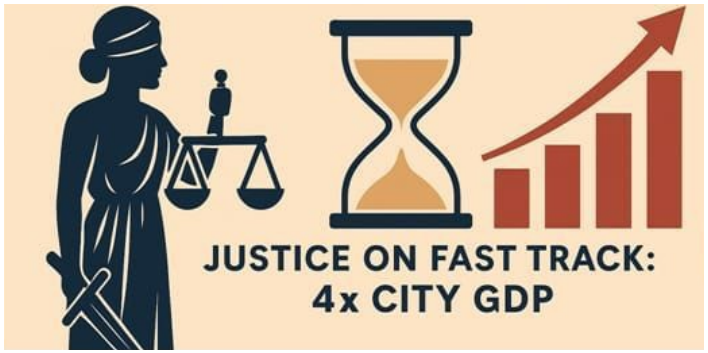
Roundtable

Justice for Growth

Role of District Judiciary in Achieving UP's USD 1 Trillion Economy Goal

16th November 2025 | Meerut



About FISME

Genesis

i. Established in 1967 as N.A.Y.E. in 1967. Reorganized as FISME in 1995

ii. Network of 746 MSME associations (sectoral and geographic); Outreach to 2 Mn enterprises

iii. HQ in New Delhi with Regional offices in Bengaluru & Hyderabad

Thematic focus areas

iv. Market Access: Domestic (Public procurement) & International (FTAs, WTO.)

v. Research based advocacy for reforms

vi. Executing MSME development projects funded by national and international agencies

Representation and Recognition

vii. Member, Economic Advisory Group constituted by GoUP for achieving USD 1Tn economy

viii. Parliament (Invitee to Standing Committees of Industry, Commerce)

ix. Ministries (MoMSME, Commerce & Industry, Finance)

FISME's Initiatives

KNN KNOWLEDGE & NEWS NETWORK

CIAJ

CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR ASPIRING SMEs

FRIENDS OF MSMEs IN PARLIAMENT

MEERUT CITIZENS FORUM

About Meerut Citizens Forum

Genesis

i. Meerut Citizens Forum (MCF) is a not-for-profit foundation set up by a group of concerned citizens comprising professionals, academicians, industrialists and civil society

ii. MCF strives for Meerut to be a city with good quality of life

Activities

iii. Coordinate with agencies for timely bottleneck resolution

iv. Present status reports, white papers, best practices to political leadership
Organize conferences and discussions by inviting subject specialists

v. Build alliances with universities/NGOs

vi. To research on various parameters related to quality of life in Meerut

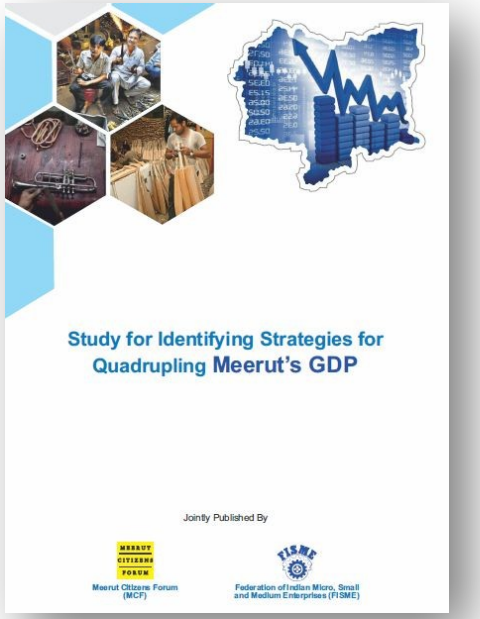
Study For Identifying Strategies For Quadrupling GDP Of Meerut

- Study conducted in 2023 for Meerut district by: Former Economic Advisor, GoI -M.C. Singhi (Retd. IES)
- Report analyses the economic factors, reviews governance and administrative institutions

Study Release: Sh Pankaj Choudhary, MoS (MoF), Sh Rajendra Agrawal, (then) MP Meerut

Observations on the working of District Court Meerut

- Hearing days for District Court less than 100 in a year
- The main reasons are abstinence from work by lawyers, 'no working days' Holidays, absence of judges
- "No adverse order" days on not so perfect weather conditions, etc further contribute to no-hearing days.
- Economic impact :Loss for Non-hearing days: (Approx. Rs. 115 crores for period from May 2018 to May 2023); Indirect loss: Delay in adjudication leads to lock-up of capital (thousand of crores in prolonged disputes)
- **Study highlighted positive relation between Improved Justice Delivery and District's economic growth**



Role of Judiciary in Economic Growth

Uttar Pradesh pursuing goal of becoming a **USD 1 trillion economy**

An Economic Advisory Group has been constituted to recommend measures for rapid growth and employment generation

Over **9 million MSMEs** contribute significantly to the State's GDP

Delays in commercial dispute resolution hinder business growth and investor confidence

A **robust judicial system at the District level** is essential for contract enforcement and business expansion

National Conference of District Judiciary 2024

#	Recommendations of Conference Report	Present Status
1	**Data driven approach** to budget utilization, monitoring of cases	• Lack of transparency on judicial data on case pendency, reasons for adjournments • Low utilization of budget allocated to Judiciary
2	**Adherence to timelines** - Recruitment, case disposal	HCs not adhering to timelines for recruitment nor performance review of support staff and judicial officers at district level
3	**Digitization-** E-filing, Video Conferencing	• Slow e-courts progress, Video hearings, e-filing • Poor Online case management system
4	**Institutionalisation of Lok Adalats**	SOPs yet to be developed by HCs for conduct of Lok Adalats
5	**Human Resource Development**-Sensitization workshops, Training of Judicial Staff	• Inadequate Judicial Officer strength for disposing pending cases • States allocate less than 1% of their judiciary budget to training*
6	**Performance Assessment**-District Courts, Judicial Officers	• 4.7 crore cases pending at national level; 1.1 crore in U.P • Case Disposal Rate of 80% at National level • Frequent adjournments, Procedural delays

31st August-1st September 2024, New Delhi

Presided by-The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, Hon'ble PM, Shri Narendra Modi, Then Chief Justice of India, Dr. D.Y Chandrachud

***Source:** BUDGETS FOR JUSTICE: A Pilot Study of Justice Sector Allocations in 11 States with the Highest GSDPs, India Justice Report

Pending Cases in U.P vis-à-vis National and Meerut

S. No	Duration(pending)	National	Uttar Pradesh	Meerut
1.	Less than 1 year	1,85,94,236 (39%)	31,07,614 (28%)	87,575 (35%)
2.	1 to 3 years	1,08,92,598 (23%)	25,94,912 (23%)	66,315 (27%)
3.	3 to 5 years	55,09,796 (12%)	13,79,525 (12%)	31,570 (13%)
4.	5 to 10 years	81,86,049 (17%)	22,43,111 (20%)	42,398 (17%)
5.	More than 10 years	42,55,848 (9%)	18,54,824 (17%)	22,272 (9%)
Total Pending Cases*		**4,74,38,527**	**1,11,79,986**	**2,50,130**
Cases Instituted last month		14,66,664	1,90,172	6,950
Cases Disposed last month		11,72,361(80%)	2,09,071(110%)	5,212 (75%)
~No. of Cases listed per day		9,23,783	2,29,384	5,851
Major Reasons for Delay Reported		1.Non-Availability of Counsel 2. Awaiting Documents 3. No Hearing day		

*The Data is as on 15.11.2025

Source: National Judicial Data Grid (https://njdg.ecourts.gov.in/njdg_v3/), India Justice Report 2025

How U.P compares with National Level

#	Parameter	Status of U.P	National Average
1	Case Pendency at High court (>3 years)	71%	61.1%
2	Average HC pendency (years) as on 2022	11.34 years (highest)	5.13 years
2	Case Pendency at Subordinate Court: >3 years	53%	46%
3	Per Capita spend on Judiciary (2022-23)	Rs. 125 (third lowest after Assam and Bihar)	Rs. 182
4	Judges Per Million Population:	10 Judges Per Mn	15 Judges Per Mn

UP lags behind National Average on major Indicators: Infrastructure Gap, Judicial Vacancies, Per Capita Spend on Judiciary

- **U.P ranks 17** out of 18 large and mid-sized States in IJR 2025 (Rankings for police, prisons, judiciary and legal aid)
- Although 7.3% of the U.P's 2024-25 budget was allotted to judiciary, its actual share in total expenditure is about 1%.
- U.P reported case **clearance rate** of 75% in 2024, contributing to large backlog

Courts

Case Pendency

Judges

Judge Vacancy

Infrastructure

Spend on Judiciary

Source: National Judicial Data Grid (https://njdg.ecourts.gov.in/njdg_v3/), India Justice Report 2025, India Justice Report 2022

Access to Justice- Leadership Perspective

"Providing justice to people through district courts with sensitivity and promptness and at a low cost should be the basis of the success of our judiciary."

The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu
National Conference of District Judiciary, Sep 1, 2024

"Ease of Doing Business and Ease of Living are truly possible only when Ease of Justice is also ensured."

Shri Narendra Modi
Hon'ble Prime Minister of India
Nov 8, 2025 at NALSA's 30 years commemoration

"Judicial system is the single biggest hurdle to India becoming a developed nation"

Mr. Sanjeev Sanyal
Member of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council

Initiatives by FISME

Initial Discussion on Access to Justice organized in Lucknow in March 2025

Roundtable on Improving access to Justice for MSMEs' held in June in New Delhi with Experts and Stakeholders

- Recommendations on issues related to judiciary and tribunals presented to Govt. officials
- Meeting of FISME delegation with UP Govt. Officials in Lucknow
- Roundtable on "Fast Tracking Justice: Boosting UP's USD 1 Trillion Economic Vision" proposed

Points of Discussions

1. Slow Technology adoption

- Slow e-courts progress. - Video hearings, e-filing
- Poor Online case management system
- Inadequate District-level mediation and arbitration facilities, Human resource

2. Issues with Tribunals, Labour Courts and Quasi Judicial Bodies

- Administrative issues-
  - Appointment of retired bureaucrats/ judges as adjudicators
  - Vacant post of Presiding Officer
- Infrastructure- Human and Physical
- Overload on Quasi Judicial Authorities

3. How can Govt. minimize its litigation?

- Government is the largest litigant
- Automatic appeals filed even when meritless
- Wastage of public resources
- Clogging the already burdened judicial system

4.Case Pendency and Local Bottlenecks

- Pendency in civil, revenue, and criminal cases
- Impact of delays on property, business contracts, and land disputes
- Adjournments, procedural delays, lack of transparency

Technology Adoption in Judiciary- Comparison of UP and Delhi

#	Parameter	Status in U.P	Status in Delhi
1	**E-Filing and VC Facility**	Infrastructure for full-scale VC and Mandatory e-Filing across all courts is generally less uniform than in Delhi	• **Highly established and mandatory** for various case types in both HC and District Courts • **VC hearings are regularly facilitated, post-pandemic**
2	**Case Management System**	• Many courts still manually publish the cause list outside the court • Features like searching by Case Number are available • Cause list are generally not available online	• **All district courts release real time cause list a day prior to the hearing** • Provides detailed search options by Case Number, FIR, Party Name, Advocate Name, Filing Number etc. • Cause Lists are available online in PDF mode
3	**Upload of orders/judgements**	Follows national framework for uploading to e-Courts portal. Upload of orders on court website generally takes 2-3 days	**Generally, uploaded to the respective court websites and the e-Courts portal on the same day**
4	**Adjournment Culture**	Less strictness in recording detailed reasons and imposing costs for unnecessary adjournments	• Reasons for adjournments are generally recorded. • Cost imposition for seeking adjournments on frivolous grounds
5	**Lok Adalats and E-Seva Kendras**	Digital participation in Lok-Adalats lower compared to Delhi. e-Seva Kendras have become redundant, their staffing and service quality is poor	**Highly active and digitally enabled**. DSLSA regularly organizes E-Lok Adalats (conducted via VC) for all types of pending and pre-litigation cases

Response by Law Secretary, GoUP:

- Lower digital literacy in Eastern UP result in limited use of digitization by both litigants and their counsels
- Resistance from some lawyers, prevent effective use of digitization, adversely affecting poor litigants
- Technology adoption in Western UP should be accelerated, where uptake is expected to be higher

MEERUT
CITIZENS
FORUM

Thank You