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SC Approves Live-Streaming of Court Proceedings

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The Supreme Court has pushed for greater transparency in the judicial system by allowing live-streaming of court proceedings of cases of constitutional importance.

- The court directed the centre to frame rules for this and said the project will be carried out in phases.
- The three-judge bench agreed that it would serve as an instrument for greater accountability and it formed a part of the Code of Criminal Procedure and Code of Civil Procedure.
 - **No such express provision is found in the Constitution regarding “open Court hearing”** before the Supreme Court, but can be traced to provisions such as Section 327 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (CrPC) and Section 153-B of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (CPC).
 - **Section 327 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (CrPC)** states that the place in which any Criminal Court is held for the purpose of inquiring into or trying any offence shall be deemed to be an open Court.
 - **Section 153-B of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (CPC)** states the place in which any Civil Court is held for the purpose of trying any suit shall be deemed to be an open Court.
- The SC asked the government to frame “comprehensive and holistic guidelines” and favoured the start of exercise on pilot basis in one court.
- Earlier in July, the apex court called it the “need of the hour”, saying it was open to live-streaming as this would result in increased access to justice.