

COURT RECORD MANAGEMENT IN INDIA: DIGITIZATION THROUGH BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY

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Abstract: The constitution of India has given utmost importance to Justice – Social, Political or Economic the prime consideration and speedy dispensation of Justice and assuring equal access of Justice to its citizen is considered not only to be the Fundamental right of people but, an integral part of the basic structure of the Constitution of India. One of the factors causing delay in dispensation of speedy justice is non accessibility of court record due to non-availability of certified copies of the court record in a timely manner. The author has, in present research, described the traditional method of issuance of certified copies, analysed the effect of existing system of issuing certified copies over various stake holders such as Advocates, Judges, Litigants and non-litigants and has proposed an alternate in form of Digital Court Record whereby the court record of each case will be maintained through a specifically designed Blockchain to assure access to court record to advocates and litigants on time.

Keywords: Court Record, Digital Court Record, Certified Copies, Blockchain.

1. INTRODUCTION

The causes of delay in administration of Justice in India are well recognized since decades and are addressed and criticised by various stake holders by emphasizing on Low Judge Population Ratio, less administrative or subordinate staff, Lack of adequate infrastructure, rise in matrimonial litigation and Backlog created by old cases etc but, apart from these, there are some unrecognised factors as well which causes delay in smooth process of Justice Dispensation.

There are abundant administrative functions which are to be performed to complete the entire process of Trial of any case. These administrative functions are to be complied by the subordinate staff of the Court at each adjourning date so that the case can proceed on next adjourning date. These administrative functions can be understood in terms of issuing the summons and warrants to accused, issuing summons to the witness and supplying certified copies of the Court record etc. It is very essential that the subordinate staff of the Court performs each of these functions in a timely manner. Non-completion of these functions by the subordinate staff leads to unnecessary adjournments in the Court and also contributes to the delay in trial. The reason behind incomplete functions are also well recognized, i.e., the less manpower in subordinate staff, tendency of subordinate staff to avoid work, Lack of performance appraisal of the subordinate staff, traditional methods of performing the tasks and least technological interference and automation etc.

As far as the issuance of summons and warrant are concerned, there are systems developed by the CIS for automatic generation of summons and warrants. But, the problem persists in providing the certified copies of the Court record in a timely manner. In many cases, the advocates are not provided the copies of the necessary court record and therefore, they are unable to study the matter in advance and be prepared with their arguments. It is widely known that due to this, many cases get adjourned at the respective stages. In the District Courts, a practice is introduced to give instant copy of the evidence recorded but, that is not a certified copy and therefore, it does not have the sanctity of its being equivalent to original court record. The question me arise what is the importance to get certified copies of the court record in a timely manner and how speedy access to court record will lessen the delay in the dispensation of Justice.



The trial court being the Court of first instance, has function of recording the evidence. The number of witnesses in the contested cases may vary from 10 to 20 or even more than that in some cases.[footnoteRef:1] Once the Court starts with the evidence of prosecution by examining the complainant or the witness of the prosecution, the defense counsel moves an application to get a certified copy of it to study the material omission and contradiction in the deposition and form a base of defense for another witness whom he has to examine on next date. Here, it is the duty of the subordinate staff of the Court to supply the certified copies of the court record in timely manner.

2. PROCEDURE FOR ISSUANCE OF CERTIFIED COPIES IN CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES.

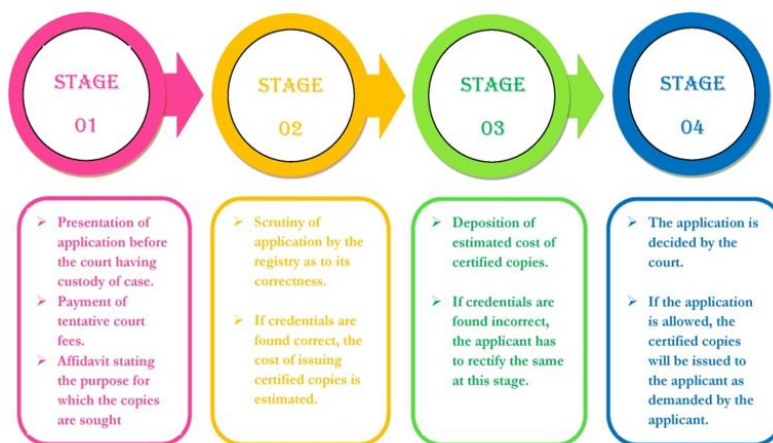
The issuance of certified copies is governed by specific rules. The Bombay High Court has framed the rules for issuance of certified copies of the court record which are contained in Civil and Criminal Manuals.[footnoteRef:2] The process of providing the certified copies of the court record is governed by the provisions of The Criminal Manual, 1977 in Criminal Cases[footnoteRef:3] and by the provisions of The Civil Manual, 1960 in Civil Suits[footnoteRef:4] which is required to be looked into as well to understand why the delay is caused. To summaries the entire procedure for issuance of certified copies, the author has divided the entire process for issuance of certified copies in four stages.

Stage 1: Presentation of Application seeking certified copy of court record.

As far as the criminal case is concerned, the procedure of the issuance of certified copies starts with the application filed by the parties to litigation with the prescribed court-fee made to the Court having the custody of the record[footnoteRef:5] It is mandatory that the application shall state whether the copy applied for is required for private use or otherwise and if the application for obtaining the Certified copies is made by parties other than parties to the proceeding, it shall be supported by an affidavit stating the purpose for which the copies are sought.[footnoteRef:6]

Stage 2: Scrutiny by the Registry and estimation of Cost

THE PROCESS OF ISSUING CERTIFIED COPIES.



Upon presentation of the application, the Office/Registry of the Court shall immediately scrutinize the application to ascertain the correct number of the proceeding, names of the parties, description of the document, copy of which is applied for, and whether the document is available for copying[footnoteRef:7] and if upon such scrutinisation, the application is found to be genuine and bearing correct credentials, the registry estimates the costs of the copies before the copying work is undertaken in a way that would cover all the costs of copying and of postage, if the copies are required to be sent through the agency of post.[footnoteRef:8]

Stage 3: Deposition of Estimated Cost by the Applicant

In this stage, the applicant is called upon to deposit the estimated costs of the copies and if there is any deficiency in mentioning the correct information as to case number, names of the parties or the document which is sought has to be clarified by the applicant at this stage.[footnoteRef:9]

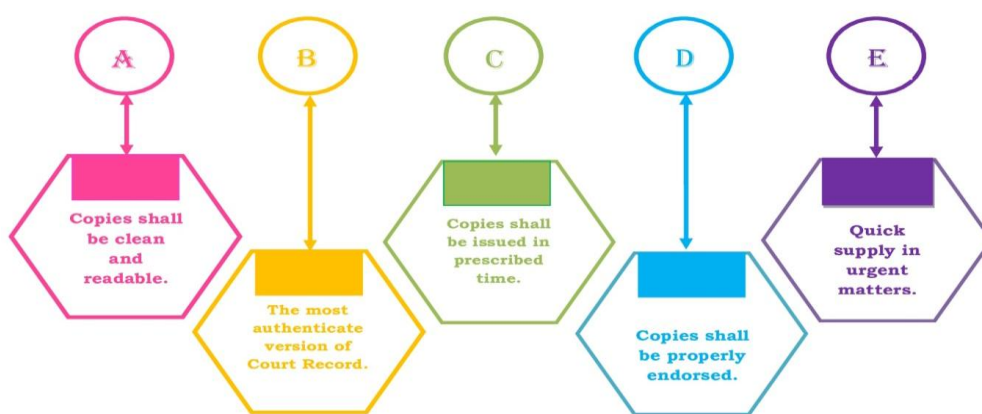
Stage 4: Deciding the application

Once the registry is convinced that the application is complete in all respects, it shall place the same before the presiding officer for orders. Such application can also be dealt with by the registrar or clerk of the Court in Sessions court as the case may be, Clerk of the Court in the Court of Civil Judge and Judicial Magistrate, shirastedar[footnoteRef:10] in the Court of Metropolitan Magistrate or senior clerk in the Court of Judicial Magistrate, who may either grant the application or refuse it for reasons to be recorded thereon, or pass such orders as may be deemed just and in case of refusal, such refusal and the ground for the refusal shall be communicated to the applicant in writing.[footnoteRef:11]

3. SALIENT FEATURES OF CERTIFIED COPIES

The certified copies issued by the courts bear the highest authenticity and are also admissible as evidence before the other courts. The certified Copies of the order provided by the Court is the proof of completion of case and therefore, it has to meet the qualifications laid down in the rules.

SALIENT FEATURES OF CERTIFIED COPIES



A. The copies shall be clean and readable.

The rules provide that the photocopy of the court record should be correct and typed or written in a clear hand, with good ink, on substantial paper and on the outer three quarters margin only of sheets of foolscap papers, the inner one-quarter margin of every sheet being left blank.[footnoteRef:12] and all copies shall be dated, subscribed and sealed in the manner prescribed by section 76 of the Indian Evidence Act.[footnoteRef:13]

B. Period within which certified copies shall be issued

The rules provided that the Copies shall be furnished within two weeks of the application, if the application is complete on the day on which it is presented. But, if further delay is unavoidable, the cause of the delay shall be endorsed on the copy. In the cases, which were kept under scrutiny to ascertain whether the correct information is provided or not, the period of two weeks shall be computed from the date on which the application is granted.[footnoteRef:14]

C. Measures to curb delay in issuance of Certified Copies

The rules provide the lengthy and detailed process for getting an authenticate copy of the court record and therefore, it contains the measures to curb the delay through supervision by the higher Officers. The rules impose duty over every Magistrate to submit the statement about the pendency of applications of Certified copies to the District and Sessions Judge or the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, as the case may be before the 5th of each month and the District and Sessions Judge or the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate as the case may be, should forward to the High Court by the 10th of each month, a consolidated statement showing the position regarding the application for the certified copies in their courts and the courts subordinate to them.[footnoteRef:15]

D. Endorsements to be made over the certified copies.

The rules provide that following endorsement shall be made on every copy of the document:[footnoteRef:16]

- 1) The date on which the copy was applied for.
- 2) The date on which the application was granted.
- 3) The date on which the copy was ready for delivery.
- 4) The date on which the intimation was given to the applicant by post. (To be filled up when the application is made by a party in person and not by an advocate.)
- 5) The date on which it was delivered or posted.

E. Supply of Certified Copies to the applicant.

The rules further provide that once the certified copies are ready, it shall be intimated to the applicant through following steps...[footnoteRef:17]

- 1) As and when the copies get ready, a daily notice shall be placed on the notice board of the Court giving necessary details of the copies that are ready for delivery.
- 2) In addition to the daily notice, as stated above, a weekly notice showing the details of the copies that are ready but have remained undelivered so far should also be affixed on the notice board of the Court on every Monday and if that day, happens to be the holiday, on the next working day.
- 3) If the litigating party desires to be informed by post that copies are ready, self-addressed post card with additional postal stamps for certificate of posting should be obtained from such party and as soon as the copies are ready, they should be informed by post, under certificate of posting.

The procedure as mentioned in the Criminal Manual and Civil Manual are identical and therefore the entire procedure as mentioned above is applicable to the Civil Suits as well. Upon perusal of entire procedure, it is quite clear that the process to have access of court record or getting certified copies is quite cumbersome procedure and a litigant cannot be expected to have ability to complete this task without engaging an Advocate which adds to an additional burden on the pocket of the litigant. Moreover, when the thousands of cases are pending before the courts and Court are flooded with the other administrative work, the task of issuing certified copies are never completed on time and the time limit prescribed in the rules seems to be illusory.

4. RESEARCH PROBLEM

It is important to note that the certified copies of the court record are essential as document when the litigant wants to approach the higher forum challenging the decision of the trial court. In the urgent matters such as Bail the accused remains behind the bar till the decision of Higher Court if the bail application is rejected by the magisterial courts. Hence, the delay of a single day in issuance of certified copy results in more prolonged detention of the accused in Jail and thus, has direct nexus with the Fundamental right of the accused and therefore, there is need to provide easy access to court record to expedite the court proceedings from filing the application till its disposal.

In an another case, if the scenario of the civil litigation is taken into consideration, the Court passes many interlocutory orders before delivering the final judgment and both the parties to litigation has right to challenge the decision of such interlocutory application. In such circumstance, if appeal or review petition is admitted by the higher Court i.e. District Court or the High Court and the appellate Court passes an order for calling the trial court's record, the trial court has to send the entire court record to the appellate Court and has to adjourn the case sine die till the court record is not sent back to the trial court. It is accepted fact that in some cases, the appellate Court cannot decide the application without looking into the case record and therefore, the order calling the trial court's court record is also genuine, fair and Just but, sometimes, it adds to delay in the adjudication of the entire suit. Moreover, the concerned staff of the trial court takes more time than allowed to convey the entire court record as the court record has to be sent as per the rules mentioned under the Manuals. The procedure of conveying the court record involves the classification of court record, making index, its paging and numbering over each page of the entire court record. Here also delay is caused in conveying the court record to the appellate Court and all these factors leads to the delay in entire adjudication. The remedy to curb these problems relating to quick access to court record can be addressed by establishing the Digital Court Record.

5. EMPIRICAL STUDY AND DATA ANALYSIS

To analyse the problem with the existing procedure of issuing the certified copies of the court record, the author has conducted the empirical research by widely circulating the questionnaire among the various stake holders of the justice delivery system who are directly connected to the case proceedings i.e. Judges, Advocates, Litigants and non-litigants. In the section of non-litigants, the author has collected the responses of officers working in Insurance companies or Banks who manages the legal drafting for the litigations. The questionnaire was widely circulated among the advocates and Judges within the state of Gujarat and the responses have been collected by following Simple Random Sampling whereas the responses of the litigants and non-litigants were collected through their advocates.

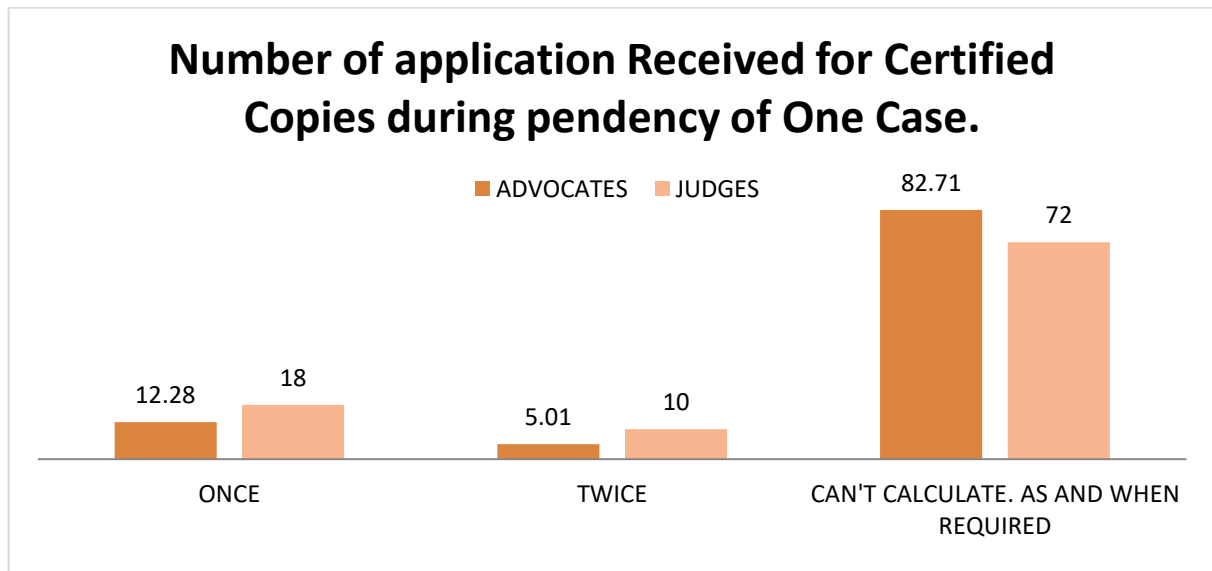


Figure 1 Number of Application Received For Certified Copies During Pendency of Once Case.

While understanding the importance of access to court, Figure 1 shows that 82.71% of Advocates have stated that it cannot be calculated how many times they need to file an application for getting certified copies of the case record during the pendency of a single case. It was a clear statement that they have to apply for the certified copies as and when they needed the complete access of the court record may it be a deposition of the witness or certain important documents. When the same question was asked to the Judges, 72% of Judges have responded in consonance of the advocates' response that there cannot be a straitjacket formula to decide how many times the court receives an application for issuance of certified copies.

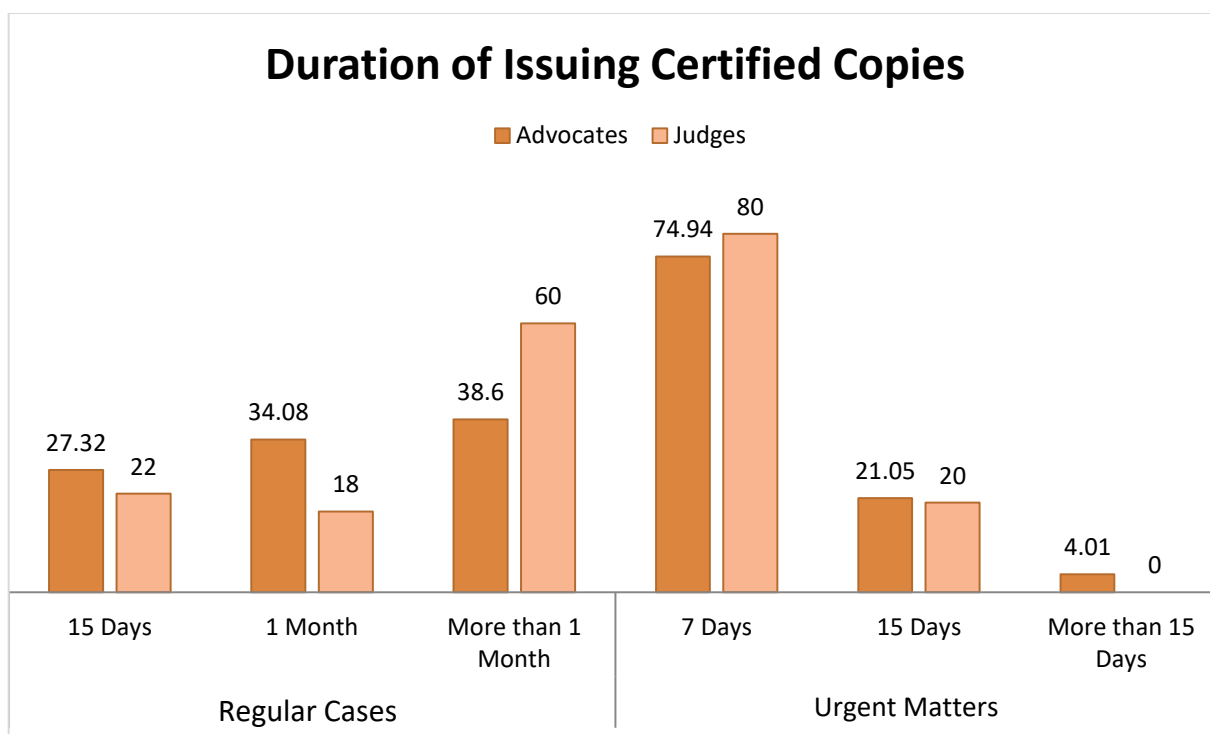


Figure 2 Duration of Issuing Certified Copies

If the data shown in Figure 2 is analysed, it is much evident that when the time duration of getting the certified copies was measured, 34.06% of advocates have stated that they get certified copies within one month from the date of application where as 38.60% of advocates have stated that it takes more than a month to get the certified copy of the court record in regular matters. It is pertinent to note that only 27.32% advocates have stated that they get certified copies in time i.e. within 15 days from the date of application but, at the same time, if the ratio of issuing certified copies in urgent matters, is compared with the regular matters, it is in complete contrast as 74.94% of advocates have responded that they get certified copies of the urgent matters within 7 days, 21.05% of advocates have responded that certified copies are issued within 15 days and only 4.01% of advocates have responded that it takes more than 15 days to get the certified copies in urgent matter. As far as judges are concerned, 18% of Judges have stated that the certified copies are issued within one month from the date of application where as 60% of Judges have stated that it takes more than a month to issue the certified copy of the court record in regular matters.

It is pertinent to note that only 22% of Judges have stated that the certified copies are issued in time i.e. within 15 days from the date of application but, at the same time, if the ratio of issuing certified copies in urgent matters, is compared with the regular matters, it is in complete contrast as 80% of Judges have responded that they issue certified copies of the urgent matters within 7 days, 20% of Judges have responded that certified copies are issued within 15 days and in no case the issuance of certified copies remains pending for more than 15 days in urgent matter.

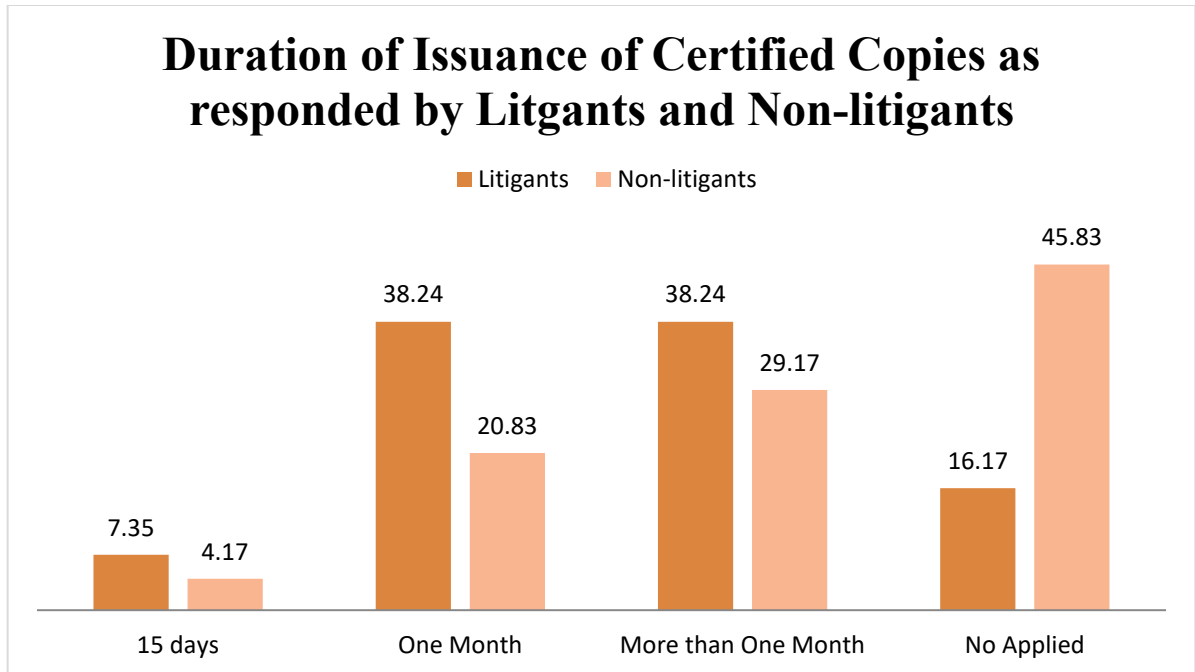


Figure 3Duration of Issuance of Certified Copies as responded by Litigants and Non-litigants

The responses of the litigants and non-litigants are also worth noting here which is shown in Figure 3. It has been revealed that 86.03% of litigants and 75% of non-litigants do not know the process of getting the certified copies of the court record and 16.17% of litigants and 45.83% of non-litigants have never applied for getting the certified copies. When the time duration of getting the certified copies was measured, 38.24% of litigants and 20.83% of non-litigants have stated that they get certified copies within one month from the date of application where as 38.24% of litigants and 29.17% of non-litigants have stated that it takes more than a month to get the certified copy of the court record in regular matters. It is pertinent to note that only 7.35% of litigants and 4.17% of non-litigants have stated that they get certified copies in time i.e. within 15 days from the date of application. It is interesting to note that when it was asked to the litigants and non-litigants what would they do to get certified copies of the court record all of them have preferred to approach the advocate and none of them have preferred to approach eSeva Kendra established by E-Committed of the Supreme Court of India.

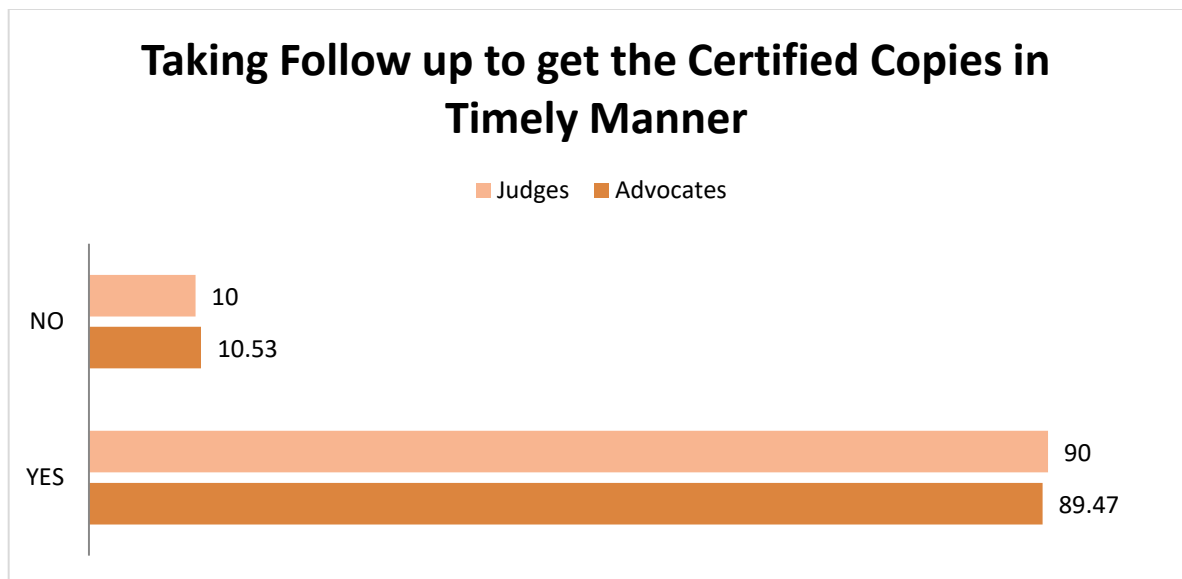


Figure 4Taking Follow up to get the Certified Copies in Timely Manner

If the data shown in Figure 4 is analysed, it is much evident that 89.47% of advocates and 90% of Judges have stated that they have to take continuous follow up of the applications to assure that the certified copies get issued in timely manner where as 10.53% of advocates and 10% of Judges have stated that they don't have to take continuous follow up of the applications to assure that the certified copies get issued in timely manner

It is pertinent to note that when it was asked to the advocates whether they have faced the situation where the litigant was not financially sound to pay fees for getting the certified copies, 80.45% of advocates have responded positively and 19.55% of advocates have responded that they have not faced such situation.

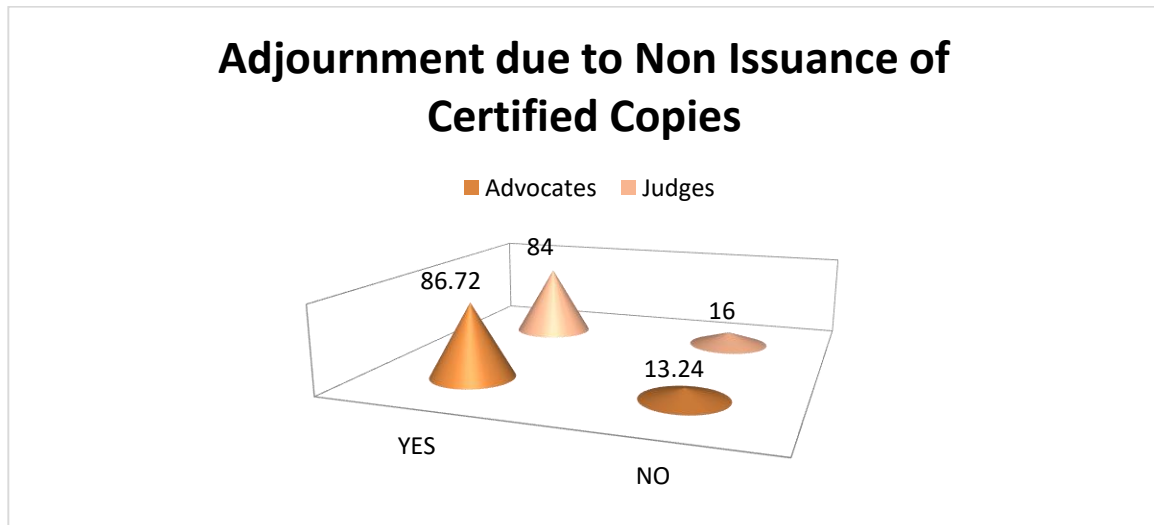


Figure 5 Adjournment due to Non Issuance of Certified Copies

It is also evident from Figure 5 that non issuance of certified copies in timely manner causes delay in case proceedings as 86.72% of advocates have stated that they had to seek adjournment as the certified copies were not issued to them in timely manner and at the same time, 84% of judges have admitted that they were compelled to adjourn the case proceedings due to non-issuance of certified copies in timely manner where as though very less i.e., 13.24% of Advocates have stated that they need not ask for an adjournment due to non-issuance of Certified Copies and 16% of Judges have stated that need not adjourn the matter because the Certified Copies were not issued to the applicant in timely manner.

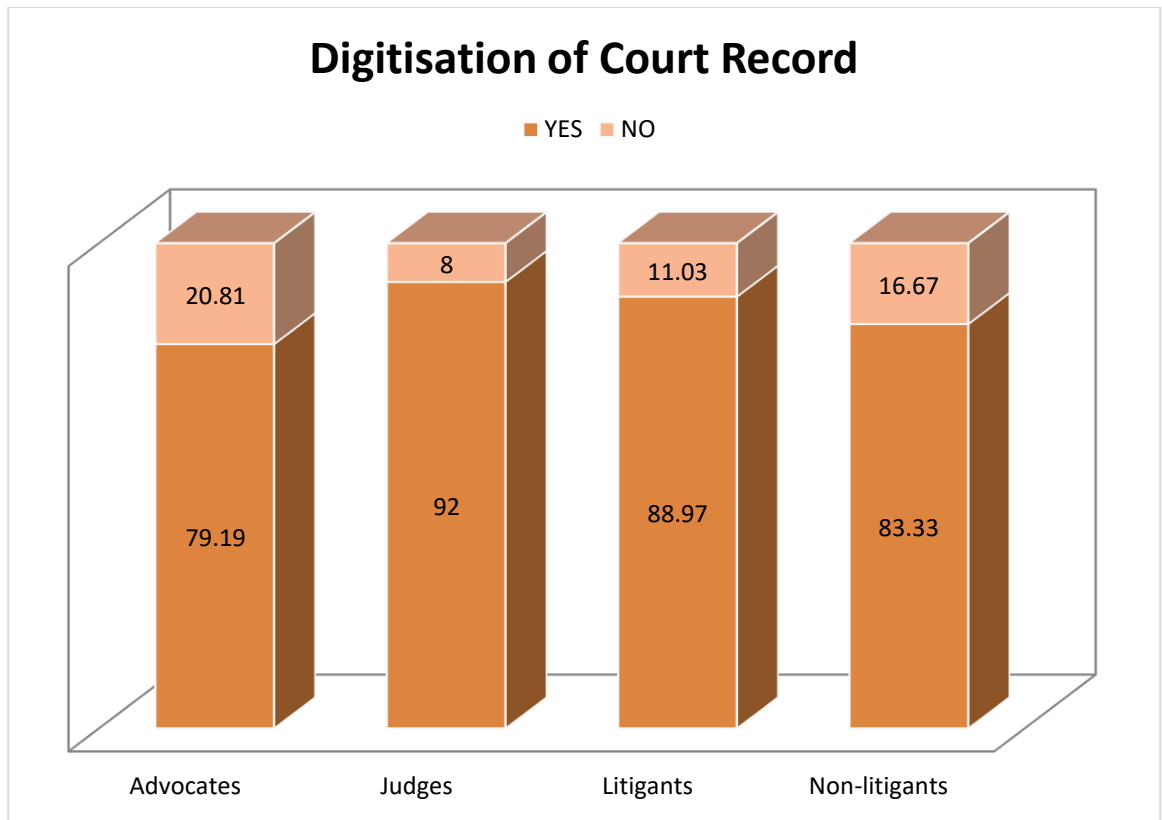


Figure 6 Digitisation of Court Record

The entire research of the author has focus on finding the alternate of issuing Certified Copies by assuring easy access of court record through the Digital Court Record and therefore, the opinion of the respondent was also sought on this matter. When it was asked whether the court record should be digitised to assure easy access to stake holders, 79.19% of advocates, 92% of Judges, 88.97% of litigants and 83.33% of non-litigants have responded positively and supported the digitisation of Court record where as 20.81% of advocates, 08% of Judges, 11.03% of litigants and 16.67% of non-litigants have responded negatively and did not support for digitisation of court record as shown in Figure 6.

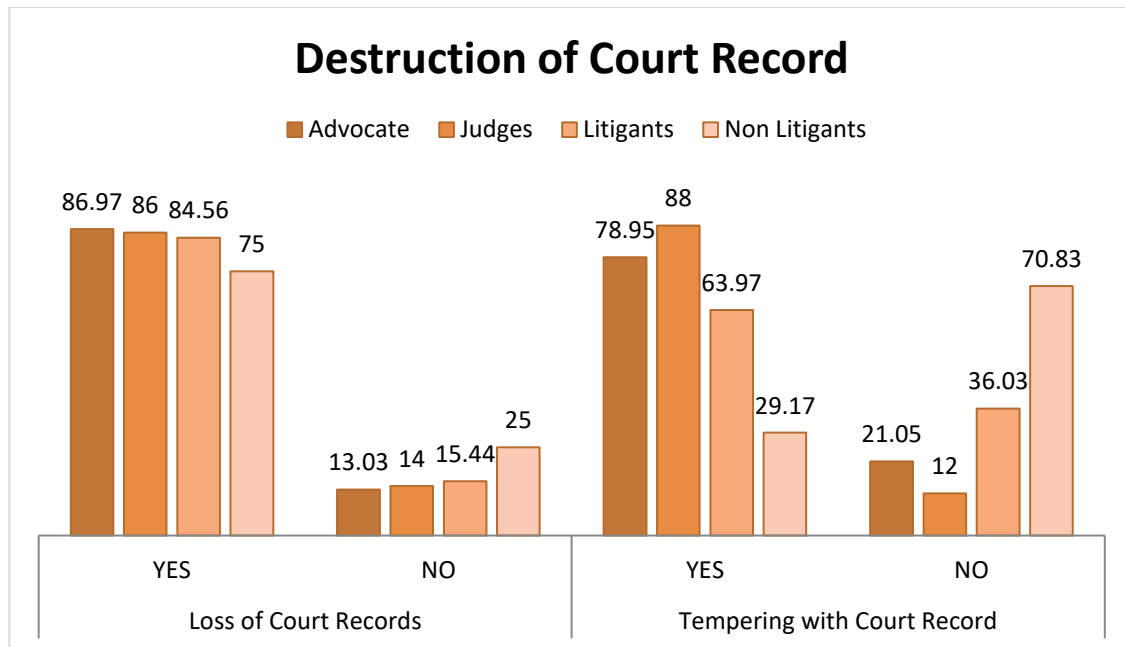


Figure 7 Destruction of Court Record

It is also evident from the responses shown in Figure 7 that the getting the court record lost or tempering with the court record is not unknown to the stake holders as 86.97% of advocates, 86% of Judges, 84.56% of litigants and 75% of non-litigants have responded that they have experienced or heard about getting the court record lost where as 13.03% of advocates, 14% of Judges, 15.44% of litigants and 25% of non-litigants have responded that they have neither experienced nor heard about getting the court record lost. In furtherance to this, 78.95% of advocates, 88% of Judges, 63.97% of litigants and 29.17% of non-litigants have responded that they have experienced or have heard about tempering with the court record but in contrast, 21.05% advocates, 12% of Judges, 36.03% of litigants and 70.83% of non-litigants have responded that they have neither experienced nor heard about getting the court record tempered.

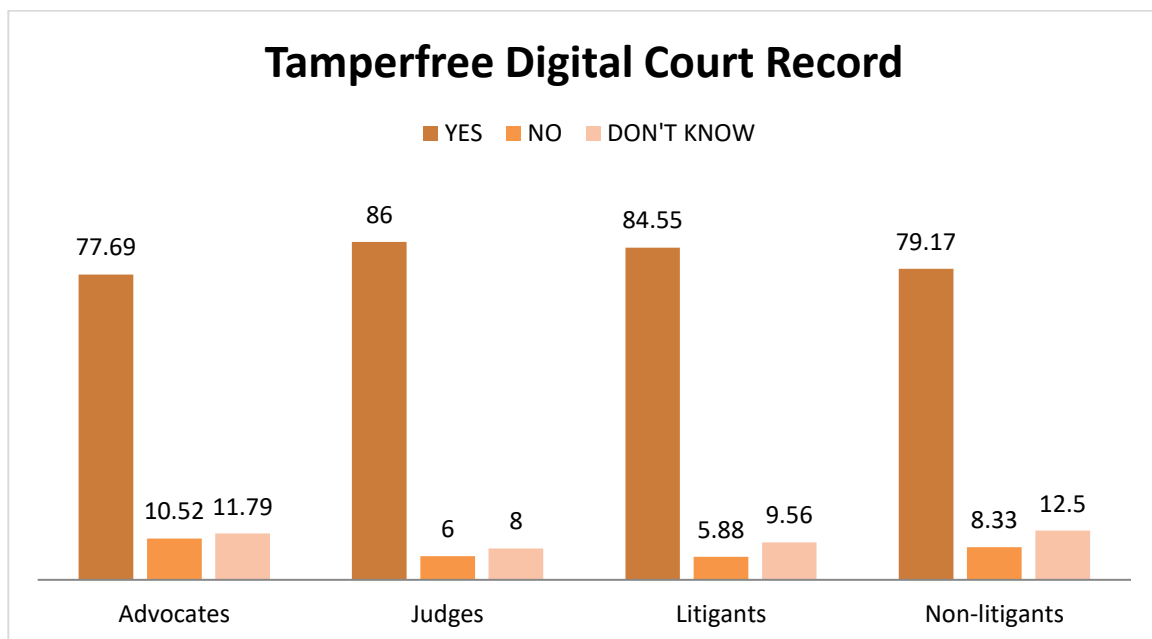


Figure 8 Temper Free Digital Court Record

Figure 8 exhibits that when it was asked whether digitising the court record will keep the court record temper-free, 77.69% of advocates, 86% of Judges, 84.55% of litigants and 79.17% of non-litigants have responded positively and accepted that digitisation may keep the court record temper resistance whereas 10.52% of advocates, 06% of Judges, 05.89% of litigants and 08.33% of non-litigants have categorically stated that digitisation of court record may not make the court record temper resistant. It is pertinent to note that 11.79% of advocates, 08% of Judges, 09.56% of litigants and 12.50% of non-litigants have stated that they don't know if maintaining the court record on digital platform will make the court record temper resistant.

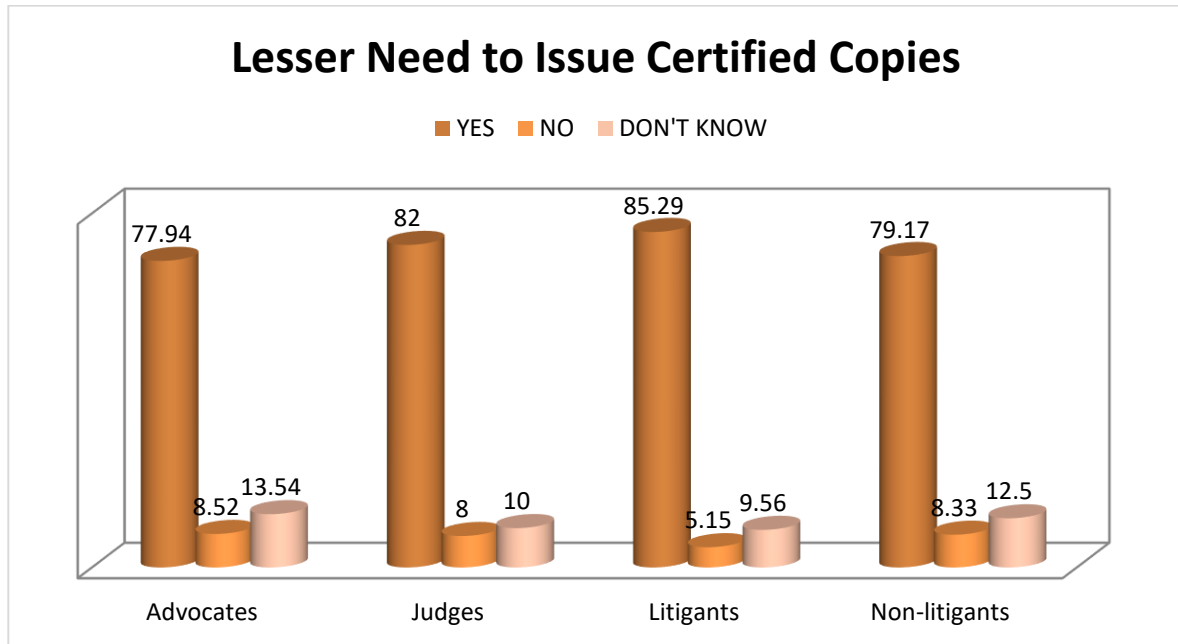


Figure 9 Lesser Need to Issue Certified Copies

If the data shown in Figure 9 is taken into consideration, it is highly accepted by the respondents that online access of court record to case specific litigants and advocates will lessen the need to issue certified copies of court record as 77.94% of advocates, 82% of Judges, 85.29% of litigants and 79.17% of non-litigants have responded positively whereas 13.54% of advocates, 10% of Judges, 09.56% of litigants and 12.50% of non-litigants have responded that they are not sure if there will be any effect of giving online access of court record to case specific litigants and advocates on issuance of certified copies of court record. It is pertinent to note that very less amount of respondents i.e., 08.52% of advocates, 08% of Judges, 05.15% of litigants and 08.33% of non-litigants have responded that online access of court record to case specific litigants and advocates will not lessen the need to issue certified copies of court record.

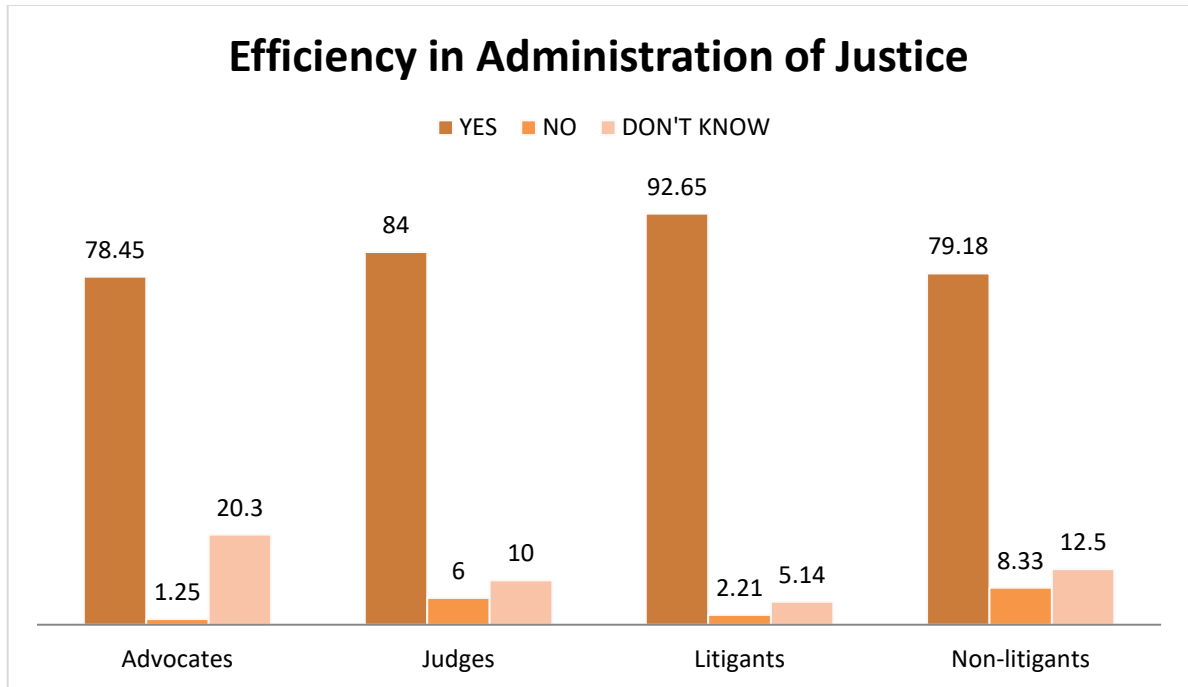


Figure 10 Efficiency in Administration of Justice

Figure 10 exhibits nexus of maintaining the digital court record with the efficiency of administration of Justice. It is pertinent to note that 78.45% of advocates, 84% of Judges, 92.65% of litigants and 79.18% of non-litigants have responded that the maintenance of court record on digital platform will enhance the efficiency of Administration of justice whereas 01.25% of advocates, 06% of Judges, 02.21% of litigants and 08.33% of non-litigants have stated that maintenance of court record on digital platform may not have any nexus with the efficiency of Administration of justice. It is pertinent to note that 20.30% of advocates, 10% of Judges, 5.14% of litigants and 12.50% of non-litigants have stated that they don't know if maintaining the court record on digital platform will enhance the efficiency of administration of justice.

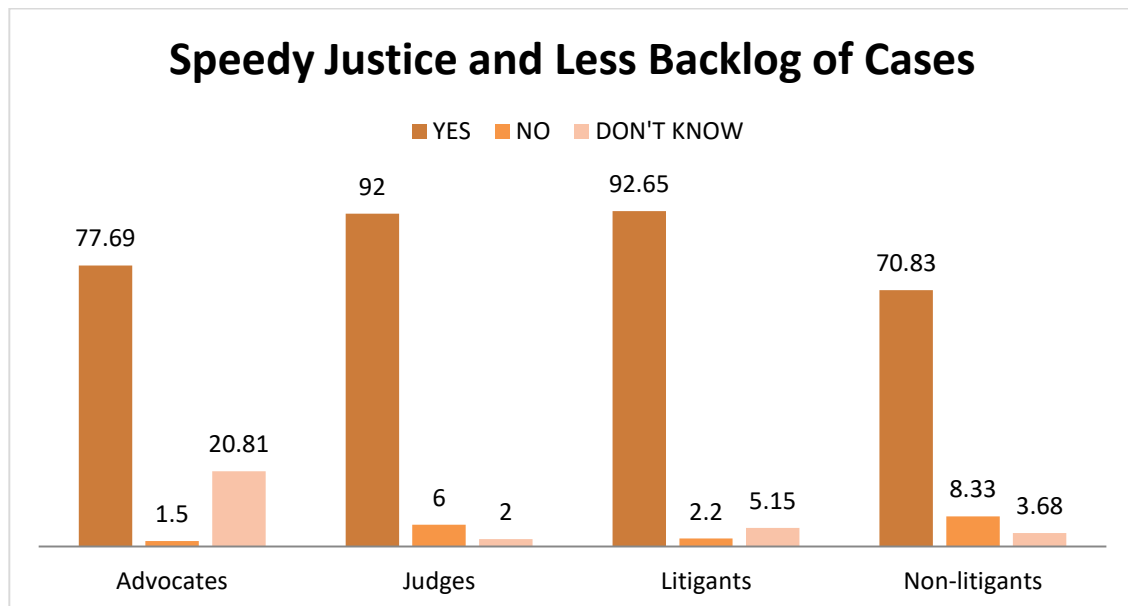


Figure 11 Speedy justice and Less Backlog of Cases

It is evident from Figure 11 that maintenance of digital court record will ensure speedy justice and reduce the backlog of cases as 79.69% of advocates, 92% of Judges, 92.65% of litigants and 70.83% of non-litigants have responded positively whereas 20.81% of advocates, 06% of Judges, 05.15% of litigants and 03.68% of non-litigants have responded that they are not sure if there will be any effect of maintaining digital court record on the backlog of cases. It is pertinent to note that very less amount of respondents i.e., 01.50% of advocates, 02% of Judges, 02.20% of litigants and 08.33% of non-litigants have responded that online access of court record to case specific litigants and advocates will not lessen the need to issue certified copies of court record.

6. SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

If entire Data Analysis is summarised, it is much evident that the stakeholders are not able to get access of court record in time as certified copies are not issued in a timely manner except in Urgent Cases and there is no mechanism to have access of court record in authentic manner except to get the Certified Copies of the Court Record. There may be many reasons for this such as less man Power, less machinery and lack of adequate knowledge for the litigants and non-litigants but, all the stake holders have unanimously accepted that maintaining the court record will not only save the Physical Court record from destruction and tempering but also provide easy and cost effective access to all the stake holders. It is also evident from the research that maintaining the court record on digital platform and giving its access to case specific advocates and litigants will lessen the need to issue certified copies and enhance not only the efficiency of administration of Justice but also assure speedy justice to litigants and will ultimately result in lessening the backlog of Cases.

A. COURT RECORD MANAGEMENT THROUGH BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY.

The supreme Court has in the draft vision document of the Phase III of eCourts project[footnoteRef:18] has envisaged to create the Digital Case Registry which is a comprehensive repository of Case filing and secured with the Blockchain mechanism which will ultimately form an interoperable Justice System whereby the different stakeholders of the Justice delivery system i.e., the Investigating Agency, Prison Authorities, Forensic Science Laboratories, Legal Aid Counsels, Medical Officers and Hospitals are interconnected with the Courts. In furtherance to this, the draft vision documents also speak about assuring access to the Critical Services which includes providing transcripts of court proceedings into a typed digital format to the advocates and litigants of the concern case. The Digital Platform must be selected taking into consideration the needs of various stakeholders of system ensuring the Administration of Justice and the researcher has found that the Blockchain Technology will be the best tool to cater all needs of the Judiciary for effective maintenance of court record in digital platform.

B. BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY: INTRODUCTION AND ITS APPLICABILITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF DIGITAL COURT RECORD.

The concept of Blockchain has been established by a person or a group of people named Satoshi Nakamoto in his research paper[footnoteRef:19] in 2008 whereby he designed a system for passage of digital currency without third party intervention. Blockchain is a shared, immutable ledger that facilitates the process of recording transactions and tracking assets in a business network. An asset can be tangible (a house, car, cash, land) or intangible (intellectual property, patents, copyrights, branding). Virtually anything of value can be tracked and traded on a Blockchain network, reducing risk and cutting costs for all involved.[footnoteRef:20] Blockchains are tamper evident and tamper resistant digital ledgers implemented in a distributed fashion (i.e., without a central repository) and usually without a central authority (i.e., a bank, company, or government). At their basic level, they enable a community of users to record transactions in a shared ledger within that community, such that under normal operation of the Blockchain network no transaction can be changed once published.[footnoteRef:21] The Blockchain, as described in simplest manner is a chain made of different blocks containing the information which possesses the unique Hash value and each block is jointed in a way that assures tamperproof data security and allows authenticate access through Access Keys. The entire network of Blocks forms a part of ledger and the chain can be modified and designed as per the need of the user. If the comparative study as to application of Blockchain Technology is done, it is much evident that the different countries have adopted the Blockchain Technology in different realm of Governance. If the Blockchain Initiatives that the governments of European Countries are taken into consideration, the European Commission had launched the European Union Blockchain Observatory and Forum (EUBOF) which is an European Expertise hub on Blockchain Technology. EUBOF's report of December, 2018[footnoteRef:22] shows Blockchain initiatives taken by different governments. the report states that the Switzerland and Finland have adopted the Blockchain Technology for data maintenance of Identity of citizens, Sweden, UK and Ukraine have adopted the Blockchain Technology for data maintenance of Asset Registration, Estonia and Sweden have adopted the Blockchain Technology for data

maintenance of their Healthcare sector, Cyprus, Malta and France have adopted the Blockchain Technology for Education and Certification and Switzerland has adopted the Blockchain technology for E-Voting. The countries such as China and USA[footnoteRef:23] have also nodded positively for the admissibility of Electronic and Blockchain Evidence in justice dispensation process. It is pertinent to note that the China has not only restricted the technological intervention till accepting evidence preserved through Blockchain[footnoteRef:24] But, it has gone much beyond by establishing the courts based on Artificial Intelligence.

Hence, an Immutable, Traceable and Independent Blockchain can definitely be the best digital platform to store entire court record which assure access of court record to the litigating parties with authenticity and integrity[footnoteRef:25] in cost free and Speedy manner.[footnoteRef:26] The court record maintained over the Blockchain platform will not only be cost effective to the government but also a tamper-resistant mechanism[footnoteRef:27] and therefore it is considered to be the best for recordkeeping. The author considers the Blockchain Technology to be the best mode to store and maintain the Digital Court record as the data store on the Blockchain by creating the case specific blockchain will have different blocks containing the data i.e. the court record such as Pleadings, Interim Applications and order passed by the court on such interim applications, Deposition of witnesses, Documents produced by the either party to the proceedings which will be assigned a unique hash value and all the data stored in the case specific Blockchain will become completely irreversible and non-editable. This feature of the Blockchain Technology assures that if any Block is tempered with the hash value of entire Block will be changed which is not possible as the Second Block will be connected with the Genesis Block. Maintaining the court record on digital platform will also secure the authenticity of the court record and even if the court record gets destructed due to any circumstances beyond the control of human, there will be a replica of entire court record store on Blockchain. In furtherance to this, the Blockchain is transparent and Cost effective mechanism to store the big database. One of the important feature of the Blockchain is that it can be designed in a way which can cater the need of all the stake holders bu giving access keys to case specific litigants, advocates and the appellate courts can also have the access of the court record simultaneously and therefore, the need to send the court record physically from trial court to its appellate court will be nullified. As maintenance of Court record on Digital Platform will cater multiple needs, it will lessen the administrative work of the court staff and the court staff will be able to accomplish other administrative work more efficiently. The research implies that establishing the Digital Court Records will be a giant leap towards establishment of Digital Courts.

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