TAMIL NADU STATE JUDICIAL ACADEMY REGIONAL CENTRE, MADURAI

ICT and Computerization Sensitization and Awareness Programme (ICT-3) for Judicial Officers and Staff

EVENT REPORT 21.11.2021 (Through online)

The programme commenced with Mr. S. Muthu Maharajan, Deputy Director, TNSJA Regional Centre, Madurai, welcoming the Nodal Officer, Mr. A.R.V. Ravi, VI Additional District Judge, Madurai, and resource persons, Mr. N. Sundaram, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Theni, Mr. G. Sudhagar, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Sivagangai, Mr. A.B. Naseer Ali, Sub Judge, Mudhukulathur and finally the participants for the programme.

Mr. S. Muthu Maharajan, Deputy Director, TNSJA Regional Centre, Madurai, talked about an overview of the topics discussed in the session tracing the history of the digitization from Supreme Court to High Court.

Mr. A.R.V. Ravi, VI Additional District Judge, Madurai, discussed the various phases of digitization that have taken place since 2017. The discussion elaborated the various degrees of security mechanisms that need to be kept in place when shifting towards digitalization. There was a cautious emphasis on the evidentiary value that these records need to be attributed with and the level of accessibility that could be allowed to each record. The resource person emphasized on the fundamental importance of accuracy of data. The programme progressed with a discussion on rendering citizencentric services with accurate data entry. There was an elaborate discussion about case information system software, national judicial data grid, role of data entry process, need for accuracy of data, usage of data health card, how digitization and accurately keep a track of delay, how uploading of orders can provide an all pervasive access.

Mr. A. Saravanakumar, Registrar (IT-cum-Statistics) joined the programme and talked about the e-courts project that includes themes and areas of the programme that encompassed, scanning, digitization and digital

Preservation of case records, data accuracy, delay reasons and uploading of Orders / judgments/deposition in CIS and NJDG, Software Modules (Norms), Mobile Applications for Judicial Functions, Utilizing VC facilities for Court Hearings, Digital Registers under CIS 3.0, Digital Signatures.

Mr. C.B. Vedagiri, XIX Metropolitan Magistrate, Egmore, also joined the programme and discussed about, digital preservation of records. The paradigm shift from physical storage to digital storage started in 2017. Digital preservation would have a large impact on the documents in the future. Respective Amendments have been made to the Indian Evidence Act, 1872. The need to open the access of such digital information to the differentially abled is the moot point today. Various best practices and devices for easy digitalization and maintenance of records were discussed.

After a short tea break, the programme progressed with, Mr. A.B. Naseer Ali, Sub Judge, Mudhukulathur, discussed about software modules and norms incidental to the integration of CIS Software. This module presented assessment of judicial officers, unit heads, high court section, norms and its functioning from login dashboard till work done statement report.

Mr. G. Sudhagar, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Sivagangai, Mr. N. Sundaram, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Theni, discussed about, mobile application for judicial functions and utilizing Video Conferencing facilities for Court hearings. Mr. G. Sudhagar dealt in detail, mobile applications and how to use digital signatures effectively. An elaborate discussion regarding the eCourts Services Mobile App, JustIS Justice Information System, NSTEP National Service and Tracking of Electronic Processes, and GIMS Government Instant Messaging System, was made. Further, the importance of digital signatures in judiciary was discussed with emphasize to pre-requisites and procedures. Mr. N. Sundaram, discussed about, video conference facilities in court facilities and its related laws that are put in place. The discussion emphasized the rules framed by the Madras High Court, VC Rules, July 2020 (R.O.C. No. 29030Al202O/Comp9). The discussion also emphasized that usage of various applications like, cisco webx, zoom, vidyo connect, team etc.

Mr. A.R.V. Ravi, VI Additional District Judge, Madurai, introduced about the intricacies in maintaining digital registers. Mr. G. Sudhagar discussed about, digital registers and how transformation from manual form to the digital format registers is being carried out. Mr. A.B. Naseer Ali, Sub Judge, Mudhukulathur, discussed about, how to use digital signatures effectively from the importance of digital signatures in judiciary with emphasize to pre-requisites and procedures.

The session concluded with an interactive discussion where the participant queries were clarified. The virtual programme was attended by 445 participants through CISCO Webex platform and over eight thousand participants through its YouTube online stream link from different parts of Tamil Nadu and proved to be very interactive and participative. (Link for the programme)

The programme was concluded by Mr. S. Santhanakumar Assistant Director, TNSJA Regional Centre, Madurai, proposing the Vote of Thanks, by thanking all the resource persons and the participants for their cooperative effort in making this online webinar a grand success.