



AI in e-Courts: Solving the Pendency Crisis

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Background: With over 5 crore cases pending in Indian courts, the Ministry of Law told Parliament that AI is no longer optional. Under e-Courts Phase III, AI tools are being deployed to assist judges and litigants.

Basics:

- SUPACE (Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Court's Efficiency): An AI that collects and analyzes data to help judges research faster.
- SUVAS: A translation tool that converts English judgments into 12 vernacular languages.
- Algorithm Bias: The government maintains that AI will only "assist" and not "decide" cases, to avoid ethical concerns.

Significance for UPSC:

- Access to Justice: Reduces the time and cost for the common man.
- Judicial Reform: Moves the judiciary from a "colonial paper-based" system to a "digital-first" system.