Case Flow Management: AI enabled system to improve court productivity

Introduction

The mounting arrears and pendency of subordinate judiciary, with cases pending for decades, have created a lot of strain on the system and beg for technological interventions for speedy disposition of cases. The Hon'ble Supreme Court, in a landmark judgment, had recommended adoption of Case Flow Management (CFM) to improve productivity and address the increasing arrears.[5]

Intervention

Case flow management is the coordination of court processes and resources so that court cases progress in a timely fashion from filing to disposition. The basic concept of Case Flow Management is simply classification of an incoming case based upon set parameters (quantum of evidence, time frame, type of cases, etc.) and channeling of the said case into particular "Tracks" designated for specific category of cases with firm, definitive timelines. The adoption of these model rules was left to the discretion of high courts.

Impact

Case flow management has been introduced with much success over the last 20 to 30 years in several countries. The United States of America, United Kingdom, Canada and Australia are some of the countries where the principles of case flow management have been successfully incorporated in judicial management.

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[5] Salem Advocates Bar Association vs Union of India (2005)