

HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI



**ANNUAL REPORT
2007-2008**



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Annual Report 2007-2008

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JUSTICE AJIT PRAKASH SHAH

Born on 13.02.1948 at Solapur. After a short span of practice in the District Court at Solapur, he shifted to Bombay High Court in 1977 and joined the Chambers of the then leading Advocate Shri S. C. Pratap, (who was later appointed as a Judge of the Bombay High Court). He then gained experience in civil, constitutional, service and labour matters. He was appointed as an Additional Judge of Bombay High Court on 18.12.1992 and became permanent Judge of Bombay High Court on 8.4.1994. He assumed charge of the office of Chief Justice, Madras High Court on 12.11.2005 and on transfer took over as Chief Justice, Delhi High Court on 11.05.2008.



JUSTICE DR. MUKUNDAKAM SHARMA
Judge, Supreme Court of India

Appointed as permanent Judge of Guwahati High Court on 10.01.1994. Transferred to Patna High Court on 14.02.1994. Joined Delhi High Court on 12.12.1994. Appointed as Acting Chief Justice of Delhi High Court on 28.11.2006 and as 24th Chief Justice w.e.f. 04.12.2006. Appointed as Judge Supreme Court of India w.e.f. 09.04.2008. A Full Court Reference to mark the occasion was held on 08.04.2008.

3 PROFILE OF DELHI HIGH COURT BENCH



Sitting from left, first row

: Gita Mittal J, Pradeep Nandrajog J, Sanjay Kishan Kaul J, A.K. Sikri J, Mukul Mudgal J, Tirath Singh Thakur J, Ajit Prakash Shah, CJ (in center), Manmohan Sarin J, Vikramajit Sen J, B.N. Chaturvedi J, Badar Durrez Ahmed J, Anil Kumar J, S. Ravindra Bhat J, Rekha Sharma J.

The first Annual Report of this Court was released on 11.05.2007. Judged from that standpoint this report is somewhat delayed. Yet, it endeavours to break new ground.

The Annual Report for the year 2006-2007 being the first in the series, naturally dealt with the history of the Court in some detail. This report is not repetitive on that score and has outlined other features peculiar to the year 2007-2008, which has just gone by. While adhering to the basic framework of the previous Annual Report, certain new features have been added. A greater emphasis on the statistics of the institution and disposal of cases has been placed. The report presents them not only in the form of dry figures, but also through comparative colour coded and pie charts, which are easy to comprehend.

Dr. Justice M.K. Sharma who led the Court as its Chief Justice from 04.12.2006, was appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court on 08.04.2008; he joins other former Chief Justices of this Court who are currently Judges of the Supreme Court, viz. Justice Arijit Pasayat, Justice S.B. Sinha and Justice Markandey Katju. Two Judges of the Supreme Court namely Justice Dalveer Bhandari and Justice D.K. Jain started their judicial careers from this Court. Justice T.S. Thakur was appointed as Chief Justice, Punjab and Haryana High Court on 11.08.2008 and Justice Manmohan Sarin was appointed as Chief Justice, Jammu and Kashmir High Court on 04.09.2008. During this period, twelve new Judges were appointed to the High Court, and three Judges demitted office upon their attaining the age of retirement.

As in the case with such reports, the most important section is one dealing with judicial work. This shows that 47017 main cases were filed in the Court for the period 2007-2008 and 56612 cases were disposed of. The arrears of main cases which were 79818 as on 01.04.2007 got reduced; they were 74599 by the end of March 2008. The figures disclose that the arrears reduced included 13.46% of civil cases which were older than 10 years and 57.30% criminal cases that were older than 10 years. These, despite the fact that the Court did not function at its full sanctioned strength of 48, and the average number of Judges for the period 01.04.2007 to 12.03.2008 were only 32 or two thirds the sanctioned strength. It was only for less than 3 weeks 13.03.2008 to 31.03.2008 when the Court had a complement of 34 Judges.

Besides the details and statistics, other aspects of Court functioning including the Court's budgetary allocation and expenditure have been shown. An attempt has been made to cost analyze the judicial time. The figures show that there were 3,32,141 "MATTERS", or "LISTINGS" took place before the Court for the period 01.04.2007 to 31.03.2008. These were listed before 24 Benches each of which on an average had to deal with 13,839 listed matters that year, which averaged to 64 cases each day before every Court. The average time available for each of such case was 4 minutes and 5 seconds. The average cost of listing each such case before each Judge worked out to Rs.1,297/- and the average Court expenditure per minute by the Court was Rs.6,327/- or Rs.19,93,180/- for each working day. This expenditure excluded the time spent by the Judges dictating reserved judgments in the chambers and preparing the cases for the next day as well as the time spent for correcting and signing the orders in those 64 odd cases listed each day. These figures only highlight the crushing load which the Courts the Delhi High Court

being no exception have to shoulder. In the previous report a comparison had been made between the Court's Docket and the kind of institution and disposal of cases before Courts in England; on an average each Superior Court Judge (there are about 150 of them) had to decide about 150 cases every year. This comparison serves to make a point.

The year 2007-2008 saw several milestones; the Dwarka Court complex and the National Law school were inaugurated recently. The Delhi High Court played a prominent part in the setting up of the Law School. An Automated Underground Multi Level Car Parking to resolve the endemic parking problem of litigants and lawyers has been conceived. It is proposed to become operational by August 2010 on an estimated cost of Rs.122.69 crores. The digitization and archiving of records of the Court has progressed considerably and by end of September 2008, a record 3,98,373 decided judicial files were scanned and digitized. The process will ensure electronic storage of data and its astonishingly rapid retrieval. It will facilitate speedy availability of certified copies of old documents and pleadings. Nine E-Kiosks were installed in the High Court building to facilitate easy access of information regarding pendency of cases, their dates of listing and scheduled dates of hearing etc.

Alternative dispute resolution initiatives to unclog Court Dockets and hasten process of dispute solving, were given a further impetus during the year. The Mediation Centres, both of the Delhi High Court and the other Courts have shown that with the involvement of the Members of the Bar as well as trained Judge Mediators, a large number of disputes can be resolved. Delhi's Judge Mediators have also been requisitioned in other parts of the country, to impart training. This is a matter of pride to the Delhi Mediation initiatives. Towards achieving the same, the concept of continuous Lok Adalats was introduced in relation to cases pending in the High Court as well as the lower courts. Through this initiative, retired Judges of the Delhi High Court and retired Judicial Officers of other Courts have agreed to spare their time and attempt dispute resolution.

The Chief Justice of India had also recently inaugurated Evening Courts designed to decide and settle small cases. The kind of Evening Courts, manned by regular judges, proposed for Delhi are such that regular offences would be referred to them, unlike in other parts of the country, where petty cases such as traffic challans are usually decided, by evening courts.

This report strives to present an objective picture about the Courts and demystify various aspects of judicial functioning. The Court, as an important institution ordained by the Constitution, has to function in the context of its times and therefore will continue in its efforts to make all information available to members of the public, to retain its vibrancy and relevance. Its motto, as spelt out in the previous Annual Report is, and continues to be speedy and inexpensive justice with easy access to all.

Justice Ajit Prakash Shah
CHIEF JUSTICE

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JUDGES OF DELHI HIGH COURT APPOINTED AS CHIEF JUSTICES OF OTHER HIGH COURTS



JUSTICE T.S. THAKUR

Born on 04.01.1952. Enrolled as an Advocate on 05.04.1974 and practised in the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir on 16.02.1994. Transferred to Karnataka High Court in March 1994. Appointed as Judge of High Court of Delhi in July 2004. Appointed as Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court on 11.08.2008. A Full Court Reference to mark the occasion was held on 08.08.2008.

Born on 20.10.1946. Enrolled as an Advocate in 1979. Practised in the Supreme Court, High Court of Delhi and District Courts. Appointed as Additional Judge on 17.05.1995 and permanent Judge of High Court of Delhi on 06.12.1996. Appointed as Chief Justice of Jammu & Kashmir High Court on 04.09.2008. A Full Court Reference to mark the occasion was held on 02.09.2008.



JUSTICE MANMOHAN SARIN

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JUDGES APPOINTED TO THE COURT AFTER THE LAST REPORT



JUSTICE SUDERSHAN KUMAR MISRA

Born on 07.09.1954. Enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi on 19.10.1978. Designated as Senior Advocate on 23.07.1994. Practised in Supreme Court of India, High Court of Delhi and MRTD Commission etc. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 04.07.2007 and as permanent Judge on 07.11.2008.

Born on 01.07.1952. Enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi in the year 1978. Practised in Supreme Court, High Court of Delhi and District Courts from 1978 to 1992. Appointed as Additional District & Sessions Judge in December, 1992. Took over as District & Sessions Judge, Delhi on 01.03.2007. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 31.08.2007.



JUSTICE VEENA BIRBAL



JUSTICE SIDDHARTH MRIDUL

Born on 22.11.1962. Enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi on 24.07.1986. Designated as Senior Advocate on 20.05.2006. Practised in High Court of Delhi. Also practised in the High Court of Judicature at Mumbai, Karnataka High Court at Bangalore and Rajasthan High Court at Jaipur. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 13.03.2008.

Born on 17.12.1962. Enrolled in 1987. Designated as Senior Advocate on 18.01.2003 and practised in Supreme Court of India and High Court of Delhi. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 13.03.2008.



JUSTICE MANMOHAN



JUSTICE V.K. SHALI

Born on 15.06.1954. Enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi on 29.09.1976 and practised in High Court of Delhi and District Courts. Joined Delhi Judicial Service in 1979 and resigned in March 1991. Started practice in Supreme Court of India and High Court of Delhi. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 11.04.2008.

Born on 22.09.1954. Enrolled on 12.08.1980 with Bar Council of Delhi and started practice in High Court of Delhi. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 11.04.2008.



JUSTICE MANMOHAN SINGH



JUSTICE RAJIV SAHAI ENDLAW

Born on 13.08.1959. Enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi in July 1982. Practised law in High Court of Delhi and the District courts. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 11.04.2008.

Born on 08.07.1959. Enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi in 1982. Practised in Supreme Court of India, High Court of Delhi and Other Courts/Fora including MRTP Commission, National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 11.04.2008.



JUSTICE J.R. MIDHA



JUSTICE RAJIV SHAKDHER

Born on 19.10.1962. Enrolled on 19.11.1987. Designated as Senior Advocate on 08.12.2005. Practised in Supreme Court of India, High Court of Delhi and other High Courts, Tax Tribunals, etc. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 11.04.2008.

Born on 23.08.1957. Enrolled in the year 1984. Joined Delhi Higher Judicial Service as Additional District & Sessions Judge in 1995. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 11.04.2008.



JUSTICE SUNIL GAUR



JUSTICE MOOL CHAND GARG

Born on 10.06.1954. Enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi on 29.09.1978 and practised in High Court of Delhi and District Courts. Appointed to Delhi Higher Judicial Service as an Additional District & Sessions Judge in 1995. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 11.04.2008.

Born on 24.05.1963. Enrolled on 06.12.1989 with Bar Council of Delhi. Practised in High Court of Delhi and District Courts. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 05.09.2008.



JUSTICE SURESH KAIT

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JUDGES RETIRED FROM THE COURT AFTER THE LAST REPORT



JUSTICE R.S. SODHI

Born on 11.11.1945. Enrolled as an Advocate in 1972. Practised in Supreme Court. Appointed as Additional Advocate General for the State of Punjab in 1997. Appointed as Additional Judge on 07.07.1999 and permanent Judge of High Court of Delhi on 10.12.1999. Retired on 11.11.2007. A Full Court Reference to mark the occasion was held on 07.11.2007.



JUSTICE J.P. SINGH

Born on 10.07.1945. Enrolled as an Advocate in 1969. Practised in District Courts, High Court of Delhi and Supreme Court. Joined Delhi Higher Judicial Service in November 1985. Promoted as District & Sessions Judge, Delhi in August 2002. Appointed as Additional Judge on 05.07.2004 and permanent Judge of High Court of Delhi on 20.02.2006. Retired on 10.07.2007. A Full Court Reference to mark the occasion was held on 09.07.2007.



JUSTICE J.M. MALIK

Born on 18.07.1946. Enrolled as an Advocate in 1968. Practised mainly at Kaithal (Haryana). Joined Delhi Judicial Service in 1972. Promoted to Higher Judicial Service on 17.01.1989. Appointed as Additional Judge of High Court of Delhi on 28.02.2006. Retired on 18.07.2008. A Full Court Reference to mark the occasion was held on 17.07.2008.

S.No.	Name of Judge	Date of continuous appointment as Additional Judge	Date of appointment as Permanent Judge	Remarks
1.	Dr. Justice M.K.Sharma, Chief Justice	--	10.01.1994	Appointed as Chief Justice on 04.12.2006 Appointed as Judge, Supreme Court w.e.f. 09.04.2008.
2.	Mr. Justice Ajit Prakash Shah, Chief Justice.	--	--	Transferred from Madras High Court to this Court on 11.05.2008.
3.	Mr. Justice T.S.Thakur	16.02.1994	11.09.1995	Transferred from Karnataka High Court to this Court on 05.07.2004. Acting Chief Justice w.e.f. 09.04.2008 to 10.05.2008. Assumed charge as Chief Justice of Punjab & Haryana High Court on 11.08.2008.
4.	Mr. Justice Manmohan Sarin	17.05.1995	06.12.1996	Assumed charge as Chief Justice of Jammu & Kashmir High Court on 04.09.2008 and retired from that position on 19.10.2008.
5.	Mr. Justice Mukul Mudgal	02.03.1998	05.07.1999	
6.	Mr. Justice Madan B. Lokur	19.02.1999	05.07.1999	
7.	Mr. Justice R.S.Sodhi	07.07.1999	10.12.1999	Retired on 11.11.2007
8.	Mr. Justice Vikramajit Sen	07.07.1999	30.10.2000	
9.	Mr. Justice A.K. Sikri	07.07.1999	23.04.2001	

10.	Mr.Justice B.N.Chaturvedi	01.12.2000	23.09.2002	
11.	Mr.Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul	03.05.2001	02.05.2003	
12.	Mr.Justice H.R.Malhotra	26.8.2002	21.01.2004	
13.	Mr. Justice Badar Durrez Ahmed	20.12.2002	21.01.2004	
14.	Mr.Justice Pradeep Nandrajog	20.12.2002	16.04.2004	
15.	Mr. Justice J.P.Singh	05.07.2004	20.02.2006	Retired on 10.07.2007
16.	Mr.Justice Anil Kumar	16.07.2004	20.02.2006	
17.	Ms. Justice Gita Mittal	16.07.2004	20.02.2006	
18.	Mr.Justice S.Ravindra Bhat	16.07.2004	20.02.2006	
19.	Ms.Justice Rekha Sharma	24.02.2005	20.02.2006	
20.	Mr.Justice Sanjiv Khanna	24.06.2005	20.02.2006	
21.	Mr. Justice S.N. Dhingra	28.02.2006	25.04.2007	
22.	Mr. Justice S.L.Bhayana	28.02.2006	25.04.2007	
23.	Mr. Justice J.M. Malik	28.02.2006	25.04.2007	Retired on 18.07.2008
24.	Ms. Justice Reva Khetrapal	28.02.2006	25.04.2007	
25.	Mr. Justice S.N. Aggarwal	28.02.2006	25.04.2007	
26.	Mr. Justice P.K.Bhasin	05.04.2006	25.04.2007	
27.	Mr. Justice Kailash Gambhir	29.05.2006	29.08.2007	
28.	Mr. Justice G.S. Sistani	29.05.2006	29.08.2007	

29.	Dr. Justice S.Muralidhar	29.05.2006	29.08.2007	
30.	Ms. Justice Hima Kohli	29.05.2006	29.08.2007	
31.	Mr. Justice Vipin Sanghi	29.05.2006	11.02.2008	
32.	Ms. Justice Aruna Suresh	04.07.2006	11.02.2008	
33.	Mr. Justice V.B. Gupta	09.01.2007	01.09.2008	
34.	Mr. Justice Sudershan Kumar Misra	04.07.2007	07.11.2008	
35.	Ms. Justice Veena Birbal	31.08.2007		
36.	Mr. Justice Siddharth Mridul	13.03.2008		
37.	Mr. Justice Manmohan	13.03.2008		
38.	Mr. Justice V.K.Shali	11.04.2008		
39.	Mr. Justice Manmohan Singh	11.04.2008		
40.	Mr. Justice Rajiv Sahai Endlaw	11.04.2008		
41.	Mr. Justice J. R Midha	11.04.2008		
42.	Mr. Justice Rajiv Shakhder	11.04.2008		
43.	Mr. Justice Sunil Gaur	11.04.2008		
44.	Mr. Justice Mool Chand Garg	11.04.2008		
45.	Mr. Justice Suresh Kait	05.09.2008		

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SANCTIONED STRENGTH OF JUDGES OF THE COURT

PERIOD	SANCTIONED STRENGTH		
	PERMANENT JUDGES	ADDITIONAL JUDGES	TOTAL
From 04.12.2006	28	08	36
From 01.11.2007	29	19	48

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ROSTER OF DIVISION BENCHES / SINGLE BENCHES DURING 2007-2008

DATE	DIVISION BENCH CIVIL	DIVISION BENCH CRIMINAL	SINGLE BENCH CIVIL	SINGLE BENCH CRIMINAL	TOTAL NO. OF JUDGES
08.01.2007 TO 01.04.2007	6	2	13	3	32
02.04.2007 TO 05.08.2007	6	2	13	3	32
06.08.2007 TO 01.01.2008	6	2	12	4	32
02.01.2008 TO 12.03.2008	6	2	12	4	32
13.03.2008 TO 31.03.2008	6	2	14	4	34

The High Court has several jurisdictions – appellate, original, revisional, tax and writ. It is one of the few High Courts in India where original civil cases (e.g. injunction, partition, recovery suits, commercial disputes, intellectual property rights disputes, arbitration cases etc.) are decided. Cases, to be tried, have to be of value exceeding Rs.20 Lakhs. Appeals from the orders and judgments of single Judges in such cases are decided by Division Benches. Other appeals against orders and judgments of District Courts are assigned to Division Benches and in some instances single Judges.

Writ proceedings are initiated under Article 226 of the Constitution of India; they are also called “judicial review” against orders of administrative or statutory bodies or agencies, except in the case of proceedings for the writ of habeas corpus, where someone alleges unlawful detention by police or State agencies.

Through various tables, bar charts and pie charts, the pendency and disposal figures of cases in various jurisdictions have been shown. By way of comparison, previous years' statistics too have been disclosed.



View of a Court Room in Extension Block Building

FILING, DISPOSAL, ARREARS OF MAIN CASES AND EXISTING STRENGTH DURING THE PERIOD 01-04-2007 TO 31-03-2008

MONTH	PREVIOUS ARREARS	FILING	DISPOSAL	ARREARS	EXISTING STRENGTH	SANCTIONED STRENGTH	WORKING DAYS	AVERAGE DISPOSAL PER JUDGE PER MONTH	AVERAGE DISPOSAL PER JUDGE PER DAY (**)
2007									
April	79818	2909	3544	79183	32	36	15	110.75	7.38
May	79183	4637	4817	79003	32	36	23	150.53	6.54
June	79003	766	249	79520	32 (*)	36	14	124.5 (*)	8.89 (*)
July	79520	3642	4745	78417	32	36	23	148.28	6.44
August	78417	3389	4328	77478	33	36	21	131.15	6.24
September	77478	3195	3999	76674	33	36	20	121.18	6.05
October	76674	2684	3717	75641	33	36	16	112.63	7.03
November	75641	3068	3341	75368	32	48	21	104.4	4.97
December	76644	2874	3203	76315	32	48	14	100.09	7.14
2008									
January	76315	3396	3917	75794	32	48	22	122.4	5.56
February	76176	3215	4124	75267	32	48	22	128.87	5.85
March	74599	3339	3740	74198	34	48	19	110	5.78

PHYSICAL VERIFICATION OF CASES WAS CARRIED OUT WITH REGARD TO TAX, CRIMINAL AND CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF CIVIL MATTERS RESULTING IN CHANGE OF DATA FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER 2007, FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2008. CONSEQUENTLY, CORRECTED ARREAR FIGURES ARE REFLECTED ABOVE.

(*) DURING THE SUMMER VACATION OF THE COURT IN THE MONTH OF JUNE 2007, TWO VACATION JUDGES HELD COURT FROM 01.06.2007 TO 10.06.2007, 11.06.2007 TO 17.06.2007, 18.06.2007 TO 24.06.2007 AND 25.06.2007 TO 30.06.2007

(**) THIS MAY BE SEEN WITH THE FACT THAT EVERYDAY ON AN AVERAGE 64 CASES ARE LISTED BEFORE EACH BENCH

Note : 2397 reportable Judgments were delivered during the period 01.04.2007 to 31.03.2008.

FILING, DISPOSAL, ARREARS OF MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATIONS AND EXISTING STRENGTH DURING THE PERIOD 01-04-2007 TO 31-03-2008

MONTH	PREVIOUS ARREARS	FILING	DISPOSAL	ARREARS	EXISTING STRENGTH	SANCTIONED STRENGTH	WORKING DAYS	AVERAGE DISPOSAL PER JUDGE PER MONTH	AVERAGE DISPOSAL PER JUDGE PER DAY
2007									
April	55324	5046	4154	56216	32	36	15	129.81	8.65
May	56216	8354	6902	57668	32	36	23	215.68	9.37
June	57668	702	476	57894	32 (*)	36	14	238 (*)	17 (*)
July	57894	6411	5072	59233	32	36	23	158.5	6.89
August	59233	6299	5355	60177	33	36	21	162.27	7.72
September	60177	5944	5405	60716	33	36	20	163.78	8.18
October	60716	4983	4488	61211	33	36	16	136	8.5
November	61211	5690	5004	61897	32	48	21	156.37	7.44
December	61897	5161	4046	63012	32	48	14	126.43	9.03
2008									
January	63012	5990	5305	63697	32	48	22	165.78	7.53
February	63697	5957	6029	63625	32	48	22	188.4	8.56
March	63625	6183	5595	64213	34	48	19	164.55	8.66

(*) DURING THE SUMMER VACATION OF THE HIGH COURT IN THE MONTH OF JUNE 2007, TWO VACATION JUDGES HELD COURT FROM 01.06.2007 TO 10.06.2007, 11.06.2007 TO 17.06.2007, 18.06.2007 TO 24.06.2007 AND 25.06.2007 TO 30.06.2007

FILING, DISPOSAL, ARREARS FROM 01-04-2007 TO 31-03-2008

CATEGORY	ARREARS AS ON 01-04-07	FILING	DISPOSAL	ARREARS AS ON 31-03-08
(A) ARTICLE 226 OF THE CONSTITUTION				
WRIT PETITION (CIVIL)	28075	9926	12259	25742
(B) CIVIL CASES (APPELLATE SIDE)				
LETTERS PATENT APPEAL	2385	762	1278	1869
CIVIL REVISION PETITION	491	211	448	254
CIVIL REVISION PETITION (RENT)	104	0	6	98
REVISION PET. UNDER RENT CONTROL ACT	108	67	57	118
CIVIL MISC.(MAIN)	1153	1636	1454	1335
TRANSFER PETITION (CIVIL)	3	1	3	1
REGULAR FIRST APPEAL	3791	575	601	3765
LAND ACQUISITION APPEAL	897	544	179	1262
FIRST APPEAL FROM ORDER	2802	451	1249	2004
APPEALS IN MATRIMONIAL CASES	121	109	33	197
APPEALS PERTAINING TO MACT ORDERS	2013	755	811	1957
SECOND APPEALS UNDER RENT CONTROL ACT	60	7	7	60
COMPANY APPEAL (DB)	120	32	73	79
COMPANY SECRETARY REFERENCE	-	8	-	8
REGULAR SECOND APPEAL	1105	298	357	1046
CONTEMPT CASE (CIVIL)	1141	737	1042	836
CIVIL CONTEMPT APPEAL	64	23	22	65
CIVIL CONTEMPT REFERENCE	5	3	4	4
REGULAR FIRST APPEAL (ORIGINAL SIDE)	292	91	121	262
FIRST APPEAL FROM ORDER(ORIGINAL SIDE)	890	574	665	799
EXECUTION FIRST APPEALS(ORIGINAL SIDE)	49	34	23	60
MATRIMONIAL REFERENCE	0	-	-	0
CIVIL REFERENCE	5	1	1	5
EXECUTION FIRST APPEAL	27	17	7	37
EXECUTION SECOND APPEAL	3	1	-	4
ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION APPEAL	5	-	5	0
REVIEW APPLICATIONS	143	498	561	80
(A + B) TOTAL	45852	17361	21266	41947

CATEGORY	ARREARS	FILING	DISPOSAL	ARREARS
	AS ON 01-04-07			AS ON 31-03-08
(C) TAX MATTERS				
INCOME TAX APPEAL	3096	1490	919	3667
INCOME TAX CASE	6	0	6	0
INCOME TAX REFERENCE	1952	0	1394	558
INCOME TAX SECOND APPEAL	5	1	1	5
SALES TAX CASE	2	2	0	4
SALES TAX APPEAL	11	3	9	5
SALES TAX REFERENCE	115	1	68	48
WEALTH TAX CASE	8	0	6	2
WEATH TAX REFERENCE	294	0	216	78
WEATH TAX APPEAL	81	7	15	73
GIFT TAX CASE	0	—	—	0
GIFT TAX APPEAL	6	5	3	8
GIFT TAX REFERENCE	0	—	—	0
SUR TAX REFERENCE	2	0	2	0
CUSTOM ACT CASE	17	21	21	17
CUSTOM ACT REFERENCE	13	0	8	5
CUSTOM ACT APPEAL	17	5	17	5
CENTRAL EXCISE ACT CASE	63	18	32	49
CENTRAL EXCISE ACT REFERENCE	41	1	28	14
ESTATE DUTY CASE	19	0	19	0
ESTATE DUTY REFERENCE	5	0	5	0
ESTATE DUTY APPEAL	1	0	1	0
GOLD CONTROL ACT CASE	2	0	1	1
GOLD CONTROL ACT REFERENCE	8	0	2	6
CHARTERED ACCTT. REFERENCE	15	1	12	4
CHARTERED ACCTT. CASE	2	0	0	2
CHARTERED ACCTT. APPEAL	1	0	1	0
TOTAL	5782	1555	2786	4551
(D) CIVIL MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATIONS	22731	35446	30524	27653
TOTAL OF (A+B+C+D)	74365	54362	54576	74151

CATEGORY	ARREARS	FILING	DISPOSAL	ARREARS
	AS ON 01-04-07			AS ON 31-03-08
(E) CRIMINAL SIDE				
WRIT PETITION (CRIMINAL)	1207	1641	1984	864
CRIMINAL REVISION PETITION	1181	755	761	1175
CRIMINAL APPEALS				
DIVISION BENCH	2329	209	214	2324
SINGLE BENCH	4566	571	506	4631
BAIL APPLICATIONS	1081	2838	3290	629
APPLICATIONS U/s 482 Cr.P.C	5390	3969	5808	3551
TRANSFER PETITION (CRIMINAL)	8	5	11	2
DEATH SENTENCE REFERENCE	4	2	3	3
CRIMINAL REFERENCE	1	1	0	2
CONTEMPT CASE (CRIMINAL)	19	17	15	21
CRIMINAL CONTEMPT REFERENCE	1	1	1	1
LEAVE TO APPEAL U/s 378 Cr.P.C	248	267	156	359
CRIMINAL MISC. FOR BAIL	100	1731	1595	236
TOTAL	16135	12007	14344	13798
(F) CRIMINAL MISC. APPLICATIONS				
TOTAL OF (E+F)	33176	27246	28110	32312
GRAND TOTAL (SUM OF A TO F)	107541	81608	82686	106463

NOTE : PHYSICAL VERIFICATION OF CASES WAS UNDERTAKEN WITH REGARD TO TAX, CRIMINAL AND CERTAIN CATEGORIES OF CIVIL MATTERS RESULTING IN CHANGE IN DATA FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER 2007, FEBRUARY AND MARCH 2008. CONSEQUENTLY, CORRECTED ARREAR FIGURES ARE REFLECTED.

FILING, DISPOSAL, ARREARS OF ORIGINAL SIDE (01-04-2007 TO 31-03-2008)

CATEGORY	ARREARS AS ON 01-04-07	FILING	DISPOSAL	ARREARS AS ON 31-03-08
CIVIL SUITS	6573	2289	1746	7116
ARBITRATION SUITS	7	0	7	0
ARBITRATION APPLICATIONS (U/S 11 OF ARBITRATION ACT)	398	537	619	316
ARBITRATION APPEAL (U/S 37 (2) OF ARBITRATION & CONCILIATION ACT)	0	3	1	2
ORIGINAL MISC. PETITIONS (U/S 9,14,15 33 & 34 OF ARBITRATION ACT)	1033	686	584	1135
TRANSFER PETITION (CIVIL)	3	14	17	0
PROBATE	349	64	59	354
MATRIMONIAL	1	0	1	0
INDIGENT PERSON APPLICATION	118	37	18	137
EXECUTION	677	297	320	654
CIVIL ORIGINAL	85	0	67	18
ORIGINAL APPEAL	84	8	6	86
CONTEMPT CASE (CIVIL)	1243	198	179	1262
CAVEAT	81	103	95	89
REVIEW APPLICATION	182	33	30	185
CIVIL RULE	0	0	0	0
ELECTION PETITION	2	2	4	0
TOTAL	10836	4271	3753	11354

CATEGORY	ARREARS AS ON 01-04-07	FILING	DISPOSAL	ARREARS AS ON 31-03-08
EXECUTION APPLICATION	2804	670	631	2843
INTERLOCUTORY APPLICATIONS	12748	15365	12910	15203
TOTAL	15552	16035	13541	18046

NOTE : THE NOMENCLATURE OF CASES UNDER SECTION 37(2) OF ARBITRATION & CONCILIATION ACT, 1996 HAS BEEN CHANGED FROM "OMP" TO "ARBITRATION APPEAL" W.E.F. 17.09.07

FILING, DISPOSAL, ARREARS OF COMPANY SIDE (01-04-2007 TO 31-03-2008)

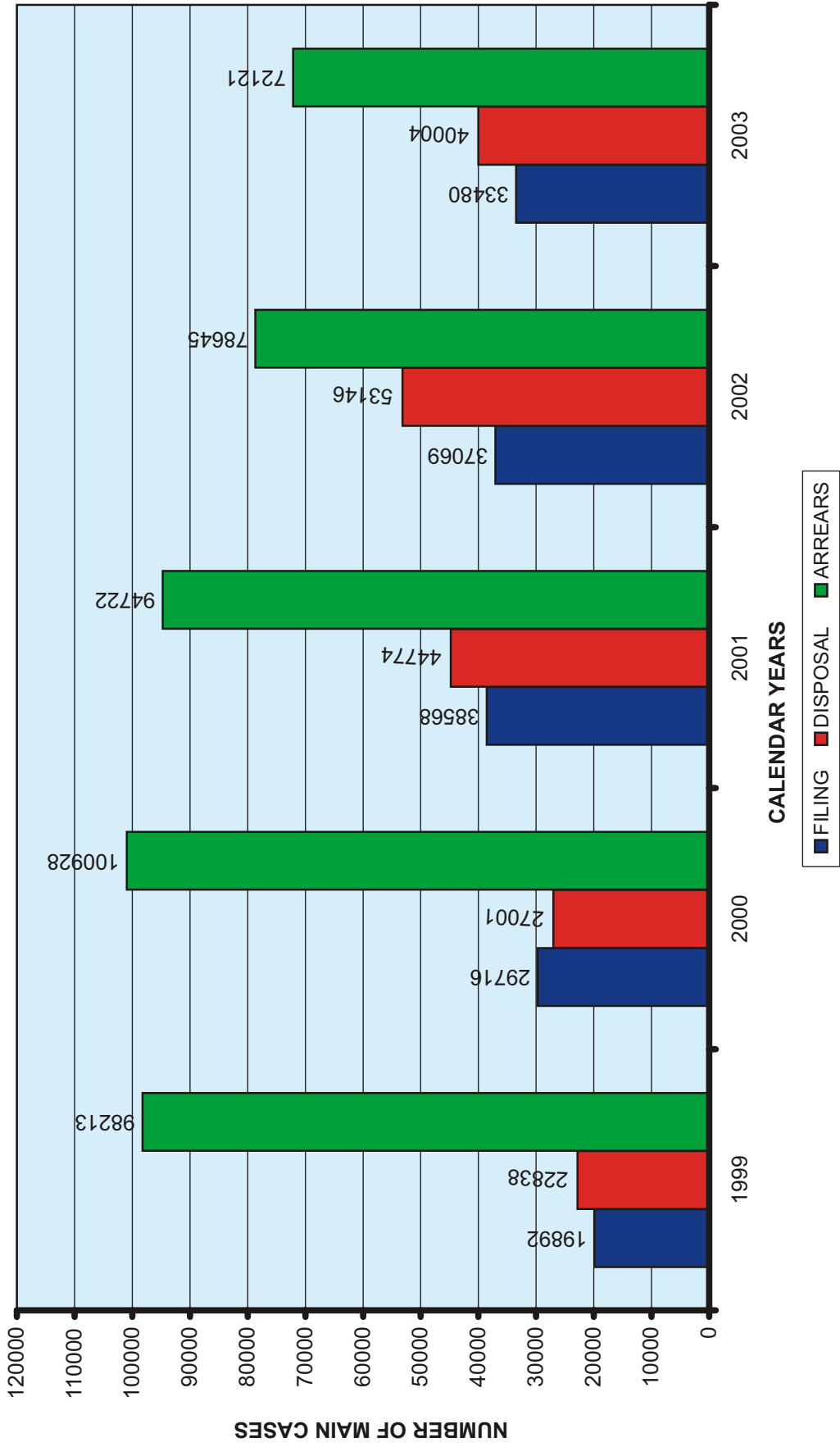
CATEGORY	ARREARS AS ON 01-04-07	FILING	DISPOSAL	ARREARS AS ON 31-03-08
COMPANY PETITION	614	315	353	576
APPLICATION IN COMPANY PETITION (INCLUDING LIQUIDATION PROCEEDINGS)	1343	1368	1001	1710
CLAIM APPLICATION (M)	104	156	181	79
MATTERS TRANSFERRED UNDER SECTION 446 (3) OF COMPANIES ACT	-	-	-	-
COMPANY EXECUTION APPLICATIONS	5	1	2	4
CRIMINAL ORIGINAL (COMPANY)	60	12	6	66
CIVIL CONTEMPT PETITION (COMPANY)	23	24	19	28
CRIMINAL MISC. (COMPANY)	4	0	1	3
COMPANY APPEAL (SINGLE BENCH)	52	44	14	82
STAY MATTER(MISC.)	0	-	-	0
TOTAL	2205	1920	1577	2548

MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATIONS

CATEGORY	ARREARS AS ON 01-04-07	FILING	DISPOSAL	ARREARS AS ON 31-03-08
STAY MATTER (MISC.)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

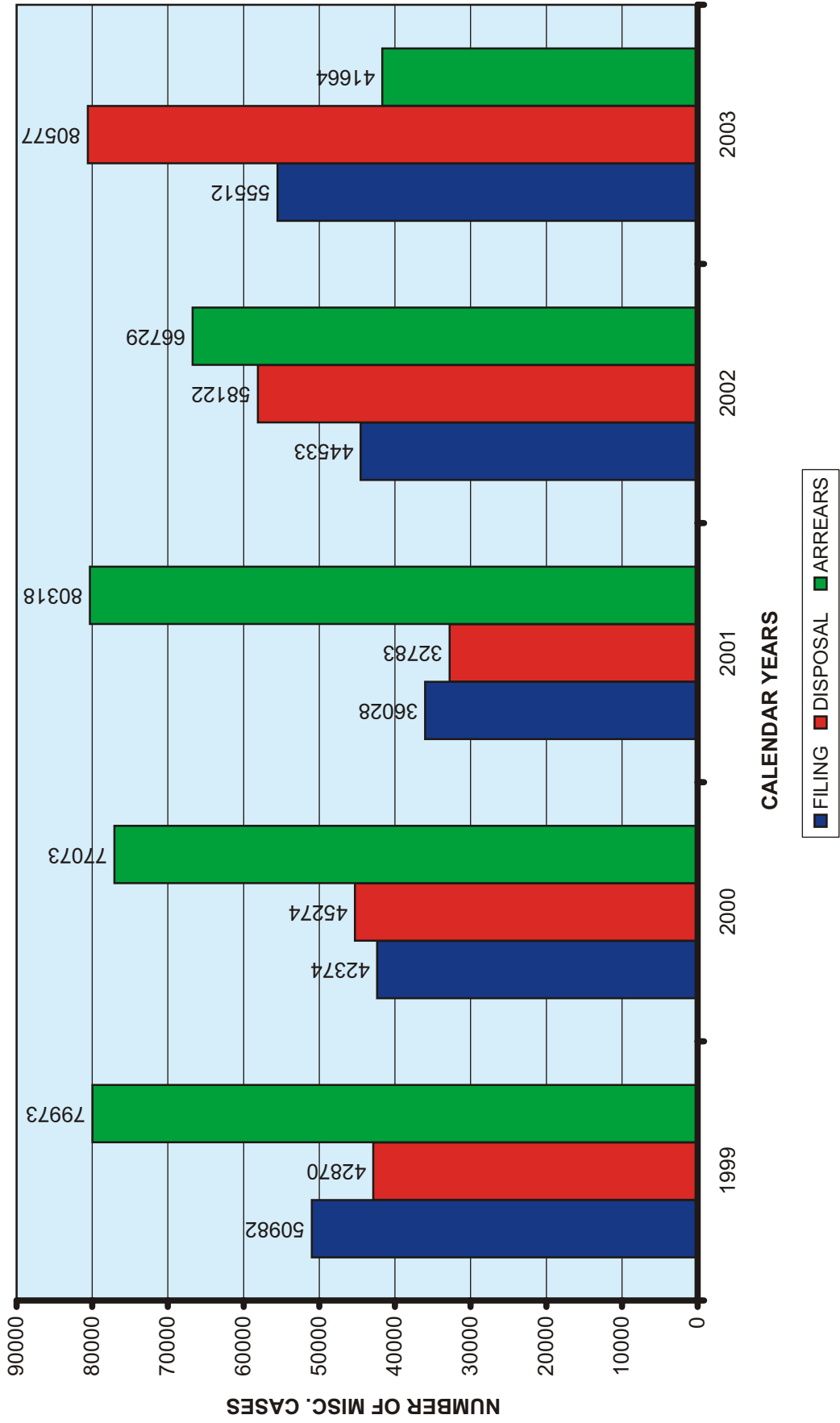
COMPARATIVE STATISTICS RESPECTING FILING, DISPOSAL AND ARREARS OF MAIN CASES* FOR THE PERIOD 01-01-1999 TO 31-12-2003

* Main includes main cases in all categories.



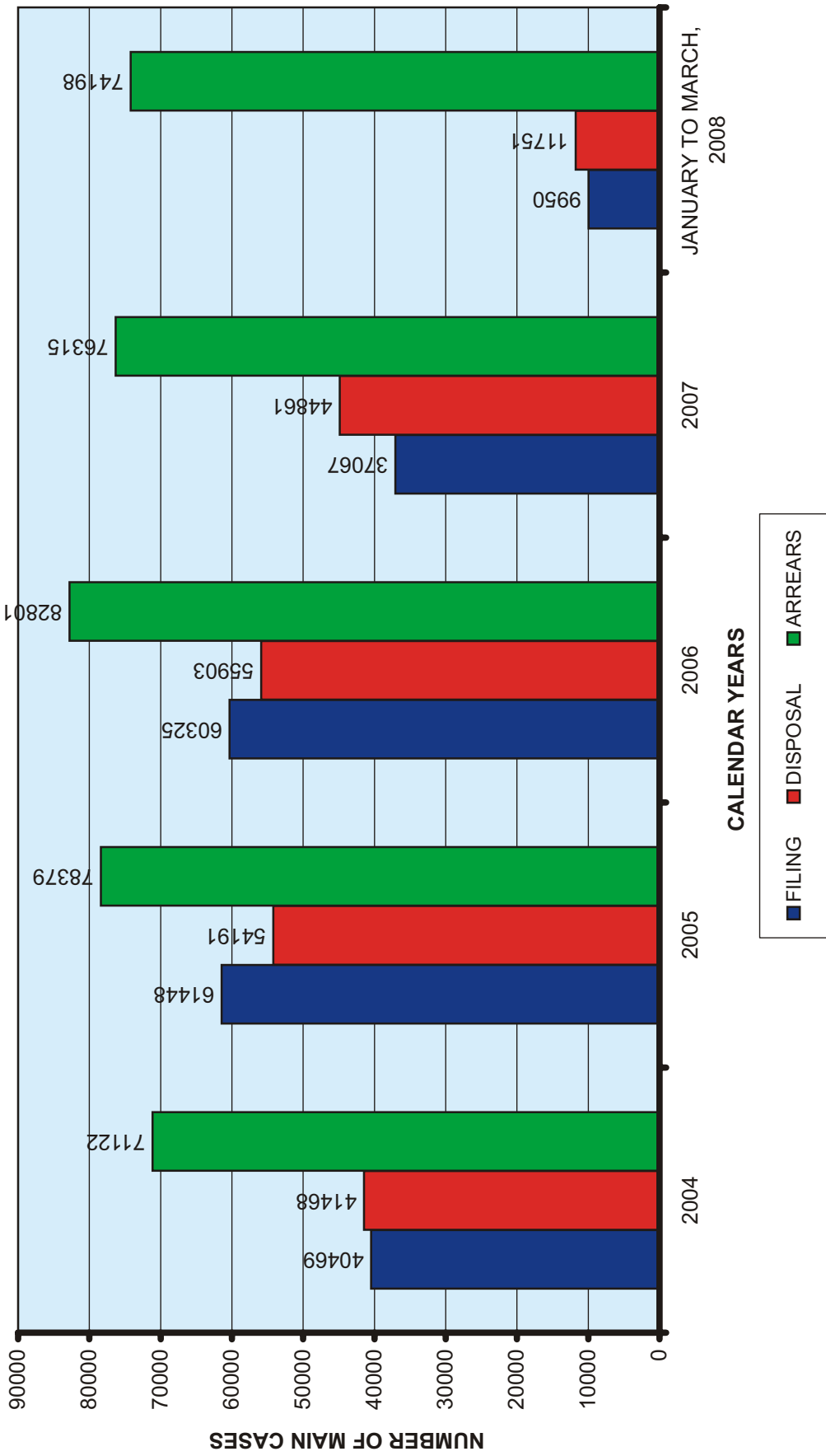
COMPARATIVE STATISTICS RESPECTING FILING, DISPOSAL AND ARREARS OF MISCELLANEOUS CASES* FOR THE PERIOD 01-01-1999 TO 31-12-2003

* Miscellaneous includes miscellaneous cases in all categories.



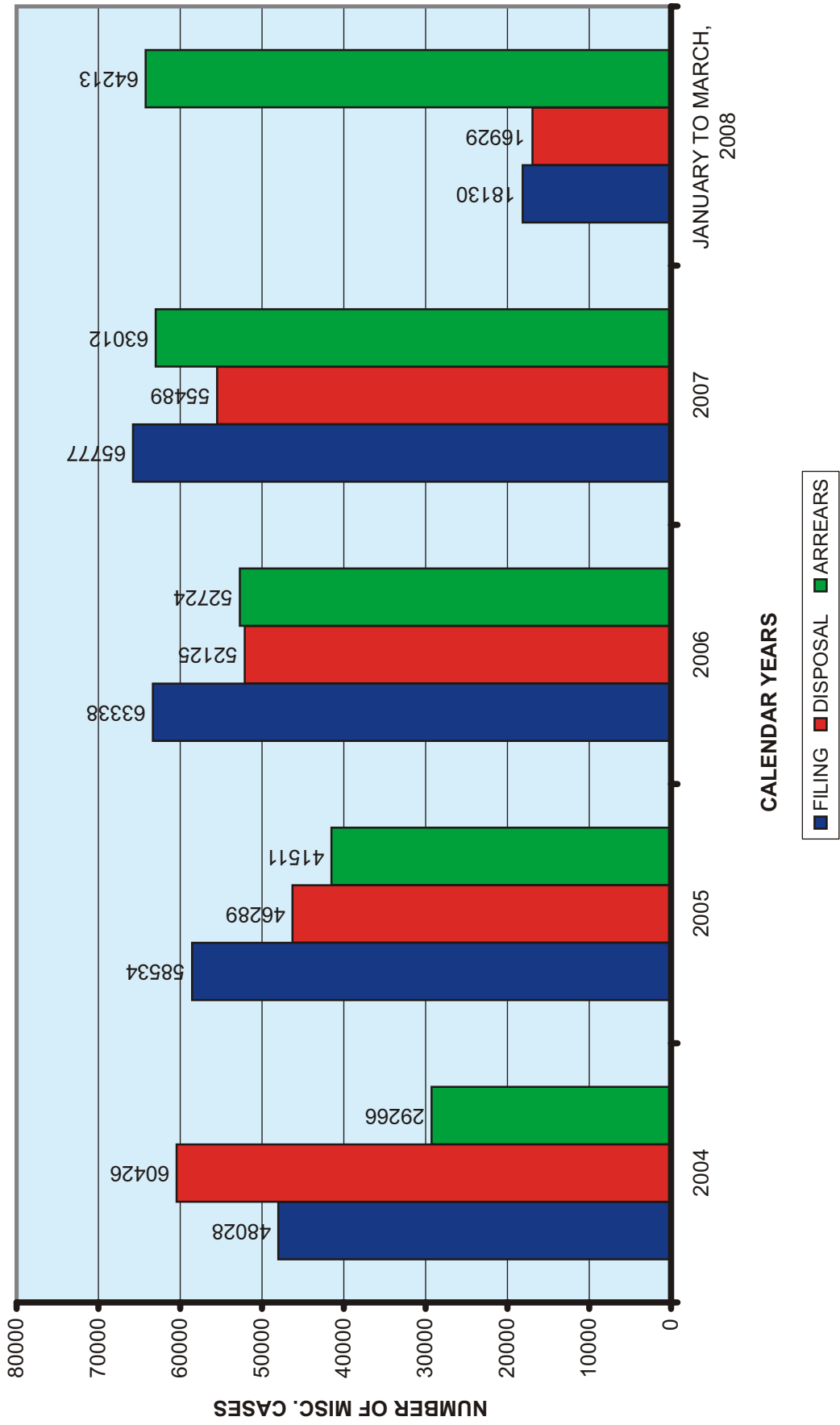
COMPARATIVE STATISTICS RESPECTING FILING, DISPOSAL AND ARREARS OF MAIN CASES* FOR THE PERIOD 01-01-2004 TO 31-03-2008

* Main includes main cases in all categories.



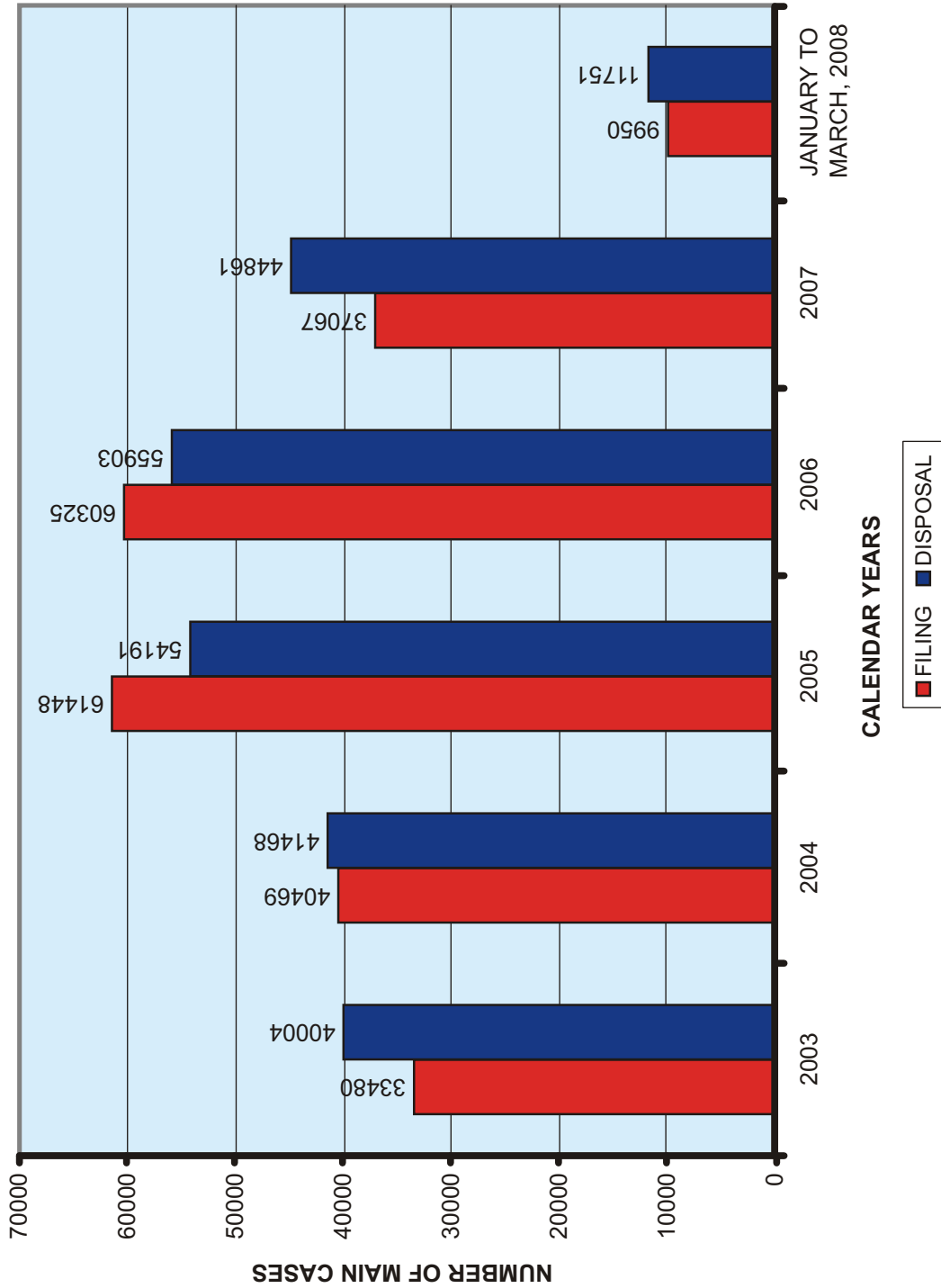
COMPARATIVE STATISTICS RESPECTING FILING, DISPOSAL AND ARREARS OF MISCELLANEOUS CASES* FOR THE PERIOD 01-01-2004 TO 31-03-2008

* Miscellaneous includes miscellaneous cases in all categories.



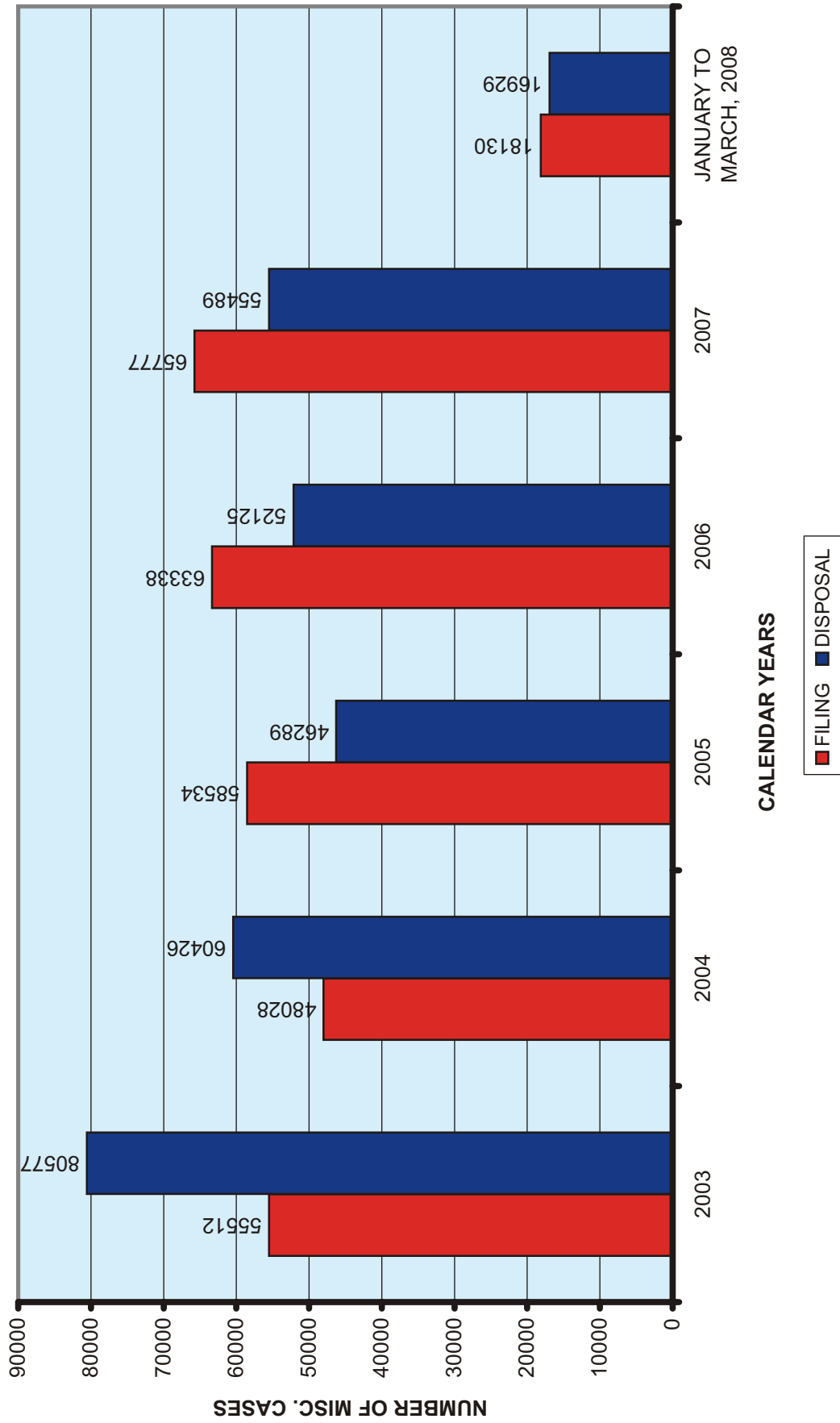
**COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF FILING & DISPOSAL OF MAIN CASES*
FROM THE YEAR 2003 TO 31ST OF MARCH 2008**

* Main includes main cases in all categories.



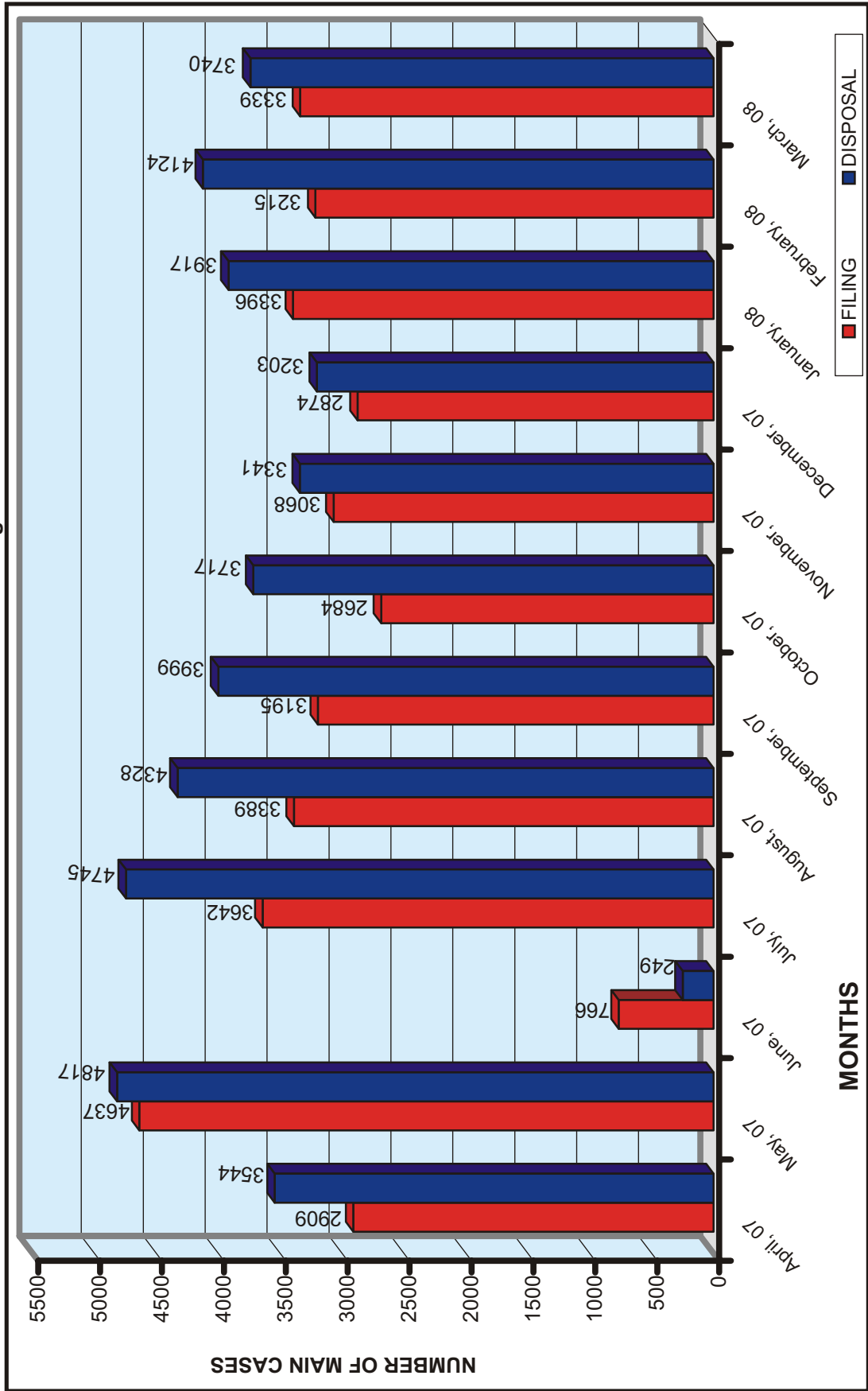
**COMPARATIVE STATISTICS OF FILING & DISPOSAL OF MISCELLANEOUS CASES*
FROM THE YEAR 2003 TO 31ST OF MARCH 2008**

* Miscellaneous includes miscellaneous cases in all categories.



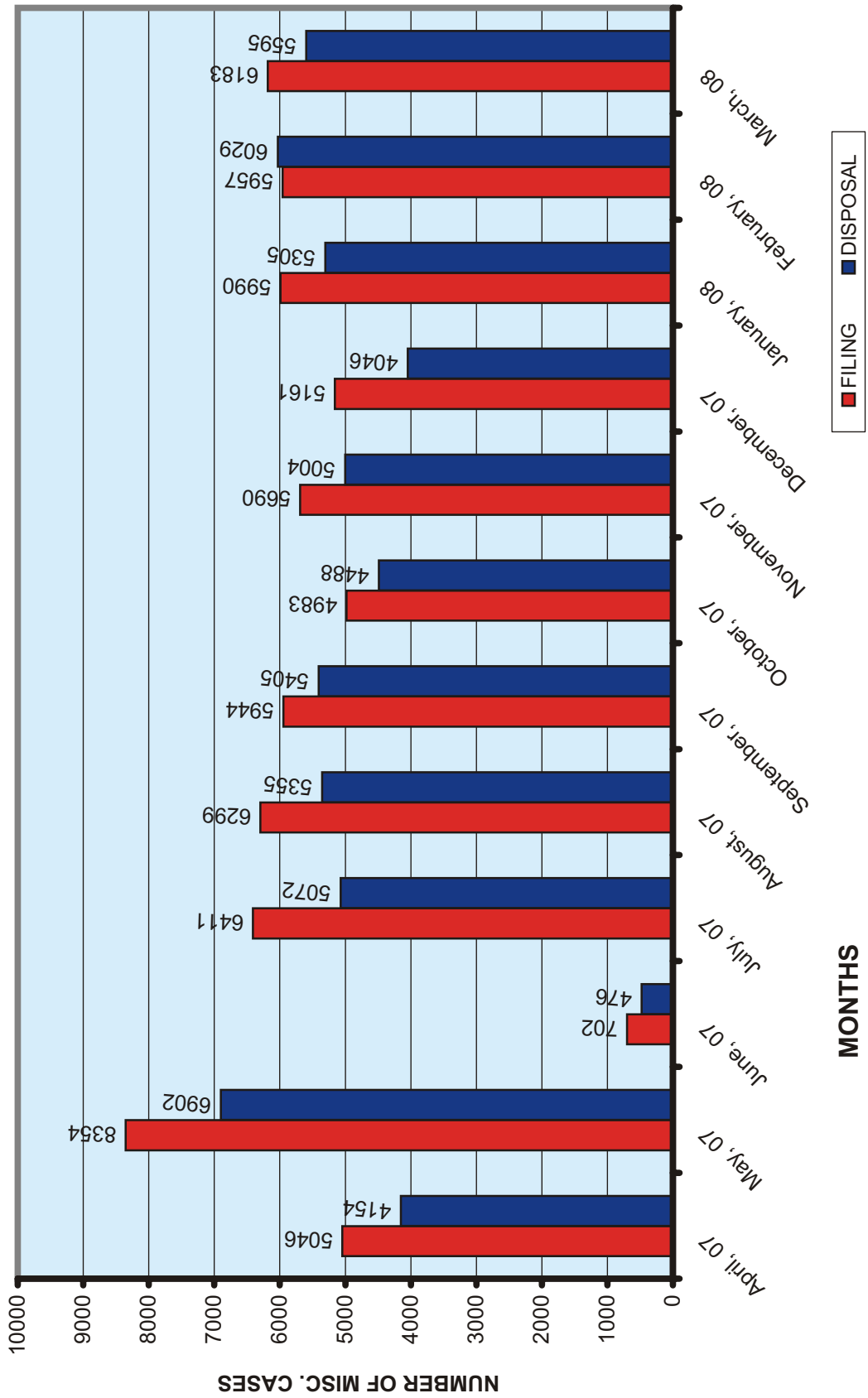
**MONTH-WISE STATISTICS OF FILING & DISPOSAL OF MAIN CASES*
FOR THE PERIOD APRIL, 2007 TO MARCH, 2008**

* Main includes main cases in all categories.

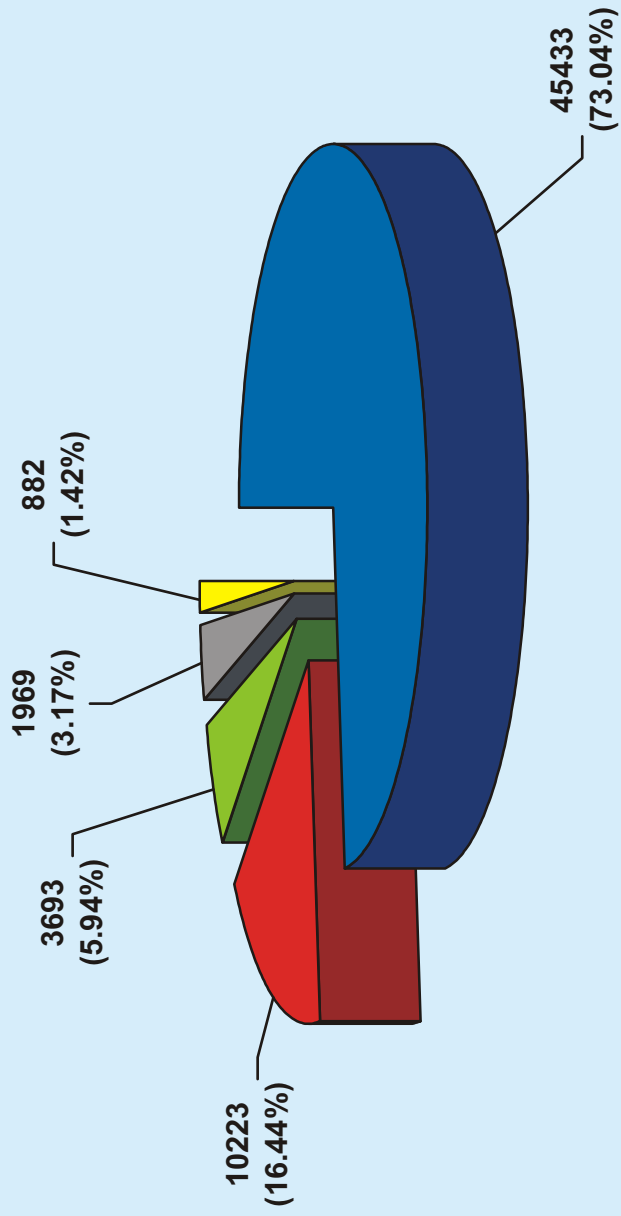


**MONTH-WISE STATISTICS OF FILING & DISPOSAL OF MISCELLANEOUS CASES*
FOR THE PERIOD APRIL, 2007 TO MARCH, 2008**

* Miscellaneous includes miscellaneous cases in all categories.

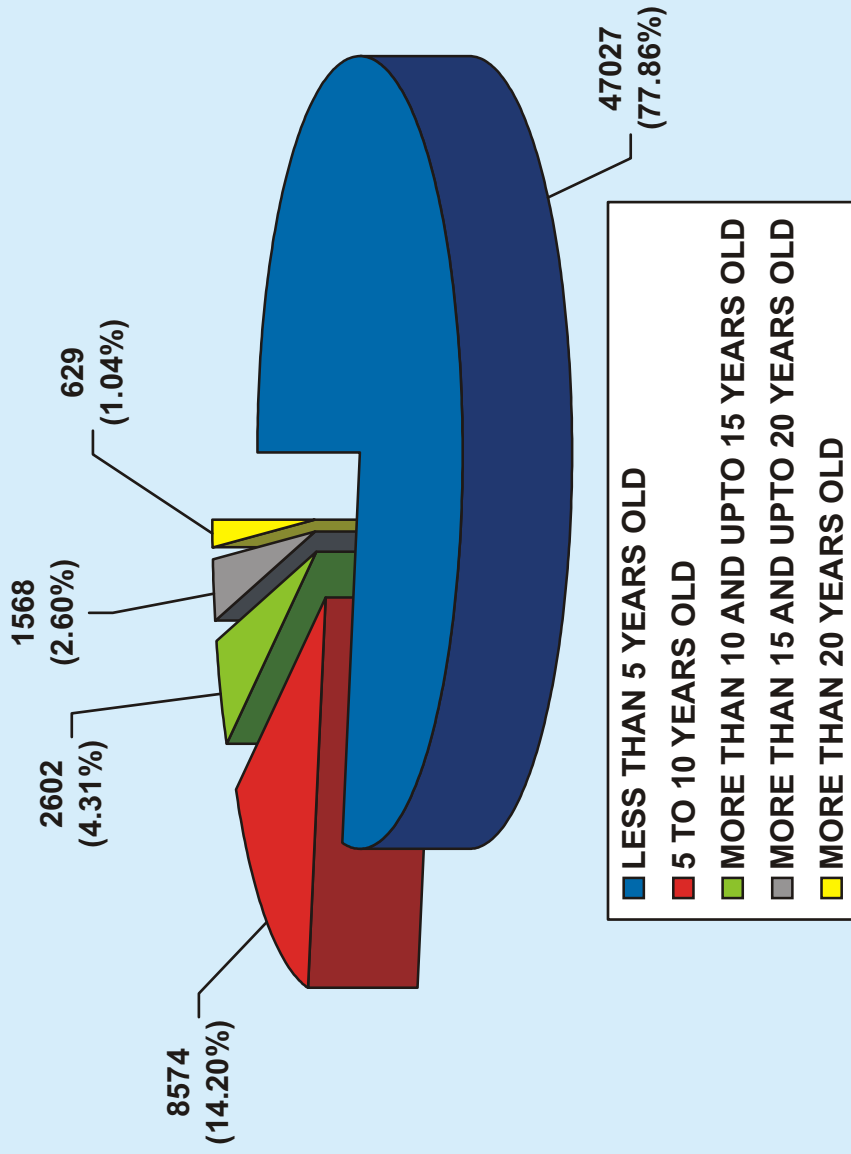


PENDENCY OF CIVIL CASES (MAIN) AS ON 1ST OF APRIL 2007



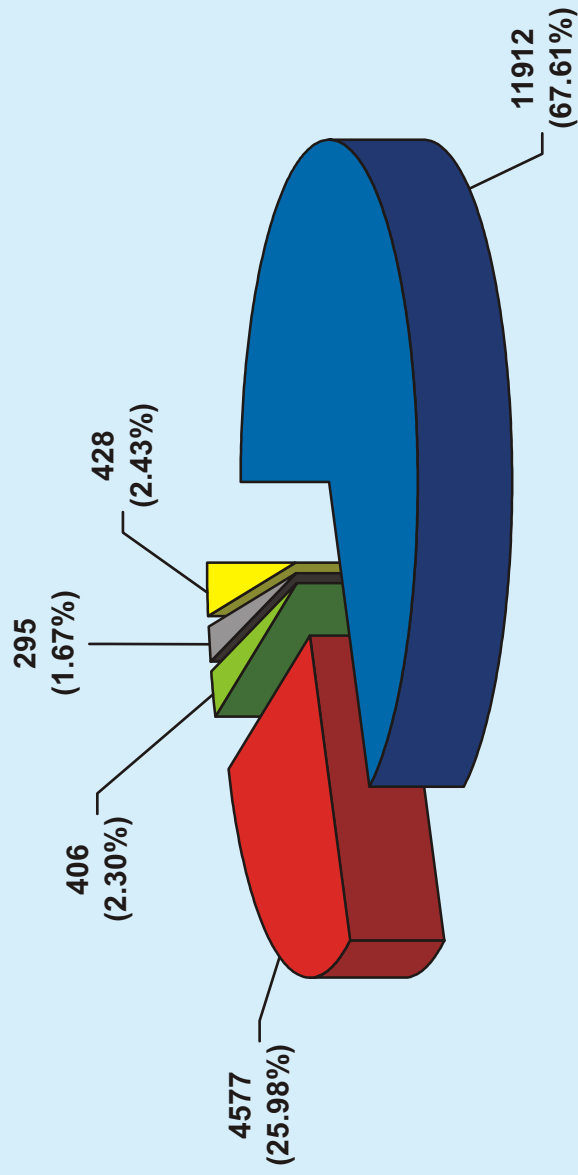
- LESS THAN 5 YEARS OLD
- 5 TO 10 YEARS OLD
- MORE THAN 10 AND UPTO 15 YEARS OLD
- MORE THAN 15 AND UPTO 20 YEARS OLD
- MORE THAN 20 YEARS OLD

PENDENCY OF CIVIL CASES (MAIN) AS ON 31ST OF MARCH 2008



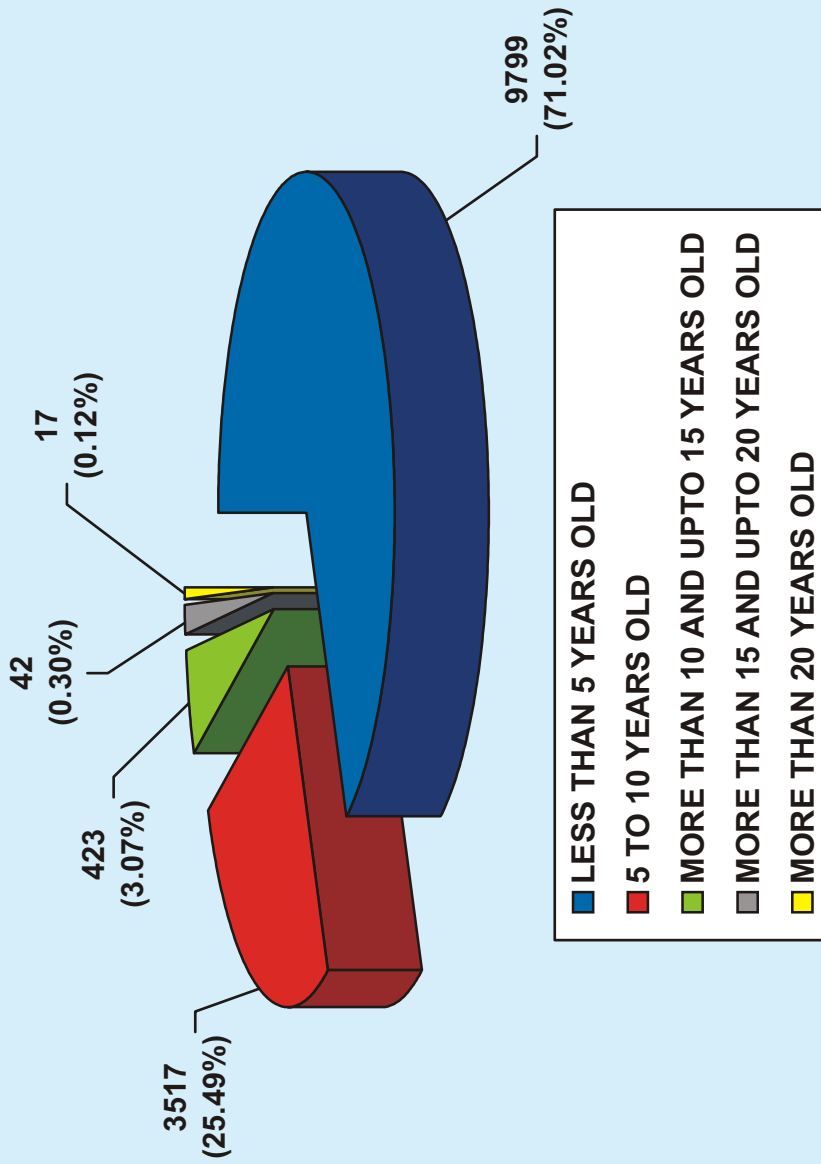
This demonstrates that there has been greater focus on disposal of older cases. While the pendency and percentage of old matters has decreased, there is a marginal increase in the number and percentage of newer cases because of increased filing.

PENDENCY OF CRIMINAL CASES (MAIN) AS ON 1ST OF APRIL 2007



- LESS THAN 5 YEARS OLD
- 5 TO 10 YEARS OLD
- MORE THAN 10 AND UPTO 15 YEARS OLD
- MORE THAN 15 AND UPTO 20 YEARS OLD
- MORE THAN 20 YEARS OLD

PENDENCY OF CRIMINAL CASES (MAIN) AS ON 31ST OF MARCH 2008



The comparison of the two Charts above shows that there has been a substantial decline in arrears of criminal cases of all categories including fresh matters. This decline has been achieved by increase in the number of benches on the criminal side.

NUMBER OF CASES LISTED BEFORE COURTS AND AVERAGE TIME AVAILABLE PER BENCH PER CASE

NUMBER OF CASES LISTED BEFORE HON'BLE COURTS DURING 2007-08 (i.e. 1/04/07 TO 31/03/08)	BENCHES			AVERAGE NUMBER OF CASES DEALT PER BENCH IN AGGREGATE ANNUALLY (= A / D) (E)	AVERAGE NUMBER OF CASES DEALT PER BENCH PER DAY (working days 213) (= E / 213) (F)	TIME AVAILABLE PER BENCH PER CASE (Court timings: 10.30 a.m. to 1.15 p.m. & 1.45 p.m. to 4.15 p.m.) = 5 hours & 15 minutes) (TOTAL 315 MINUTES) (= 315 / F) (G)
	DB	SB	TOTAL			
(A) 3, 32, 141 CASES	(B) 8	(C) 16	(D) 24	13839 CASES	64 CASES	4 MINUTES & 55 SECONDS

NOTES : (1) WHILE CALCULATING THE TIME AVAILABLE PER BENCH PER CASE, COURT WORKING DAYS HAVE BEEN TAKEN AS 213, EXCLUDING THE DAYS ON WHICH THE COURT FUNCTIONED DURING THE SUMMER VACATION (JUNE, 2007) AND THREE WORKING SATURDAYS DURING THE YEAR 2007-08.

(2) THE CALCULATION INDICATES THE AVERAGE TIME AVAILABLE FOR HEARING EACH CASE DURING THE DAY IN OPEN COURT.

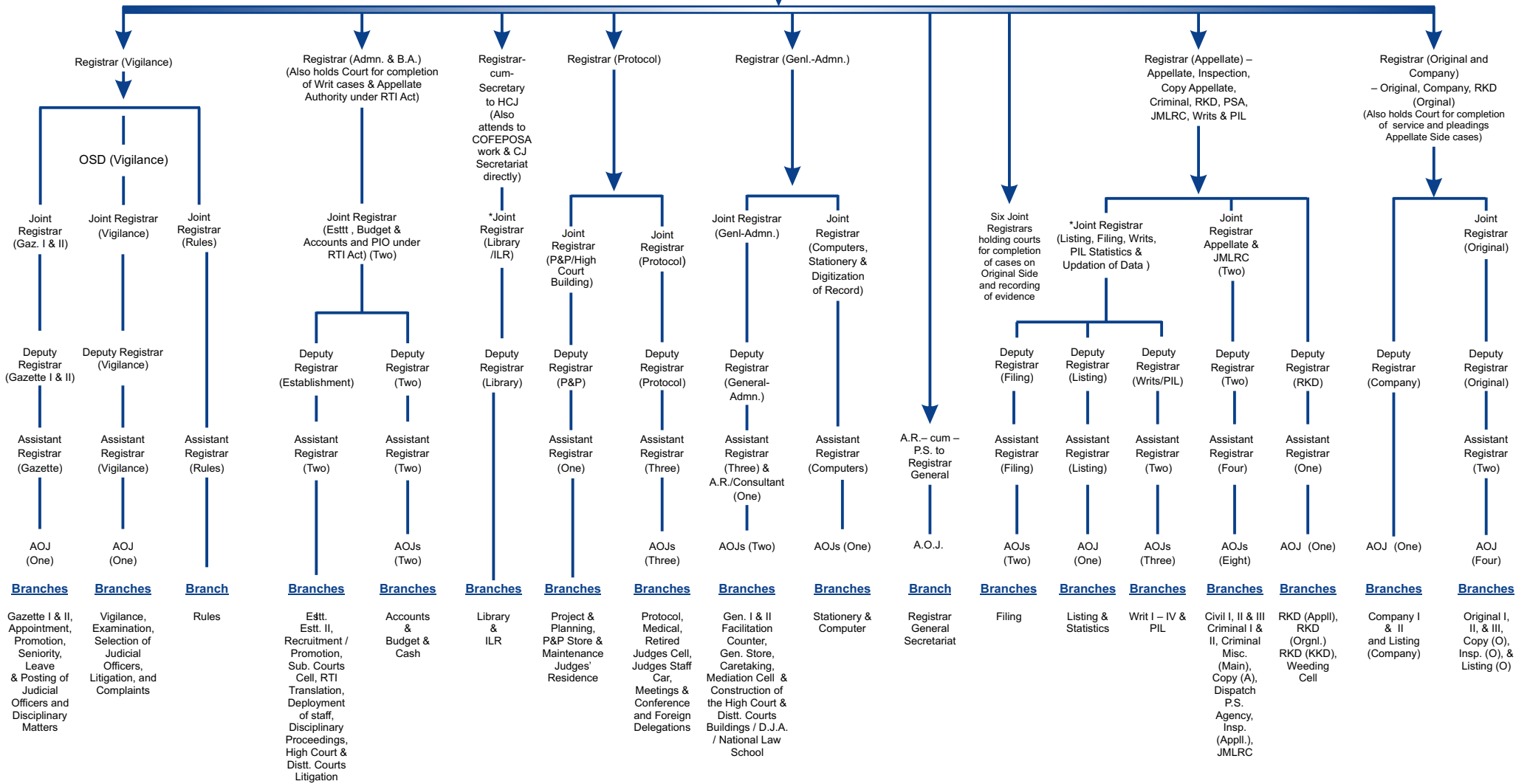
AVERAGE COURT TIME AVAILABLE FOR HEARING AND COST INCURRED PER CASE PER DAY

SL. NO.	PARTICULARS	TOTAL
(A)	TOTAL EXPENDITURE INCURRED DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2007-08	Rs. 42,45,47,490=00
(B)	TOTAL NUMBER OF WORKING DAYS	213 DAYS
(C)	EXPENDITURE PER WORKING DAY = (A / B = Rs. 42,45,47,490 / 213 days)	Rs. 19, 93, 180=00
(D)	TOTAL NUMBER OF WORKING HOURS PER DAY (IN MINUTES)	315 MINUTES
(E)	AVERAGE COURT EXPENDITURE INCURRED PER MINUTE PER COURT WORKING DAY (C / D = Rs. 19, 93, 180 / 315 minutes)	Rs. 6, 327=00
(F)	AVERAGE NUMBER OF CASES LISTED PER BENCH PER DAY	64 CASES
(G)	AVERAGE NUMBER OF BENCHES DURING THE YEAR 2007-08	24 BENCHES
(H)	AVERAGE NUMBER OF CASES LISTED PER DAY BEFORE 24 BENCHES (F x G = 64 CASES x 24 BENCHES)	1536 CASES
(I)	AVERAGE TIME AVAILABLE TO THE COURT, PER CASE	4 MINUTES & 55 SECONDS
(J)	AVERAGE COST OF LISTING, PER CASE PER DAY (C / H = Rs. 19,93,180/1536 cases)	Rs. 1297=00

NOTES (1) : WHILE ARRIVING AT THE ABOVE FIGURES, FRACTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT.

(2) : MATTERS HANDLED DURING SUMMER VACATION (JUNE, 2007) AND ON THREE WORKING SATURDAYS DURING THE YEAR 2007-08, HAVE NOT BEEN INCLUDED.

REGISTRAR GENERAL



13 ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS JUDICIAL BRANCHES OF THE REGISTRY

JUDICIAL BRANCHES

The functioning of all the Judicial Branches are more or less similar i.e. receiving of files from the Filing Counter and Listing Branch, and then sending the same to the Court. The process involves the following actions to be taken by the Dealing Assistants on the case files:-

1. To prepare peshi for being sent to the Court by giving reports of service of summons, warrants, records and other papers received in the case;
2. To receive peshis/files from the Court and to check those files and enter them in the relevant registers, take action wherever necessary like forwarding copies of orders, stay, injunction, interim orders, notices, summons;
3. To deal with letters received from other departments and put up before the authorities for further directions/orders/information;
4. To answer all the enquiries made by the litigants, Advocates who visit the Branches;
5. To take out files for misc. applications filed by the parties and have them listed before the Court expeditiously;
6. To add files for inspection purposes;
7. To add files for certified copies;
8. To prepare index of decided cases to be consigned to Record Room.
9. To call for the record of subordinate Courts after disposal of the case in High Court, return of the record to concerned Court or as directed by the Court;
10. To prepare decrees/Memo of costs and formal orders in appeal cases.

Apart from the above functions, the Judicial Branches also receive cheques/demand drafts and FDRs in various judicial cases by way of securities or bonds. After receipt of the same, they are put up before the authorities for sending them for encashing or keeping them in safe custody of the Deputy Registrar concerned as per the directions of the Court.

Every Dealing Assistant controls, on an average, 1000-1500 cases in his/her custody. Each Assistant regularly deals with 20-30 cases, for certified copies and cases for inspection on daily basis.

Steps for Improvement

To facilitate the inspection process of judicial files by litigants and advocates, unattested copies of the documents and orders of the Court are also supplied on payment in the Inspection Branch itself during the course of inspection itself for which a dedicated photocopy machine alongwith a photocopier has been provided to the branch.

The record of FDR and other security documents has been computerized under supervision of the Deputy Registrar (Applt.).

To serve the summons and notices in judicial cases, a separate Process Serving Agency for the High Court matters has been created which serves the summons and notices throughout Delhi in judicial cases.

As regards the delivery of certified copies, apart from normal delivery of certified copies

as per the Rules, computer generated, digitally signed copies are also supplied within 24 hours of the application. The Court has enabled uploading of digitally signed judgments, on its website. All printed certified copies are stamped as “True Copy ” and authenticated for being issued within 24 hours.

Apart from the regular dispatch and receipt of Judicial Records from the Lower Courts and other Forums, service of stay orders, notices, summons etc. is done through dispatch riders, court attendants, courier service, fax etc. An effort is made to issue the Dasti Orders on the same day.

During the period 01.04.2007 to 31.03.2008, as many as 57,310 petitions were received for issuance of certified copies, out of which 57,216 petitions were ready for delivery on the date of application.

Approximately, 60,000 inspection applications were received during the period under report for providing cases relating to all the Appellate Branches including Company Branch, Civil, Writ, RKD and RKP Branches.

Uncertified photocopying work of all the Branches is also done by the Inspection Branch.

LISTING BRANCH

Listing Branch (Appellate) is larger as compared to two other (Company & Original Side) Listing branches in respect of manpower, equipment and workload. It prepares and manages lists of all the appellate side Benches. An “Advance list” is prepared a week in advance and sent to the Press by e-mail for printing. The listing branch also incorporates advance lists of Original and Company Side Listing Branches in the advance list. The Branch uses a GUI based interactive computer software for preparing cause lists. Troubleshooting of software problems encountered by the Listing Branch is through the National Informatics Centre (NIC) Cell. This branch ensures the high quality printing of lists in the least possible time, for early distribution.

The Branch prepares Supplementary lists of cases scheduled a day before their listing. This includes the Ist Supplementary, Mid Supplementary, IInd Supplementary and IIIrd Supplementary lists. List of Regular Matters is also prepared and maintained by this branch. The first is an “Old Matters list” which consists of cases to be heard on Thursdays and the second, a “Daily List” of Regular Matters. By evening of each day, all lists are compiled and uploaded on the web-site of the Court.

The need to speed up the printing process and reduce the workload of the Registry prompted a decision taken on 03.04.2007 to also publish a Mid Supplementary List of cases. The Listing Branch prepares the Mid Supplementary List and sends it to the printing press by e-mail. This list is being printed on the offset printing machines. This process not only saves valuable time but also lowers the Registry's workload. By printing this list on modern offset printing machines, the best print quality is also achieved.

The branch proposes to provide space to the Printer for installing off-set printing machines in the newly occupied premises, adjacent to the Court, to facilitate printing of cause lists. This unit, consisting of a dark room (for exposing films) and facilities to enable use of modern computers for printing, is expected to become functional shortly.

The branch proposes to set-up 15 work stations with storage spaces, and suitable furniture to enable efficient functioning. An enquiry counter at the entry with glass shield is proposed so that queries of visitors can be properly attended, and at the same time disturbance by unauthorized visitors is avoided.

STATISTICS BRANCH

Statistics Branch performs an important role in Court functioning. Being the sister branch of Listing Branch, it is directly under control of JR (Listing). The branch has to perform its tasks in a time bound manner. It maintains data regarding institution, disposal and pendency of cases, prepares statements on daily, weekly and monthly basis, Court-wise and Category-wise institution, disposal and pendency. These are sent to the Supreme Court of India, Govt. of India and Govt. of NCT of Delhi on Quarterly, Half-Yearly and Yearly basis. This branch also deals with the RTI applications and Parliamentary Questions pertaining to pendency, institution and disposal of cases.

INITIATIVES TAKEN IN RECENT TIMES INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:-

1. PHYSICAL VERIFICATION OF CASES :

During the year 2007-08, complete lists of each category of Appellate Side Cases were generated and sent to the concerned branches for physical verification so as to maintain actual and accurate data. Till the end of 2007, all the categories of Tax Matters were updated in the database. The process of physical verification of other categories is in progress and continuing during the period of this report.

2. INTRODUCTION OF NEW CODES :

For efficient processing, listing, archiving and retrieval of cases, subject wise numeric coding had been introduced by the Court. During the year 2007-08, Delhi High Court received several queries from Parliament and other Government agencies asking details of cases pertaining to Cyber Crimes, Sexual Harassment against women at work place, Domestic Violence, Geographical Indication Act etc. Earlier there were no codes to define these new subject categories. Therefore, separate codes for cases pertaining to such matters were introduced. List of Codes allotted to various subjects is available on the website (www.delhihighcourt.nic.in) of the High Court.

RECORD ROOM (DECIDED)

This branch is an archive of decided cases and is housed in the premises of the High Court and Karkardooma Court. This Court is a Court of Records and exercises original as well as appellate jurisdiction. Under the Original jurisdiction, the Record Room preserves decided cases of Civil Suits, Probate Cases, Company Matters, Election Petitions, Arbitration Cases, Matrimonial Cases etc. Under the Appellate jurisdiction, records of appeals of civil as well as criminal jurisdiction are maintained.

The records of decided cases are received for consignment in the Record Room after a certificate that 'the case is fit for consignment to the Record Room', is given by the Branch in each decided case, upon it being paginated and indexed by the Dealing Assistants of the concerned branch. On receipt of the decided case from the judicial branches, the record is checked to ensure that the same is properly paginated, indexed, fit for consignment and thereafter an entry is made in the Consignment Register. It is then placed at the relevant place in the Racks.

Whenever the Record Room receives requisitions/summons for the decided cases from various Courts including the Supreme Court of India or from branches for dealing with Misc. applications, certified copies and inspection or for any other reference, the relevant case is added with the requisition. The Record Room receives, on an average, 20 such requisitions every day. The case file is again restored to its place whenever it is received back from the Court/ Branch after necessary action.

The Record Room presently preserves approximately 14 lacs cases out of which the records of old cases upto 1990 numbering about 9 lacs have since been shifted to Record Room at Karkardooma Court Complex on account of acute shortage of space in the building of the High Court.

During the last two years, system has been developed for preserving the records electronically and accordingly the records of decided cases are being scanned/digitized. All decided cases pertaining to the years from 1966 to 1995 except Company Applications and Civil Appeals have been digitized. This system will ensure that the original records need not be physically taken out for dealing with any requisition and the litigant will be able to access contents of such files efficiently and quickly.

Chapter 5 C, Vol. V of High Court Rules & Orders provides for destruction of records after certain period. Accordingly, the Record Room also undertakes regular exercise of weeding out. As part of this effort, duplicate sets and extra copies of the pleadings of the cases decided upto 31.12.2005 have been destroyed.

The digitized records of decided cases upto the year 1995 is available for issuance of certified copy. However, Criminal cases dealt with by Criminal Branches and Civil Appeals of categories being dealt with by Civil-I and III branches have also been digitized upto the year 2000. It is worth mentioning that in all 3,52,95,226 pages have been digitized till 30.09.2008.

WRIT BRANCH

In exercise of the Extra-Ordinary Original Jurisdiction, Writ Petitions under Article 226 of the Constitution of India in the nature of *Mandamus*, *Prohibition*, *Quo-warranto* and *Certiorari* are dealt with by the Writs Branch. It is the largest branch of the Court.

There are 12 dealing seats and about 45 officials working in three Writ Branches who deal with these cases. Each dealing seat is manned by two officials - one Senior Judicial Assistant and another Judicial Assistant/Jr. Judicial Assistant. The dealing Seat Numbers 1 to 6 related to cases of the years upto 2004 and Seat Numbers 7 to 12 deal with the cases pertaining to the years 2005 and 2006. In order to maintain equitable distribution of work, from year 2007, the cases are distributed amongst all the 12 dealing seats @ 100 cases per dealing seat by rotation. All these dealing Assistants maintain movement register; peshi register; RKP & RKD registers and miscellaneous register etc.

The records of decided cases are readied by the Dealing Assistants for being sent to the Record Room daily. Steps are also taken to have the pleadings in the "Rule" matters completed and sent to the Record Room Pending (RKP). Action is also taken in the "sine die matters" by requesting the Advocates concerned to ascertain the latest status of the cases because of which the matter was adjourned sine die so that it can be placed before the Court for further directions. The Civil Miscellaneous Petitions (CMP) received in the writs petition (civil) are dealt with promptly and every effort made to ensure that no application is left unattended for the next day. Similarly, files are made available quickly for issuance of notices, ordinary as well as urgent on receipt of process fees; dak is also placed in the respective files, paginated and necessary entries made in the Index. The cases are also added quickly for issuance of certified copies and pendency and disposal of said application is monitored to ensure expeditious issuance of certified copies. Efforts are made to ensure that copy of the order dasti or ordinary are issued promptly either on the same day or the next day, on receipt of the file from the concerned Court.

Letters/Petitions/Complaints by post are also received. Each and every letter is thoroughly examined with reference to the **PIL** guidelines. In case any letter is found to be

covered under the said guidelines, the same is treated as writ under the orders of the Chief Justice or Judge nominated for the purpose. Where it is found that the subject matter is covered under PIL guidelines but requires some clarification, reports from the concerned quarters are obtained and on receipt of reports, action is taken in its light.

ORIGINAL SIDE BRANCHES

There are upto six Courts working on the Original Side. There are three branches for Original Side viz. Original-I, II & III. Two Dealing Assistants and two JJAs are attached with each Court for handling the case files. Their main function is to deal with files of different Courts and to take necessary action pursuant to orders passed by the concerned Court i.e. issue notice/summons, stay/injunction, copy of order, inform the Arbitrator, Local Commissioner and also issue letters to Lower Courts for summoning the record etc.

One Dealing Assistant generally deals with 60-70 files everyday for purpose of listing of the matter before Court, JR/Registrar or for sending the file for Inspection and issuance of Certified copy or issuance of process etc. apart from the routine inquiries made by the litigants and advocates.

Inspection (O) provides the files of Original -I, II & III branches for inspection to the litigant public/advocates in pending cases as well as decided cases. Ordinary applications for inspection are received by this Branch one day in advance during the working hours between 10 AM to 3 PM whereas urgent applications for inspection are entertained on the same day between 10 AM to 11 AM. On an average, 100-125 ordinary applications and 30-40 urgent applications for inspection are received by this Branch daily. On demand, this Branch also provides uncertified copies of the orders/judgments or of any other document to advocate/litigants during the course of inspection of files.

Copy (Original) Branch deals with preparation of certified copies of the orders, judgments, decrees, documents etc. of the pending cases as well as decided cases. In ordinary applications for supply of certified copies, a tentative date after one week is given for delivery of certified copies whereas in the case of urgent applications, a date after three days is given.

Where certified copy is applied for day-to-day orders without memo of parties, next day's date of delivery is given and digitally signed certified copy is provided subject to availability of data in the Main Server. Petitions for certified copies of the orders/ judgments and other documents of the Company side in the pending as well as decided cases are also dealt with by this Branch. On an average, 100-125 applications for certified copies are received and 100-110 are supplied to litigants/parties concerned through Filing Counter per day.

Since June, 2007, Copy (Original) Branch is working on new Computer Programme namely ORACLE for preparation of advance cause list and supplementary list.

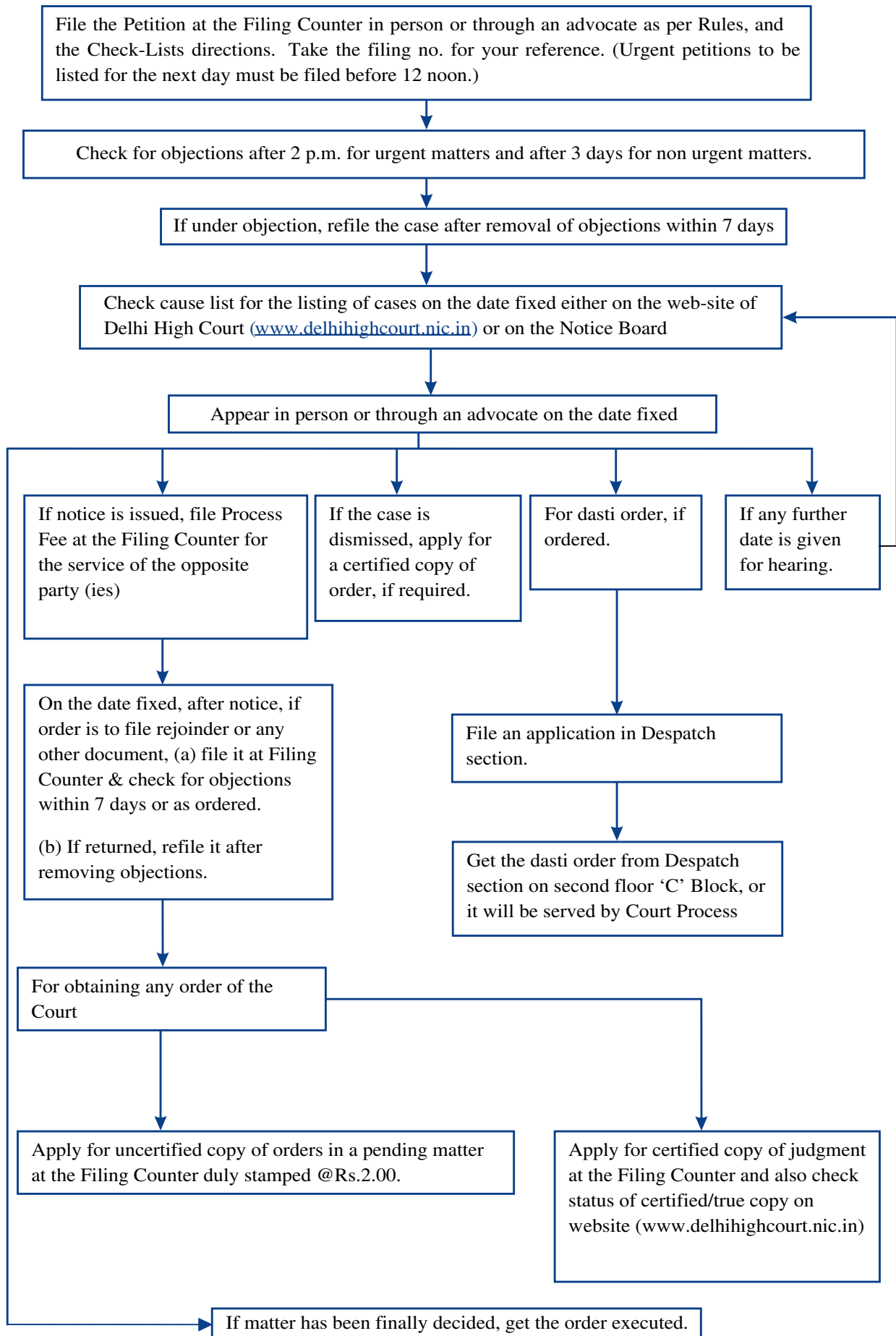
The remaining Branches on the Original Side are working on the existing system. New Computers are used for issuance of summons, notices, preparation of decrees and other miscellaneous works.

The main function of Listing (O) Branch is to prepare daily cause list, supplementary cause list, list of final matters and advance list of the cases to be listed before the Original Side Courts. Fresh cases and urgent applications received at the Filing Counter during the day upto 12 noon are listed if found in order before the concerned Courts on the next day, whereas the applications received between 12 noon to 4 PM are listed one day after. This Branch also prepares data/statement of Institution, Disposal & Pendency of the Original Side Cases.

When a case is decided by the Court, decree is also drawn by the officials of Copy (Original) Branch. On an average, two Dealing Assistants work for preparation of decrees in 5 to 8 cases everyday.

CASE FLOW CHART

The Case flow chart below gives the typical manner in which cases proceed in the Court.





Sitting from left, first row : Shri V. K. Gupta, J.R., Shri H.C. Suri, J.R., Shri Girish Sharma, J.R., Shri J.K. Aggarwal, Registrar, Shri A.K. Mahajan, Registrar, Shri Kalam Singh, Registrar, Shri R. K. Gauba, Registrar, Shri Ajit Bharihoke, Registrar General (in center), Shri D.S. Bhandari, Registrar, Shri D.K. Batra, Registrar, Shri J.L. Kalra, Registrar, Shri A.K. Sangar, Registrar, Shri S.K. Sharma, J.R., Shri O.P. Saini, J.R., Shri R.P. Pandey, J.R.

Standing from left, second row : Shri K.K. Bhati, D.R., Shri Anil Kaushal, D.R., Shri V.K. Kochhar, J.R., Shri P.S. Chaggar, J.R., Shri Daya Nand, D.R., Shri M.K. Verma, J.R., Shri V. Vishwanathan, D.R., Shri R. Gopalan, D.R., Shri S.K. Dhimra, D.R., Shri G.S. Saini, D.R., Shri Ram Mohan, D.R., Shri S.K. Sharma, J.R., Ms. Sureksha Luthra, D.R., Ms. Shailesh Jain, J.R., Shri V.K. Goel, J.R., Shri S.D. Sharma, J.R.

Standing from left, third row : Shri L.K. Phool, D.R., Shri P.C. Jain, J.R., Shri P.K. Uppal, A.R., Shri S.K. Sood, A.R., Shri Janardan Tripathi, A.R., Shri R.D. Garg, A.R., Shri M.L. Bhatia, A.R., Shri K.K. Nangia, J.R., Shri P.K. Gupta, D.R., Ms. Anju Khurana, D.R., Shri S.P. Singh Premi, D.R., Shri Ramesh Chand, J.R., Shri R.P. Jain, D.R., Shri G.P. Vohra, D.R., Shri T.R. Nagpal, A.R.

Standing from left, fourth row : Shri K.P. Mohanaraman, A.R., Shri V.K. Rao, A.R., Shri V.K. Verma, A.R., Shri Sumil Kukreja, A.R., Shri H.K. Arora, A.R., Shri K.K. Sharma, A.R., Shri Gurcharan Singh, A.R., Shri G.R. Grover, A.R., Shri Amrik Singh, A.R., Ms. Champa Lal Chandani, A.R., Ms. Usha Kiran Gupta, A.R., Shri Chaman Lal Sharma, A.R., Shri O.P. Narang, A.R., Shri A.K. Verma, A.R., Shri S.C. Sharma, A.R.

14 ACTIVITIES OF VARIOUS ADMINISTRATIVE BRANCHES OF THE REGISTRY

The Court functions with the support of its Registry, which includes various Administrative Branches/Sections.

The Court's administrative functions are performed by branches such as Establishment, General Branch, Protocol, Accounts, Computer & Stationery and the Rules Branch. Support to judicial functions is given by branches like the Writ Branch, the Original Branch, Civil Branches, Criminal Branches, the Company Branch, the Filing and Listing Branch, and the Statistical Cell. The other segment of the Court comprises Gazette Branch and Vigilance Branch, which deal with matters concerning Judicial Officers of Subordinate Courts in Delhi such as appointments, postings, promotions, etc. The Vigilance Branch also processes complaints received by the Court against the Judicial Officers and staff of the High Court Registry and subordinate Courts.

A brief note on the developments and achievements made in various Branches during the period under report is given below:-

ESTABLISHMENT BRANCH

With increased sanctioned strength of Judges, additional appointments have been made to the Establishment of this Court. The total number of Officers/Officials has risen to 1839 as compared to the number being 1489 in the previous year. A detailed statement indicating the number of posts in each category is given below:

Sl. No.	Designation of Post	Total Number of Posts
1	Registrar General	1
2	Registrar	7
3	Joint Registrar	18
4	Deputy Registrar	18
5	Assistant Registrar	26
6	Deputy Controller of Accounts	2
7	Admn.Officer (Judl.)	49
8	Court Master	53
9	Private Secretary	78
10	Librarian	1
11	SAS Accountant	1
12	Senior Judicial Assistant	204
13	Senior Judicial Translator	9
14	Reader	5
15	Senior Assistant Librarian	2
16	Assistant Librarian	5

Sl. No.	Designation of Post	Total Number of Posts
17	Senior Personal Assistant	114
18	Chief Cashier	1
19	Court Officer	1
20	Judicial Assistant	203
21	Judicial Translator	11
22	Personal Assistant	60
23	Junior Judicial Assistant	204
24	Restorer	53
25	Chauffeur	87
26	Despatch Van Driver (Rider)	1
27	Despatch Rider	5
28	Despatch Rider-cum- Process Server	13
29	Gestetnor Operator Grade-I	10
30	Gestetnor Operator Grade-II	6
31	Usher	62
32	Library Attendant	9
33	Court Attendant	391
34	Room Attendant	70
35	Security Attendant	5
36	Safaiwala	51
37	Lawn Attendant	3
	TOTAL	1839



E-Kiosk

REGISTRAR GENERAL

Shri Ajit Bharihoke

REGISTRARS

1. Shri R.K. Gauba, Registrar (Vigilance)
2. Shri Kalam Singh, Registrar(Admn.)
3. Shri D.S.Bhandari, Registrar-cum-Secretary to the Chief Justice
4. Shri D.K.Batra, Registrar (Protocol, P & P)
5. Shri A.K.Mahajan, Registrar (Genl. Admn.)
6. Shri J.L. Kalra, Registrar (Original and Company)
7. Shri Jai Krishan Aggarwal, Registrar (Appellate)

JOINT REGISTRARS

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Shri S.K.Sharma | 11. Shri L.K.Gaur, DHJS |
| 2. Shri S.D.Sharma | 12. Shri Girish Sharma |
| 3. Shri H.C.Suri | 13. Shri P.S. Chaggar |
| 4. Shri V.K.Gupta | 14. Shri Ramesh Chand |
| 5. Shri A.K.Sharma | 15. Shri V.K. Kochhar |
| 6. Shri R.P.Pandey, DHJS | 16. Shri V.K.Mittal |
| 7. Shri O.P.Saini, DHJS | 17. Shri Deepak Jagotra, DHJS |
| 8. Ms Shail Jain, DHJS | 18. Shri K.K.Nangia |
| 9. Shri Virender Kumar Goyal, DHJS | 19. Shri P.C.Jain |
| 10. Shri Surinder Kumar Sharma, DHJS | 20. Shri H.S.Sharma, DHJS (OSD) |

DEPUTY REGISTRARS

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Ms. Sureksha Luthra | 10. Shri G.P.Vohra |
| 2. Shri V.Vishwanathan | 11. Shri Daya Nand |
| 3. Shri Anil Koushal | 12. Shri R. Gopalan |
| 4. Shri R.P. Jain | 13. Shri K.K. Bhati |
| 5. Shri P.K. Gupta | 14. Shri S.P. Singh Premi |
| 6. Shri Lorren Bamniyal | 15. Shri G.S. Saini |
| 7. Shri Ram Mohan | 16. ShriS.K.Dhingra |
| 8. Shri Yash Pal | 17. Shri L.K.Phool |
| 9. Ms. Anju Khurana | |

ASSISTANT REGISTRARS/ DEPUTY CONTROLLER OF ACCOUNTS

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Shri Chaman Lal Sharma | |
| 2. Shri S.C.Sharma,
Deputy Controller of Accounts | 15. Ms. Champa Lalchandani |
| 3. Ms. Usha Kiran Gupta,
Deputy Controller of Accounts | 16. Shri T. R. Nagpal |
| 4. Shri R.D.Garg | 17. Shri O. P. Narang |
| 5. Shri Kafeel Ahmed | 18. Shri K. K. Sharma |
| 6. Shri G. R. Grover | 19. Shri V. K. Verma |
| 7. Shri H. C. Rawal | 20. Shri Gurcharan Singh |
| 8. Shri Praveen Kumar Uppal | 21. Shri Kamlesh Chand |
| 9. Shri M. L. Bhatia | 22. Shri Sanjay Sharma |
| 10. Shri H. K. Arora | 23. Ms. Meenu Gupta |
| 11. Shri Sunil Kukreja | 24. Shri Manoj Kumar Verma |
| 12. Shri V. K. Rao | 25. Shri Atul Kumar Sharma |
| 13. Shri Janardan Tripathi | 26. Shri Sunil Kumar Koushal |
| 14. Shri Ashok Kumar Verma | 27. Shri Pramod Kumar |
| | 28. Shri Sohan Singh (Consultant) |

The above list of Officers is as on 12.09.2008

ACCOUNTS AND CASH BRANCH

The Accounts Branch, inter alia, prepares the total Budget and Expenditure Statements of Delhi High Court. A detailed statement of Budget and Expenditure for the financial year 2007 - 2008 is given below :

HEAD OF ACCOUNT	Budget Allocation 2007-2008	Expenditure for the year 2007-2008
Salaries	29,90,00,000	29,76,83,173
Wages	42,000	41,369
Office Expenses	11,21,00,000	11,20,91,496
O.T.A.	8,25,000	8,24,482
Other Admn. Exp.	50,15,000	39,30,187
Medical Treatment	1,00,00,000	99,76,783
TOTAL :	42,69,82,000	42,45,47,490

The sub-head "Office Expenses" includes all contingent expenses for running an office such as furniture, postage, purchase and maintenance of office machines and equipments, liveries, other allowances, telephones, electricity and water charges, stationery, printing of forms etc., purchase and maintenance of staff cars and other vehicles, etc.

GENERAL BRANCH

The General branch has two wings.

General-I is connected with every activity of the Court and oversees various building projects in and around the High Court premises. In the year 2007-2008 the General Branch performed important projects including providing independent fully furnished space for digitization of records, with latest facilities in the main building basement of the Court. In addition, an independent Computer Training Room has been provided.



Computer Training Centre



Digitization Centre

In view of the ever increasing demand, and for expansion of facilities to the Lawyers and Litigants who visit the court, lawyers' canteen, public canteen and the food court areas were renovated.



Public Canteen & Food Court Area

An important activity undertaken was renovation of the Mediation and Conciliation Centre where six conciliation/mediation rooms, apart from one reception hall and one staff room, were provided.

PROPOSED AUTOMATED UNDERGROUND MULTI LEVEL CAR PARKING



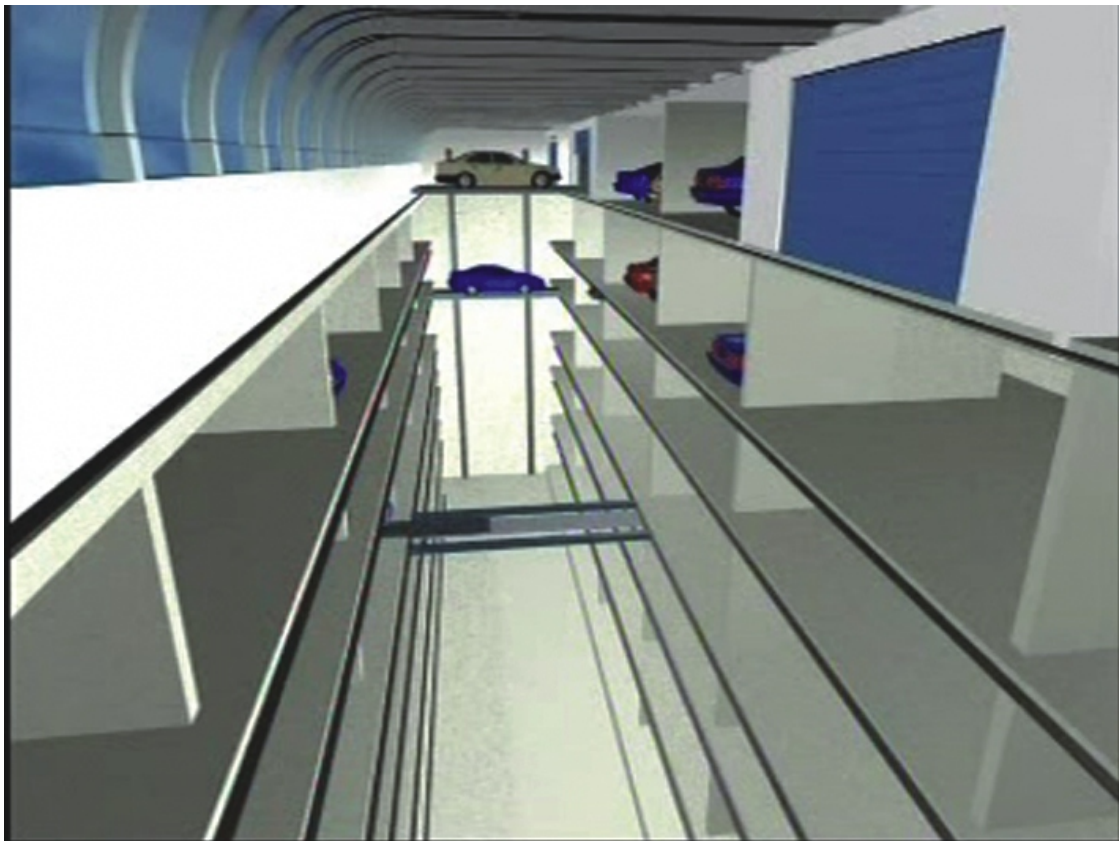
The foundation stone of Automated Underground Multi Level Car Parking at National Stadium opposite Delhi High Court was laid by Mrs. Sheila Dikshit, the Chief Minister of Delhi in the presence of the Chief Justice of Delhi High Court, Judges of the Court, the President, Vice-President, General Secretary of Delhi High Court Bar Association and the Executive Members of the Association. The project has been planned by Shri E. Sreedharan, Managing Director, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation, at the request of the Delhi High Court Building Maintenance & Construction Committee on a plot of land measuring 9862 sq. mtrs.

The Multi Level Car Parking will be constructed under the supervision of Delhi Metro Rail Corporation. The construction work of the Multi Level Car parking will commence during the month of February, 2009 and is likely to be completed sometime in August, 2010. It will provide five levels of underground car parking for use by Advocates, Litigants and members of Staff of the Court. The project proposes accommodation of approximately 1500 cars. The cost of the project is estimated at Rs.122.69 crores.





Turn-Table to carry the cars to the available slot in the Automated Multi Level Car Parking.



Proposed arrangements for stacking cars in the Automated Multi Level Parking

General-II wing supervises maintenance of existing subordinate court complexes as well as construction of upcoming court complexes. Essential details of each of the projects are given below:-

1. **LAWYERS' CHAMBERS & CAR PARKING FOR ROHINI COURT COMPLEX**

Building plans were approved in the Rohini Court Complex by the local bodies like DUAC, MCD, DDA etc. for construction of 498 Lawyers' Chambers and Car Parking Block. Construction work commenced in the 1st week of May, 2008.

In addition, construction has been planned of 48 residential houses for Judicial Officers, on a plot in Sector -26, Rohini. The construction drawings were approved by the Court and are pending approval with the DDA.

2. **DISTRICT COURT COMPLEX DWARKA**

Court Building

The Dwarka Court Complex was inaugurated by the Chief Justice of India on 06.09.2008 and it became functional w.e.f. 08.09.2008. Fifteen Courts are presently functioning from this complex and include one Motor Accident Claim Tribunal, one Court of Special Judge



(NDPS), two Courts of ACMM, besides Sessions and Magisterial Courts dealing with cases arising out of South West & IGI Police Districts. The complex is located on 9.24 acres in Sector-X, Dwarka, and has the capacity to house 79 court rooms.



Lawyers Chambers

345 Lawyers Chambers are under construction at District Court Complex, Dwarka. The Foundation Stone was laid on 25.07.2007.

A plot of land measuring 6172 sq. mtrs. near Dwarka Court Complex, has been earmarked for construction of additional lawyers chambers and Maalkhana.

Residential Houses for Judicial Officers

70 flats are proposed on a plot of land measuring 4 acres at Sector-19, Dwarka.

3. INTEGRATED COMPLEX FOR DELHI JUDICIAL ACADEMY, NATIONAL LAW SCHOOL AND INSTITUTE FOR MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION AT SECTOR-14, DWARKA

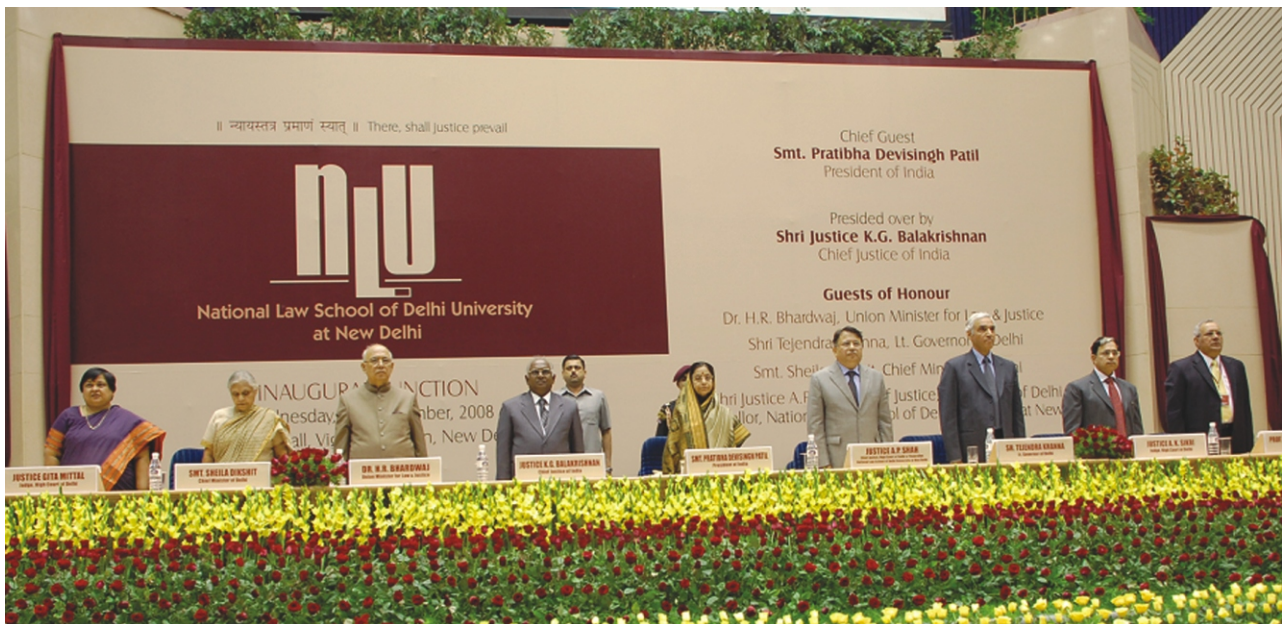
As mentioned in the previous Annual Report, a plot of land measuring 12 acres was allotted at Sector-14, Dwarka for construction of Integrated Complex for Delhi Judicial Academy, National Law School of Delhi and National Institute of Mediation and Conciliation. The foundation stone was laid on 18.07.2007 by the Chief Justice of India. Construction of Delhi Judicial Academy, National Institute of Mediation and Conciliation and some parts of the National law School is in progress. The National Law School was inaugurated by the President of India on 03.09.2008 and its first session for the academic year 2008-2009 has commenced in the completed part of the structure.



The President Lighting the Ceremonial Lamp



The President honouring Mrs. Chawla wife of Late Mr. Justice T.P.S. Chawla



The President and dignitaries on the dias

4. SAKET COURT COMPLEX

The Saket Court Complex which is under construction consists of 80 Court rooms with all infrastructural facilities, 700 lawyers' chambers, 128 residential houses for judicial officers, and is likely to be completed by the end of December, 2009. The Court Complex would be fully air-conditioned. Facilities such as Library, Conference Room, Bar Rooms for Lawyers, Food Courts, Bank, Post Office, shops for photo copier/stationery, Notary Public, Stamp Vendors etc. are planned. Provision has also been made for computerization in the Court Complex.

5. CONSTRUCTION OF 504 LAWYERS CHAMBERS AND CAR PARKING AT KARKARDOOMA COURTS

Construction of 504 Lawyers Chambers and Car Parking Block at Karkardooma Courts is nearly complete. Possession has not been handed over as yet since the approval of the building by certain authorities is awaited.

6. RELOCATION OF PATIALA HOUSE COURTS TO ROUSE AVENUE

The Central Government allotted 5 acres of land at Rouse Avenue, against the demand of 8.25 acres for relocation of New Delhi District Courts. Possession of the land has been taken over by the PWD from the Land and Development Office on 16.11.2007. Building Plans are under preparation.

7. FAMILY COURTS

15 family Courts are planned to be made functional at 5 different places in Delhi. In this regard, construction work of Family Court buildings on plots of land each measuring 1008 Sq. metres at Saket and Vishwas Nagar is almost complete. Building plans for Family Courts at Janakpuri and Dheerpur on plots of land measuring 1500 Sq. metres each, are pending reconsideration regarding allocation of floor-wise space. The building plans for construction of 7 Family Courts in Rouse Avenue, on a plot of 2856 sq. metres are expected to be finalized shortly.

GAZETTE BRANCH

During the year 2007-08 Gazette Branch has updated the computerized data pertaining to all the Judicial Officers regarding their date of appointment, date of promotion, date of posting,

date of attaining the age of superannuation, date of grant of Selection Grade/ Super Time Scale, Annual Confidential Remarks, Educational qualifications acquired etc. The process of subject wise classification of minutes of Full Court meeting and Administrative Committee meetings right from the beginning is also under process which will be useful for easily accessing the decisions by key-word. All the administrative files of the Branch have been listed seat-wise and process is being undertaken to get them indexed. Re-allocation work within the Branch to have efficient working is also under way. Controlling officers also have regular interaction with the officials of the Branch which has resulted in creating good ambience and resultantly efficient working in the Branch.

EXAMINATION BRANCH

This branch conducted two examinations viz. Delhi Higher Judicial Service Examination and Delhi Judicial Service Examination during 2007-2008. Written examination of Delhi Higher Judicial Service was held on 22.07.2007 in which 826 candidates appeared in the examination. The preliminary examination of Delhi Judicial Service was held on 24.06.2007. 2465 candidates appeared in the exam. The main written examination of the successful candidates in the preliminary examination was held on 08.09.2007 & 09.09.2007. 29 candidates were selected in this process.

The Vigilance Branch conducted Delhi Judicial Service (Probationers) Examination in the year 2008 for which examination was held on 12.01.2008 and 13.01.2008.

RULES BRANCH

The following may be catalogued as the major initiatives taken by the Rules Branch during the last one year:

1. Two Notifications i.e. Notification No. 117/Rules/DHC dated 08.05.2007 and No.275/Rules/DHC dated 29.10.2007 were issued by the Branch, incorporating amendments in the Delhi High Court (Right to Information) Rules, 2006.
2. One Corrigendum No. 117/Rules/DHC dated 31.1.2008 was issued, correcting the printing errors in Notification No. 275/Rules/DHC dated 29.10.2007.
3. Rules presently in draft shape under consideration include the following:
 - a) Case Flow Management Rules for the High Court and Case Flow Management Rules for Subordinate Courts.
 - b) Alternative Dispute Resolution Rules.
 - c) Rules regarding awarding of costs.
 - d) Rules regarding effecting service of summons through couriers, fax & e-mail.
 - e) Rules for usage of digitally signed copies as certified copies.
 - f) Rules for filing appeal/reference in Delhi High Court under the Company Secretaries Act, 1980.
 - g) Amendments in rules pertaining to weeding out of record in Rent Control Act cases.
 - h) Amendments in rules pertaining to examination of witnesses.
 - i) Amendments in rules that require noting down of caste of parties and witnesses, etc.
 - j) Amendments in Delhi High Court (Original Side) Rules, 1967 on the suggestions of the Committee of Judges of the Original Side along with the amendments pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2002.

DELHI HIGH COURT COMPUTERISATION AND DIGITIZATION OF RECORD

Delhi High Court project for digitization of record (decided) took off in September, 2006. The project is going round the clock and approximately one Lac pages are digitized per day. A permanent digitization room has been earmarked in the basement of Delhi High Court. Till 30.09.2008, 3,52,95,226 pages contained in 3,98,373 judicial files (decided) have been digitized.

From 04.06.2007, Oracle Database has been introduced in this court and the filing, scrutiny and listing of cases filed at the filing counter are now being done automatically on computer itself.

With the implementation of digital signature, certified copies of judgments and day-to-day orders are issued within 24 hours subject to availability of relevant data on the server after the judgments/orders are signed by Judges.

A permanent Training Room is functional in the basement of the Court Building where training of 16 persons each in two batches per day is organized on a regular basis.

Attendance Recording System (Bio Matrix) and Physical Access System have been installed. Fresh Smart Photo Identity Cards have been prepared for the officers/officials of this Court to facilitate marking of their attendance by 'E' Attendance Recording System.

Physical Control Access System on trial basis has been introduced in Computer Cell and in the room of Secretary to the Chief Justice.

Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Technology has been introduced as a pilot project in the Company Branch, Inspection Room and Court No.11 qua Company Cases only. One dedicated Server for this technology has been installed in the Computer Cell where movement of any of the file containing passive tags either going in or going out of the Inspection Room to company Branch and Court room are being stored timewise and if need be, the movement of the file can be easily traced. The Technology is browser based and after completion of tagging, the relevant information can be viewed by any authorized person from the computer system.

The process of installation of E-Kiosk at 9 places in Delhi High Court has been completed. E-Kiosks are for the use of advocates, litigants and general public. These Kiosks have been connected through Local Area Network of the High Court. The Advocates and litigants can have access to the website of the Delhi High Court and know the status of their case, see the Cause List as well as day-to-day orders and judgments passed in their cases by using touch screen monitors. These E-Kiosks have been installed at the following places:

A. Main Court Building (inside main hall)

1. **Ground Floor** – one towards the Western wall of the main entrance and the second towards the Bar Room.
2. **First Floor** – In the Centre towards the Inspection Branch.
3. **Second Floor** – In the Centre towards the Bar Room's wall.

B. EXTENSION HALL

1. **Ground Floor** – one in centre towards wall facing Court nos. 26 & 27 (near power switch) and the second in staircase area in the corner towards lift (near power switch)
2. **First floor** – In the middle of the wall near power switch opposite Court no. 31.
3. **Second floor** – Near staircase area in the corner near lift (near power switch).

C. HELP DESK (adjoining reception counter)

1. In the Help Desk Room near the wall facing main road.

This Court has switched over from Linux to Windows Platform using MS Office. All the judgments delivered by the Courts are uploaded by the concerned private secretaries directly on the website. As far as the day to day orders are concerned, the matter for transferring them on the server in PDF format is under active consideration. The cause list of the Court is now printed on digital duplicators which run at a speed of 130 cpm (i.e. 260 pages per minute) on A4 size paper.

16 **OLDEST EMPLOYEES OF HIGH COURT, SERVING FROM 1966-1968 ONWARDS**



Sitting from left, first row : Shri Baldev Raj - I, Judicial Assistant, Shri V.K. Devgan, Court Master, Shri S.K. Sood, A.R., Shri Kamlesh Chand, A.R., Shri Kalam Singh, Registrar, Shri Sardari Lal, P.S., Shri V.K. Rao, A.R., Shri R.P. Sharma, A.O. (J).

Standing from left, second row : Shri K.K. Sharma, A.O. (J.), Shri S.K. Dhingra, D.R., Smt. B. Motiramani, A.O. (J.).

Delhi High Court Medical and Health Centre has several facilities, including :

1. General and Out Patient Facilities. The general OPD is held daily, six days a week. It is attended by three physicians, including one Senior doctor.
2. Dental OPD. The dental unit has diagnostic facilities.
3. A Physiotherapy unit;
4. Pathology laboratory;
5. ECG facility;
6. Ultra-sound facility;
7. Consulting specialist visiting the unit. These include an ENT specialist; a gynaecologist; a paediatrician, a dermatologist, an orthopedician, an eye specialist.
8. Services of a dietician have been provided w.e.f. March, 2007.



Delhi High Court Medical & Health Centre (Under Construction)

These facilities are proposed to be shifted in near future to part of the new five storeyed structure coming up in the vicinity. Three floors (i.e. basement, ground and first floor) have been earmarked for shifting of the Medical Centre to be made fully air-conditioned. It will cater to the medical requirements of Judges, lawyers, members of the Court Establishment and a large segment of the general public. Doctors of Central Government Health Scheme would be deployed for the benefit of the Court Staff, who are CGHS beneficiaries. It has also been decided to facilitate treatment by Ayurvedic Doctors, in the new building.



Sitting from left, first row

- : Ms. Vidhi Jain, Ms. Leena Kardam, Ms. Prachi Gupta, Ms. Radhika Arora, Ms. Gargi Tuli, Ms. Hina Bhargava, Ms. Ananya Verma, Ms. Madhavi Chopra, Ms. Shreya Arora.

Standing from left, second row

- : Mr. Shariq Mohammed, Mr. Avinash Sharma, Mr. Syed Abdul Haseeb, Mr. Fazal Ahmad, Ms. Snigdha Sarvaria, Ms. Ramneek K. Chandhok, Mr. Arindham Mukharjee, Mr. Mayank Bansal, Mr. Rohit Gandhi, Ms. Ekta Sarin, Ms. Preeti Chaurasia, Ms. Anuradha Sharma, Ms. Kajal Gupta.

Standing from left, third row

- : Mr. Himanshu Gupta, Mr. Nitin Mishra, Mr. Chetan Sharma, Mr. Mahfooz Ahsan Nazki, Mr. K. Parmeshwar.

19 DELHI HIGH COURT BAR ASSOCIATION

ACHIEVEMENTS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee in a short span of time made remarkable achievements to resolve various pending problems of the members of the Bar, namely:-

1. Additional Land:-

The possession of additional land measuring 2.74 acres has been handed over to the Delhi High Court by the Government, to meet additional requirement of the High Court and for providing additional chamber block.

2. Underground Multi-Level Parking:-

The foundation stone of the Underground fully Automated Multi-Level Car Parking project was laid by the Chief Minister Smt. Sheila Dikshit, on 03.10.2008 which would be completed within two years. The DMRC is the consulting agency which will employ the latest technology and equipments. The ground above the parking will be landscaped. The estimated cost is Rs.126 crores to be borne by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi. The structure will also be earthquake resistant.

3. Mother Dairy:-

An out let of milk products has been inaugurated to cater to the requirements of the advocate and the litigants.



4. Renovation of Kiosks:-

All the kiosks near Gate No.7 of Delhi High Court have been renovated and beautified to maintain hygiene.

5. Internet and E-mail Facility:-

In order to facilitate e-filing, internet and e-mail facility, kiosk No.14 has been allotted to the Delhi High Court Bar Association.

6. Members Welfare Trust:-

It has been decided to create a Welfare Trust to provide for comprehensive welfare schemes to the members of Delhi High Court Bar Association. The trust will be registered as a body and will seek tax exemption. The Bar Association subscribed a personal Group Accidental Insurance policy for its members numbering 5806 with a maximum risk of Rs.2 lakhs, from United India Insurance Co. Ltd. The Bar Council of Delhi contributed 50% of the premium amount. The Bar Association has also subscribed a similar personal group accidental insurance policy for its employees so as to provide similar insurance cover. Wi-Fi facility has been provided for smooth internet access in Canteen, Bar Office, High Court Lobby, Library and other surrounding areas for the benefits of members of the Bar. To meet the growing demand of the lockers by the members of the Delhi High Court Bar Association, more lockers have been arranged.





7. **Other Useful Facilities**

All the MTNL telephone lines in Chamber Blocks, have been inter-connected. It is easy to talk from chamber to chamber, without any call charge. The monthly rental has also been waived. A Railway Ticket Booking counter has been inaugurated to facilitate large number of persons to book railway tickets at their place of work. The Canteen on first floor of Old Chamber Block has been licensed to Bikano with a view to provide quality vegetarian food. In order to meet the shortage of stamp vendors, two additional stamp vendors have been provided for sale of court fee and stamp papers.



8. **Additional Parking Space in Block-II:-**

The basement of Block-II has been handed over to Bar Association for parking of vehicles. This has provided additional space for parking of vehicles of lawyers at Lawyers

Chamber Block-II, Delhi High Court, New Delhi. In the parking areas, Benches and other facilities like water cooler are being provided for the benefit of drivers, litigants etc.

9. TV Etc.

Now latest plazma / LCD Televisions have been installed in the canteen & Bar Room.

10. Security:

In order to ensure the safety and security in and around High Court various measures have been taken which will be made functional shortly.

**DELHI HIGH COURT BAR ASSOCIATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**



Sitting from left, first row : Shri Ramesh Gupta (Member Executive-above 25 years standing), Shri Ashok Bhasin (Member Executive-Senior), Shri J.P. Singh (Vice President), Shri K.C. Mittal (President), Shri D.K. Sharma (Honorary Secretary), Shri Ravi Kant Chadha (Member Executive-Senior), Shri Pradeep Dewan (Member Executive-above 25 years standing).

Standing from left, second row : Shri Pawan Kumar Bhal (Member Executive), Shri Mohit Gupta (Member Executive), Shri Naresh Kumar Thanai (Treasurer), Ms. Sonia Sharma (Lady Member Executive), Shri Anil Gautam (Joint Secretary), Shri Sunil Mittal (Member Executive), Shri Puneet Taneja (Member Executive), Shri Yudhvair Singh Chauhan (Member Executive).

20 ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION & LEGAL SERVICES

A. DELHI HIGH COURT MEDIATION AND CONCILIATION CENTRE



Delhi High Court Mediation and Conciliation Centre, now known as “SAMADHAN”, was established in May 2006. A panel of Judges and Advocates oversee the Centre's work. The Centre is proud to have highly qualified and experienced Mediators drawn from the Bar. It maintains a list of trained Mediators from among members of the Bar whose services are available for disputes referred to the Centre.

The Centre handles cases referred to it by the Supreme Court of India, High Court of Delhi and its sub-ordinate courts. The Centre has been handling a variety of cases covering matters relating to business contracts/transactions, real estate and construction, consumer issues, employment and service issues, industrial disputes, banking and insurance cases, trade mark and copyright disputes, accidents related claims, landlord-tenant disputes, partnership disputes, family and matrimonial disputes, child custody and visitation rights, verification in habeas corpus matters etc. Public Sector Undertakings and government departments and institutions have also participated in mediation. *Samadhan* has seen very good results and its efforts have been greatly appreciated by the litigants.

Wherever necessary and desirable, the Centre has been making available the services of appropriate professional or welfare experts from its panel who assist the mediation process along with Mediators to ensure best possible resolution of every dispute referred to it.

The second Advance Training Workshop for training Lawyers by highly experienced Mediator-Trainers, Mr. Niranjana Bhat, Advocate, Mr. Siriram Panchu, Sr. Advocate and Mr. Braja Behari was conducted by the Centre from 07.12.2007 to 09.12.2007 at Heritage Hotel, Manesar.

Justice Markandeya Katju, Judge Supreme Court of India, Dr. Justice Mukundakam Sharma, the then Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi (now Judge, Supreme Court of India), Justice Madan B.Lokur and members of the Overseeing Committee, Justice Mukul Mudgal, Chairman, Justice A.K.Sikri, Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Dr. Justice S.Muralidhar, the expert trainers and the participants attended the workshop.

Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Mr. Justice K.G.Balakrishnan released the logo of the Centre on the 07.01.2008. The Logo includes the new name of the Centre: *SAMADHAN*, meaning 'Resolution.' On this occasion, the website of the Centre "delhihighcourtmediationcentre.com" was also launched.

The Centre brought out the following printed material for spreading awareness about mediation:-

1. The 2008 calendar in English, which illustrated the advantages of Mediation through visual depiction.
2. A Handout in English and Hindi with basic information both about mediation as an intervention of ADR and the advantages of mediation. This would be given to parties who come before the court as litigants. It would also be sent out with every summons sent to parties by High Court of Delhi.
3. Pamphlets both in English and Hindi giving detailed information about the Centre, outlining frequently asked questions on mediation, the law on mediation under the Civil Procedure Code and the Court Fees Act, the Delhi High Court Mediation and Conciliation Rules and proforma of an Application for Mediation required to be signed and submitted by parties and their counsel.
4. Posters in Hindi and English.

The Mediation Centre was fully renovated which has made it far more functional with a better reception and waiting area for the litigants and six brand new mediation rooms. The renovated Centre was also inaugurated on 07.01.2008.

The Centre has had the privilege of receiving delegations of visitors from home and abroad. Distinguished visitors who have shown great interest in the activities of the Centre include Mr. Justice Stephen Bryer, Associate Judge, Supreme Court of the United States of

America, a delegation of Mediators from Belgium, a delegation from United Kingdom, Judges of the Supreme Court and other High Courts especially those who have been involved with the setting up of Mediation Centres in their respective High Courts.

During the year 2007-08, as many as 868 cases pending in High Court of Delhi were referred to the Centre for resolving the disputes between the parties through the process of mediation out of which 668 were settled. This figure includes 485 related cases pending in other Courts.

B. DELHI HIGH COURT LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

The Delhi High Court Legal Services Committee functions from Chamber No. 34-37, Lawyers Chamber Block, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003 and also has office at 54-57, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Place, Gole Market, New Delhi. It runs a "24 x 7" day and night legal services clinic at Gole Market Office. It is engaged in providing legal aid and advice to the litigants approaching it for the purpose, organizes Lok Adalats for matters pending in the High Court and also gives training in Mediation/Conciliation.

DISPOSAL IN LOK ADALATS ORGANIZED BY COMMITTEE DURING APRIL, 2007 TO MARCH, 2008

Sl. NO.	DATE OF LOK ADALAT	NATURE OF THE CASES	NO. OF CASES TAKEN UP	NO. OF CASES SETTLED
1.	29.04.2007	Appeals in motor accident claim cases	39	24
2.	06.05.2007	Appeals in motor accident claim cases	45	33
3.	28.07.2007	Appeals in motor accident claim cases	63	49
4.	04.08.2007	DTC service matters & appeals in motor accident claims.	24	14
5.	15.09.2007	Electricity disputes covering bills, connection, etc. pertaining to NDPL	17	15
6.	03.11.2007	Electricity cases on bills, disconnection pertaining to NDPL	24	14
7.	18.11.2007	Motor accident claim cases and electricity cases	143	96
8.	01.12.2007	Pending electricity matters of BSES Rajdhani & BSES Yamuna	32	17
9.	16.12.2007	Pre-litigation electricity disputes of NDPL	90	64
10.	15.03.2008	Cases pending before Special Electricity Courts & pre-litigative cases of BSES (Rajdhani) & BSES Yamuna Ltd.	146	114
11.	16.03.2008	Pre-litigative electricity disputes of NDPL	73	71
12.	18.03.2008	Cases pending before Special Electricity Courts & pre-litigative cases of BSES (Rajdhani)	60	44
13.	19.03.2008	Cases pending before Special Electricity Courts & pre-litigative cases of BSES (Yamuna)	49	36
	TOTAL		805	591

MEDIATION/CONCILIATION:

First Phase of “20 Hours” Foundation Training in Mediation was organized by the Committee from 10.10.2007 to 12.10.2007. Training was given to 25 empanelled Advocates and 9 Judicial Officers. This batch of empanelled Advocates and Judges participated in the Second Phase of “20 Hours” Advanced Training in Mediation from 01.02.2008 to 03.02.2008. 17 Advocates and 5 Judicial Officers successfully completed the Training in Mediation.

DISPOSAL OF CASES BY MEDIATION/CONCILIATION ORGANISED BY THE DELHI HIGH COURT LEGAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

MONTH	SETTLED	NOT SETTLED	TOTAL
APRIL, 2007	21	22	43
MAY, 2007	44	04	48
JUNE, 2007	-	01	01
JULY, 2007	30	22	52
AUG, 2007	15	05	20
SEPT, 2007	18	02	20
OCT, 2007	07	-	07
NOV, 2007	11	-	11
DEC, 2007	18	02	20
JAN, 2008	06	03	09
FEB, 2008	18	11	29
MARCH, 2008	12	06	18
TOTAL	205	81	286

C. Legal Aid

Free Legal Aid Services were provided to 370 applicants during the period 01.04.2007 to 31.03.2008 by the Committee.

21 DELHI JUDICIAL ACADEMY & ITS ACTIVITIES

Composition:

Delhi Judicial Academy was established on 22.02.2002. It is functioning under the supervision, control and guidance of the “Judicial Education and Training Programmes Committee” of the High Court. The Chief Justice is the Patron-in-Chief of the Academy, and the Committee which oversees its functioning, comprises of five Judges.

Ms. Santosh Snehi Mann, of the Delhi Higher Judicial Service (DHJS), is currently the Additional Director of the Academy.

Activities:

The Academy conducts the following types of Training Programmes:-

1. Weekend Training Programmes for the in-service Judicial Officers of the DHJS & Delhi Judicial Service (DJS).
2. Orientation Course for the newly recruited Officers of the DHJS from the Bar.
3. Induction Training for the newly recruited Officers of DJS.
4. Induction Training and Refresher Course for Special Metropolitan Magistrates.

Special Courses for Administrative and Ministerial Staff of the High Court & the District Courts are proposed, to upgrade their skills and improve efficiency.

1. Weekend Training Programmes conducted by Delhi Judicial Academy in 2007-2008

S.No.	Name of the Training Programmes	Duration	Participants
1.	Advance Course on 'Civil Justice Administration & Adjudication'	(Two days) 20.01.2007 to 21.01.2007	25 officers of DHJS & DJS
2.	Refresher Course on 'Constitutional Law and Administrative Law'	(Two days) 17.02.2007 to 18.02.2007	25 officers of DHJS with minimum service of 10 years
3.	Advance Course on 'Criminal Justice Administration'	(Two days) 17.03.2007 to 18.03.2007	25 officers of DHJS
4.	Refresher Course on 'Criminal Adjudication'	(Two days) 21.04.2007 to 22.04.2007	25 officers of DJS
5.	Advance Course on 'Role of Science and Technology in Administration of Justice'	(Two days) 26.05.2007 to 27.05.2007	25 officers of DHJS dealing with criminal work.
6.	Advance Course on 'Techniques of Delays and Arrears Reduction'	(Two days) 28.07.2007 to 29.07.2007	25 officers of DJS
7.	Refresher Course on 'Specialized Statutory Enactments'	(Two days) 18.08.2007 to 19.08.2007	25 officers of DHJS and DJS having working experience of not less than 7 years.

8.	Refresher Course on 'Labour law & Effective Adjudication of Labour Disputes'	(Two days) 22.09.2007 to 23.09.2007	25 officers of DHJS who have dealt with or dealing with or likely to deal with labour disputes.
9.	Refresher Course on 'Law Relating to Motor Accident Claims'	(Two days) 27.10.2007 to 28.10.2007	25 officers of DHJS who have dealt with or dealing with or likely to deal with cases under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.
10.	Sensitization Course on 'Gender Justice'	(Two days) 01.12.2007 to 02.12.2007	25 officers dealing with matrimonial disputes/Guardian Judge.
11.	Refresher Course on 'Relevance of Alternative Disputes Resolution Mechanism in settlement of Disputes without Trial'	(Two days) 15.12.2007 to 16.12.2007	25 officers of DHJS and DJS
12.	Orientation Course on 'Juvenile Justice'	(One day) 12.01.2008	30 officers of DJS with 7 years experience
13.	Workshop on 'Bails - Law & Practice'	(Two days) 22.02.2008 to 23.02.2008	30 officers of DHJS and DJS dealing with criminal work.
14.	Orientation Course on 'Matrimonial Disputes - Child Marriages - Marriage Below the prescribed age, complaint of kidnapping, abduction and rape in this context'	(One day) 01.03.2008	30 officers of DHJS & DJS dealing with criminal cases and matrimonial disputes.
15.	Orientation Course on 'Appreciation and Evaluation of Medical, Expert and Forensic Evidence'	(Two days) 15.03.2008 to 16.03.2008	30 officers of DHJS & DJS dealing with criminal work

2. 'Orientation course for the newly recruited officers of DHJS from the BAR', conducted by the Academy in the year 2007 till March, 2008:

A batch of 3 Officers completed this course from 12.06.2007 to 10.10.2007. This was the first batch of DHJS to undergo Comprehensive Training of 4 months at the induction level.

3. Induction Training for the newly recruited Officers of Delhi Judicial Service (DJS) conducted by the Academy in the year 2007 till March, 2008:

A batch of 11 Officers completed this course from 17.01.2006 to 16.01.2007. This was the first batch of DJS to undergo Comprehensive Training of one year at the Induction level.

4. A batch of 17 Officers of DJS underwent the Induction Training from 27.07.2006 to 26.07.2007.
5. A batch of 29 Officers completed Induction Training from 29.03.2007 to 28.03.2008.

Other Activities

- The Academy in collaboration with National Judicial Academy, conducted a three-day Regional Judicial Workshop on Techniques & Tools for enhancing Timely Justice from 28.09.2007 to 30.09.2007 for the North Zone covering 6 High Courts of Allahabad, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab & Haryana and Uttaranchal. 105 Judicial Officers attended this Workshop, which was inaugurated by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.
- The Academy conducted a two-day Workshop on Plea Bargaining on 16.11.2007 & 17.11.2007. This was inaugurated by Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India.
- A Weekend Advocacy Skills Training Programme was conducted by the Academy in collaboration with Indian Institute of Legal and Professional Development from 10.12.2007 to 13.12.2007. 33 Officers of DHJS & DJS attended this programme.
- A Lecture-cum-demonstration on Neuro-psychology, Brain Signature Profiling and related aspects was organized by Delhi Judicial Academy in collaboration with Amity University, U.P.



NAME	DATE OF VISIT
<p>H.E. Mr. Xiao Yang, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of China, with :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr. Jing Hanchao, Grand Justice of the Court. ● Mr. Gao Jinghong, Director Chief Judge of No. 3 Criminal Tribunal of the Court ● Mr. Liu Hehua, Director General of the Court's Foreign Affairs Bureau. ● Mr. Feng Yue, Director of Administration Department ● Mr. Lue Guoliang, Senior Judge of the Court ● Mr. Huang Jianzhong, Judge of the Court ● Madam B. Jianguo, Deputy Chief of Mission of the Chinese Embassy in India ● Ms. Qian Junjun, Attache ● Mr. Xu Feng, guard ● Interpreter 	03.04.2007
<p>Tianjin High People's Court, Peoples Republic of China, delegation headed by Mr. Zhang Baifeng, President of the Court, with;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ms. Wang Pingxiang, Director of the General Office of Tianjin High People's Court. ● Mr. Chang Xiaoming, Vice-President of Tianjin No. 2 Intermediate People's Court ● Ms. Dong Li, Director of the General Office of Tianjin No. 1 Intermediate People's Court. ● Mr. Jin Qinan, Secretary of the President of Tianj in High People's Court. ● Mr. Ma Shufang, President of the People's Court of TEDA district of Tianjin. ● Mr. Zhang Jian, President of the People's Court of Dagang District of Tianjin 	17.04.2007
Mr. Anthony Gates, Acting Chief Justice of Fiji	22.05.2007
<p>Hon'ble Mr. Justice Kedar Prasad Giri, Sr.Judge, Supreme Court of Nepal, with;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mrs. Anjana Giri, wife of Justice Giri. ● Mr. Shree Kanta Poudel, Joint Registrar ● Mr. Dipak Timalsona, MIS Director ● Mr. Rishi Ram Acharya, Under Secretary, Supreme Court ● Mr. Sagar Mansingh Danghol, Under Secretary, Supreme Court ● Mr. Gehendra Panta, Section Officer. 	13.07.2007

<p>Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dyson Heydon, Judge, High Court of Australia, with;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hon'ble Mr. Justice James Spigelman, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of New South Wales ● Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Marilyn Warren, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Victoria ● Mr. Michael Heeley, Husband of Hon'ble Ms. Justice Marilyn Warren. ● Hon'ble Mr. Justice Paul de Jersey, Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Queensland. ● Hon'ble Mr. Justice Robert French, Senior Federal Court Judge, Western Australia ● Judge Valerie French, Wife of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Robert French. 	08.10.2007
<p>Hon'ble Mr. Justice Stephen Breyer, Associate Justice Supreme Court of United States of America.</p>	18.12.2007
<p>Mr. Fernando Pombo, President, International Bar Association.</p>	18.03.2008
<p>Mr. Viruch limvichai, President of the Supreme Court of Thailand and Mr.Sobchok Sukharomna of Supreme Court.</p>	20.03.2008
<p>The Rt.Hon'ble Lord Phillips of Worth Matravers, Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales and Lady Phillips, with;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rt.Hon'ble Lord Mance [House of Lords] ● Rt. Hon'ble Lord Hamilton, [Lord President of the Court Session] ● Rt. Hon'ble Lord Justice Campbell [Lord Justice of Appeal in Northern Ireland] and Lady Campbell ● Rt. Hon'ble Lady Justice Arden, DBE [Court of Appeal] ● Rt. Hon'ble the Baroness Scotland QC, Attorney General ● Sir Suma Chakrabarti, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice ● Mr. Michael Payton, Senior Partner of Clyde & Co. LLP and Mrs. Sally Payton ● Mr. Ranjit Singh, Asstt. Private Secretary to Chief Justice ● Ms. Wendy Hart. Pvt. Secy. to Attorney General. ● Mr. Jonathan Jones, Director General, AG office ● Mr. Jago Price, APS to Permanent Secretary, M/o of Justice. 	20.03.2008

FOREIGN DELEGATIONS



CHINA



SOUTH AFRICA



AUSTRALIA



INTERNATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION



NEPAL



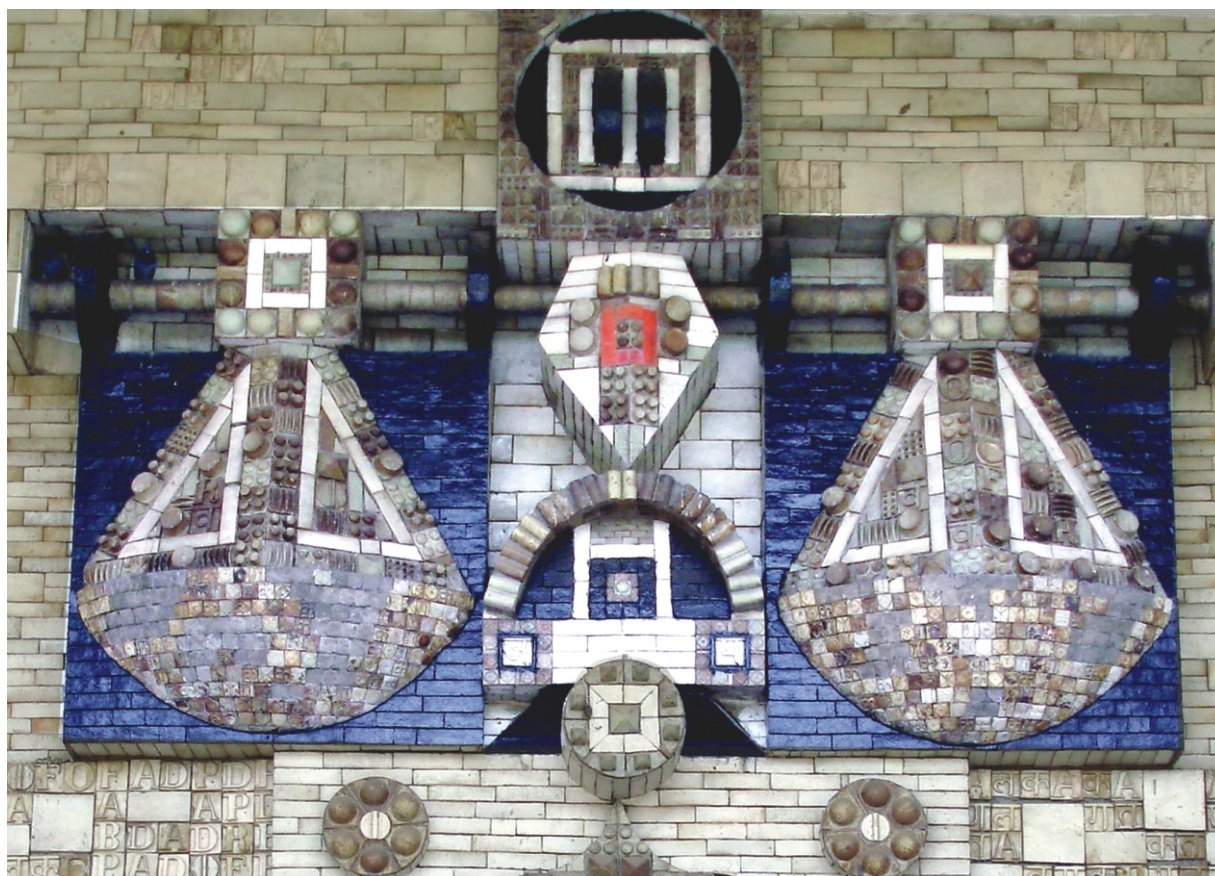
THAILAND



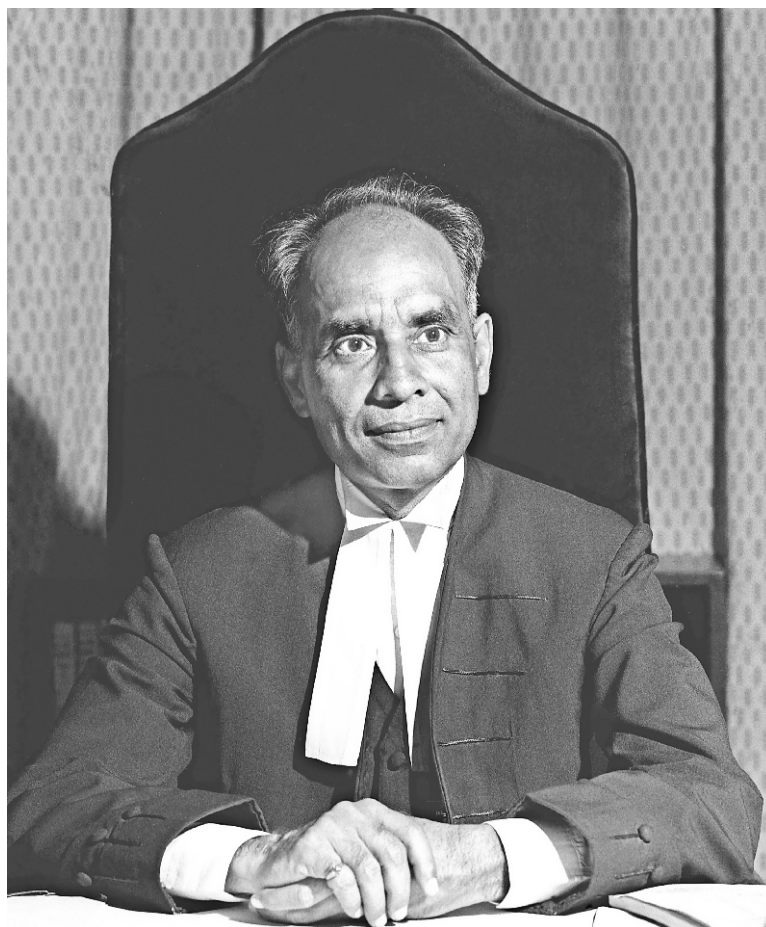
UNITED KINGDOM

23 FULL COURT REFERENCES ON THE DEMISE OF DISTINGUISHED LAWYERS AND JUDGES FROM 01.04.2007 – 31.03.2008

Name	Date of Death	Date of Reference
Mr. N.C.Sikri, Sr. Advocate	02.03.2008	17.03.2008
Mr. S.N.Bhandari, Sr. Advocate	29.01.2008	12.03.2008
Justice H.R.Khanna, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India	25.02.2008	03.03.2008
Mr. P.C.Khanna, Sr. Advocate	08.01.2008	16.01.2008
Justice R.S. Pathak, Former Chief Justice of India	18.11.2007	04.12.2007
Dr. L.M.Singhvi, Sr. Advocate	06.10.2007	11.10.2007
Justice H.L.Anand, Former Judge, Delhi High Court	24.09.2007	01.10.2007



24 IN MEMORIAM-JUSTICE H.R. KHANNA



MR. JUSTICE H.R. KHANNA

The whole course of human history may depend on a change of heart in one solitary and even humble individual - for it is in the solitary mind and soul of the individual that the battle between good and evil is waged and ultimately won or lost.

-M. Scott Peck

If one were to name a judgment that would be etched in the pages of immortality, surely Justice H. R. Khanna's dissent in *ADM Jabalpur v. Shivkant Shukla*, (1976) 2 SCC 521, would stand out as the prime example. It is a beacon that shines through time, and inspires successive generations of judges, lawyers, scholars, law students and citizens alike. This dissent upheld the inalienable, non-derogable right of every person aggrieved against his unlawful detention to seek judicial redress, at all times. It has been compared with Lord Atkin's unforgettable dissent in *Liversidge v. Anderson*, [1942] AC 206.

Born on 03.07.1912, Hans Raj Khanna, studied at the Hindu and Khalsa College, Amritsar and graduated from the Lahore Law College. After Partition, he was appointed as

District and Sessions Judge, Amritsar in 1952. He held that position at other places such as Ferozepur and Ambala (in undivided Punjab). He was appointed as an Additional Judge of the Punjab High Court in 1962; he was later appointed as a Permanent Judge of that Court, with effect from 30.04.1964. Upon the formation of Delhi High Court, he was transferred as a Judge of the court, with effect from 31.10.1966. He was appointed as Chief Justice of Delhi High Court with effect from 01.08.1969. Justice Khanna was appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court on 22.09.1971. He resigned from that position on 12.03.1977.

Apart from the sterling affirmation of rights of individuals in *ADM Jabalpur*, Justice Khanna contributed crucially to the interpretive process of the country's Constitution in *Keshavananda Bharati v. State of Kerala*, (1973) 4 SCC 225, where he joined the majority of judges (who held that there were implied limitations to the amending power under the Constitution) by propounding the “basic structure” doctrine. That formulation has withstood the test of time, and is now embedded in the constitutional discourse. He authored other important judgments, including the concurring opinion in *The Ahmedabad St. Xavier's College Society v. State Of Gujarat*, (1974) 1 SCC 717, where he spoke about the abundant catholicity of the guarantee in favour of minorities in our multicultural country and the need to balance that with general regulations, deemed as minimum standards prescribed by the community.

After ceasing to be a judge, Justice Khanna held positions as Chairman Press Council of India and Chairman, Law Commission of India. He was awarded the Padma Vibhushan in 1999. He passed away on 25.02.2008.

"If the Indian Constitution is our heritage bequeathed to us by our founding fathers, no less are we, the people of India, the trustees and custodians of the values which pulsate within its provisions! A constitution is not a parchment of paper, it is a way of life and has to be lived up to. Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty and in the final analysis, its only keepers are the people. Imbecility of men, history teaches us, always invites the impudence of power."

– Extract from Justice H.R. Khanna,
Making of India's Constitution (1981)

1.	MR. JUSTICE MANMOHAN SARIN	High Court Justices Conference on Development of Law: "Criminal Justice Administration: Agenda for Reform" from 26.10.2007 to 28.10.2007.
2.	MR. JUSTICE T.S.THAKUR	Attended meeting from 31.03.2007 to 01.04.2007 to develop the NJA Calendar and a Coordinated National Judicial Education Calendar for the year 2007-08.
3.	MR. JUSTICE MUKUL MUDGAL	High Court Judges Conference on Development of Law and Justice Systems Development: "Effective Judicial System Management: Developing Effective Systems for Strategic Planning, Provision of Adequate Budgets, Human Resource Management, Infrastructure Development; and Court Management" on 28.07.2007 and 29.07.2007.
4.	MR. JUSTICE MADAN B. LOKUR	High Court Judges Conference on Development of Law and Justice Systems Development: "Effective Judicial System Management: Developing Effective Systems for Strategic Planning, Provision of Adequate Budgets, Human Resource Management, Infrastructure Development; and Court Management" from 27.07.2007 to 29.07.2007.
5.	MR. JUSTICE A.K. SIKRI	High Court Justices Conference: Development of Law: "Sustainable Development and Indian Environmental Law" from 25.01.2008 to 27.01.2008.
6.	MR. JUSTICE BADAR DURREZ AHMED	High Court Judges Conference on Development of Law and Justice Systems Development: "Effective Judicial System Management: Developing Effective Systems for Strategic Planning, Provision of Adequate Budgets, Human Resource Management, Infrastructure Development; and Court Management" on 28.07.2007 and 29.07.2007.

7.	MR. JUSTICE PRADEEP NANDRAJOG	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. High Court Justices' National Colloquium on Emerging Issues in Public Law from 27.04.2007 to 29.04.2007. 2. High Court Justice Conference on Development of Law: "Cyber Law and IPRs: Current Issues and Emerging Trends" from 24.08.2007 to 26.08.2007.
8.	MR. JUSTICE ANIL KUMAR	Third High Court Justices Conference on Development of Law : "Economic and Commercial Law in India in the Emerging Global Scenario: Current Issues and Emerging Trends" from 21.09.2007 to 23.09.2007.
9.	MS. JUSTICE GITA MITTAL	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Third High Court Justices Conference on Development of Law : "Economic and Commercial Law in India in the Emerging Global Scenario: Current Issues and Emerging Trends" from 21.09.2007 to 23.09.2007. 2. Attended meeting on 6th March, 2008 for (i) Development of the Annual NJA Calendar for July, 2008 to June, 2009 and (ii) Upgrading the National Judicial Education Calendar.
10.	MR. JUSTICE S. RAVINDRA BHAT	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Third High Court Justices Conference on Development of Law : "Economic and Commercial Law in India in the Emerging Global Scenario: Current Issues and Emerging Trends" from 21.09.2007 to 23.09.2007. 2. High Court Justices Conference Justice Systems Development: "Role of High Courts in Delay Arrears Reduction" from 23.11.2007 to 25.11.2007.
11.	MR. JUSTICE SANJIV KHANNA	High Court Justice Conference on Development of Law: "Cyber Law and IPRs: Current Issues and Emerging Trends" from 24.08.2007 to 26.08.2007.

12.	MR. JUSTICE J.M. MALIK	1. High Court Justices' National Colloquium on Emerging Issues in Public Law from 27.04.2007 to 29.04.2007.
13.	MS. JUSTICE REVA KHETRAPAL	1. High Court Justices' National Colloquium on Emerging Issues in Public Law from 27.04.2007 to 29.04.2007. 2. High Court Justices Conference on "Development of Law: Governance and Development" from 22.02.2008 to 24.02.2008.
14.	MR. JUSTICE S.N. AGGARWAL	High Court Justices Conference Justice Systems Development : "Role of High Courts in Delay Arrears Reduction" from 23.11.2007 to 25.11.2007.
15.	MR. JUSTICE P.K. BHASIN	High Court Justices Conference on Development of Law: "Criminal Justice Administration: Agenda for Reform" from 26.10.2007 to 28.10.2007.
16.	DR. JUSTICE S.MURALIDHAR	1. Attended meeting on 31.03.2007 to 01.04.2007 to develop the NJA Calendar and a Coordinated National Judicial Education Calendar for the year 2007-08. 2. High Court Justices Conference Justice Systems Development : "Role of High Courts in Delay Arrears Reduction" from 23.11.2007 to 25.11.2007. 3. Attended National Conference of High Court Justices on "Contribution of Indian High Court to the Development of Law" from 14.03.2008 to 16.03.2008 as resource person.
17.	MR. JUSTICE VIPIN SANGHI	High Court Justices Conference on "Development of Law: Governance and Development" from 22.02.2008 to 24.02.2008.
18.	MR. JUSTICE V.B. GUPTA	High Court Justices Conference on Development of Law: "Criminal Justice Administration: Agenda for Reform" from 26.10.2007 to 28.10.2007.

The Annual Report 2007-2008 was more than overdue. Each time the committee asked to prepare it felt that it was in the verge of completion, new events occurred, such as the appointment of new judges and successive functions, which had to find mention in the report.

This Report has consciously avoided any mention of past history, as those details were given in the First Annual Report. However, some new information, topical to this year, have been added. These are inclusion of a greater number of colour coded bar charts and pie charts, to depict the institution and disposal of cases, and map the arrears of cases pending on the docket of this court. Another first is an attempt to cost-analyze judicial functioning, as well as to show, approximately, the time available to each Bench to decide every case. Every endeavour has been made to give a comprehensive picture of the court's functioning.

This report would not have been possible without the uncomplaining and tireless efforts of Shri H.C. Suri, Joint Registrar, who functioned as the Nodal Officer for this task, and his team consisting of Mr. Satish Gusain, A.O.(Judicial), Mr. Jagdish Lal, Senior Judicial Assistant (Court's Photographer), Mr. Nikhil Tiwari, Judicial Translator, Mr. Sunil Barthwal, Judicial Assistant, Mr. Ajay Kumar, Personal Assistant and Ms. Manisha Sonker, Junior Judicial Assistant. Special mention is to be made of Shri R.K. Gauba, Registrar (Vigilance) and Shri Jai Krishan Agarwal Registrar (Appellate), who assisted in the task of compiling facts and presenting them.

This section would be incomplete unless the efforts and valuable time put in by my colleagues, Justice Vipin Sanghi, and Justice Sudershan Kumar Misra, are acknowledged. They indefatigably and wholeheartedly participated in conceiving, drafting and even proof reading the report. Likewise, the bar members, Shri K.C. Mittal, President and Shri J.P. Sengh, Vice President (of the Delhi High Court Bar Association) gave valuable suggestions and inputs which have enriched the report, besides sparing valuable time from their busy professional schedules and social commitments.

Having acknowledged the valuable contributions of other members of the committee to the preparation of this annual report, I deem it my duty to claim sole responsibility for any mistakes, errors or omissions.

Justice S. Ravindra Bhat
Chairman of the Committee
(Annual Report 2007-2008)

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Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information published. However, if any errors are noticed, a communication may be addressed to Joint Registrar (Gen.-Admn.)/Nodal Officer, Delhi High Court.