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Speed Post

No.J-15018/5/2010-JR
Government of India
Ministry of Law and Justice
Department of Justice

Jaisalmer House, Mansingh Road,
New Delhi-11. Dated 30th September, 2010.

ORDER

Subject: e-Courts Mission Mode Project – revision of cost estimates.

In February 2007, the Government had approved the implementation of a project of computerization of 13348 district and subordinate Courts in 2100 courts complexes in the country as also the upgradation of the ICT infrastructure of the Supreme Court and the High Courts at a cost of ₹ 441.80 crore in a period of two years. The project is being implemented as a Mission Mode Project (MMP) under the National e-Governance Plan. National Informatics Centre (NIC) has been appointed as the Implementing Agency for the project.

2. In view of the various challenges faced in implementation of the project with regard to scope, cost and time overrun, a Revised Cost Estimate (RCE) proposal had been prepared by the Department of Justice to cover all 14249 courts in 3069 court complexes in the country.

2.1 The Government has approved the proposal to revise the cost estimates of the e-Courts MMP to ₹ 935 Crore. It includes provision of ₹ 50 Crore for contingencies. The component wise approved cost estimates are indicated in the statement at Annexure-I.

3. The salient features of the approved project are given below:

(A) Timelines

All the 14249 courts in 3069 court complexes in the country will be covered under the project as per the following timelines and coverage –

- 12000 courts in 2100 court complexes by 31 March 2012.
- Remaining 2249 courts in 969 court complexes by 31 March 2014

(B) Strategy

A differentiated strategy will be followed to complete computerization of courts in States that are in advanced stages of

implementation and special attention will be paid to expedite the work in other States. Further, focus will be given to the following:-

- Process Reengineering (PR) to be taken up in accordance with the above mentioned strategy. PR would be started in the States in advanced stage of ICT implementation.
- Change Management Strategy would be prepared and implemented. Change Management Plan would be approved by Empowered Committee.

(C) Institutional Structure

- An Empowered Committee (EC) has been constituted in the Department of Justice for providing strategic direction and guidance to the project. A copy of the order constituting the committee is enclosed at Annexure II.
- eCommittee will present the requirements of the judiciary to the Department of Justice and NIC. It will coordinate with the Supreme Court and High Courts for resolution of various implementation issues in these courts including the District and Subordinate Courts. It will also filter the customization requirements for Application Software received from the High Courts with a view to having a uniform version of Application Software nationwide.
- A Program Monitoring Unit (PMU) would be set up in the Department of Justice to assist in program monitoring activities.
- State Management Consultants would be deployed in States in accordance with the differentiated output-based strategy specific to each State

(D) Other key features of the approved project are as follows:

- (a) Inter- component changes in fund allocation may be done as per the project requirement subject to the prior approval of the EC.
- (b) Expenditure from the contingency fund of ₹ 50 Crore would be made only after the approval of the EC.
- (c) It has been decided to revise the duration of deployment of technical manpower at all locations from a maximum of 24 months to 30 months. It has also been decided to deploy technical manpower at the Supreme Court and the High Court Benches, in addition to the High Courts and the district and subordinate courts.
- (d) Wide Area Network (WAN) Connectivity
 - (i) Last Mile Connectivity and WAN is to be provided under the project to all court complexes. State Wide Area Network (SWAN) would be used for WAN connectivity wherever feasible. NICNET may be used for provision of WAN wherever SWAN is no operational.

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- (ii) NICNET upgradation may be taken up only in those States where SWAN is not operational and any expenditure in this regard would be done only after the approval of the EC. All efforts are to be made in tandem with SWAN, so that need for NICNET upgradation is minimized.
- (iii) Redundant backup connectivity by way of either Broadband or NICNET may be provided for a period of 2 years at all District Court complexes, depending on the feasibility. Broadband connection may be provided at talukas in lieu of last mile connectivity and Broadband connection may be provided at the district court complexes to act as a backup connection for leased line connections. This will enable Courts to upload data to data centers at all times.
- (e) Provision of Wi-Fi connectivity at Supreme Courts and High Courts is not to be taken up due to security issues related with providing Wi-Fi connectivity in Government offices and buildings.
- (f) **Data Center** – The data center for each of the 21 High Courts may be housed at the appropriate State Data Centre (SDC), if SDC is fully operational. In case, the SDC is not fully operational, NIC State Data Center may be utilized. Moreover, two additional facilities would be established at the national level. These would include a National Data Center and a Disaster Recovery (DR) site for ensuring continuity.
- (g) **Site preparation** – In order to expedite the site preparation work, the activity may be entrusted to any agency by the State Government / High Court, including private agencies, as deemed necessary.

4. It is also clarified that funds are not required to be placed with the implementation agency, NIC, merely for placing of orders and that NIC can make financial commitments up to the approved limit of the project. Actual disbursements to NIC would be subject to budget provisions of the Department of Justice for that financial Year.

5. The State Governments will be required to provide the following for sustainability of the project:

- All recurring expenses relating to the project
- Procurement / maintenance of hardware / LAN items after present warranty ends
- Deployment of technical manpower for ICT related troubleshooting at the courts after 30 months
- Provision of internet connectivity for judges' residence / court complexes beyond 2 years from the time of installation
- Wiring for the DG sets for ICT infrastructure at a court complex other than in server rooms / judicial service center
- Fuel & other recurring expenditure relating to DG sets

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6. Integration with NeGP – The eCourts project is to be integrated with other MMPs under the National eGovernance Plan (NeGP) such as SWAN, SDC, Common Service Centres (CSCs) and also will have interoperability with the Crime & Criminal Tracking Network System (CCTNS) project and other related MMPs. The implementing Agency shall take necessary steps in this regard.

30/10/2010
(Ramesh Abhishek)

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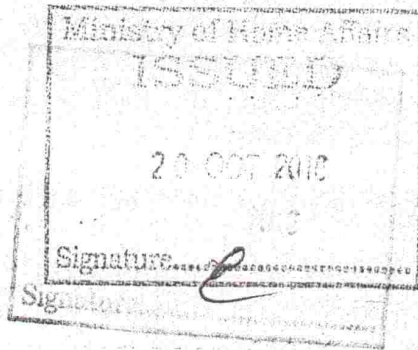
1. DG, NIC
2. Registrar Generals of all the High Courts
3. Home/Law Secretary of all the States
4. Secretary (Information Technology) of all the States / UTs

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1. E-Committee (Supreme Court of India).
2. Secretary, Department of Justice ,Ministry of Law and Justice
3. Secretary (Expenditure) Ministry of Finance
4. Secretary (IT) — P.B.N. 1/2008
5. Advisor, Planning Commission.
6. AS & FA , Ministry of Law and Justice



Component wise approved costs is as follows:

(₹ in crores)

S.No.	Project Component	Earlier Approved Costs (a)	Revised Approved Costs (b)
1	Creation of Computer Room at all the complexes / Site Preparation	36	77.54
2	Laptops to Judicial Officers & Judges	40	40.60
3	ICT Training for Judges & its Staff	12	15.00
4	Technical Manpower	31	61.15
5	Computer Hardware (Servers, Clients, Printers, Scanners, Projectors, etc)	123.7	184.26
6A	Communication & connectivity - Internet Connectivity to Judges / Court Complexes	21	37.16
6B	Communication & connectivity - LAN	29	110.46
6C	Communication & connectivity - WAN		77.77
7A	Power backup - UPS	40	52.12
7B	Power backup - DG Sets		56.37
8	Upgrading ICT infrastructure of SC and HC	43.8	46.00
9	Video conferencing in approx. 500 locations	20	20
10	Development of application software	3	24.38
11	Process Reengineering	2	2.59
12	Creation & Up gradation of Centralized facility for system administration	6	15.57
13	Project Management, project monitoring and Change Management Consultancy	16.5	16.56
14	System Software, Office Tools etc	13.2	22.38
15	Digital Signature	1.3	4.29
16	Smart Card Solutions	1.8	
17	WI-FI Facility in SC & HCs	1.5	0
18	Data Entry	0	20.8
	TOTAL	441.8	885.0
	FUNDS FOR CONTINGENCIES		50
	TOTAL REVISED COST		935.0