

## **Access to district courts is the first step to ensure equitable access :CJI Chandrachud**

Panaji: 19 October 2024

Access to district courts is one of the first step towards ensuring equitable access to justice. The importance of efficient functioning of our district courts cannot be overstated stated Chief Justice of India Dr. Justice Dhananjay Y. Chandrachud who was speaking after inaugurating the new District and Sessions Court Complex , North Goa at Merces [today](#).

He informed that the district courts serve as first point of contacts for most individuals seeking redressal. The district judiciary is the backbone of our institution, he added.

Justice Dr. Chandrachud speaking further said that he felt honored for inaugurating the much awaited state of art project new District and Sessions Court Complex in Goa. He is of the perception that in the philosophy of this beautiful State embodies a tranquil attitude towards life that defines a beautiful State Goa. Whenever I come to Goa I witness a sort of development which shows that Goa is truly on the path of rapid economic and social growth economic growth and social transformation. The initiative of Goa Government towards providing adequate infrastructure for judiciary is worthy of appreciation.

Justice Dr Chandrachud called for the abolition of judicial illiteracy. The main judgements of courts should translate regional language for the accessibility of general public. The Goa Government which has initiated a step by translating the judgements in Konkani language is remarkable. Those people who approaches court have their own experiences, struggles and hopes. We have to ensure people get justice to retain their faith in judiciary. We also work to create environment where all voices are heard and respected, he said.

Justice Dr. Chandrachud further also said that all forms of derogatory language towards women should have no place in our courts at all . We must actively choose to speak a language of inclusivity respect and empowerments. This involves reexamining our legal lexicon and ensuring it does not AQ enforce stereotype, he opined.

The Chief Minister Dr Pramod Sawant highlighting the importance of justice said that those who destroy justice are destroyed and those who protect justice are protected. Therefore he said justice is the foundation of the world. He informed Justice Dr Chandrachud that his presence is inspiration for all of us. Under his leadership, he said, the judiciary had not just defended rights of individual but also expanded the boundaries through progressive judgements and ensured that judiciary is the Guardian of equality, fairness and liberty of people.

The Chief Minister said he believes in the principle of equal justice. The district court represents hope for countles . The role of district courts is important as it is the first point of interaction for the citizen seeking the justice. This court represent hope for the countless people. The creation of this premises is a testimony of our concern that

for effective functioning of judiciary adequate infrastructure is required. The court is equipped with modern amenities so as to speed up functioning of judiciary and ensure justice to the people, he remarked.

Chief Justice of Bombay High Court Shri Justice Devendrakumar Upadhyay in his welcome address suggested that the Government start State Judicial Academy, Arbitration and Mediation centre in the State for which old high court building can be utilized he suggested.

Minister for Law & Judiciary Shri Aleixo Sequeira, MLA Aldona Adv. Carlos Alvares Ferreira, MLA St. Cruz Shri Rudolf Fernandes, Judge Supreme Court of India Shri Justice Abhay Oka, Judge Supreme Court of India Shri Justice Rajesh Bindal, Judge Supreme Court of India, Shri Justice Prasanna Bhalchandra Varale, Judge Supreme Court of India Shri Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Chief Justice High Court of Bombay Shri Justice Devendrakumar. Upadhyay, Advocate General for the State of Goa Adv Devidas Pangam, Judge High Court of Bombay Goa Branch Shri Justice Mahesh Sonak Deputy. Solicitor General for the State of Goa Shri Pravin Faldesai Principal District and Sessions Judge , North Goa Smt.. Irshad Agha, President North Goa District Advocates Association Shri Santosh Bharne, Chief Justice of Kerala High Court Nitin Jamdar, Registrar General of Supreme Court of India Shri R.N. Joshi judges of District and Sessions Court and Members of Goa Bar Council and others were among those who were present for the function.

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