

PRESS RELEASE

A Conference of Chief Justices of the High Courts will be held in Supreme Court on 14th and 15th August, 2009 to devise ways and means to expedite disposal of cases and to streamline and improve the Justice Delivery System. The Conference will be presided by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India. Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.N. Agrawal and Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.H. Kapadia, Judges, Supreme Court, will also be participating in the Conference. The Agenda of the Chief Justices' Conference is as under:-

Sl. No.	Agenda Items
1	Progress on implementation of the Resolutions passed in the previous Chief Justices' Conference held on 17 th and 18 th April, 2008.
2	Steps required to be taken for reduction/elimination of arrears and ensure speedy trial within a reasonable period.
3	Augmenting the infrastructure of Subordinate Courts.
4	Progress made in setting-up and functioning of evening/morning courts in Subordinate Courts.
5	Strengthening of Vigilance Cells in the High Courts and progress made in setting-up of Vigilance Cells in each district.
6	Progress made in setting-up of Fast Track Courts of Magistrates and Fast Track Civil Courts.
7	Establishment of Gram Nyayalayas.
8	Progress made in modernization and computerisation of justice delivery system, establishment of e-courts and video conferencing facilities.
9	Strengthening of A.D.R. system including mediation and conciliation.
10	Strengthening Legal Aid Systems.
11	Financial Autonomy to the High Courts.
12	Holding of courts in jail by every Chief Metropolitan Magistrate or the Chief Judicial Magistrate or Metropolitan Magistrate/Judicial Magistrate of the area in which a district jail falls, on regular basis to take up the cases of those undertrial prisoners who are involved in petty offences punishable upto three years or are keen to confess their guilt.

13	Increase in the strength of Judges of the High Courts and Subordinate Courts.
14	Progress made in setting-up of permanent mechanism for implementation of Resolutions passed by the Chief Justices' Conferences and decisions taken at the Joint Conferences of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices.
15	Strengthening of training of Judicial Officers.
16	Increase in the ratio of appointments to High Courts from amongst Judicial Officers to fifty per cent of the Judges' strength of the concerned High Court instead of the present one-third.
17	Progress made in setting-up of Juvenile Justice Boards.
18	Strengthening of Lok Adalat System.
19	Steps to be taken for filling up of vacancies in the High Courts and Subordinate Courts.
20	Formation of All India Judicial Service.
21	Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.

2. The Conference of the Chief Justices will be followed by a Joint Conference of Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of the High Courts at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi at 10.00 A.M. on 16th August, 2009, to discuss various issues relating to judiciary with a view to improve the Justice Delivery System. The Joint Conference will be inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. The agenda of the Joint Conference of the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of the High Courts is as under:-

Sl. No.	Agenda Items
1	Progress on implementation of Resolutions passed in the previous Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held on April 19, 2008.
2	Operationalization of Gram Nyayalayas.
3	Progress made in setting-up of Fast Track Courts of Magistrates and Fast Track Civil Courts and continuation of Fast Track Courts.
4	Progress made in setting-up and functioning of evening/morning courts in Subordinate Courts and setting up of more courts – (a) CBI Courts and (b) Family Courts.

5	Introducing judicial reforms through the following measures:- (a) Formation of All India Judicial Service (b) Management training for judicial officers
6	Progress made in the implementation of the ICT enablement of the Courts – Establishment of E-Courts with special emphasis on - (a) Total involvement of the State Government machinery for site preparations, (b) Commitment on meeting the expenditure on technical manpower beyond the period supported by the Central Government and recurring expenditure on AMCs and power back-up, (c) Definition of information flows in the courts, ownership of information and dissemination channels
7	Progress made in development of the infrastructure of Subordinate Courts.
8	Steps required to be taken for reduction of arrears and ensuring speedy trial.
9	Filling up of vacancies in the High Courts and Subordinate Courts.
10	Consideration of 188 th Report of the Law Commission “Proposals for constitution of Hi-tech Fast Track commercial Divisions in High Courts”.
11	Strengthening of Legal Aid System.
12	Strengthening of A.D.R. System including mediation and conciliation.
13	Judicial Impact Assessment.
14	Granting Financial Autonomy to the High Courts.
15	Progress made in setting up permanent mechanism for implementation of Resolutions passed by the Chief Justices' Conference and decisions taken at the Joint Conferences of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices.
16	Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

(R.C. Gandhi)
Consultant (Protocol)
11.8.2009