



CASES HIERARCHY IN INDIA



COMPLETE GUIDE TO COURTS, JURISDICTION & APPEAL PROCESS

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA

- Located in New Delhi
- Highest Court of India
- Final Interpreter of Constitution
- Hears Appeals from High Courts
- Special Leave Petitions (SLP)
- Public Interest Litigations (PIL)



2 HIGH COURTS

- Every State / Group of States has a High Court
- Original Jurisdiction (Writs, Company, Adultery)
- Appellate Jurisdiction (Appeals from Lower Courts)
- Supervisory Jurisdiction under Article 227



3 DISTRICT & SESSIONS COURTS

- Present in every Districts
- Main Trial Courts for Civil & Criminal Court



SPECIAL COURTS & TRIBUNALS

	FAMILY COURT	Divorce, Maintenance, Child Custody, Domestic Disputes
	LABOUR COURT / INDUSTRIAL TRIBUNAL	Employee Disputes, Salary Issues, Regretful Termination
	CONSUMER COMMISSION	District → State → National and Consumer Complaints, Collusion in Service, Product Defects
	MOTOR ACCIDENT CLAIMS TRIBUNAL (MACT)	Road Accident Compensation Claims
	NDPS COURT	Narcotics & Drug Related Offences
	CBI COURT / SPECIAL JUDGE	Corruption, CBI Investigation & Special Offences
	FOCSO COURT	Offences Against Children
	NIA COURT	Terrorism Related Offences
	COMMERCIAL COURTS	High Value Business & Commercial Disputes

CIVIL COURTS HIERARCHY



CIVIL JUDGE JUNIOR DIVISION

- Small Civil Disputes
- Higher Rate Disputes
- Recovery State

↓ Appeal



CIVIL JUDGE SENIOR DIVISION

- Higher Case Matters
- Imposition State
- Partition State

↓ Appeal



DISTRICT JUDGE COURT

- Highest Civil Court in District
- Appeals from Lower Civil Courts
- High Value Civil Disputes

↓ Appeal



HIGH COURT

- Appeals from District Judge
- Further Appeal to Supreme Court

CRIMINAL COURTS HIERARCHY



JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE FIRST CLASS (JMFC) / ACJM

- Regular Criminal Cases
- Reliable & Non-Suible Offences
- Limited Improvement & Free

↓ Appeal / Revision



CHIEF JUDICIAL MAGISTRATE (CJM)

- Higher Criminal Magistrate Court
- Appeals / Revisions from Lower Magistrates
- Serious Serious Offences

↓ Appeal



SESSIONS COURT (SESSIONS COURT)

- Murder, Rape, NPS & Serious Offences
- Can Award Life Imprisonment or Death Sentence (IRP Confirm)

↓ Appeal



HIGH COURT

- Appeals from Sessions Court
- Further Appeal to Supreme Court

REVENUE COURTS (LAND MATTERS)

Example: Uttar Pradesh



TEHSLDAR



SOM



ADDITIONAL COMMISSIONER



BOARD OF REVENUE

Handles: Malisties, Portion, Agricultural Land Disputes, Revenue Records, etc.

TYPES OF JURISDICTION



ORIGINAL JURISDICTION Case is filed in the court in the first time.



APPELLATE JURISDICTION Meers appeals appeal the decision of lower courts.



REVISIONAL JURISDICTION Higher court checks legality, correctness of orders.



WRIT JURISDICTION Protection of Provisional Rights & Legal Rights Present in High Courts, Enlargement Courts.

FLOW OF A CRIMINAL CASE



FLOW OF A CIVIL CASE



IMPORTANT LEGAL TERMS

Term	Meaning
Trial Court	Court where the case is heard first and evidence is examined.
Appeal	Request to a higher court to review the decision.
Revision	Higher court examines legality of the lower court's order.
Review	Same court in countries by own writ.
Revision Petition	Petition filed to correct solution and / legal errors.
SLP (Special Leave Petition)	Petition to Supreme Court against High Court order.

APPEAL HIERARCHY AT A GLANCE

CRIMINAL CASES



CIVIL CASES



KEY POINTS

- ✓ Supreme Court is the highest court.
- ✓ High Courts supervise all lower courts.
- ✓ Sessions Courts handle serious criminal matters.
- ✓ District Courts are main trial courts.
- ✓ Special Courts & Tribunals handle specific types of matters.
- ✓ Appeals follow the hierarchy.