

14 February 2005 **11 courts go online under pilot project**

The "e-court" system, where case registration, judicial administration and keeping of records go on-line, has been implemented in 11 courts.

The pilot project has been introduced at selected High Courts in the Klang Valley.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Radzi Sheikh Ahmad said the system was geared towards greater efficiency of the court system, quicker disposal of cases and the reduction of bureaucracy.

"A local company called Solsis has been awarded the project and it is already under way," Radzi said today.

It was earlier announced that the pilot project would cost RM40 million.

The system involves equipping courts with computer hardware, relevant software, data retrieval processors and on-line communications, to be accessed by judges, prosecutors and administrators.

Radzi said the pilot project would be evaluated before the system was extended nationwide.

He added that judges and court staff would receive advanced training in the use of computer technology.

Bar Council president Kuthubul Zaman Bukhari, in welcoming the introduction of the system, hoped it would be extended to other States quickly as it would help dispose of cases faster.

He said the Bar Council was waiting to be briefed on the system to enable it to disseminate the information to all lawyers.

In advanced countries, he said, the e-court system allowed lawyers to file their statements of claim without having to appear in court.

New Straits Times