



Chief Justice
High Court of Punjab & Haryana,
Chandigarh
28.11.2005

My esteemed Colleagues; Members of the Bar; Judicial Officers; Officials of this Court as well as of the subordinate Courts of Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh; Litigants and members of the general public.

I deem it my proud privilege to dedicate the new website of this Court to all of you.

It needs little emphasis that use of Information and Communication technology in the Judiciary is imperative for reducing the congestion in Courts and enhancing the quality of justice by using automated support system for docket management, online information on Statutes and Latest Case Law.

Though we already have a website of this Court,

developed by the local unit of the National Informatics Centre, but the same was not comprehensive enough. In fact, except displaying the daily cause-list, it did not contain any other relevant information. The need for having a comprehensive website of this Court was long felt. I am glad that this need has been realized today. The new website will display not only the daily cause-list, but will also show the judgments delivered by the High Court; the working of different branches; sessions divisions etc.

The launching of this website is just the beginning of the process of computerization of the Courts. I trust that you are aware of the fact that on the initiative of former Chief Justice of India, Mr. Justice R.C. Lahoti, the Government of India, had set up a Committee to formulate the national policy on computerization of the justice delivery system (popularly known as e-committee) under the Chairmanship of Dr. Justice G.C. Bharuka (Retd.). The e-committee had submitted national policy and action plan for implementation of information and communication technology in the Indian Judiciary to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India. Further, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India has also approved the recommendations of the e-committee. As per the national policy and action plan submitted by the e-committee, all the Courts in India would be computerized over a period of 5 years. It is expected that within a few years, we will have hi-tech Courts, where by a click, full information right from the filing of the case to the delivery of the judgment, would be available to all concerned.

On our path to cent percent computerisation, we may encounter some procedural and technological hurdles. However, I am confident that with a little change in our behavioural patterns and by acquainting ourselves with the working of various latest electronic gadgets and computer peripherals, and with your active co-operation, we shall accomplish the task. On this solemn and momentous occasion, I solicit your full co-operation.