, persons with disabilities, and witnesses experiencing threats to their life and property, among others. Vulnerable witnesses find their interaction with the legal process, especially the criminal justice process intimidating, particularly the courtroom experience. Under these circumstances, unless adequate support is provided, a vulnerable witness may not feel safe to provide robust testimony. Further, the lengthy process of navigating the adversarial criminal justice system or the civil justice system can affect the vulnerable witness' psychological well-being in significant and long-lasting ways.

To respond effectively to the needs of vulnerable witnesses, the justice system needs to respond proactively with sensitivity in an enabling and age-appropriate manner, so that the judicial process is less traumatic and secondary victimisation can be minimized. Sensitive engagement and suitable modifications of existing procedures (within the framework of the law), while ensuring the rights of the accused or the opposite party, can significantly impact the quality of deposition by vulnerable witnesses and potentially the outcome of a trial.



These Guidelines have been developed in furtherance of the Supreme Court's directions in *Smruti Tukaram Badade v. State of Maharashtra*,¹ and have been drawn from the Guidelines for recording of evidence of vulnerable witnesses in criminal matters prepared by different High Courts and Vulnerable Witness Deposition Committee constituted vide order dated 11.01.2022 passed in *Smruti Tukaram Badade Case(Supra)*, Chaired by Hon'ble Ms. Justice Gita Mittal, as well as relevant statutory provisions, judgments, and international standards relevant to vulnerable witnesses.

Objectives of these Guidelines

- 1. To enable vulnerable witnesses to depose freely before any court in a safe and secure environment.
- 2. To minimize harm or secondary victimization of vulnerable witnesses in anticipation and as a result of participation in the justice system.
- 3. To ensure that the rights of all the parties in the judicial processes are effectively implemented. In the context of the criminal process the accused's right to a fair trial and due process, the right of the victim to take part effectively in the proceedings, to be treated sensitively and not be subject to secondary victimization, and the protection of the rights of a vulnerable witness (who may not necessarily be a victim), are effectively implemented.

Applicability

Short Title, extent and commencement –

- a. These guidelines shall be called, "Guidelines for Recording Evidence of Vulnerable Witnesses".
- b. Unless otherwise provided, these guidelines shall govern the examination of vulnerable witnesses who are victims² or witnesses in any case.
- c. They shall apply to every court, including Juvenile Justice Boards in the State of West Bengal.
- d. Their application shall commence from the date notified by the High Court at Calcutta.

2. Construction of the guidelines -

These guidelines shall be liberally construed and interpreted, in view of the extant laws, to uphold the interests of vulnerable witnesses and to promote their maximum accommodation without prejudice to the right of the accused to a fair trial and due process.

3. Definitions -

- a. **Vulnerable Witness** For the purpose of these guidelines, "vulnerable witness" means and includes—
 - (i) any child victim or witness who has not completed 18 years of age;
 - (ii) any victim of an offence under the POCSO Act, 2012
 - (iii) any victim of an offence under Sections 376(1), 376(2), 376A, 376AB, 376B, 376C, 376D, 376DA, 376DB, 376E, 354, 354A, 354B, 354C, 354D and 377 of the Indian Penal Code;

¹ Smruti Tukaram Badade v. State of Maharashtra, 2022 LiveLaw (SC) 80;

²Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, Section 2—(wa).



- (iv) any person with disability as defined under Section 2(s) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and considered to be a vulnerable witness by the concerned court
- (v) any witness suffering from "mental illness" as defined under Section 2(s) of the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017 read with Section 118 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872;
- (vi) any witness deemed to have a threat perception under the Witness Protection Scheme, 2018 of the Union Government as approved by the Supreme Court in *Mahender Chawla v. Union of India*³; and
- (vii) any other witness deemed to be vulnerable by the concerned court,⁴ [including Family Courts, Children's Courts, Juvenile Justice Board, civil and criminal courts, or any tribunal or forum.]*
- b. **Support Person** Means and includes Support Persons assigned by the Child Welfare Committee under the POCSO Rules, 2020 to render assistance to the child through the process of investigation and trial, or any other person assisting a child in the pretrial or trial process in respect of an offence under the POCSO Act, support person or para legal volunteer provided by the Legal Services Authority under The West Bengal Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules, 2017, or any other person appointed by the court to provide support including psycho-social support, accompany and assist the vulnerable witness, whether minor or major, to testify or attend judicial proceedings.
- c. **Best Interests of the Child** means the basis of any decision taken regarding the child, to ensure fulfilment of the child's basic rights and needs, identity, social wellbeing and physical, emotional and intellectual development.⁷
- d. **Development Level** Development level refers to the specific growth phase in which most individuals are expected to behave and function in relation to the advancement of their physical, mental, socio economical, cognitive and moral abilities.
- e. *In-Camera* Proceedings means proceedings wherein the court allows only those persons who are necessary to be present while hearing the witness deposing in the court⁸
- f. Concealment of identity of witness Means and includes any legislative provision or judicial ruling prohibiting the disclosure of the name, address, school, family, relatives, neighbourhood or any other information which may lead to the identification of a vulnerable witness in print, electronic, social media, etc or made known to the public at large during investigation, trial and post-trial stage.⁹

³ Mahender Chawla v. Union of India, (2019) 14 SCC615.

⁴ Smruti Tukaram Badade v. State of Maharashtra, 2022 LiveLaw (SC) 80; Sakshi v. Union of India, AIR 2004 SC 3566 para 34.

⁵POCSO Rules 2020, Rules 2(1)(f), 4(8), and 5(6).

⁶The West Bengl Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules 2017, Rule 50(14).

⁷ Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act 2015, Section 2(9).

⁸The definition has been adapted from Witness Protection Scheme 2018, Clause 2(f).

⁹POCSO Act 2012, Section 33(7); JJ Act 2015, Section 74; Indian Penal Code 1860, Section 228A; *Nipun Saxena v. Union of India*, (2019) 2 SCC 703; Witness Protection Scheme 2018, Clause 2(b); Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989, Section 15A(8)(a)(b).



- g. Comfort Items Comfort items mean any article of choice of the vulnerable witness which may have a calming effect at the time of deposition and may include stuffed toy, blanket or book.
- h. **Court House Tour** means a pre-trial tour of the courtroom and court complex by the Support Person or a para-legal volunteer, as the case may be, to familiarize a vulnerable witness with the environment and the basic process of adjudication and roles of each court official.¹⁰
- i. **Live Link** 'Live link' means and *includes* a live television link, audio-video electronic means or other arrangement whereby a witness, while not being physically present in the courtroom¹¹ is nevertheless present in the courtroom by remote communication using technology to give evidence and be cross-examined.
- j. **Special Measures** means and includes the use of legislative provisions, and any mode, method and instrument, etc, considered necessary for providing assistance in recording deposition of vulnerable witnesses.
- k. **Testimonial Aids** means and includes screens; single visibility mirrors, curtains, ¹² live links, image and/or voice altering devices; or any other technical devices, ¹³ facilities and equipment.
- I. **Secondary Victimization** means victimization that occurs not as a direct result of a criminal act but through the response of institutions and individuals to the victim. ¹⁴
- m. **Revictimization** means a situation in which a person suffers more than one criminal incident over a period of time. ¹⁵
- n. Waiting Room A safe place for vulnerable witnesses where they can wait.
- o. **Special Measures Direction** The concerned court shall direct as to which special measure will be used to enable a vulnerable witness to depose freely and in a safe, accessible, and comfortable environment. Directions may be discharged or varied during the proceedings, but normally continue to be in effect until the proceedings are concluded.

4. Applicability of guidelines to all vulnerable witnesses –

For the avoidance of doubt, it is made clear that these guidelines shall apply to all vulnerable witnesses as defined in Rule 3(a) of these Guidelines, regardless of which party is seeking to examine the witness.

¹⁰ The West Bengal Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules 2017, Rule 50(14); Alternative Pre-trial and Trial Processes for Child Witnesses in New Zealand's Criminal Justice System, Issue Paper, Min. of Justice, New Zealand Govt. 2010.

¹¹Sec 275 Cr.P.C; Achieving Best Evidence in Criminal Proceedings: Guidance on Interviewing Victims and Witnesses, CJSHI, UK.

¹² POCSO Act 2012, Section 36(2).

¹³ Witness Protection Scheme, 2018, Clause 7(I); Mahender Chawla v. Union of India, (2019) 14 SCC 615.

¹⁴ UN Model Law on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, 2009.

¹⁵ UN Model Law on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, 2009.



5. No inference of prejudice to be drawn from special measures -

The fact that a witness has had the benefit of a special measure to assist them in deposition, shall not be regarded in any way whatsoever as being prejudicial to the position of the other side and this should be made clear by the judge at the time of passing order in terms of these guidelines to the parties when the vulnerable witness is examined.

6. Identification of Stress causing factors of adversarial Criminal Justice System -

The Court shall consider the following factors which cause stress, especially but not only limited to child witnesses, rendering them further vulnerable witnesses, and impeding complete disclosure, and take necessary steps to mitigate or minimize the stress. The factors include, amongst others:¹⁶

- a. Multiple depositions
- b. Not using developmentally appropriate language
- c. Delays and repeated adjournments
- d. Testifying more than once
- e. Prolonged/protracted court proceedings
- f. Lack of communication between professionals including police, doctors, lawyers, prosecutors, investigators, and mental health practitioners, and lack of convergence with authorities such as Child Welfare Committees, District Child Protection Units, One Stop Centres etc.
- g. Fear of public exposure
- h. Anxiety about threats from the accused and/or their associates
- i. Confusion and guilt about testifying against a family member or relative
- j. Lack of understanding of complex legal procedures
- k. Face-to-face contact with the accused
- I. Practices insensitive to developmental needs
- m. Aggressive and inappropriate cross-examination, including asking irrelevant questions
- n. Lack of adequate support, witness protection, and victims' services
- o. Sequestration of witnesses who may be supportive to the vulnerable witness
- p. Placement that exposes the vulnerable witness to intimidation, pressure, or continued abuse
- q. Lack of preparation to enable fearless and robust testifying
- r. Worry about not being believed especially when there is no evidence other than the testimony of the vulnerable witness
- s. Worry about being yelled at, ridiculed, or getting into trouble for testifying
- t. Worry about retaliation or repercussions for themselves or their family
- u. Worry about not being understood or being able to communicate effectively
- v. Formality of court proceedings and surroundings including formal dress of members of the judiciary and legal personnel
- w. Inaccessibility of the courtroom, particularly for vulnerable witnesses with disabilities

¹⁶ State v. Sujeet Kumar, 2014(4) JCC 2718 (High Court of Delhi); Breaking the Cycle of Violence: Recommendations to Improve the Criminal Justice Response to Child Victims and Witnesses, US Dept. of Justice.



7. Competency of vulnerable witness -

Every vulnerable witness shall be presumed to be competent to testify as a witness, unless the court considers that they are prevented from understanding the questions put to them, or from giving rational answers to those questions due to tender years, disability, either of body or mind, and illness, or any other cause of the same kind, in accordance with Section 118 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.¹⁷

Explanation: A mentally ill person may also be held competent unless the person is prevented by the illness to understand questions.⁴

When conducting the competency examination, the court shall not use "general knowledge" or "current affairs" questions to adjudge competence. Similarly, philosophical questions, such as, what truth means should be strictly avoided.

Persons allowed at competence assessment –

Only the following may be allowed to attend the competence assessment:

- a. the judge and such court personnel deemed necessary and specified by order of the judge concerned;
- b. the counsel for the parties;
- c. the guardian ad litem;
- d. non-offending parent, guardian, friend, relative of a child victim or a person in whom the child has trust or confidence;¹⁸
- e. one or more support persons for a child victim or witness;
- f. translator, interpreter, expert or special educator, if necessary;¹⁹
- g. person familiar with the manner of communication of a vulnerable witness with intellectual or physical disability;²⁰
- h. the accused, unless the court determines that competence requires to be and can be fully evaluated in their absence; and
- i. any other person, who in the opinion of the court can assist in the competence assessment.

9. Conduct of competence assessment. -

The assessment of a person, as to their competence as a witness shall be conducted only by the presiding judge.

10. Pre-trial visit of Witnesses to the Court -

Vulnerable witnesses shall be allowed a pre-trial court house tour or tour of the civil court or Juvenile Justice Board, etc., along with the support person²¹ or para-legal volunteer, as the case may be,

¹⁷ Indian Evidence Act 1872, Section 118.

¹⁸ POCSO Act 2012, Section 33(4); The West Bengal Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules 2017, Rule 50(18)(i).

¹⁹ POCSO Act 2012, Section 38(1).

²⁰ POCSO Act 2012, Section 38(2); Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016, Section 12.

²¹ The West Bengal Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules 2017, Rule 50(14).



to enable such witnesses to familiarise themselves with the layout, and may include visit to and explanation of the following:

- a. the location of the accused in the dock:
- b. court officials (what their roles are and where they sit);
- c. who else might be in the court;
- d. the location of the witness box;
- e. a run-through of basic court procedure;
- f. the facilities available in the court which may include the waiting room, toilet, separate passage for entry and exit, and testimonial aids;
- g. discussion of any particular fears or concerns, including concerns regarding safety in relation to the accused, with the support person, prosecutors and the judge to dispel the fear, trauma and anxiety in connection with the upcoming deposition at court;²²
- h. demonstration of any special measures applied for and/or granted, for example practising on the live link and explaining who will be able to see them in the courtroom, and showing the use of screens (where it is practical and convenient to do so).²³

11. Meeting the judge -

The Judge may meet a vulnerable witness *suo motu* on reasons to be recorded or on an application of either party in the presence of the prosecution and defence lawyer, or in their absence before the witness gives their evidence, for explaining the court process in order to help them to understand the procedure and give their testimony, free of fears and concerns.

12. Assistance of an interpreter, translator, special educator or expert -

- (i) The court shall ensure that proceedings relevant to the testimony of a vulnerable witness or witness are conducted in language that is simple and comprehensible to the witness.
- (ii) Wherever necessary, the court may, *Suo motu* or upon an application presented by either party or a Support Person of vulnerable witnesses take the assistance of a qualified and experienced interpreter, translator, special educator or expert, to enable recording of evidence of vulnerable witnesses, and on payment of such fees as may be prescribed by the State Government or authority concerned.²⁴
- (iii) The concerned court may consider the qualifications prescribed for interpreters, translators, sign language interpreters, special educators and experts in Rule 5, POCSO Rules, 2020 or any other laws, rules, or judgments of the High Court or Supreme Court in this regard.
- (iv) The court may also take the assistance of a person familiar with the manner of communication of a vulnerable witness with physical or intellectual disability while recording evidence.²⁵

²² POCSO Rules 2020, Rule 4(9).

²³ Achieving Best Evidence in Criminal Proceedings: Guidance on Interviewing Victims and Witnesses, UK; Safeguarding Children as Victims and witnesses, UK.

²⁴POCSO Act, Section 38(1); Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016, Section 12; Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, clause 14.

²⁵POCSO Act, Section 38(2); Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016, Section 12.



- (v) If, in view of the vulnerable witnesses' age, level of maturity or special individual needs of a witness, which may include but are not limited to disabilities (if any), ethnicity, poverty or risk of revictimization, the witness requires special assistance measures in order to testify or participate in the justice process, such measures shall be provided free of cost.
- (vi) If the court appoints an interpreter, translator, special educator or expert, the respective counsel for the parties shall pose questions to the vulnerable witness only through them, either in the words used by counsel or, if the vulnerable witness is not likely to understand the same, in words, signs, or by such mode as is comprehensible to the vulnerable witness and which conveys the meaning intended by the counsel.

13. Legal assistance and legal aid -

The concerned court shall facilitate the right of a child victim under the POCSO Act to take assistance of a legal counsel of their choice.²⁶ Further, any vulnerable witness who falls within the ambit of Section 12, Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 or any other laws, rules, or polices that recognise their right to free legal aid may be provided with legal aid by the court either:²⁷

- a. based on a request by or on behalf of the vulnerable witness; or
- b. pursuant to an order of the court on its own motion.

14. Court to allow presence of Support Persons -

- (i) The court shall inform vulnerable witnesses that they may take the assistance of a Support Person during the trial. In cases under the POCSO Act, 2012, the concerned court shall take into consideration the role of the Support Persons as provided in Rule 4(9), POCSO Rules, 2020.
- (ii) The court shall allow *Suo motu* or on request, verbal or written, the presence of a Support Person of the choice of the vulnerable witness in the courtroom during the deposition, ²⁸ provided that such support person shall not completely obscure the witness from the view of the accused or the judge.
- (iii) The court may allow the Support Person to take appropriate steps to provide emotional support to the vulnerable witness in the course of the proceedings²⁹ and also inform the court if the vulnerable witness needs a break or is feeling stressed or triggered.
- (iv) The court shall instruct the Support Person not to prompt, sway, influence or tutor the vulnerable witness during their testimony.
- (v) Where no other suitable person is available, and only in very rare cases should another witness in the case, whose deposition has already been completed in all respects, be appointed as a Support Person. The court shall ordinarily appoint a neutral person, other than a parent, as a Support Person. It is only in exceptional circumstances keeping the condition of the vulnerable

²⁶ POCSO Act, Section 40; The West Bengal Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules 2017, Rule 50(19).

²⁷ Delhi Domestic Working Women's Forum v. Union of India, 1995 1 SCC 14 (Supreme Court).

²⁸ POCSO Act 2012, Section 33(4); POCSO Rules 2020, Rule4(9); ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, clause 30(a); Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, Clause 14.

²⁹ Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, Clause 6(a).



- witness in mind, that the court should appoint a parent as a Support Person. In POCSO cases, however, care shall be taken to ensure that the provisions of the POCSO Rules, 2020 regarding engagement of Support Persons are adhered.
- (vi) The court shall allow Support Persons to coordinate with the other stakeholders such as police, Special Juvenile Police Unit (SJPU), medical officer, prosecutors, mental health professionals, Child Welfare Committee, Juvenile Justice Board, defence counsels and courts.
- (vii) As far as possible, the concerned court shall ensure the continuity of the same Support Person during the deposition.
- (viii) If the Support Person is also a witness in the case, their testimony shall be recorded, ahead of the testimony of the vulnerable witness.

15. Right to be informed -

A vulnerable witness, their parents or guardian, lawyer, the Support Person, if designated, or other appropriate person designated to provide assistance shall, from their first contact with the court process and throughout that process, be promptly informed by the Court about the stage of the process and, to the extent feasible and appropriate, about the following:³⁰

- a. charges brought against the accused, or if none, the stay of proceedings against them;³¹
- b. the progress of the case;32
- c. procedures of the criminal justice process including the role of vulnerable witnesses, the importance, timing and manner of testimony, and the ways in which proceedings will be conducted during the trial;³³
- d. existing support mechanisms for a vulnerable witness when participating in proceedings, including services of a Support Person;³⁴
- e. schedule of court proceedings that the vulnerable witness is either required to attend or is entitled to attend and the specific time and place of hearings and other relevant processes;³⁵
- f. right of the informant or person authorised by the informant to be present at the time of hearing of the bail application of an accused under Sections 376(3), 376AB, 376DA, or 376DB of the Indian Penal Code, 1860,³⁶ or under the POCSO Act.³⁷

³⁰ POCSO Rules 2020, Rule 4(15).

³¹ Model Guidelines Under Section 39 of The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

³² Model Guidelines Under Section 39 of The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

³³ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, Clause 19(b). Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, Clause 6(a).

³⁴ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, clause 19(a).

³⁵ ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, clause 19(d).

³⁶ Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, Section 439(1-A).

³⁷ Reena Jha v. Union of India, W.P.(C) 5011/2017 decided by the Delhi High Court on 25.11.2019; Miss G v. NCT of Delhi, Crl.M.C. 1474/2020 (High Court of Delhi); Arjun Kishanrao Malge v. State of Maharashtra, PIL No. 5/2021 decided by the Bombay High Court on 08.04.21; Akash Chandrakar v. State of Chhattisgarh, Criminal Appeal No.101 of 2021 decided by the Chhattisgarh High Court on 19.01.22; Rohit v. State of U.P, Bail No. 8227/2021 decided by the Allahabad High Court on 06.08.21.



- right of vulnerable victims and their dependents to reasonable, accurate and timely notice of court proceedings and bail proceedings under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act), 1989; 38
- h. right of vulnerable victims and their dependents to be heard during proceedings of bail, discharge, release, parole, conviction or sentence of an accused or any connected proceedings or arguments and file written submission on conviction, acquittal or sentencing under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities Act), 1989; 39
- i. availability of public and private emergency, and crisis services, including shelters;
- j. availability of protective measures;
- k. availability of victim's compensation benefits;
- I. availability of legal aid;40
- m. availability of institutional and non-institutional care under the juvenile justice system for vulnerable witnesses who may come under the ambit of a "child in need of care and protection";
- n. relevant rights of child victims and witnesses under the POCSO Act and Rules, JJ Act, 2015 and Model Rules or applicable State Rules, and other applicable laws, as well as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international legal instruments, including the Guidelines and the Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 40/34 of 29 November 1985;
- o. the progress and disposition of the specific case, including in a criminal case the apprehension, arrest and custodial status of the accused and any pending changes to that status, the prosecutorial decision and relevant post-trial developments and the outcome of the case and sentence imposed;
- p. all decisions, or at least those decisions affecting the interests of the victim or vulnerable witness:⁴¹
- q. the process for appeal against the order of the court.

16. Waiting area for vulnerable witness –

The courts shall ensure that a waiting area for vulnerable witnesses with the support person, and the lawyer of the vulnerable witness, if any, is separate from waiting areas used by other persons. ⁴² Care shall be taken to ensure that the waiting room is used only by the vulnerable witness and the

³⁸ Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989, Section 15A(3). Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989, Section 15A(5);

³⁹ ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, Clause 21.

⁴⁰ ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims andWitnesses of Crime, Clause 19(a).

⁴¹ Model Guidelines Under Secton 39 of The Protecton of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012;

⁴²ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, Clause 31(b).



non-offending family members and support persons. The waiting area should be accessible to all vulnerable witnesses, including those with disability.⁴³ The waiting area for vulnerable witnesses should be furnished so as to make a vulnerable witness comfortable. This may include, but not be limited to, being furnished and equipped with toys, books, games, drawing and painting materials and other such activities, TV, etc. which can help lower the anxiety of the witness.⁴⁴ It could include a place for very young child witnesses to rest or sleep. Accessible toilets and drinking water facilities should also be available inside the waiting room or within close proximity. The approach to the waiting area shall be in such a way that allows the witness to access it with ease and without having to confront other litigants, police, or the accused and their associates. The waiting area needs to be equipped with a digital "Case Number Display Monitor" that shows the case being called in the court. Arrangements for the vulnerable witness to depose from the waiting area, which may include monitors and screens for recording of the evidence of the child shall be made available.

17. Duty to provide comfortable environment -

- (i) It shall be the duty of the court to ensure a comfortable environment for the vulnerable witness by issuing directions and also by supervising the location, movement and deportment of all persons in the courtroom including the parties, their counsel, vulnerable witnesses, Support Persons, guardian *ad litem*, facilitator, and court personnel.⁴⁵
- (ii) Separate and safe waiting areas and passage thereto should be provided for vulnerable witnesses.
- (iii) Care shall be taken to ensure that the vulnerable witness courtroom is accessible to persons with disabilities.
- (iv) The vulnerable witness may be allowed to testify from a place other than the witness chair. The witness chair or other place from which the vulnerable witness testifies may be turned to facilitate their testimony but the accused or the opposite party and their counsel must have a frontal or profile view of the vulnerable witness even by a video link, during the testimony of the vulnerable witness. The witness chair or other place from which the vulnerable witness testifies may also be rearranged to allow the vulnerable witness to see the accused or the opposite party and their counsel, if the vulnerable witness chooses to look at them, without turning their body or leaving the witness stand.
- (v) In case of a victim of a sexual offence, care should be taken to avoid exposure of the victim to the accused at the time of recording the evidence, while ensuring the right of cross-examination of the accused and that the accused is in a position to hear the statement of the child and communicate with their advocate. 47
- (vi) While deciding to make available such an environment, the judge may be dispensed with from wearing their judicial robes. 48

⁴³ Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016, Section 12.

⁴⁴ The West Bengal Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Rules 2017, Rule 50(12).

⁴⁵ ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, Clause 30(d).

⁴⁶ Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, Section 273.

⁴⁷POCSO Act 2012, Section 36(1); JJ Model Rules 2016, Rule 54(18(xi).

⁴⁸ Virender v. State of NCT Delhi, Crl.A No. 121/08 dt. 29.09.09 decided by the High Court of Delhi.



(vii) Access to creche facilities within the court premises should be enabled for vulnerable witnesses who may require child care facilities on the date of their deposition.

18. Directions for Judges of Criminal Courts, Children's Courts and Juvenile Justice Boards -

- (i) Vulnerable witnesses shall receive high priority and shall be dealt with as expeditiously as possible, minimizing unnecessary delays and adjournments to avoid repeated appearances of the witness in the Court.⁴⁹ (Whenever necessary and possible, the court schedule will be altered to ensure that the testimony of the vulnerable witness is recorded on sequential days, without delays).
- (ii) Judges and court administrators should ensure that the developmental needs of vulnerable witnesses are identified, recognized and accommodated in the arrangement of the courtroom and recording of the testimony. For instance, judges should use developmentally appropriate language, schedule hearings for the record of testimony bearing in mind the attention span, physical needs and exam schedules of young vulnerable witnesses, and allow the use of testimonial aids as well as interpreters, translators, when necessary.
- (iii) The judges should ensure that vulnerable witnesses with disability are able to exercise their right to access the court without discrimination on the basis of disability.⁵⁰ In case of a victim under Sections 354, 354A, 354-B, 354-C, 354-D, 376(1), 376(2), 376-A, 376-B, 376-C, 376-D, 376-E, or 509, IPC, where the victim is temporarily or permanently mentally or physically disabled, their statement under Section 164(5-A) shall be considered as a statement in lieu of examination-in-chief.⁵¹
- (iv) Additional measures may be taken to enable the recording of evidence of vulnerable witnesses with disability. For instance, steps can be taken to record witness testimony in compliance with Section 278, Cr.PC in Braille to ensure a vulnerable witness is not dependent on another person to read their testimony out; use of amplification devices/ document magnifiers/ ensuring that all notices that require a response or an action to be taken (e.g. summons, orders) are available by accessible means and in accessible formats; use of video and audio guides; engagement of sign language interpreters; enabling wheelchair access in the court premises, courtroom and witness box. Adequate time should be given to vulnerable witnesses using communication boards during evidence.
- (v) The Court should be satisfied that a victim or vulnerable witness is not scared and that they are able to reveal what happened to them when they are subjected to an examination during recording of evidence. The Court must ensure that the victim or vulnerable witness is not concealing any portion of evidence for the reason that they were ashamed of what happened to them.⁵²

⁴⁹ POCSO Act, 2012, Section 33(5); Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, proviso to Section 309(1); Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989, Section 14(3); ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, Clause 30(c). Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, Clause 6(e).

⁵⁰ Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016, Section 12; UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Article 13.

⁵¹ Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, Section 164(5A)(b).

⁵² Akshay Sarma v. State of Assam, (2017) 2 GLR 121 (Gauhati High Court).



- (vi) The Court shall ensure that adequate time and opportunity is given to refresh the memory of vulnerable witnesses.
- (vii) In cases of sexual offences, judges should avoid asking the vulnerable witness to demonstrate intimate touching on their own body, during the recording of the testimony and vulnerable witnesses can instead be asked to point to a body outline diagram.⁵³
- (viii) Judges should be flexible in allowing the vulnerable witnesses to have a Support Person present while testifying and should guard against unnecessary sequestration of Support Persons or any other persons permitted to be present during the testimony of the witness.
- (ix) Judges should encourage the victim or vulnerable witness to let the court know if they have a problem, do not understand a question or if they may need a break.⁵⁴
- (x) Judges should ensure that steps are taken to ensure the atmosphere is comfortable and not intimidating. For instance, the court may consider allowing a limited number of defence lawyers to be present in the courtroom during the deposition of a vulnerable witness or not allowing counsel to ask questions in an intimidating tone or interrupting the witness.
- (xi) Judges shall carefully monitor the examination and cross examination of the victim or vulnerable witnesses to avoid any harassment or intimidation to the victim or vulnerable witness.⁵⁵
- (xii) Judges may allow a vulnerable witness to carry a comfort item during the deposition.
- (xiii) Judges may provide transport or transportation cost for the vulnerable witness in accordance with the guidelines prescribed by the concerned High Court in this regard.
- (xiv) Judges shall ensure that the requisite guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures affirmed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in respect of recording of evidence of vulnerable witnesses is followed.⁵⁶

19. Allowing proceedings to be conducted in camera –

(i) The mandatory requirement of in camera trials as per section 327 CrPC and Section 37 of the POCSO Act shall be ensured and recorded in the orders passed in such cases. In all other cases, the court may, at the time of testimony of a vulnerable witness, order in writing the exclusion from the courtroom of all persons, who do not have a direct interest in the case including members of the press. Such an order may be made to protect the right to privacy of the vulnerable witness or if the court is of the opinion that requiring the vulnerable witness

⁵³ Ministry of Women and Child Development, Model Guidelines Under Section 39 of The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, p.69.

⁵⁴Model Guidelines Under Section 39 of The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

⁵⁵ Akshay Sarma v. State of Assam, (2017) 2 GLR 121 (Gauhati High Court).

⁵⁶ For instance, the SOP laid down in *In Re Children in Street Situations*, 2022 SCC OnLine SC 189 (Supreme Court of India) is to be followed in all criminal trials where the child witnesses do not reside near the court where the trial is conducted and where the child witnesses are examined virtually, not physically, in these courts where the trial is conducted. Judges should also comply with the Witness Protection Scheme 2018 which was approved by the Supreme Court in *Mahender Chawla v. Union of India* (2019) 14 SCC 615 (Supreme Court of India).



to testify in open court would cause psychological harm to them, hinder the ascertainment of truth, or result in their inability to effectively communicate due to embarrassment, fear, or timidity.

(ii) In making its order, the court shall consider the developmental level of the vulnerable child witness, the nature of the crime, the nature of testimony regarding the crime, the relationship of the child witness to the accused and to persons attending the trial, their wishes, and the interests of their parents or legal guardian.

20. Live-link television testimony in criminal cases where the vulnerable witness is involved -

- (i) Any party in the case, the prosecutor, counsel or the guardian *ad litem* may apply for an order that the testimony of the vulnerable witness be taken in a room outside the courtroom and be televised to the courtroom by live-link television.
- (ii) In order to take a decision of usage of a live-link the judge may question the vulnerable witness in chambers, or in some comfortable place other than the courtroom, in the presence of the support person, guardian *ad litem*, prosecutor, and counsel for the parties. The questions of the judge shall not be related to the issues at trial but to the feelings of the vulnerable witness about testifying in the courtroom.
- (iii) The court on its own motion, if deemed appropriate, may pass orders in terms of (i) or any other suitable directions for recording the evidence of a vulnerable witness.

21. Provision of testimonial aids to prevent exposure of vulnerable witness to the accused -

The court may *suo motu* or on an application made even by the vulnerable witness, prosecutor or counsel or the guardian *ad litem* order testimonial aid such as screens, one-way mirror, curtains or other devices to be placed in the courtroom in such a manner that the vulnerable witness cannot see the accused/opposite party while testifying and at the same time ensuring that the opposite party/accused is in a position to hear the statement of the vulnerable witness and communicate with their advocate.⁵⁷ The court shall issue an order in writing stating the reasons and describing the approved courtroom arrangement in the judgment.

22. Factors to be considered while considering the application under Guidelines -

- (i) The court may order that the testimony of the vulnerable witness be taken by live-link television if there is a substantial likelihood that the vulnerable witness would not provide a full and candid account of the evidence if required to testify in the presence of the accused/ opposite party, their counsel or the prosecutor as the case may be or if the vulnerable witness is likely to be traumatised by exposure to the accused.
- (ii) The order granting or denying the use of live-link television shall state the reasons therefore and may consider the following:
 - a. the age and level of development of the vulnerable witness;
 - b. the physical and mental health, including any intellectual or physical disability of the vulnerable witness:

⁵⁷ POCSO Act 2012, Section 36(1); Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, Section 273; ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, clause 31(c).



- c. any physical, emotional, or psychological harm related to the case on hand or trauma experienced by the vulnerable witness;
- d. the nature of the alleged offence/case and circumstances of its commission;
- e. any threats against the vulnerable witness;
- f. the relationship of the vulnerable witness with the accused or adverse party;
- g. the reaction of the vulnerable witness to any prior encounters with the accused/opposite party in court or elsewhere;
- h. the reaction of the vulnerable witness prior to trial when the topic of testifying was discussed by parents or professionals;
- specific symptoms of stress exhibited by the vulnerable witness in the days prior to testifying;
- j. testimony of expert or lay witnesses;
- k. the custodial situation of the child and the attitude of the members of the child's family regarding the events about which the child will testify;
- I. the wishes of the vulnerable witness on the manner in which they would like to render the testimony; and
- m. other relevant factors, such as court atmosphere and formalities of court procedure.
- (iii) The court shall ensure ahead of time that the equipment is working, recordings can be played and that camera angles will not permit the witness to see the defendant. The court shall not wait until the victim or vulnerable witness is in the live link room to run checks: delays and malfunctions can be disruptive to the vulnerable witness. Where a live link is being used during the vulnerable witness's testimony, ensure that they are able to see all of the questioner's face. ⁵⁸ It should be explained that the judge or magistrates can always see the vulnerable witness over the live video link even when the witness cannot see the judge or magistrates. ⁵⁹

23. Mode of questioning -

- (i) To facilitate the ascertainment of the truth the court shall exercise control over the questioning of vulnerable witnesses and may do so by:
 - a. ensuring that questions are kept simple and stated in a form appropriate to the comprehension and developmental level of the vulnerable witness;
 - b. protecting vulnerable witness from harassment or undue embarrassment, character assassination, aggressive questioning, and ensure that dignity of the witness is maintained at all times during the trial;⁶⁰

⁵⁸ Model Guidelines Under Section 39 of The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

⁵⁹ Model Guidelines Under Section 39 of The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012.

⁶⁰ POCSO Act 2012, Section 33(6); Indian Evidence Act 1872, Sections 53 A, 148, 151, 152 and the proviso to Section 146; State of Punjab v. Gurmit Singh (1996) 2 SCC 384; Akshay Sarma v. State of Assam, (2017) 2 GLR 121 (Gauhati High Court).



- c. avoiding waste of time by declining questions which the court considers unacceptable due to their being improper, unfair, misleading, needless, unconnected to the case, repetitive or expressed in language that is too complicated for the witness to understand.
- d. allowing the vulnerable witness to testify in a narrative form.
- e. in cases involving multiple accused persons or defendants, take steps to minimize repetition of questions, and the court may require counsels for different parties to provide questions in advance from all the counsels.
- f. in cases involving sexual offences against child victims, ensuring that questions are put to the child victim only through the court.⁶¹
- (ii) Objections to questions should be couched in a manner so as not to mislead, confuse, frighten a vulnerable witness.
- (iii) The court should allow the questions to be put in simple language avoiding slang, esoteric jargon, proverbs, metaphors and acronyms. The court should ascertain the spoken language of the victim or vulnerable witness and the range of their vocabulary before recording the evidence. The court must not allow the question carrying words capable of multiple meanings, questions having use of both past and present in one sentence, or multiple questions, which is likely to confuse a witness. Where the witness seems confused, instead of repetition of the same question, the court should direct its re-phrasing.
 - **Explanation**: The reaction of a vulnerable witness shall be treated as sufficient clue that the question was not clear so it shall be rephrased and put to the witness in a different way.⁶³
- (iv) Given the developmental level of vulnerable witnesses, excessively long questions shall be required to be rephrased and thereafter put to witness.
- (v) Questions framed as compound or complex sentence structure; or two-part questions or those containing double negatives shall be rephrased and thereafter put to witness.

24. Rules of deposition to be explained to the Witnesses -

The court shall explain to a vulnerable witness to

- (a) Carefully listen to the questions posed and to tell the court the true version of events and, as far as possible (except in the case of very young children) not to respond by shaking their head to mean yes or no, when answering,
- (b) To specifically state if the witness does not remember or has forgotten something,
- (c) To clearly ask when the question is not understood.

A gesture by a vulnerable witness to explain what had happened shall be appropriately interpreted and recorded in the vulnerable witness' deposition. Assistance of an interpreter or special educator shall be taken if the witness is unable to communicate verbally and such statement should be videographed.⁶⁴

⁶¹POCSO Act 2012, Section 33(2); Sakshi v. Union of India, AIR 2004 SC 3566 (Supreme Court of India).

⁶² Akshay Sarma v. State of Assam, (2017) 2 GLR 121 (Gauhati High Court).

⁶³ Virender v. State, Crl.A. No.121/08 decided by the Delhi High Court on 29.9.09.

⁶⁴ Indian Evidence Act 1872, Section 119.



25. Compensation -

The court shall apply its mind to the question of award of compensation in every case involving a victim who is a vulnerable witness, having regard to the applicable laws and schemes.⁶⁵

26. Protection of privacy and safety -

Orders and judgments pertaining to cases involving vulnerable witnesses shall be made available on e-courts or on the official portal of the court after redacting identifying information of vulnerable witnesses. Any record containing identifying information regarding a vulnerable witness shall be confidential and kept under seal. Except upon written request and order of the court, the record shall only be made available to the following:

- t. Members of the court staff for administrative use;
- u. The Public Prosecutor for inspection;
- v. Defence counsel for inspection;
- w. The guardian ad litem for inspection;
- x. Other persons as determined by the court.

27. Protective order. -

The depositions of the vulnerable witness recorded by video link shall not be video recorded except under reasoned order requiring the special measures by the judge. However, where any video or audio recording of a vulnerable witness is made, it shall be under a protective order that provides as follows:

- (i) A transcript of the testimony of the vulnerable witness shall be prepared and maintained on record of the case. Copies of such transcript shall be furnished to the parties of the case.
- (ii) Recording may be viewed only by parties, their counsel, their expert witness, and the guardian ad litem in the office of the court, following a procedure similar to inspection of documents.
- (iii) No person shall be granted access to the recording, or any part thereof unless they sign a written affirmation that they have received and read a copy of the protective order; that they submit to the jurisdiction of the court with respect to the protective order; and that in case of violation thereof, they will be subject to the penalties provided by law.
- (iv) Any recording, if made available to the parties or their counsel, shall bear the following cautionary notice:

"This object or document and the contents thereof are subject to a protective order issued by the court in (case title), (case number). They shall not be examined, inspected, read, viewed,

⁶⁵Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, Sections 357, 357A. POCSO Act 2012, Section 33(8) and POCSO Rules 2020, Rule 9; NALSA's Compensation Scheme for Women Victims/Survivors of Sexual Assault/Other Crimes-2018; *Ankush Shivaji Gaikwad v. State of Maharashtra*, AIR 2013 SC 2454 (Supreme Court of India); *Nipun Saxena v. Union of India*, Writ Petition(s) (Civil) No(s).565/2012 order of the Supreme Court dated 11.05.2018; *Suresh v. State of Haryana*, 2014 SCC OnLine SC 952 (Supreme Court of India); *Bodhisattwa Gautam v. Miss Subhra Chakraborty*, AIR 1996 SC 922 (Supreme Court of India); Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, Clause 12.



or copied by any person, or disclosed to any person, except as provided in the protective order. No additional copies of the tape or any of its portion shall be made, given, sold, or shown to any person without prior court order. Any person violating such protective order is subject to the contempt power of the court and other penalties prescribed by law."

(v) No recording shall be given, loaned, sold, or shown to any person except as ordered by the court. This protective order shall remain in full force and effect until further order of the court.

28. Personal details during evidence likely to cause threat to physical safety of vulnerable witness to be excluded –

A vulnerable witness has a right at any court proceeding not to testify regarding personal identifying information, including their name, address, telephone number, school, and other information that could endanger their physical safety or that of their family. The court may, however, require the vulnerable witness to testify regarding personal identifying information in the interest of justice.

29. Destruction of videotapes and audiotapes. -

Any video or audio recording of a vulnerable witness produced under the provisions of these guidelines or otherwise made part of the court record shall be destroyed as per rules formed by the concerned High Court.

30. Protective measures -

At any stage in the justice process where the safety of a vulnerable witness is deemed to be at risk, depending upon the intensity of the threat perception, the court shall suo motu arrange to have protective measures put in place for the vulnerable witness or refer the matter to the Competent Authority under the Witness Protection Scheme, 2018. Those measures may include the following:

- y. prohibiting direct or indirect contact between a vulnerable witness and the accused/opposite party at any point in the justice process; ⁶⁷
- z. restraint orders;68
- aa. direct continuation of bail conditions during trial;69
- bb. protection for a vulnerable witness by the police or other relevant agencies and safeguarding the whereabouts of the vulnerable witness from disclosure;⁷⁰
- cc. any other protective measures that may be deemed appropriate, including those stipulated under the Witness Protection Scheme, 2018.

⁶⁶ Mahender Chawla v. Union of India, (2019) 14 SCC 615 (Supreme Court of India); Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, Clause 6(d).

⁶⁷ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, Clause 34(a).

⁶⁸ ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, Clause 34(b).

⁶⁹ ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, Clause 34(c).

⁷⁰ ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, Clause 30(d).



31. Review and Monitoring. -

The implementation of the guidelines shall be reviewed annually and for this purpose the High Court concerned shall engage independent research bodies or organisations, reputed academic institutions or Universities or constitute a multi-disciplinary Committee including experts having the experience of working with vulnerable witnesses. The recommendations received shall be promptly acted upon and the guidelines may also be updated based on relevant legal developments.

Additional Guidelines specific to child victims and witnesses

32. Developmentally appropriate questions for child witnesses. -

The questions asked to assess the competency of a child witness shall be appropriate to the age and developmental level of the child; shall not in any manner be related to the issues at trial; and shall focus on the ability of the child to remember, communicate, distinguish between truth and falsehood, and appreciate the duty to testify truthfully.⁷¹

33. Appointment of Guardian ad litem. -

The court may appoint any person as guardian *ad litem* as per law to a vulnerable child witness who is a victim of, or a witness to a crime having regard to their best interests, after considering the background of the guardian *ad litem* and their familiarity with the judicial process, social service programs, and human development, giving preference to the parents of the child, if qualified. The guardian *ad litem* may be a member of bar / practicing advocate, except a person who is a witness in any proceeding involving the vulnerable witness.

34. Duties of guardian ad litem -

It shall be the duty of the guardian *ad litem* of the vulnerable child witness so appointed by court to:

- a. attend all depositions, hearings, and trial proceedings in which a vulnerable witness participates.
- b. make recommendations to the court concerning the best interest of the vulnerable witness keeping in view the needs of the witness and observing the impact of the proceedings on the witness.
- c. explain in a language understandable to the vulnerable witness, all legal proceedings, including police investigations, status and progress of the trial, child-friendly measures and rights, and witness protection measures, in which the vulnerable witness is involved;
- d. assist the vulnerable witness and their family in coping with the emotional effects of participating in any case/proceedings, especially the crime and subsequent criminal or non-criminal proceedings in which the vulnerable witness is involved;
- e. remain with the vulnerable witness while the vulnerable witness waits to testify.

⁷¹ State v. Rahul, 2013 IVAD 745 (High Court of Delhi); State v. Sujeet Kumar, 2014(4) JCC 2718 (High Court of Delhi).



35. Testimony during appropriate hours -

The court may order that the testimony of the child witness or child victim should be taken during a time of day when the vulnerable witness is well-rested and does not clash with their routine activities like meal and sleep timings, attending school/exams or other activities specific to that witness.⁷²

36. Frequent breaks during testimony -

The child witness or child victim may be allowed reasonable periods of relief and breaks while undergoing depositions, as often as necessary, depending on their age, disability, and developmental need.⁷³

37. Measures to protect the privacy and well-being of child victims and witnesses -

- (i) Confidentiality of vulnerable witnesses and judicial transparency are not mutually exclusive and vulnerable victims'/witnesses' right to information and access to court records in their own case shall not be restricted in the name of protecting their privacy and confidentiality. It is possible for courts to maintain anonymity of vulnerable witnesses through simple name suppression measures which would then enable the release of court documents without endangering their privacy. Best practices from various countries and international tribunals and courts may be adapted for the purpose of balancing confidentiality and judicial data accessibility and transparency.⁷⁴
- (ii) To ensure the privacy and physical and mental well-being of a child victim and to prevent undue distress and secondary victimization, taking into account the best interests of the vulnerable witness, the court may order one or more of the following measures to protect the privacy and physical and mental well-being of the vulnerable child witness or victim:⁷⁵
 - a. concealing from the public record any names, addresses, workplaces, professions or any other information that could lead to the identification of the child victim or witness in orders, judgments, or any case records accessible to the public. Where the accused is related to the child victim, care shall also be taken to redact the identity of the accused before making the order or judgment accessible to the public;77
 - b. prohibiting the defence lawyer and persons present in the court room from revealing the identity of the vulnerable witness or disclosing any material or information that would lead to the identification of the vulnerable witness in the media;

⁷² ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, Clause 30(d).

⁷³ POCSO Act 2012, Section 33(3). ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, Clause 30(d).

⁷⁴HAQ Centre for Child Rights, *Balancing Children's Confidentiality and Judicial Accountability: A Cross-Country Comparison of Best Practices Regarding Children's Privacy in the Criminal Justice System*, https://www.haqcrc.org/new-at-haq/balancing-childrens-confidentiality-and-judicial-accountability-.

⁷⁵ Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power, Clause 6(d).

⁷⁶POCSO Act 2012, Section 33(7); JJ Act 2015, Section 74; Indian Penal Code 1860, Section 228A. *Nipun Saxena v. Union of India*, (2019) 2 SCC 703. Witness Protection Scheme, 2018, Clause 2(b). Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, Section 15A(8)(a)(b). ECOSOC Resolution 2005/20, Guidelines on Justice in Matters involving Child Victims and Witnesses of Crime, clause 27.

⁷⁷ For instance, in cases of incest where the accused is the father, the child becomes identifiable immediately if the name of the father appears in the judgment copy available on e-courts or any other publicly accessible domain.



- c. protecting the identity of child victims and permitting disclosure in accordance with relevant statutory provisions and judicial precedents.;⁷⁸
- d. assigning a pseudonym or a number to a child victim in cases of sexual offences, in which case the full name and date of birth of the child shall be revealed to the accused for the preparation of their defence. In other cases, a pseudonym may be assigned as per request of the parties;
- e. avoiding exposure to the accused by using screens or single visibility mirror;
- f. through examination in another place, transmitted simultaneously to the courtroom by means of video link; through a qualified and suitable facilitator, such as, but not limited to, an interpreter for vulnerable witness with hearing, sight, speech or other disabilities;
- g. holding in-camera trials;
- h. if the child victim or witness refuses to give testimony in the presence of the accused or if circumstances show that the child may be inhibited from speaking freely in that person's presence, the court shall give orders to temporarily remove the accused from the courtroom to an adjacent room with a video link or a one- way mirror visibility into the courtroom. In such cases, the defence lawyer shall remain in the courtroom and question the vulnerable witness, and the accused's right of confrontation shall thus be guaranteed;
- i. taking any other measure that the court may deem necessary to advance the right to privacy, including, where applicable, anonymity, taking into account the best interests of the child witness and the rights of the accused.
- (iii) Orders and judgments pertaining to cases involving vulnerable child witnesses shall be made available on e-courts or on the official portal of the court after suppressing their identifying information.

38. Standard Operating Procedure to be followed during virtual examination of child witnesses –

Judges shall ensure that the Standard Operating Procedure affirmed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in *In Re Children in Street Situation*⁷⁹ is adhered to in all criminal trials where the child witness does not reside near the court where the trial is conducted and where the child witness is examined virtually, not physically, by the court in which the trial is conducted.

By Order of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice,

Sd/- Uday Kumar Registrar General High Court, Calcutta

⁷⁸ POCSO Act, 2012, Section 33(7); Indian Penal Code 1860, Section 228A(2); Code of Criminal Procedure 1973, Section 327(3); *Nipun Saxena v. Union of India*, (2019) 2 SCC 703 (Supreme Court of India).

¹⁹ In Re Children in Street Situations, 2022 SCC OnLine SC 189 (Supreme Court of India)



STAFF STRENGTH IN THE APPELLATE SIDE

As on 30.06.2023

At a Glance

Category	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacant
Group-A	493	345	148
Group-B	412	354	58
Group-C	619	346	273
Group-D	689	485	204
Posts for the Judges Guest House at Bijan Bhavan	5	1	4
Posts carrying consolidated monthly remuneration	194	131	63

Break-up GROUP - A

(General Branch, Computer Wing and Tech. Man Power)

SI. No.	Name of the posts	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacant
1.	Joint Registrar	7	6	01 Shri Tapas Chatterjee is currently serving as EO to the post of Joint Registrar (Protocol)
2.	Deputy Registrar	15	13	02 [D.R. (CAD) & DR (Insp.)
3.	Senior Programmer (Direct Recruitment)	1	01	Nil
4.	System Manager (Direct Recruitment)	2	Nil	02



SI. No.	Name of the posts	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacant
5.	Assistant Registrar & Special Officer	40	31	09 including 02 posts of A.R. (Protocol)
6.	Superintendent, Grade-I	1	1	Nil
7.	Stamp Reporter/ Addl. Stamp Reporter	5	3	02
8.	Officer-on-Special Duty (Ex-Cadre)	1	1	Nil
9.	Officer-on-Special Duty for Protocol Section (Ex-Cadre, specifically on temporary Basis)	1	01	Nil
10.	Protocol Officer	1	Nil	1
11.	System Analyst (Programming) (Direct Recruitment)	3	03	Nil
12.	System Analyst (Hardware & Networking) (Direct Recruitment)	3	Nil	3
13.	Court Keeper (Direct Recruit)	2	1	1
14.	Addl. Court Keeper	1	1	Nil
15.	Caretaker to the Official residence of the Hon'ble the Chief Justice [Redesignated as Assistant Registrar (CJR) w.e.f. 01.05.2019]	1	1	Nil
16.	Section Officer	46	44	02 (2 for Protocol)
17.	Accountant/Cashier	5	5	Nil
18.	Special Assistant (Legal)	1	01	Nil
19.	System Administrator	3	Nil	3
20.	System Officer	21	14	7
21.	System Assistant System Assistant	66	16	50
22.	Technical Assistant	06	02	04
23.	Senior Supervisory Salaried Typist	01	01	Nil
24.	Senior Supervisory Extra Typist (Regular)	01	01	Nil



Technical Branch

SI. No.	Name of the posts	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacant
1.	Joint Registrar (Court)	1	1	Nil
2.	Deputy Registrar (Court)	3	3	Nil
3.	Assistant Registrar (Court)	142	119	23
4.	Assistant Court Officer	65	44	21
5.	Stenographer, Grade-A	20	11	09
6.	Stenographer, Grade-B	20	17	03
7.	Committee Clerk	1	Nil	1
8.	Librarian/Centenary Librarian	4	2	2 (pending before Hon'ble Recruitment committee)
9.	Assistant Librarian	3	1	2
	Total	493	345	148

GROUP - B

SI.	Name of the posts	Sanctioned	Existing	Vacant
No.		Strength	Strength	
1.	Superintendent & Editor	50	49	01 Superintendent (Protocol)
2.	Senior Translator	1	1	Nil
3.	Electronic Data Processing Supervisor (EDPS)	50	25	25
4.	Senior Commissioner of Affidavit	1	1	Nil
5.	Commissioner of Affidavit	3	0	03
6.	Translator	7	Nil	7 (pending before Hon'ble Rule Committee)
7.	General Assistant to the D.R. & A.RI	2	Nil	2



	SI. No.	Name of the posts	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacant
	8.	Upper Division Assistant/ Court Clerk	249	249	Nil
	9.	Stenographer, Grade-C	46	29	17
1	10.	Technical Assistant for Judges' Library.	3	Nil	3
		Total	412	354	58

GROUP - C

SI. No.	Name of the posts	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacant
1.	Lower Division Assistant	261	117	144
2.	Salaried Typist	27	4	23 (Dying Cadre)
3.	Extra Typist (Regular)	49	19	30 (Dying Cadre)
4.	Typist (Computer Knowledge)	19 (5 posts in 7436-J/ JD/N/3H-01/07 dt. 02/12/2008 and 14 posts in 803-J/JD/3H-16/14 dt. 26/02/2016)	Nil	19
5.	Data Entry Operator	163	123	40
6.	Assistant to the Librarian	6	Nil	6 (pending before Hon'ble Recruitment Committee)
7.	Muharrir, GrI	11	11	Nil
8.	Muharrir, GrII	19	19	Nil
9.	Bank Clerk	1	1	Nil
10.	Record Arranger	32	28	04



	SI. No.	Name of the posts	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacant
	11.	Telephone Operator	7	4	3 [These posts have been converted and taken into count in the sanctioned strength of LDA, pending ratificaation of the Govt.]
	12.	Driver	21	19	02
	13.	Head Mali	1	1	Nil
	14.	Library Clerk	2	Nil	2
		Total	619	346	273

GROUP - D

SI. No.	Name of the posts	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacant
1.	Duftry	27	23	4
2.	Jamadar	78	64 (excluding six (6) re-employed Jamadar)	14
3.	Group-D (Regular) (Peon/Orderly/Barkandaz/ Darwan/Night Guard/ Cleaner)	479	331	148
4.	Senior Mali	1	1	Nil
5.	Mali	4	3	1
6.	Head Sweeper	1	Nil	1
7.	Sweeper	38	18	20
8.	Vistee	13	3	10
9.	Farash	43	42	01
10.	Duplicating/Copying Machine Operator.	5	Nil	5
	Total	689	485	204



Posts sanctioned for the High Court Guest House at Bijan Bhavan, except 1 (one) post of Superintendent & L.D.A and 3 (three) posts of Group-D (R)

SI. No.	Name of the posts	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacant
1.	Caretaker (on Contract basis with consolidated pay)	1	Nil	1
2.	Cook (on Contract basis with consolidated pay)	1	Nil	1
3.	Sweeper (on Contract basis with consolidated pay)	1	Nil	1
4.	Darwan	1	Nil	1
5.	Helper to the Cook	1	1	Nil
	Total	5	1	4

Other Posts carrying consolidated monthly remuneration

SI. No.	Name of the posts	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacant
1.	Court Manager (on contractual basis with consolidated pay)	24	2	22
2.	Law Clerk-cum Research Assistant (on contractual basis with consolidated pay)	60	23	41
3.	Software Developer	6	4	2
4.	Badli Workers (on contractual basis with consolidated pay)	110	102	08
	Total	200	131	73



STAFF STRENGTH IN THE ORIGINAL SIDE

As on 30.06.2023

At a Glance

SI. No.	Category	Sanctioned strength	Existing Strength	Vacancy
1.	Group A	134	104	30
2.	Group B	163	157	6
3.	Group C	181	102	79
4.	Group D	157	111	46
	Total	635	474	161

Break-up

SI. No.	Name of the post	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacancy
1.	Registrar	1	1	0
2.	Senior Master & Official Referee	1	0	1
3.	Master & Official Referee	1	1	0
4.	Registrar-in-Insolvency	1	1	0
5.	Assistant Master & Referee	1	1	0
6.	Joint Registrar	2	1	1
7.	Deputy Registrar	6	4	2
8.	Joint Registrar-cum-Secretary to The Hon'ble The Chief Justice	1	1	0
9.	Joint Registrar-cum-Addl. Secretary to The Hon'ble The Chief Justice	1	1	0
10.	Assistant Registrar	32	29	3
11.	Stamp Reporter	2	2	0
12.	Assistant Registrar (Court Recording)	51	36	15
13.	Interpreting Officer (Court)	12	4	8
14.	Superintendent Grade-I	1	1	0
15.	Section Officer	18	18	0
16.	Accountant	2	2	0
17.	Cashier	1	1	0
	Total	134	104	30



GROUP - B

SI. No.	Name of the post	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacancy
1.	Assistant to the Registrar	1	1	0
2.	Superintendent	19	19	0
3.	Preservation Assistant Preservation Assistant	1	1	0
4. Upper Division Assistant, Chamber Clerk, Ref. Clerk, Commissioner of Oath and Affidavit, G.A. to Deputy Registrar		106	105	1
5.	Shorthand Typist to the Registrar	1	0	1
6.	Senior Supervisory Grade Typist	1	1	0
7.	Supervisory Grade Typist	1	1	0
8.	Typist Grade I	4	2	2
9.	Senior Supervisory Grade Section Writer	1	1	0
10.	Supervisory Grade Section Writer	5	5	0
11.	Grade I Section Writer	18	18	0
12.	Senior Nagri Munshi	1	1	0
13.	Senior Bengali Mohurrir	1	1	0
14.	Translator	3	1	2
	Total	163	157	6

GROUP - C

SI. No.	Name of the post	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacancy
1.	Lower Division Assistant	107	64	43
2.	Salaried Typist (Basic Grade)	6	0	6
3.	Basic Grade Section Writer (MSW & Typist)	24	5	19
4.	Nagri Munshi	2	0	2
5.	Bengali Mohurrir	4	0	4
6.	Mohurrir Grade-I	5	5	0
7.	Mohurrir Grade-II	8	8	0



SI. No.	Name of the post	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacancy
8.	Record Arranger	19	17	2
9.	Bank Clerk	1	1	0
10.	Sealing Clerk	1	1	0
11.	Bank Sarkar	1	0	1
12.	Inspection Clerk	1	1	0
13.	Persian Reader	1	0	1
14.	Arabic Reader	1	0	1
	Total	181	102	79

GROUP - D

SI. No.	Name of the post	Sanctioned Strength	Existing Strength	Vacancy
1.	Duftry Grade-I	3	3	0
2.	Duftry	5	5	0
3.	Jamadar Grade-I	1	1	0
4.	Jamadar	2	2	0
5.	Process Server	2	2	0
6.	Grade-I Peons/Orderlies/Durwans, etc.	42	42	0
7.	Peons/Orderlies/Durwans, etc.	93	54	39
8.	Grade-I Sweeper	2	2	0
9.	Sweeper	5	0	5
10.	Grade-I Bhisti	1	0	1
11.	Bhisti	1	0	1
	Total	157	111	46



DETAILS OF STAFF STRENGTH IN DISTRICT COURT.

(As on 30.06.2023)

SI. No.	District	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies
1	City Civil Court	214	159	55
2	City Sessions Court	376	291	85
3	PSC Court, Calcutta	155	104	51
4	Kalimpong	109	59	50
5	Nadia	457	383	74
6	Purulia	190	151	39
7	Dakshin Dinajpur	163	139	24
8	Uttar Dinajpur202	156	46	
9	Malda	237	167	70
10	Murshidabad	498	433	65
11	Paschim Medinipur	414	314	100
12	Purba Medinipur	379	318	61
13	Hooghly	548	450	98
14	Howrah	421	348	73
15	Jhargram	114	78	36
16	Jalpaiguri	168	135	33
17	Darjeeling	243	177	66
18	Cooch Behar	314	241	73
19	Paschim Bardhaman	297	233	64
20	Purba Bardhaman	384	347	37
21	Birbhum	353	228	125
22	North 24 Parganas	567	298	269
23	South 24 Parganas	1143	890	253
24	Bankura	374	255	119
25	Alipurduar	119	58	61
	Total	8439	6412	2027
26	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	115	92	23



Recruitment Process (01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023)

Direct Recruitment as well as promotional examination in the Appellate Side and Original Side Establishment of the Hon'ble High Court

SI. No	Name of the post	Whether fresh recruitment or promotional (A.S./O.S./ Both/Ors)	Related Notification / Notice No.	Event	Date
1.	Cook & Helper to Cook	Fresh Recruitment, Bijan Bhawan, High Court at Calcutta.	2192-R (Recruitment)	Practical test held.	02.07.2022 & 03.07.2022
2.	Driver	Fresh Recruitment, A.S., High Court at Calcutta.	3426-R (Recruitment)	Result of Practical Test published and scheduled of Interview/ Viva-voce uploaded.	13.07.2022
		Interview/ Viva-voce held.	23.07.2022		
			3751-R (Recruitment)	Final Result for appointment of Driver published.	02.08.2022
3.	Assistant Registrar (Direct Recruitment, O.S., ment from Legal Profession) Fresh Recruitment, O.S., High Court at Calcutta.	01-R/AR (Direct Recruit)/HCOS/ 2022	Merit wise result of written examination and schedule of Interview/ Viva-voce.	12.07.2022	
				Interview/ Viva-voce held.	19.07.2022, 20.07.2022 & 21.07.2022



	SI. No	Name of the post	Whether fresh recruitment or promotional (A.S./O.S./ Both/Ors)	Related Notification / Notice No.	Event	Date
-				02-R/AR (Direct Recruit)/HCOS/ 2022	Final Result published.	02.08.2022
	4.	P.A./Stenographer (Grade - C to Grade - B)	Promotional Examination, A.S., High Court at Calcutta.	3251-R (Recruitment)	Merit wise Result uploaded.	07.07.2022
The Paris of the P	5.	5. P.A./Stenographer (Grade - C) Fresh Recruitment, A.S., High Court at Calcutta.	5467 - RG	Schedule of Phase - I Examination along with the list of eligible candidates.	02.12.2022	
					Phase - I Examination held at Heritage Institute of Technology, Kolkata - 700107.	17.12.2022
				2796 - RG	Result of Phase - I Examination and Schedule of Phase - II Examination.	10.04.2023
					Phase - II Examination held.	30.04.2022
	6.	Data Entry Operator	Fresh Recruitment, A.S., High Court at Calcutta.	3226 - R (Recruitment)	Result of online key depression test (Phase - II) uploaded.	05.07.2022
				4438 - R (Recruitment)	Document(s) verification of the qualified candidates published.	13.09.2022



SI. No	Name of the post	Whether fresh recruitment or promotional (A.S./O.S./Both/Ors)	Related Notification / Notice No.	Event	Date
				Document(s) verification held on	17.09.2022 & 18.09.2022
			4567 - R (Recruitment)	Schedule of Interview/ Viva-voce (Phase - III)	21.09.2022
				Interview/ Viva-voce held.	24.09.2022 & 25.09.2022
			638 - RG along with Corrigendum No. 727 - RG	Final Result for appointment published.	01.02.2023 & 04.02.2023
7.	Record Promotional Examination, A.S.& O.S. High Court at Calcutta.	Examination, A.S.& O.S. High		Promotional Examination (Written Test) for Record Arranger, Duftry held on.	10.12.2022
			Dictation/ Reading Test held on	04.02.2023 & 05.02.2023	
			2309-R (Recruitment)	Result for the post of Record Arranger and Duftry, A.S. published.	24.03.2023
			2310 -R (Recruitment)	Result for the post of Record Arranger, O,S. published.	



	SI. No	Name of the post	Whether fresh recruitment or promotional (A.S./O.S./Both/Ors)	Related Notification / Notice No.	Event	Date
	8.	Section Officer to Assistant Registrar	Promotional Examination, A.S. & O.S. both side		Written Test held on	17.02.2023
		rtogisti di	of this Hon'ble Court.		Interview/ Viva-voce held on	03.03.2023
miner for all comments				2308 - R (Recruitment)	Result for the post of Assistant Registrar in the A.S. & O.S. published.	24.03.2023
	9.	Librarian,	Promotional Examination, A.S. of this Hon'ble Court.		Interview/ Viva-voce	
	10.	P.A./Stenographer, Grade-C to Grade-B and Grade-B to Grade-A	Promotional Examination, A.S. of this Hon'ble Court.		Promotional Examination held on	17.06.2023
	11.	Stamp Reporter/ Addl. Stamp Reporter	Promotional Examination, A.S. of this Hon'ble Court.		Written Examination held on	21.06.2023
	12.	Deputy Registrar (Inspection) and Deputy Registrar (CAD)	Promotional Examination, A.S. High Court Calcutta.		Written Examination held on	12.06.2023
	13.	Deputy Registrar (Establishment & Court Management) and Deputy Registrar (Legal)	Promotional Examination, O.S. High Court Calcutta.		Written Examination held on	12.06.2023



SI. No	Name of the post	Whether fresh recruitment or promotional (A.S./O.S./ Both/Ors)	Related Notification / Notice No.	Event	Date
14.	Deputy Registrar (Protocol) and Deputy Registrar (Medical Protocol)	Promotional Examination, A.S. High Court Calcutta.		Written Examination held on	22.03.2023
	,			Interview/ Viva-voce held on	03.04.2023
			2734 - R (Recruitment)	Final Result published.	05.04.2023
15.	Deputy Registrar (Court)	Promotional Examination, A.S. High Court Calcutta.		Written Test held on	10.03.2023
				Interview/ Viva-voce held on	27.03.2023
			2528 - R (Recruitment)	Final Result published	31.03.2023
16.	Deputy Registrar (Writ), (Vigilance), (Accounts),	Promotional Examination, A.S. High		Written Test held on	10.03.2023
	(Criminal)	Court Calcutta.		Interview/ Viva-voce held on	16.03.2023
			2529 - R (Recruitment)	Final Result published	31.03.2023
17.	Joint Registrar (Administration)	Promotional Examination, O.S. High Court Calcutta.		Written Test held on	20.02.2023
				Interview/ Viva-voce held on	27.02.2023
			1563 - R (Recruitment)	Final Result published	02.03.2023



	SI. No	Name of the post	Whether fresh recruitment or promotional (A.S./O.S./ Both/Ors)	Related Notification / Notice No.	Event	Date	
-	18.	Joint Registrar Promotional (Inspection) Examination, A.S. High Court		Written Test held on	02.12.2022		
			Calcutta.		Interview/ Viva-voce held on	14.12.2022	
				6221 - RG	Final Result published	20.12.2022	
-	19.	Deputy Registrar (Court Management),	Promotional Examination, A.S. High Court		Written Test held on	19.09.2022	
ĺ		(Administration), (Judicial)	Calcutta.		Interview/ Viva-voce held on	28.09.2022	
				5993 - RG	Final Result published	12.12.2022	
	20.	Deputy Registrar, (Administration), (Establishment &	Promotional Examination, O.S. High Court		Written Test held on	19.09.2022	
		Court Management) (Court Recording),	Calcutta.		Interview/ Viva-voce held on	28.09.2022	
		Troop, amgy,		5993 - RG	Final Result published	12.12.2022	
	21.	Joint Registrar (Court Management)	Promotional Examination, A.S. High Court		Written Test held on	20.02.2023	
			Calcutta.		Interview/ Viva-voce held on	27.02.2023	
				1562 - R (Recruitment)	Final Result published	02.03.2023	
	22.	Joint Registrar (Administration)	Promotional Examination, O.S. High Court Calcutta.		Written Test held on	20.02.2023	
							Interview/ Viva-voce held on
				1563 - R (Recruitment)	Final Result published	02.03.2023	



Budgetary Allocation and Expenditure of the Appellate Side for the period from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023

Budget of the High Court, Appellate Side (comparative status)

2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Rs. 1470072000	Rs. 1802072000	Rs. 1979285000	Rs. 1969532000

Total expenditure during the period from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023

Expenditure Head	01.07.22- 31.03.23	01.04.23- 30.06.23	TOTAL
Pay & Allowances	2037016764	399864981	2436881745
Electricity	19051239	7512095	26563334
Telephone	3120583	839259	3959842
Petrol & maintenance of High Court Car and hire charges of vehicles.	17634230	11963527	29597757
Upgradation of computer & maintenance	11001549	342200	11343749
Other contingencies	68493537	12107099	80600636
Other Charges	14553336	3392795	17946131
Publication	96150266	78574238	174724504
T.A./D.A.	532226	542520	1074746
Professional Charges	2517881	1414888	3932769
Wages	33484047	11297618	44781665
Medical Reimbursement (07)	1242308	240279	1482587
Medical Reimbursement (12) WBHS 2008	5620705	2361241	7981946
Total	2310418671	530452740	2840871411

^{**} All figures are in Rupees.



Budgetary allocation and expenditure of the High Court, Appellate Side for the period from 01.07. 2022 to 31.03.2023 (F.Y.2022-23)

-	Head of Account	Amount sanctioned (Rs.)	Amount utilized (in Rs.) from 01.07. 2022 to 31.03.2023.
	Administrative expenses	Rs.2010435889/-	Rs.1049986991/-

Break-up of administrative expenses

Pay & Allowances	Rs.2037016764/-
Electricity	Rs.19051329/-
Telephone	Rs.3120583/-
Petrol & maintenance of High Court Car and hire charges of vehicles.	Rs.17634230/-
Upgradation of computer & maintenance	Rs.11001549/-
Other contingencies	Rs.68493537/-
Other Charges	Rs.14553336/-
Publication	Rs.96150266/-
T.A./D.A.	Rs.532226/-
Professional Charges	Rs.2517881/-
Wages	Rs.33484047/-
Medical Reimbursement (07)	Rs.1242308/-
Medical Reimbursement WBHS 2008	Rs.5620705/-



Budgetary allocation and expenditure of the High Court, Appellate Side for the period from 01.04.2023 to 30.06.2023 (F.Y. 2023-24).

Head of Account	Amount sanctioned (Rs.)	Amount utilized (in Rs.) from 01.04. 2023 to 31.07.2023.	
Administrative expenses	Rs.1124390375/-	Rs.530442740/-	

Break-up of administrative expenses

Pay & Allowances	Rs. 399864981/-
Electricity	Rs. 7512095/-
Telephone	Rs. 839259/-
Petrol & maintenance of High Court Car and hire charges of vehicles.	Rs. 11963527/-
Upgradation of computer & maintenance	Rs. 342200/-
Other contingencies	Rs. 12107099/-
Other Charges	Rs. 3392795/-
Publication	Rs. 78574238/-
T.A./D.A.	Rs. 542520/-
Professional Charges	Rs. 1414888/-
Wages	Rs. 11297618/-
Medical Reimbursement (07)	Rs. 240279/-
Medical Reimbursement (12) WBHS 2008	Rs. 2361241/-



BUDGETARY ALLOCATION AND EXPENDITURE OF THE ORIGINAL SIDE FOR THE PERIOD FROM 01.07.2022 TO 30.06.2023

Budget of the High Court, Original Side (comparative status)

2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Rs. 53,33,24,000	Rs. 60,81,66,000	Rs. 64,69,66,000	Rs. 64,91,56,000

Total expenditure during the period from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023

Expenditure Head	01.07.22- 31.03.23	01.04.23- 30.06.23	TOTAL
Pay & Allowances	27,41,81,217	12,46,97,916	39,88,79,133
Electricity	11,756	NIL	11,756
Telephone	2,77,993	92,251	3,70,244
Petrol & maintenance of High Court Car and hire charges of vehicles.	NIL	NIL	NIL
Upgradation of computer & maintenance	20,90,668	NIL	20,90,668
Other contingencies	28,15,537	6,14,685	34,30,222
Other Charges (Head 14-00 and 26-00)	2,15,360	NIL	2,15,360
Publication	40,16,133	13,13,297	53,29,430
T.A./D.A.	919	NIL	919
Professional Charges	NIL	NIL	NIL
Wages	97,73,328	32,52,590	1,30,25,918
Medical Reimbursement (07)	40,988	NIL	40,988
Medical Reimbursement (12) WBHS 2008	19,46,488	5,51,304	24,97,792
Allowances to Hon'ble Retired Judges (Head 50-00)	2,01,36,842	66,40,865	2,67,77,707
Total	31,55,07,229	13,71,62,908	45,26,70,137

^{**} All figures are in Rupees.



Budgetary allocation and expenditure of the High Court, Original Side for the period from 01.07.2022 to 31.03.2023 (F.Y. 2022-23)

Head of Account	Amount sanctioned (Rs.)	Amount utilized (in Rs.) from 01.07.2022 to 31.03.2023.
Administrative expenses	Rs. 51,15,17,543	Rs. 31,55,07,229

Break-up of administrative expenses

Pay & Allowances	27,41,81,217	
Electricity	11,756	
Telephone	2,77,993	
Petrol & maintenance of High Court Car and hire charges of vehicles.	NIL	
Upgradation of computer & maintenance	20,90,668	
Other contingencies	28,15,537	
Other Charges (Head 14-00 and 26-00)	2,15,360	
Publication	40,16,133	
T.A./D.A.	919	
Professional Charges	NIL	
Wages	97,73,328	
Medical Reimbursement (07)	40,988	
Medical Reimbursement (12) WBHS 2008	19,46,488	
Allowances to Hon'ble Retired Judges (Head 50-00)	2,01,36,842	
Total	31,55,07,229	

^{**} All figures are in Rupees.



Budgetary allocation and expenditure of the High Court, Original Side for the period from 01.04.2023 to 30.06.2023 (F.Y. 2023-24).

Head of Account	Amount sanctioned (Rs.)	Amount utilized (in Rs.) from 01.04. 2023 to 30.06.2023.
Administrative expenses	Rs. 33,55,04,000	Rs. 13,71,62,908

Break-up of administrative expenses

Pay & Allowances	12,46,97,916	
Electricity	NIL	
Telephone	92,251	
Petrol & maintenance of High Court Car and hire charges of vehicles.	NIL	
Upgradation of computer & maintenance	NIL	
Other contingencies	6,14,685	
Other Charges (Head 14-00 and 26-00)	NIL	
Publication	13,13,297	
T.A./D.A.	NIL	
Professional Charges	NIL	
Wages	32,52,590	
Medical Reimbursement (07)	NIL	
Medical Reimbursement (12) WBHS 2008	5,51,304	
Allowances to Hon'ble Retired Judges (Head 50-00)	66,40,865	
Total	13,71,62,908	

** All figures are in Rupees.



Budgetary Allocation and Expenditure of the Judges' Account Department, Original Side for the period from 01.07.2022 to 30.06.2023

SI. No.	Expenditure Head	Head of Account	Allotment Received in Rupees	Actual Expenditure in Rupees
1.	Pay & Allowances (Salary)	34-2014-00-102-001-01-C	2604,61,000	2924,62,158
2.	Medical Reimbursement (Sitting Judges)	34-2014-00-102-001-00-07-00-C	249,66,000	134,55,486
3.	Travel Expenses	34-2014-00-102-001-00-11-00-C	90,00,000	98,90,371
4.	Electricity	34-2014-00-102-001-00-13-01-C	19,79,000	33,02,295
5.	Telephone	34-2014-00-102-001-00-13-02-C	12,75,000	23,53,876
6.	Other Office Expenses	34-2014-00-102-001-00-13-04-C	18,67,000	18,07,420
7.	Medical Reimbursement (Retired Judges)	18-2071-01-106-00-002-50-00-C	800,00,000	495,90,986
	Total		3795,48,000	3728,63,192











