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Pilot Project to Integrate Police Stations and Courts

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A Supreme Court panel has launched a **pilot project** in Telangana's Warangal district to integrate **two crucial pillars of the criminal justice delivery system- the courts and police stations.**

- The Inter-operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS), an initiative of the apex court's **eCommittee**, seeks to make live exchange of data possible between all criminal courts and police stations.
- **Justice MB Lokur**, heads Supreme Court's eCommittee, and is also the chairman of ICJS.
- This project is in alignment with **Digital India initiative** of the Government and will **boost e-governance.**
- This would help save time spent on completing paperwork and documentary evidence such as the first information reports (FIR) and charge sheets.
- Tracking court proceedings would become easier for investigating officers.
- The next phase would include **extending the ICJS data sharing to other states** and also expanding it to **prisons, forensic facilities, the prosecution system and juvenile homes.**
- The e-courts project is aimed at **computerisation** of district and subordinate courts across the country.
- It has reached the final stages of implementation and covered 16,755 district courts. Several electronic services such as e-summons, SMS alerts to lawyers and litigants and e-filing have been initiated under the project.
- The **National Judicial Data Grid** hosts a dynamic repository of over 100 million cases.

The National Judicial Data Grid

- The e-Courts National portal (ecourts.gov.in) was **launched in August 2013.**
- More than 2852 Districts and Taluka Court Complexes have since secured their presence on the NJDG portal.
- The NJDG is working as **National data warehouse** for case data including the orders/judgments for Courts across the country.

- NJDG has specifically helped India improve its ranking in **World Bank's Ease of Doing Business Report**.