HISTORY OF VIRTUAL COURT IN BANGLADESH

Virtual court system is the state where technology is used to give justice without physical appearance. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic situation grows highly in Bangladesh virtual court was established. On may 10 Virtual Court got directives to rite proceedings in the Appellate Division, High Court Division, the subordinate courts and tribunals from Supreme Court. From May 10 to May 28 there were held virtual hearings for about 33,247 cases where 20938 people were granted bail through virtual court.

Here we can highlight the experience of the people on virtual court:

Advocate Tanvir Ahmed shares that virtual court is enough for an exigency. But virtual court system is not getting essential things obtainable when the system is not fully developed. He also admits that the physical appearance in the court is significant in itself. He also hoping a better future for Virtual court.

Advocate JR Khan Robin who is a lawyer of Supreme Court explained that they are not against the system of virtual court, they just want some time for provision and conducting earlier on indicating virtual court by the Supreme Court Administration. Having training on virtual court would give them privilege on accessing file cases. He also added that including him, many lawyers faces problems on virtual court system, as there has not sufficient technological facilitation.

Deputy Attorney General AKM Amin Uddin who is a State Lawyer for the High Court explained that the current situation of Covid-19 is miserable, we can’t predict how long it will continue. For this physical appearance on court is currently not acceptable. And virtual court system is introduced. Many lawyers are considering it difficult for scanning important documents and files. But there are mobile apps which will help in scanning like cam scanner. They have to adjust with the system. Moreover, the Bar Council might perform some training for the lawyers about the system. He accumulated that with the help of virtual court system, in future, the pending cases can be solved fast, and the record video of witness will be more effective.

Other anonymous explained that the senior lawyers are mostly facing problems adjusting with virtual court system as they are not familiar with technology.

On the other hand, the juniors or young lawyers are very adjustable with the new system, and they are very well to do. But the software has to be quite easier, and the technical problems should be solved.

There were many more experiences of the lawyers, whom has experienced the virtual court system. Some are calling It’s a great initiative for such situation created for covid-19. And also for a better future injustice.

Some are disappointed with the sudden establishment of virtual court, as the virtual court system are Fully dependent on technology, which regards technical knowledge to perform the virtual system. Which making problems for some lawyers to conducting the virtual court system, even they Did not have any training on it.

In Virtual Court System, we can see both positive and negative sight. As we know Virtual court system is fully based on technology and all the important and confidential data or files are submitted through Gmail. Here the main concerning point is the security of the data. And mostly virtual court system is under e-judiciary. So for the protection of the confidential data, cyber security to work on.

As we know Microsoft teams or Gmail has the best cyber security system in the world. They already set their benchmark on cyber security system. So there are no doubts on it. They would perform good cyber security

In the National cyber security platform there should be avoid the interfere of the third-party service providers. The national judiciary should control and possession of personal data, developing networks and system. And The national judiciary should strengthen the platform.

To have a secure virtual court system in Bangladesh we mostly need a dedicated data protection act to coordinated all the massive tasks in e-judiciary.

In e- judiciary the advancement of technology involving Big data and artificial intelligence should be developed. Without the coordination of prosecution and law enforcement agencies e-judiciary can’t be successful.

Another important part of court is the privacy of the correspondence and the other means of communication. And the privacy has to be confirmed. It is a fundamental right under the Article 43 of the constitution. The virtual court system 9 should not face any problem due to the compromise of cyber security or any other laws above mentioned.

Overall, the establishment of Virtual court system in Bangladesh is very appreciating. In other countries the virtual court system is available. Like in US the virtual court system established in the year 2019. And UNICEF assisted Virtual Juvenile Court.

UNDP and ICT Division are working to develop the website called “privacy by design “, which main focus is to give security to National server, network and management the information system.

So at last we can say that for the unpleasant situation created in Bangladesh due to Covid-19 we have to accept e-judiciary, which is mainly Virtual Court System. And we can face problems, as it’s a new thing in Bangladesh, but with better technology, better training, better cyber security better privacy of the Correspondent we can overcome the problems and can feel the betterment of virtual court system.