Sikkim India's First Fully Paperless Judiciary State

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Why in News?

During National conclave on technology & Judicial Education (NCTE), a Senior Judge of SC officially declared Sikkim as India's first fully paperless state judiciary.

Venue: Gangtok, Sikkim

Highlights of the Initiative

- **Aims to -** Resolve hurdles caused by geographical factors in the hilly terrain of Sikkim, allowing litigants to get access to justice without traveling a long distance
- **Digital Judicial ecosystem** —Right from HC of Sikkim to District & Subordinate courts now operates on a digital first Model.
- **End-to-End Workflow -**Without movement of physical files all process, including e –filing, real time case tracking & Monitoring, issue of electronic Orders & Digital case management are done digitally.

Features

- **E-Filing 3.0 –** Enables filing of cases 24/7 by removing the need for physical submission of petition at court counters.
- **Digital Courtroom –** To ensure justice comes to the doorsteps, hearings of court proceeding are done through video Conferencing.
- **Integration of AI** – Tool like SUVAS (Translator of Regional Language) & SUPACE (For Legal research).
- **E-Sewa Kendra Desk** – Is established to give Physical assistance to citizens with low digital awareness.

Significance

- **Eco-Friendly Governance -** In aligned with green Judiciary Vision there is great reduction in paper consumption contributing to environmental sustainability.
- **Efficiency -** Reduces case pendency by routine tasks automatically & gearing up the recovery of Digital records.
- **Filling gap for** - Remote location like North Sikkim, ensuring that the "digital highway" connects every citizen to the judicial forum, this would promote judicial inclusivity.
- **National Judicial Data Grid (NJDC)** – To be updated on real time bases to ensure

transparency in the legal process.

Quick Facts
e-Courts Mission Mode Project
This Milestone achievement of Sikkim’s e-Court Project was successful implemented in 3 phases. • **Phase I & II**- Aims on Basic e-filing & Computerization. • **Phase III** – Aims on Open Data, AI & Paperless environment across all states. • **Nodal agency** - Dept. of Justice under Ministry of Law & Justice • **Vision -** Indian Judiciary to be transformed into a tech-driven system through "Cloud-first" architecture and advanced data analytics.

For Reference: Money control | IAS Parliament

All India Radio | IAS Parliament

