

**PRESS NOTE / RELEASE**

**Video Conferencing System / Solution at District, Tehsil Courts, Central Jails/ District Jails / Sub Jails, District/Civil Hospitals, Railway Courts & Juvenile Justice Boards.**

High Court of Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur with intent to avoid delay in judicial proceeding due to non-availability of parties, counsels, witnesses and accused and looking to urgent need has taken up matter for a user-friendly video conferencing facility and other modes of audio-visual electronics linkage for the purpose of hearing of the cases as well as recording of evidence of witnesses unable to attend the Court, found that the information Technology is good tool for speedy trial and speedy justice.

The video conferencing is an integrated web technology capable of running seamlessly over Internet/ Intranet, Virtual Private Network (VPN) which ensure the presence of witnesses, accused persons and other Stakeholders.

It is stated that on the basis of model rules for Video Conferencing for Courts forwarded by Hon'ble the Supreme Court, the rules "**The High Court of Madhya Pradesh Video Conferencing and Audio-Visual Electronic Linkage Rules, 2020**" for the High Court of Madhya Pradesh have been prepared and was notified .

Further, for the Subordinate Courts of the Madhya Pradesh, vide gazette notification dated: **20<sup>th</sup> November, 2020** "**The District Courts of Madhya Pradesh Video Conferencing and Audio-Visual Electronic Linkage Rules, 2020**" were notified in the official gazette of the Madhya Pradesh.

**The High Court of Madhya Pradesh is first in the Country to extend the Video conferencing facility to all District Hospitals, Juvenile justice Boards, Railway Courts and Family Courts.**

**Till 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2021**, from the funds of the State Government and e-Committee, **1864** number of VC systems have been purchased and installed at Districts, Tehsil Courts, Central Jails/ District Jails/Sub Jails, District Hospitals, Railway Courts & Juvenile Justice Boards as under:-

S.No.	Location/Site	Total units / system provided
1.	District Hospitals	51
2.	Jails (Central/District/Women/Sub Jail) (I <sup>st</sup> Phase)	325
3.	District & Tehsil Court Complexes (II <sup>nd</sup> Phase)	1191
4.	Family Court Complex	49
5.	Juvenile justice Board	51
6.	Railway Courts	04
7.	District & Tehsil Court Complexes ( III <sup>rd</sup> Phase)	193
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1864</b>

At present all the District Court complexes are having Video Conferencing facility with Central Jails/District Jails/Sub-Jails facilitating transaction of judicial business as regards recording of evidence, judicial remand and to speed-up the trial. Also, the video conferencing is made available with District Hospitals for recording evidence of Doctors from District Hospital itself.

This arrangement may reduce the burden on Doctors, of travelling and will also help the Police/Jail Staff in ensuring security and safety of prisoners.

The High Court of Madhya Pradesh has conducted approx **361164** number of VC during lockdown till **30<sup>th</sup> June, 2021**. The District Judiciary has conducted approx **527906** number of VC during Lockdown till **30<sup>th</sup> June, 2021**.

Also recently, High Court of Madhya Pradesh has issued Work Order regarding purchase of 80 number of Video Conferencing units for District and Tehsil Court Complexes in order to further strengthen the video conferencing system.