Indian Judiciary Codebook 1.0
<link to dataset>
Last Updated: 2nd February, 2023

Contents

1. Introduction

The Indian Judiciary Dataset (TCPD-IJD) is a collection of information on judicial appointments to India's 25 High Courts and Supreme Court, collectively known as the Upper Judiciary. The information is taken from the official websites of the High Courts and the Supreme Court. Their names, positions, start and end dates for their appointments, and biodata are all listed on the official websites. The majority of the Judges' dataset and its schema was created by carefully analyzing their reported biodata.

The Kerala High Court's website, however, lacked information about its former justices, therefore the best information about the Kerala HC could only be pieced together from the websites of other High Courts and the Supreme Court.

A previous version of the Calcutta High Court website that listed judicial appointments between the 1960s and the mid-1990s is no longer accessible or supported. The best version of this data for this timeframe was put together from the Supreme Court's and other High Courts' websites.

Please refer to Section 4: Table 2 Data Sources for more details regarding the dates that data for each of the Highs Court and the Supreme Court were scraped on.

Each individual member of Upper Judiciary has been assigned a unique identification number (ID) to help track their judicial career.

This codebook provides information about the variables included in the Indian Judiciary dataset. The codebook will be updated as and when new information is added to the dataset.

This is Version 1.0

We hope that you will find this dataset useful and request that you cite the data as indicated in the codebook, whenever you use the data in a publication or public presentation.

With thanks,

TCPD Team

2. Terms and conditions

The TCPD-IJD dataset is a list of all Judicial Appointments to the Upper Judiciary of India that are available on their respective official websites. The users are free to download, display or include the data in other products for non-commercial purposes at no cost subject to the following limitations:

Data Citation: "TCPD Indian Judges dataset (TCPD-IJD), 1950-2021". Trivedi Centre for Political Data, Ashoka University.

Codebook Citation: Ananay Agarwal, Jenish Raj Bajracharya, Maleeha Fatima, Shivam Gangwani, Ananta Kothari, Shruti Kraleti, Shreyashree Nayak, Ayaan Sagar, Chahat Saraogi. 2023. "TCPD Indian Judges dataset (TCPD-IJD), 1950-2021 Codebook 1.0", Trivedi Centre for Political Data, Ashoka University.

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No Warranty: The Centre makes no warranties with respect to the accuracy of the data. While we do our best to ensure that the numbers are accurate, there is room for error. And as such the user must agree that the Centre shall not be held responsible or liable to the user for any errors, omissions, misstatements and/or misrepresentations of the data though the user is encouraged to report the same to us (send us a message or write us at tcpd-contact@ashoka.edu.in).

Personal data: The Centre may record visits to the TCPD website without collecting the personal information of the users. The records shall be used for statistical reports only.

Acknowledgement: The user must agree that the use of the Data presented within the application can be seen as the acknowledgement of unconditionally accepting the Terms of Use presented by the Centre.

3. Table 1: Variable Names, Type, and Description

#	Variable Name	Variable Type	Variable Description
1	Name	string	Name of the Judge as per the source

2	Court	string	Name of the High Court (or Supreme Court) where the individual has been appointed. Each row represents a separate appointment.
			
			The High Court of Andhra Pradesh was recently split between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. With respect to that please note the following dates and jurisdictions -
			
			● 5th Nov 1956 - 1st June 2014: Andhra Pradesh High Court
			  ○ There was no Telangana State, thus only one High Court
			● 2nd June 2014 - 31st Dec 2018: The High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for the State of Telangana and the State of Andhra Pradesh
			  ○ Andhra Pradesh had been bifurcated but the two states had a common High Court in Hyderabad
			● 1 Jan 2019 onwards: Andhra Pradesh High Court, Telangana High Court
			  ○ The High Court was split. The erstwhile Andhra Pradesh High Court in Hyderabad became the new Telangana High Court, and a new Andhra Pradesh High Court was constituted in Amaravati

3	Position	string	The position of the Judge in the given Court. This variable can take the following values - 1. Additional Judge (ADJ) 2. Puisne Judge / Judge (J) 3. Acting Chief Justice / Officiating (ACJ) 4. Chief Justice (CJ) 5. Acting Judge (AJ) 6. Administrative Judge
4	Start_Date_ Appointment	Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	The date at which the Judge began their practice at the given Court for the given Position If the website or biodata does not mention the starting day, month, or year of appointment, it has been left blank

			When the biodata or website does not mention the starting day, but does mention the month and year, the 1st of that month has been encoded Eg. Mr. Justice Ramesh Surajmal Garg has been given a start_date_appointment of 01.11.2000 for his tenure in the Chhattisgarh High Court, since his biodata mentions that he was appointed a judge in Chhattisgarh in November 2000. When the biodata or website does not mention the starting day or month, but does mention the year, the 1st of January for that year has been encoded. Eg. MR. Alexander Kinlouch Forbes has been given a start_date_appointment of 01.01.1862 for his tenure in the Bombay High Court, since his biodata only mentions only the year 1862 when his tenure started
5	End_Date_Appointment	Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	The date at which the Judge ended their practice at the given Court for the given Position If the website or biodata does not mention the ending day, month, or year of appointment, it has been left blank When the biodata or website does not mention the ending day, but does mention the month and year, the last date for that month has been encoded. Eg. When the biodata or website does not mention the starting day or month, but does mention the year, the 31st of December for that year has been encoded. Eg. MR. Alexander Kinlouch Forbes has been given a end_date_appointment of 31.12.1862 for his tenure in the Bombay High Court, since his biodata only mentions only the year 1862 when his tenure ended
6	DOB	Date (dd/mm/yyyy)	Date of Birth of Judge as per the source
7	State_Birth	string	The name of the State (eg. Kerala, Manipur etc) where the Judge was born as per the source
8	District_Birth	string	The name of the District where the Judge was born as per the source
9	City_Village_Birth	string	The name of the City or Village where the Judge was born as per the source

10	Reason_Leaving_Appointment	string	The reason given as to why the Judge left the given Position at the given Court. This variable can take on the following values -
			
			1. *Death*: The concerned Judge passed away while in office. (Died in Harness)
			
			2. *Formal Retirement*: The concerned Judge retired from their Judicial career. (Superannuated)
			
			3. *Resignation*: The concerned Judge resigned from the position
			
			4. *Transfer or Promotion*: The concerned Judge was either
			   a. Transferred to a different court OR
			   b. Was promoted within the same court OR
			   c. Was transferred *and* promoted to different court
			
			5. *Temporary Position*: Instances when
			   a. Judge moves into a temporary position(Acting/Interim/Short-Term) AND
			   b. Judge moves back to previous permanent position
			   c. If returning to the same position in the same court, only then is Temporary Position encoded.
			
			   Example: Judge 'XYZ' becomes ACJ for 2 months *and* reverts back to Judge position within the same High Court. Both appointments will be encoded with 'Temporary Position'. However if Judge 'XYZ' becomes CJ directly after ACJ *without* going back to being a Judge, the reason encoded for the second appointment (ACJ ->CJ) will be *Transfer or Promotion* and the first appointment (J -> ACJ) will be *Temporary Position.*

11	Source_of_Recruitment	string	Describes how the Judge was recruited into the higher judiciary - 1. *SERVICE*: After having served as Judge in lower courts 2. *BAR*: Was appointed directly to a High Court after having been an advocate
12	Enrollment_Year	Date (yyyy)	Year when the Judge officially enrolled as an advocate.

			If the biodata does not mention the enrollment year, the year the individual passed the bar exam has been taken to be the enrollment year.
13	Sex_Source	string	Describes the sex of the individual as per the source.
14	Sex	string	Sex of the individual as assigned by TCPD. This has been done since Sex_Source is empty for many individuals.
15	LLB_Institution	string	The name of the institution where the Judge was awarded their L.L.B. degree (Latin Legum Baccalaureus or 3-year Bachelor of Law) or B.L. degree (Bachelor of Law) as per the source Exception : Law(Not Given) If biodata mentions that the Judge graduated with a Law Degree, but does not mention the Institution
16	LLM_Institution	string	The name of the institution where the Judge was awarded their L.L.M. degree (Latin Legum Magister or Master of Law)as per the source Exception: Law(Not Given) If biodata mentions that the Judge graduated with a Law Degree beyond L.L.B., but does not mention the Institution
17	Other_Bachelors_Institution	string	Name of Judge's Bachelor institution if they received a Bachelor education other than Law
18	Other_Bachelors_Degree	string	Name of Judge's Bachelor degree (and subject) if they received a Bachelor education other than Law. Eg. B.A. History, B.Com., B.Sc. Math, Chartered Accountant etc.
19	Other_Masters_Institution	string	Name of Judge's Masters institution if they received a Masters education other than Law
20	Other_Masters_Degree	string	Name of Judge's Masters Degree (and subject) if they received a Masters education other than Law
21	PhD_Institution	string	Name of Judge's Ph.D. institution if they received a Ph.D.
22	PhD_Subject	string	Name of Judge's Ph.D. subject if they received a

			Ph.D.
23	Biodata	string	The biodata of the Judge as per the source. Note: The same Judge can have different biodatas, since different Courts' websites can have different biodatas.
24	ID	string	A Unique Identifier for each judge. This ID has been used to track the tenure of an individual's judicial career.
25	Image	string	If available, a link to the image of the individual
26	Duplicated	binary	A variable that tells if this judicial appointment is a duplicate (TRUE) or not (FALSE). If there are duplicates, the judicial appointment with the most amount of data (i.e. most filled rows) has been declared to be TRUE, and the other or others as duplicates (FALSE) If the value is blank, then this individual does not have an identified duplicate in the data These duplicates have arisen because the same judge could have different biodata or information from the different High Courts or the Supreme Court

4. Table 2: Data Sources

S.No	Court Name	Last Date of Scraping (dd/mm/yyyy)	Source
1.	Allahabad	14/11/2021	https://www.allahabadhighcourt.in/service/
2.	Andhra Pradesh	25/01/2022	https://hc.ap.nic.in/former_judges.html https://hc.ap.nic.in/profile.html
3.	Bombay	23/12/2021	https://bombayhighcourt.nic.in/jshowpuisne.php https://bombayhighcourt.nic.in/cjshow.php https://bombayhighcourt.nic.in/jshow.php
4.	Calcutta	24/05/2022	https://www.calcuttahighcourt.gov.in/Judges/Former-Judges https://www.calcuttahighcourt.gov.in/Judges/Former-Chief-Justices https://www.calcuttahighcourt.gov.in/Judges/CJ-and-Judges
5.	Chattisgarh	17/12/2021	https://highcourt.cg.gov.in/sittingjudges/sitting.html https://highcourt.cg.gov.in/sittingjudges/formarcj.html https://highcourt.cg.gov.in/sittingjudges/formarjudges.html
6.	Delhi	04/01/2022	https://delhihighcourt.nic.in/cjsittingjudges.asp https://delhihighcourt.nic.in/formerjudges.asp
7.	Gauhati	25/11/2021	https://ghconline.gov.in/index.php/honble-the-chief-justice-sitting-judges/ https://ghconline.gov.in/index.php/honourable-sitting-judges-of-the-supreme-court-of-india/ https://ghconline.gov.in/index.php/former-honble-judges-of-the-supreme-court-of-india-chief-justice-of-india-who-served-as-chief-justice-honble-judge-of-this-high-court/ https://ghconline.gov.in/index.php/former-honourable-chief-justices-of-gauhati-high-court/ https://ghconline.gov.in/index.php/former-honourable-judges-of-the-gauhati-high-court/

			https://ghconline.gov.in/index.php/honourable-chief-justices-and-judges-of-the-gauhati-high-court-appointed-or-transferred-as-chief-justices-of-other-high-court/
8.	Gujarat	23/11/2021	https://gujarathighcourt.nic.in/fjs https://gujarathighcourt.nic.in/fcjs https://gujarathighcourt.nic.in/cjj
9.	Himachal Pradesh	13/06/2022	https://hphighcourt.nic.in/
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	15/12/2021	https://jkhighcourt.nic.in/cjjk.php https://jkhighcourt.nic.in/formercj.php https://jkhighcourt.nic.in/formerJudges.php
11.	Jharkhand	29/05/2022	https://jharkhandhighcourt.nic.in/judges-profile
12.	Karnataka	12/01/2022	https://karnatakajudiciary.kar.nic.in/profiles.php
13.	Kerala	-	-
14.	Madhya Pradesh	03/12/2021	https://mphc.gov.in/honble-judges https://mphc.gov.in/former-chief-justices https://mphc.gov.in/former-high-court-judges
15.	Madras	28/01/2022	https://www.hcmadras.tn.nic.in/cjhc.html https://www.hcmadras.tn.nic.in/prejudge.html https://www.hcmadras.tn.nic.in/cjlist.html https://www.hcmadras.tn.nic.in/Former_Judges.pdf
16.	Manipur	13/01/2022	https://hcmimphal.nic.in/judges.html https://hcmimphal.nic.in/formerCJ.html https://hcmimphal.nic.in/FormerJudgesManipur_as_CJ.html https://hcmimphal.nic.in/FormerJudgesManipur.html
17.	Meghalaya	28/01/2022	https://meghalayahighcourt.nic.in/chief-justice-judges https://meghalayahighcourt.nic.in/former-chief-justices-judges
18.	Odisha	29/11/2021	https://www.orissahighcourt.nic.in/judges/chief-justice/

			https://www.orissahighcourt.nic.in/judges/judges-profile/ https://www.orissahighcourt.nic.in/judges/transfer-judges/ https://www.orissahighcourt.nic.in/judges/chief-justices-judges-appointed-as-chief-justices-of-india/ https://www.orissahighcourt.nic.in/judges/chief-justices-judges-elevated-to-supreme-court/ https://www.orissahighcourt.nic.in/judges/former-chief-justices/ https://www.orissahighcourt.nic.in/judges/former-judges/
19.	Patna	06/12/2021	https://patnahighcourt.gov.in/judge/MzI5---am1--s8TkZ2OVYM= https://patnahighcourt.gov.in/judges/ https://patnahighcourt.gov.in/Judges_esc https://patnahighcourt.gov.in/retired_cj https://patnahighcourt.gov.in/judges_ret
20.	Punjab_Haryana	02/12/2021	https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=chief https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=former_cj https://highcourtchd.gov.in/?trs=former_judges
21.	Rajasthan	02/02/2022	https://hcraj.nic.in/hcraj/jphoto.php https://hcraj.nic.in/hcraj/formercj.php https://hcraj.nic.in/hcraj/formerj.php https://hcraj.nic.in/hcraj/photocj2sc.php https://hcraj.nic.in/hcraj/photoj2sc.php https://hcraj.nic.in/hcraj/photocj2ohc.php
22.	Sikkim	31/12/2021	https://hcs.gov.in/hcs/JudgesProfile https://hcs.gov.in/hcs/formerchiefjustice https://hcs.gov.in/hcs/formerjudge
23.	Supreme_Court	29/11/2021	https://main.sci.gov.in/chief-justice-judges
24.	Telangana	21/02/2022	https://tshc.gov.in/templateJudgeList https://tshc.gov.in/templateFormerJudgeList

25.	Tripura	23/12/2021	https://thc.nic.in/
26.			https://highcourtofuttarakhand.gov.in/pages/display/221-honble-the-chief-justice
			https://highcourtofuttarakhand.gov.in/pages/display/223-honble-sitting-judges
			https://highcourtofuttarakhand.gov.in/pages/display/226-former-honble-chief-justices
	Uttarakhand	08/12/2021	https://highcourtofuttarakhand.gov.in/pages/display/273-former-honble-judges

5. Documentation Process

1. Sourcing the Data
Official sources of data hosted by governmental organizations were identified and listed (websites with domains as nic.in, .gov.in or links derived from these sources)

- The process of scraping/collection is tailored for each source, as required, and raw data is scraped

2. Organizing the data
- Based on the availability in the scraped data and the number of variables, a schema was determined
- Data from all the sources of each dataset were merged and organized as per the defined schema
- Every step and intervention has been documented

3. Coding the data
- Each judge is provided a **unique ID**. This helps identify **transfers and re-transfers** across High Courts and the Supreme Court. This is done with the help of TCPD's in-house developed **SURF** tool
- Consistency checks are done and exceptional cases are noted in the documentation
- Logical fallacies are checked to detect human errors
- Gender is coded manually for each entry

6. Exceptions

The Kerala High Court's website lacks information about its former justices, therefore the best information about the Kerala HC could only be pieced together from the websites of other High Courts and the Supreme Court.

A previous version of the Calcutta High Court website that listed judicial appointments between the 1960s and the mid-1990s is no longer accessible or supported. The best version of this data for this timeframe was put together from the Supreme Court's and other High Courts' websites.

In addition, the following manual changes were made -

1. Hon'ble Mr. Usha Kant Verma : Allahabad High Court, ad-hoc judge was changed to Acting Judge

7. Acknowledgement