## REPORT

## ON

## COURT BUILDINGS



# Composition of the Builcings Projects Team 

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** Shri C.B.Patel took over on 1 st Oct'62 in place of Shri C.P.Malik transferred.
proper approach to the study of requirements and planning of space and the structure itself. I hope the report will be of great help to the people ' incharge of design of court buildings in future. I take this opportunity of thanking Shri C.P. Malik, Chairmin of the Panel and the Nembers for the trouble they have taken in preparing this report.

Yours sincerely,
S.K. PATIL

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri,
Minister for Home Affairs \&
Chairman, Committee on Plan Projects, Government of India, New Delhi.

## EEPORT ON COURT BUILDINGS

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## INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Comaittce on Plan Projects has been engaged for the past few years on the ovaluation and critical analysis of different tynes of projects with a view to spslling out requirements on rational basis, suggesting the laying of norms for planning and making other connected proposals for cptimum utilisation of money and materials. Detailed studies have been undertaken on multi-storeyed buildings, residential buildines, industrial estates, storage structures etc. and reports have been published. One, amongst the subjects taken up for study, is court buildings.
1.2 In the Second Plan, a few court buildings. have been constructed. Notable among those newly constructed is the multi-stcreyed court building in Delhi. Adoption of multi-storeyed buildings for courts is a departure fror the traditional style. and has been necessitated by the pressure on land. This brings in certain problems like schematic arrangement of court rooms, juxtaposition of waiting space, provision of circulaticn space etc. . for which satisfactory solution has to be found by a detailed study of requircments. As a number of court buildings may have to be put up in future, the Committee on Plan Projects thought it desirable to mace a detailcd study of court buildines in
general and lay down requirements, norms on design efficiency method of cost reduction etc. A Panel with the following composition was appointed for this purpose under the Chairmanship of Shri C.P. Malik, the then Director, Natinnal Buildings Organisation and Merber of the Builoings Projects Team.

1.3 To start with, the Panel ob'ained information regarding court buildings constructed all over the country. The analysis of information so collected is eiven in dppendix 1.
1.4 To acquaint thenselves with the various functional and other aspects of courts, the Panel visited selected court buildines in the country, and
had discussions with Judjes, Lawyers and the litigant public. These site inspections end discussions brought out that the concepts of requirenents vary from place to place and that no scientific enquiry on the subject has been carried out in the past. It was seen that some of the roons wore lavishly. designed, their shape was nct suited for the requircd purpose thereby leading to low space utilisation; facilities for the lawyers and for the public were not carefully thoucht of and the relative positioning of the various facilities was defective; there was sharp criticism of the court buildings by various sections of the users. These factors confirmed the need for a systematic approach to the problem.
1.5 The Panel instituted a few detailed studies of court buildings with a view to tracing the various flow patterns, sizes and inter-relationships of facilities etc. Based on these and the site inspections the Panel has come to certain conclusions as to the functional requirenent's of buildings, the method of planning them out and the avenues of possible cost reduction. Those are containcd in the following sections of the report.
1.6 The Pansl is extremely thankful to the State Governrents and the judicial authorities for the coopcration extended for on-the-spot
$-i$.
study and inspections and the infornation they have supplied.

## Section 2.

Classification and Space Requirements of Courts
2.1 The courts in India may be divided into
three categories: those douling with (i) criminal
cases, (ii) civil cases, and (iii) revenue cases.
Functions vary accordingly but the fundanentals
of the layout are fairly comon.
Further based on the extent of space requirements, the courts can be dividu into the followine four classes:

| Category | Sivil | Criminal. | Revenue |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Class I | $\begin{aligned} & \text { District } \\ & \text { Judge } \end{aligned}$ | Seoricns Tudge | Costilssionor |
| II | Aãl. Dist. Judge. | ```Disirict Magistrate Adál. Sessions Judge``` | c'sllector |
| III | ```Senior Sub-Judgc or equivalent``` | Asst. Sessions Judge <br> Addl. E $\because$ strict Magistrete | - |
| IV | Sub-Judges, Munsiffs \& Judges of Small Cause | Subordinate <br>  <br> Honv : Yagistrate | Asst. Collector |

The post of the District and Sessiuns is normally a combired one and heir by the sane persu:.



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2.2 Gencral Fequirceents:
as rentionce above, whether it be a civil, criminal or revonue court, the functional requirements are more or less the same. The size has to vary to suit trie quantum of work. In contrast to civil courts, all criminel courts need a prisoners' dock and appurtenant facilities.

The normal reouirements of a court may be stated as follows:-
I. Judicial Wing

1) Court
2) Fetiring room for the Judge
3) Space for
a) Steno
b) Reader ..... (Sits mainly in the court room)
c) Translator ..... (only in Sessions Court)
d) Copy Clerk: ..... ( -do- )
e) Ahlmad
f) Witnesses
4) Judiciel lock-up
5) Roow for Government Pleader
6) Room for prosecuting Irspector (only in Magistrate's Ccurt)
II. Administrative Wing
7) Library
8) Spaca for
9) Superintenden.
b) Engiisin Clerk \& mist. Englist: Clerk
c) Typizi
d) !:azir
e) Copyists and leave reserves
10) Malkhana (Property ronms)
11) Record room for
a) Records
b) Record Keeper
c) Inspection Clerk (for inspection of records)
12) Stationery and form store
13) Mali $\&$ Sweeper (Tools)
III. Lawyers Wing:
14) $3 \mathrm{a}: \mathrm{R}$ Room
15) Likzary
16) Corsaltatitun roen d $\because$ ded into cubicles
c) Accomuctadior fo: lewyers' clerks

IV Public Amerities

1) Entrance Hall
2) Enquiry Offis
3) Waitirg space adjacent io siae court room
4) Wailing shed with levatories
5) Post Ofrice

## V. Ancillaries

1) General Canteen
2) Accommodation for petition writers, Scribes and Typists.
3) Stamp Vendors' booths
4) Space for parking cars, fublic conveyances, toneas, cycle stand and hawkers.

The exact space requirenents under the above heads would have to be assessca irdividually for each station $\angle$ will deperd unon the ragnitude of litigation and Lthe fact whet:er there is one or more courts grouped. While doing so, provision also be made on a rational basis for future expansion. The Panel feels that the following should be the basic considerations for the design of various units.

### 2.3 Judicial Wing

2.3.1 Court Roon: This is the most important unit of a court building and requires careful planning. The Panel has studied various plans and feels that the following are the basic requirements.

1) The dais to be spacious e:mough to accormodate Judges, Reacerrs and Steno's seats and tajles, and some. librery shelves.
2) Witness Box .
3) Prisoners' Dock
4) Lawyers seats and tables
5) Seating accommodation for the public anc the press.

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- Based on the layouts prepared by the Panel, it is considered that the length of court rooms should be $45^{\prime}$ for Class $I, 40^{\prime}$ for Class II \& $35{ }^{\prime}$ to II If IV types except in the case of Small Causes Court where it will be 40'. The width should be 25 ft . for the criminal court and 20 ft . for a civil court, since the formir needs adcitional acconmolation for prisoners' dock. An oblone room obviously is better suited for efficient space utilisation, than arrom of squarish shape, but it should not be too narrow, as the circulation of the main part of the court must not be cranped. A model layout prepared by the Panel is illustrated in Appendix II. 2.3.2. Dais

The dais should consist of:
a) a masonry platform, the floor of which should be kept two steps, i.e. $15^{\prime \prime}$, higher than the floor of the court roorn; the tables and chairs for the reader ard the stenog, apher to be kept at this level. The table is of 30 " standard height. The masonry platform should be built acress the full width of the court room. Its width (depth) can be $12{ }^{\prime}$ for courts of Class I and II types and 10 ' for others.
b) a. subsidiary raised wooden or masonry pl-tform over the wain masonry platforn mentioned i. Dove; and level of this to be at 3 steps, i.e. 21: higher than the flocr of the court room. The risec Elatforia should be sufficiently lon, end wide to contein the tible and the cheir of the presicing officer, leavinè sufficient roow for a eaneway at the back.

The judie should be so scated ticet he has the cominand of the procestings and at the same tilie his rorder at: steno should be able to serve him quickly.

The lawyer pleading a case shoula also be able to address the judse conveniently and receive his attention. while contesting the cases tiae lawers have to refer to books and files. For this yurpose it will be edvantageous if a uriting . dest is provided along the rail of the dais. There should be sufficient space for the parties to the suit, to be able to follow the proceedings.

The seatinc arrancenents for the waitin $5^{\circ}$
lawyers shoule be mple and convenient to enable them to take intelligelt interist in the proceedings.

The public in entitled to wateh the proceedines
and at tires some serisitional cases attract large
number of people, It is difficult to cater for such
occasions and the planning should be confined to normal requirements. After due consideration, it has been decided to provide acconnodation for the following number of persons in the various classes of the courts:-

| Class I | - | 40 | number of persons |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Class II | -30 | $"$ | $"$ | $"$ |
| Class III \& IV | -20 | $"$ | $"$ | $"$ |

The seats for the public should be raised in tiers at an angle of $30^{\circ}$ to permit a clear view of the dais. Nore seats when required can be provided along the long wall of the court. facing the prisoners' dock. In the court rooms of the Sub-judges, one row of seats at the rear should be sufficient for the public.

The seats may provide the minimum comfort. They are meant for persons having seecial interest in the cases.
2.3.3 Witness Box: There is at present considerable variation in the number of witness boxes provided in the courts and their locstion. The Panel considers that criminal courts necessarily require two such boxes, one for the accused and the other for the witness but in civil courts only one is enoueh. However, two are senerally provided to maintain uniformity and interchenceability when necessity
arises, but this docs not seer to be neoessary. The floor of the witness box may be kept a little higher, say $3^{\prime \prime}$, than the floor of tho court room.
2.3.4 Lawyers Table: The table may be 16 ft . long and width may be 4 to 5 ft . ; the heicht may be 2'-6". The table may be so placed that the lawyer sitting nearest to the dais catches the eye of the Judge convenientiy, without craning his neck and that a minimum distance of about 6 ft . is left between the table and the deis.
2.3.5 Prisoners'Dock: This shall be placed close to the long wall as indicated in the plan. Prisoners' Dock is reruired only in criminal courts. 2.3.6 Lighting: If reliance is placed on natural lighting, the windows should be placed in the long walls. To prevent glire, they should neitner face nor be at the back of the dais.

It would be adviscble to avoid placing of windows at low levels.

Netural lighting can be supi lemented either by roof lights or clear-storey windows above the side windows. In the event of limited window space and insufficient natural lichting, artificial lighting sheuld be adequately provided.
2.3.7 Vontilation: Needless to state that adoquat ventilation is most essential and if thercis difficulty in obtain: ng this by natural means, mechanical ventalation systan should be installed: uniess tha romis are airconditioned. 2.3.8 Acolistics. For court rooms, gouid acoustical treatment is very ossential. To prevent echo, the height of the room may vary between 14 ft. . to 16 ft . depending upon the size of the court room. The ceiling should bo flat or splayed at the walls only. Deep beans transversing the ceiling paralle? to the duis should be avoided.
2.3.9 Doors: The number of doors in a court room should be kept to the minjmun to avoid duplication of control. There shoul.d be no door facing the dais.

A door at the bask of the dais is necesijary
for access to the rotiring rom. Anotreer docr may
be placed in the lurg wail. : $10 \% 3$ to the ecatinc
arrangements resorvid for the puidic, which would be the main cacess to the zourt renn. This could be half glazed. Third coor near dais may be pane?led.

It is presumed that the court would not be situated in congested areas of a town, where there is heavy traffic movement. Where this is unavoidable, the court rooms should be sufficiently set back to prevent disturbances from street noise; and doors and windows along a busy public street must be avoided. This will need careful orientation of the court building. A quiet atmosphere is absolutely essential. 2.3.10 Petition Box: It is observed that the functioning of the court is of.ten interrupted by the litigańts, handing over petitions to the officials of the court. To obviate this inconvenience, it is suggested that a petition box may be fitted close to the wall on the dais so that litigants can drop in their petitions into the box from outside the Court through a slit made in the wall, The position of the box is indicated in the suEEcst.ed plan of the Court Room. 2.3.11 Retiring room of the Judge: The retiring room should be so placed as to afford direct access from the dais. It should have an attached lavatory.

The area of the room may be about 180-200
sft. This room should have a wardrobe and it should be so located as to ensure privacy and quietness. 2.3.12 Steno's Room: The stenographer deals with confidential papers, A room of about 60 sft, should
be providod for him in $n$ suitable place minimising intrusion. It should be situated close to the judge's retirine room.
2.3.13 Library: The adainistrative wing of the courts should provide for a library for the exclusive use of court officials. The size of the roon may be 200 sft. 2.3.14 Government Fleader: A separate room of about 120 sft. should be provided for the Government pleader or public prosecutor. It shall be located close to the Sessions Judge's Court since he is required by the Sessions judge very often.

In magistrate's court a room of 120 sft.
may be provided for the prosecuting inspector or prosecuting Sub-inspector. In b-gecr districts one additionsl room may be provided for the prosecuting DSP.
2.3.15 Court Cfices: These are to accommodate the subordinate officials of the court, i.e. the Ahlmad, Reader and Translator with room for the current records. A floor area of 150 to 180 sft. would sufice. It should be placed close to the main court room, to minimise time taken by the staff in morning to the court room and back.

A seouratte recs of a floor area of about 120 sft. shouid be provided for the Superintendent, who is the head of the subordinate officials of the court.

The following further accommodation should be provided. A room of abeut 150 sft . for the Ens.lish clerks and the typits; another room of about 200 sft. for the copyists; a third room of about 150 sft . for the Nazir and his assistants, fitted witt. a cosh chest and a fourth room of about 150 sft. for forms and stationery. A small room of 50 to 60 sft . should be reserved for gardeacr's and sweeper's implements.
2.3.16 Malkbene: This is intended for the storage in safe custody of prorerties 'attached' by the. court, the denosited amins and casin. The number and sizes of the roons derend upon the extent and the nature of litication current in a place. An area of 300 sft. Ey fenerally. be found sufficient. The internal arrongenents should be such that the articles can be stored and identified easily, when required to be removed.

In adrition to the room space, sheds covering an area of ajout $1,000 \mathrm{sft}$. may be provided for the storage of large articles like carts and for accomilodating live stock etc.

Covered shelter should be provided for the chowkidar or the police sentre. 2.3.17 Rccord Ronn: Every court is to be provided with suitable accomodation for the permanent recorcs. The snace required depends not only upon thic number of courts, but also on the pattern and wo lume of litiection prevailing in a district. It is not possible to liny down specifically any formula for space requirements. There are wide variations from district to district, and therefore it is advisable that before deciding on the space to be provided, the rate of growth of records should be studied. The district authorities should be in a position to supply the necessary information. The future requirements can be based on 12 ycers erowth ofter making due allowance for rocords that can be destroyed according to Governnent instructions. Pruning of recoras is frcquently lost sight of. Structurally, it is economical to place the record room on the ground floor. The record room however does not need the same ceiling heicht necessnry as is for ordinary rooms. In case of buildings of more than two storey height, it is econowical to put all the records in a separate block with
ceiling heights of about 8 ft . Poughly speaking, it is possible to put four storeys of record rooms in a threc storey building.

It hes been observed that most of the record rooms are fitted with pormenent wooden racl:s, with aisels about 2 ft . to 3 ft . between racks. This does not result in good space utilisation. Sliding racks as per sketch in Appendix III may be installed. This will insure a minimum space utilisation of $60 \%$.

Record Reeper: Records room should have space provided for the tables and chairs for the record keeper and the inspection clerl.
2.3.18 Judicial lock-up: There should three lock-up cells for the undertrial prisoners, with necessary sanitary conveniences. The capacity of the cells depends unon the number of Courts and local requircments. Sormally 3 cells of 100 sft . each should be adequate. If possible, they should be so located as to ifford direct access to the dock in the court roons. In any case, the cells should be situated close-by.
2.4 Lawyers Wing: The accommodation provided for lawyers viries fron place to place. In many places, there are complaints that suitable accominodation has not been given for lawyers in the absence
of which they have to put up with consideriole amount of inconvenience in their day to ciay work. Accomudition for lawycrs. is thercfore $\quad$ necessity. Where courts are $\angle$ cuuped, lewyers accommodation can be coman to nll and can be so situacd that all the courts are easily cocessible. whe present tendency however is to put cill the courts in the some building in which cose the lowyers block can also form a part of the srae building and be suitably locatcd.

The accommodation in the lawyers block should consist of (a) ber room (b) library (c) consultation rocm (d) space for lawycrs' clerk and (e) lawyers' chambers. The bar room also serves as lounge for lawyers. Accomadiation at the rate of 10 sft. per person for $\frac{1}{2}$ of the strength of tho bar appears adequete for the purpose. At most of the pleces 500 to 600 'sft. is enough. Exceptional cases may be dealt with indivicually on the jasis of a detailed study. Within this a small room may be earmanded for the staff of the Bar Associsition. Close to the Dar room, a saaller roon of about 150-200 sft. may be provided with washing facilitics (two or three wash basins) to enable the lawyers to take their lunch.

The bar library should havc an aree of $500-600 \mathrm{sft}$. It will cive an area of 200 sft . for stocksand 300-400 sft. for reading which appears to be reasonable. It is necessary to have some chambers for lawyers which may be let out on no-profit no-loss basis.

It is comon practice that while $-\therefore r$ or , each of the senior lawyers has $=s \in p a r a t e$ clianoer, the junior lawyers $L^{\text {Erouped }} \begin{aligned} & \text { together and have a big }\end{aligned}$ room for their use. It will therefore be advisable if two types of rooms, namely $10^{\prime} \times 8$ ' for individual lawyers and 10'x15' for groups of lawyers are constructed. The actual number of each type of room will depend upon the need of the particular place. To give a rough indication, it will be prudent to plan for rooms to accomodate $10 \%$ of the bar strength. In bigeer cities, the percentige may, however, be more.

The Panel was trld thrit there is need for consultation romis adjoining to bar roon. The Panel feels thet the necessity for them may not arise in casc ndequate number of chanbers are provided. In crise where chambers are inadequate, it may be desirable to provide for 4 to 5 cubicles along the side of the bar roon for consultation purposes.
in inportant iton which his ocen often overlooked is the eccom:odation for levyers' clerks. An open shed close to the bar roem may be provided for.
2.5 Public amenitics: The aicnities for public ioclude (a) entrince hall and cnquiry office (b) waiting space and (c) canteen.

In many cases, lavish entrance halls have been dosigned which ware intended to serve as waiting space for litiscnts. The litigants, however, preferred to vinit round the court roons and alons tie coriicors necrabout rether than wait in the entrawce hall. It appuars reasonable to provide for sufficient witing space close to courts instead of maline entrance hall unduly large. A reception counter can be provided in the cotrance hall where a number of courts are grouped in a building. In other cases, two or thrcc location mans should be provided at the entrunce so thet the public can identify the various sections. -

Writing accomnodation for litisonts is an ioportant requisite of court buildincs. In some cosis acco:modetion has been nrovided - for liticonts outside the court buileinis, but it wos noticce thet incse sre rorcly aude use of by boneficic liticonte. Provisicr of
writing space close to the court room secms to be necessary. Therever possible, waiting space should be comsion to two courts. An area equal to court roon which will include toilet facilities for the purpose secus to be necessery. It is also nesessriry to have a canteen in the court corpourd. It is preferable to locate it away from the main building. It should be capable of bcing̈ used by lawyers, officials of the court and the litigant public. 2.6 Ancillarics: The ancillary accomiodution in court buildings will include accommodation for petition writiors, typists and draftsmen, space for stemp vondors, cycle sheds and gurages. In many of the courts visited, no accomiadation has becn provided for the petition writers or stemp vendors. This inadequacy was brought to the notice of the Pancl at several places. As these are persons who are directly connected with the day to day functioning of the court, it is necessary to provide suit:ble eccomodation for then. Connected es these poople ire with the lawyers, acccuradation for them should be ne:rer tine lowyers block, a lew cubicles alone the ccrupound wall with lean-to roofing would be adequate for this purpose.

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Provision for cycle-sinnd should normally be made. Covered shots for cycles and $=$ couple of garajes are essential. In sddition, cpen parking seece for cars rixy be provided. 2.7 Services: Drinking water facilities were not adequate in the courts visited jy the Panel. In bigeer courts, drinking water fountains should be placca at suitable locations and recosses and service connections for this must be provided at the stage of planring itself.

It is necessary to have a public telephone booth in the premises. It can be advantageously situated in the entrance hall itself. A post pillar also should be locetcd near the entrance for the convenience of the public.

## .-.-.-.-.

## Section 3.

Layout, structural arrangement and specifications
3.1 In the earlier section, we have
listed the space requirements of different sections of the court buildings. The logical placing of the various sections is equally important though very often it is lost sight of in actual practice. The juxtaposition of the various facilities depends upon the interrelationships, intensity of movements etc. The suggested schematic arrangement of the various facilities is given in Appendix IV. 3.2 Normally, courts are of/single storeyed construction. The Panel, however, would recommend that district courts should be two storeyed from the point of view of having zonal divisions within the building itself. The court rooms which constitute the silent zone may be situated in the first floor while the library, adainistration and other supporting facilities can be placed in the ground floor. This arrangement was noticed in one of the district courts and was found to be quite satisfactory. 3.3. In bigeer towns, where land is very costly, it becomes imperative to $E_{0}$ in for multi-storeyed construction. This brincs in its wake a number of problems. A recently
constructed multi-storeyed court building was planned in such a way that courts were in one wing, and office and other supporting facilities were in another wing. As the height of floors in the court wing was different from that of the other, it created problems of inter-sectional novement. Further, the courts being situated in 7 floors, there was the problen of over-crowding in the lifts. If there was any break-down in lifts, the litigant public, lawyers and judges had to go up the staircases all the way which was highly:unsatisfactory. It therefore seens desirable to accomodate the courts on one or two floors preferably on the first and second floors keeping the offices and supporting facilities on the upper floors. The ground floor. can conveniently accommodate the library, bar room, record room etc. Some structural difficulty may be met with in an arrangement of this type. A suggested arrangenent for overcoming $L$ difficulties is given in Appendix. V. 3.4 The arrangement of staircases and corridors in a court building requires slightly different consideration than that for other buildings. The main reason for this will be the volume and composition of the crowd that frequents the court buildings. Provisioning of very wide
staircases and corridors will not solve tho problen. Studies have proved that evacuating capacity of staircases does not proportionately increase beyond a width of 5'. It will, therefore, be advisable to have two staircnsos, one for traffic upward and anothor for treffic downward. The corridors also need not be $L^{\text {Wider }}$ than $8^{\prime}$. A provision of central railing will help in reculating the flow of traffic better. It is not advisable to have These long corridors. $L$ should be suitably broken. 3.5 Location of court and land area required:

The court promises should be located in a place which is accessible and at the sare time afford the desired degree of calmness. As far as possible the court should be so located near the town that the future development of town does not envelop the court buildine and create an atmosphere of consestion.

The campus of the court should havo room for expansion and sufficient open space for locating ancillary facilities. The Panel would recommend thot, the plat coverage for the court bilildings with ancillaries should be about $25 \%$. 3.6 Design Efficiency

A detailed space :nalysis of the plans of
a. number of court buildings, Given in Appendix I, shows that the percentage under carpet area
varies from 36 to 70 and from 10 to 44 under circu. lation area. Such wide variation indicate lack of thoughtful planning and illustrate the need for setting up norms for space planning.

The Comrittee on Plan Projects had studied a number of public office buildings and concluded that the percentage of carpet area(i.e. total floor area minus sanitary accommotation and circulation space for lifts, staircases; corridors and entrance halls) to the total built up area, should be 65 to 75 .

The Panel concedes that the circulation area in a court building should be slightly more than what will do for an office building. It therefore suggests that design of court buildings should confirm to the following norms which would lead to better space planning and consequent reduction in cost.

| Carpet area: | $60 \%$ to $70 \%$ | of Built up area |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Sanitary accompodation: | $5 \%$ | . |

3.7 Courts are of course important buildings and should be treated as such. It is however, not necessary to waste money on unnecessary imbellishment such as stone mascnry, marble flooring etc. It should be the endeavour of architects
to impart individuality to the court buildings through proper architectural planning instead of taking recourse to costly treatment. From the point of view of economy, it is necessary to restrict the extent of expenditure on nonfunctional items to about $1 \frac{1}{2} \%$ of the cost of the building. 3.8 The complaints that are often voiced about the high cost of building can be mostly attributed to the lack of proper approach to the study of requirements, planning of space, structure. etc. In this reportcwo have tried to give certain ideas as to what the requirements of different court buildings should and how they should be planned. Regarding structural economy, a number of points have been mentioned in the report on multi-storeyed buildings. The recent publication of the Committee on Plan Projects entitled 'Scheme of Cost Reduction' gives comprehensive ideas about scientific cost. reduction. With these, it is hoped that the planners, architects. and engineers would be in a position to plan the court buildings of the future with the desired degree of economy and efficiency.
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## Appendix III.

SUGGESTED ARRANGEMEIT FOR STORAGE OF RECORDS
a record roon can be fitted with racks $\ddot{O}$ rollers in any one of the ways suggested in the $\because$ sketch. The racks are almost similar to the popular types manufactured by $\mathrm{M} / \mathrm{S}$ Godrej and other Companies except that they are mounted on wheels: It may be necessary to fix guide rails in roof aiso to ensure stability against woblling and tilting.
Alterntive I: The racks are arranged on rails leaving a clearance of only $2^{\prime \prime \prime}$ to $3^{\prime \prime}$ in between the racks. A longitudinal ganceway 31 to $31-6$ ". wide is provided along the side of the lone wall. If access is desired to any one of the racks, the racks on either side can be pushed aside creating a gangway about $3^{\prime \prime-0 "}$ wide. Thus there will be $\because$ only one transverse aisle at a time.

The number of racks in one block can be -12. to 15. When the nunber of racks required is . morc, the: number of blocks can be increased. For. a very large number, the arrangenent indicated: under Alternative II nay be adopted. .

The space utilisation in such an arrangement is as nuch as 63 to $68 \%$ against $30 \%$ to $50 \%$ obtaining in most of the courts at present. There is another advantage in this system

## Appendix III (contal)

especially if it becomes necessary to place the racks in the upper floors of a multi-storey building; since the position of rails is fixed, the points of application of load are pre-determined. It will be, therefore; possible to provide suitable beams beneath the rails to withstand the concentrated load and design the slab in between only for a nominal load of 50 to 60 lbs. per sft. The relative economy between designing the floor In this way and designing the entire fioor slab for a distributed load of 200 to 300 lbs/sft. is ' obvious. .
Alternative III. Yet another altemative is suggested. Here instead of creating an aisle In between the racks to provide access, the racks are drawn into the aisle and handled. The space.utilisation in this case is as high as $60 \%$. However this arrangement does not lend. to beam-siab design since the load is distributed a:ll over. Nevertheless handing in this case will be very easy.

[^0]


Main Building




[^0]:    K, N B HASIN

