

CHAPTER 3

ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH DATABASES

Computerized legal databases are not new, however the increasing popularity of the Internet has made them more accessible to lawyers, students and lay people alike. Several big book publishers have engaged in managing online commercial legal databases through subscription basis. These venders may be classified further in two categories according to coverage area i.e. International & National.

3.1 INTERNATIONAL ONLINE LEGAL RESEARCH DATABASES

3.1.1 Westlaw International

3.1.2 HeinOnline

3.1.3 LexisNexis

3.1.4 JSTOR

3.1.5 E-Hart

3.1.1 Westlaw International

Westlaw International is online research service, providing legal professionals with legal, news and business information from around the world. It provides laws and legal information from another country or international information for legal researchers, law students, and lawyers for their practice area.

Westlaw International is a password based and IP address based online legal research database. Highlights of coverage of materials in Westlaw International are as under:

Cases

- United Kingdom from 1865
- United States (Federal & State) from 1658

- European Union from 1952
- Australia from 1903
- Hong Kong from 1905
- Canada from 1825

Statutes

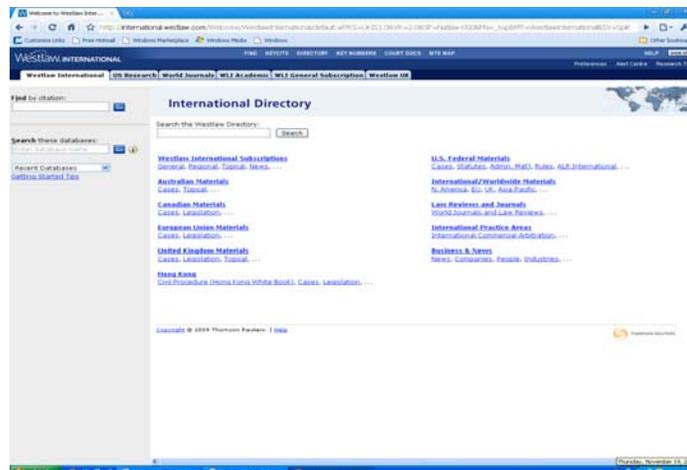
- United Kingdom Statutes from 1267 (fully consolidated)
- United States Code (fully annotated)
- Comprehensive European Union Legislation
- Hong Kong Legislation from 1997
- Canada Legislation (fully consolidated)

Over 1,000 Journals and Law Reviews including

- Harvard Law Review
- European Competition Law Review
- Criminal Law Review
- McGill Law Review
- Melbourne University Law Review
- Hong Kong Law Journal

News

- New York Times
- Financial Times
- Thomson Financial News
- AP Newswires
- Economist
- Transcripts from major news channels



Picture1: Home Page of Westlaw International Search Engine

3.1.2 Hein Online

HeinOnline is product with more than 50 million pages of legal history available in an online, fully-searchable, image-based format. HeinOnline provides comprehensive coverage from inception of nearly 1,300 law and law-related periodicals. In addition to its collection of law journals, HeinOnline also contains the Congressional Record Bound volumes in entirety, complete coverage of the U.S. Reports back to 1754, famous world trials dating back to the early 1700's, legal classics from the 18th & 19th centuries, the United Nations and League of Nations Treaty Series, all United States Treaties, the Federal Register from inception in 1936, the CFR from inception in 1938. Now, in more than 3,200 locations in over 150 countries, HeinOnline is the world's largest image-based legal research collection and contains more than 9 centuries of legal history. HeinOnline is a product of William S. Hein & Co.

The Law Journal Library in HeinOnline is a collection of nearly 1,300 law and law-related periodicals. Coverage is from the first issue published for all periodicals and goes through the most currently published issued allowed, based on contracts with publishers. More than 1,400 works from some of the greatest legal minds in history can be found in HeinOnline's Legal Classics collection. In addition to many "classics," this collection also includes rare items that are found in only a handful of libraries around the World. Besides the databases also covers the following information.

- United States Code (U.S.C.)
- U.S. Federal Legislative History Library
- U.S. Presidential Library
- U.S. Supreme Court Library
- U.S. Official Reports (Bound volumes)
- English Reports, Full Reprint (1220-1867)
- Federal Register /Code of Federal Regulations
- Treaties and Agreements Library



Picture2: Home Page of HeinOnline

3.1.3 LexisNexis

LexisNexis® Academic is a service for researching news, business, and legal topics. It contains more than 6,000 sources from all over the world, drawn from print, broadcast, and online media. Topical indexing and powerful search features help to find exactly the information in need. LexisNexis® legal materials and Shepard's® Citations are recognized as the standard for legal research and are required topics in law schools throughout the U.S. & world. LexisNexis includes:

- News, current events, and commentary
 - Newspapers and new magazines, including major publications from the U.S. and around the world and local publications from all 50 states
 - TV and radio broadcast transcripts
 - Wire services
 - Blogs and web-based publications
 - Subject indexing to take you right to editorials, critical reviews, science, business, sports and other news categories
- Business
 - Business news and analysis publications
 - Industry and market news for sectors ranging from petroleum extraction to education
 - Company information, including SEC filings and company profiles
 - Country profiles and business conditions
- Legal
 - Law reviews and journals
 - U.S. case law, including case summaries, headnotes, and *Shepard's* Citations for all federal and state courts
 - U.S. statutes
 - Canadian and European case law and legal materials



Picture3: Search Page of LexisNexis Academic

3.1.4 JSTOR (Journal Store)

JSTOR is a not-for-profit service that helps scholars, researchers, and students discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content in a trusted digital archive. We use information technology and tools to increase productivity and facilitate new forms of scholarship. JSTOR offers a high-quality, interdisciplinary archive to support scholarship and teaching. It includes archives of over one thousand leading academic journals across the humanities, social sciences, and sciences, as well as select monographs and other materials valuable for academic work. The entire corpus is full-text searchable, offers search term highlighting, includes high-quality images, and is interlinked by millions of citations and references. JSTOR provides its collection in eight modules as under:

- **Arts & Sciences I**

Established in 1997, JSTOR's first collection includes core journals in economics, history, political science, and sociology, as well as in other key fields in the humanities and social sciences. This collection also contains titles in ecology, mathematics, and statistics. Overall, there are 119 titles in twenty-one disciplines.

- **Arts & Sciences II**

The Arts & Sciences II Collection is home to 127 titles. This collection adds depth to many disciplines introduced in Arts & Sciences I, such as economics, history, and Asian studies. Arts & Sciences II also offers core journals in several new disciplines, such as archaeology, classics, and African, Latin American, Middle Eastern, and Slavic studies.

- **Arts & Sciences III**

Arts & Sciences III includes journals in languages and literature, as well as essential titles in the fields of music, film studies, folklore, performing arts, religion, and the history and study of art and architecture. There are 151 titles in this collection.

- **Arts & Sciences IV**

This collection has a strong focus on the professions of business, education, and law, and also includes titles in psychology and public policy and administration. There are 112 titles in this collection.

- **Arts & Sciences V**

This collection builds on previously introduced disciplines, adding important literary reviews and state historical journals. It will also widen the scope of core disciplines in the arts and humanities, such as philosophy, history, classics, religion, art and art history, and language and literature. When complete, the collection will number at least 120 titles.

▪ **Arts & Sciences VI (completed by end of 2010)**

With a minimum of 120 titles, the Arts & Sciences VI Collection will extend JSTOR's coverage in disciplines across the social sciences, with clusters focused in economics, education, linguistics, political science, and area studies.

▪ **Arts & Sciences VII**

With over 180 titles across thirty-five disciplines, the Arts & Sciences VII Collection includes more journals in more disciplines than any other JSTOR collection. Its eclectic range of disciplines in the arts, humanities, and social sciences complements research in core disciplines such as history, political science, sociology, art and art history, and language and literature, and the collection represents the largest cluster of health policy titles in JSTOR.

▪ **Arts & Sciences VIII**

The Arts & Sciences VIII Collection will broaden JSTOR's coverage of core humanities disciplines including history, language & literature, art & art history, and education. Included in this set will be a group of rare 19th and early 20th century American Art periodicals digitized as part of a special project undertaken with the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Frick Collection, and the Brooklyn Museum of Art. With a minimum of 140 titles by its completion in 2011, this collection will also include journals in philosophy, classical studies, and music.

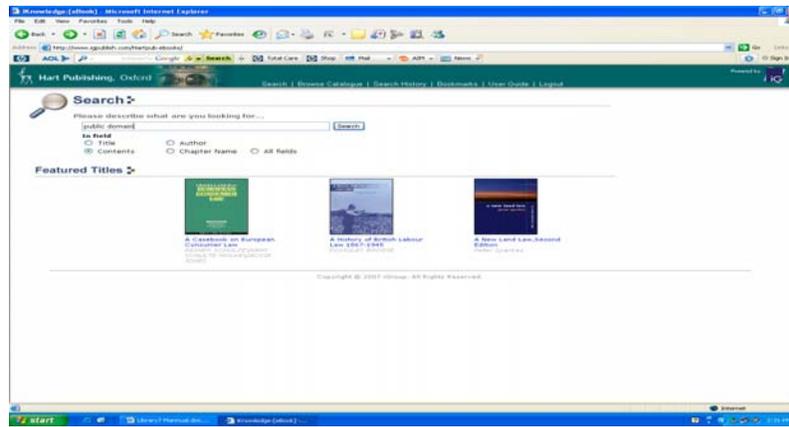


Picture 4: Home Page of JSTOR

3.1.5 E-HART BOOKS PUBLISHING

E-Hart Book publishing is an online database providing books published by eHart Book Publishers. Library may choose selected book titles through one time subscription fee. Being an IP based database, students, faculty members and research

scholars may browse full book within Intranet. Library may add further titles by paying additional subscription.



Picture 5: Home Page of E-Hart Books

3.2 National (Indian) Online Legal Research Databases

3.2.1 Manupatra

3.2.2 Indlaw

3.2.3 SCC Online

3.2.4 AIR SC & High Courts

3.2.5 AIR Criminal Law Journal

3.2.6 Corporate Law Advisor

3.2.1 Manupatra

Manupatra.com is India's most comprehensive online legal & business policy database. Manupatra revolutionized the way in which people do legal researches in India. Since its beginning in 2001, has come an online research tool for legal research in India. Manupatra is the only legal publishing database with presence in all three segments of Print, CD Rom publishing & online publishing. It covers the following legal information.

1. Judgments Includes Supreme Court of India, High Courts, Tribunals etc.
2. Commission & Committee Reports
3. Gazette Notifications & Circulars
4. Bare Acts, Rules & Regulations
5. Ordinance & Pending Bills

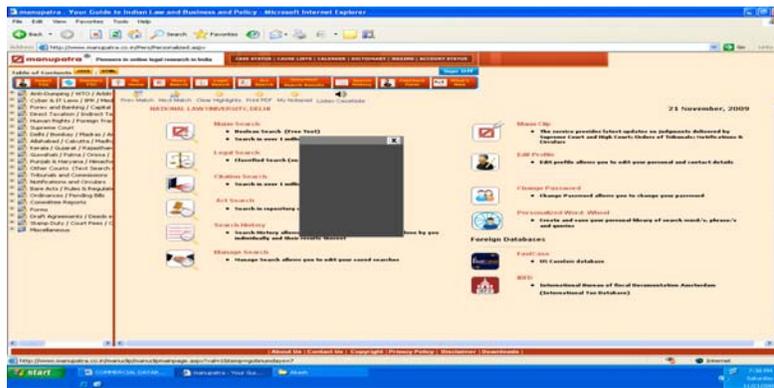
6. Legal materials on Subject Based Research

Manupatra have a multi-disciplinary search engine containing several search modules.

1. Manu Search (For full text open search)
2. Legal Search (For Topical, Party wise, Subject wise)
3. Citation Search
4. Act Search

Manupatra may be called *National Westlaw for Indian legal commercial database*. It covers mostly all legal information required by a layman or a legal research scholar. The salient feature of Manupatra may be found as under:

1. Search of Case Law on a particular subject from all over High Courts and Supreme Court of India in a single search.
2. Search of a Case Law delivered by a Judge out of any court of the judicature.
3. Facility to concise search through choosing particular court.
4. Subordinate Legislation also available along with Central Legislation.
5. Commission & Committee Reports are also available.



Picture 6: Index Page of Manupatra Online

3.2.2 Indlaw

INDLAW is a business-to-business Internet provider of research modules relating to Indian legal, tax, business and regulatory issues. Indlaw is part of the Indian law online project which was launched in April 1997 as a collaborative exercise between professionals and academicians based in U.K. and in India to build an electronic legal library to enable solicitors, advocates, students and clients to have access to information on various primary and secondary legal documents like the constitutional texts, parliamentary debates, case law, Parliamentary and State enactments and delegated legislation in both India and the U.K. Indlaw is today a leading provider of easy-to-use comprehensive and cost-effective legal, tax and regulatory information

on the Internet. Rating agencies like Alexa have confirmed that Indlaw is the most trafficked Indian legal and regulatory resource base online.

Indlaw caters to the needs of every professional, whether he is a lawyer, chartered accountant, company secretary, management consultant, director or an entrepreneur. Indlaw ensures that you are aware of the latest changes in the legal and policy framework faster than from any other source. Indlaw's legal databases include Case Laws, Legislation, Rules, Notifications, Circulars, Trade Notices, Practice Directions, Forms, Reports and Proceedings, FAQs, Indlaw Articles, News and PressNotes.



Picture 7: Home Page of Indlaw

3.2.3 SCCOnline

The Law Library may provide Supreme Court Cases online with the help of SCC Online commercial software. A case may be searched by General Search, Topical Search (subject based), Case Index (Nominal Search) and Find by Citation. The latest judgments may be downloaded though internet with the help of SCC Online Search Engine.



Picture 8: Front Page of SCC Online

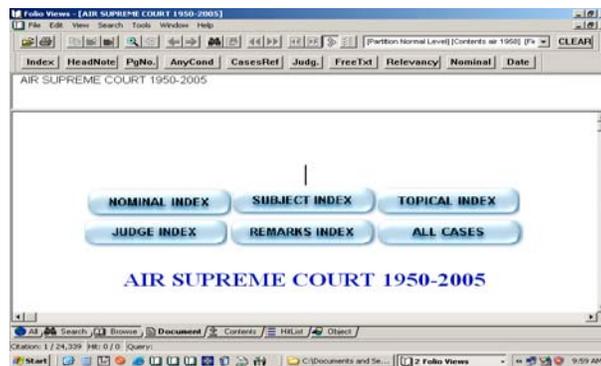
3.2.4 AIR Supreme Court/High Courts

AIR Supreme Court Software containing data covering a period from 1950 till 2008. The Software has the Full text from both the AIR Supreme Court as well as

from AIR SCW. This adds upto 38000 judgments. More than 173 Hon'ble Supreme Court Judges have rendered valuable Judgments which cover more than 700 designated Topics and 4300 Subjects/Statutes of Central and State Legislation. The Software is easy to install, use and customer friendly, and also conforms to international standards & norms.

The AIR High Court Software contains data of 22 High Courts 1965 till 2009. This data contains approximately 52,000 judgments in over Two Lakh Pages, delivered by over 3800 Hon'ble High Courts Court Judges on 5042 Statutes/Acts covering over 550 Sub-edited Topics. The Software is easy to install, use and customer friendly, keeping in view International Standards and norms. This Data is the store-house of decisions on various Topics and Subjects including Central and State Legislations from across the country.

- Nominal Index
- Subject Index,
- Topical Index,
- Judges Index,
- Remarks Index (LIST of OVERRULED, DISSENTED, REVERSED, FOLLOWED,)
- Head Note,
- Topic, Phrases,
- Citation - Page No.
- Subject/Act along with its Provision,
- Nominal

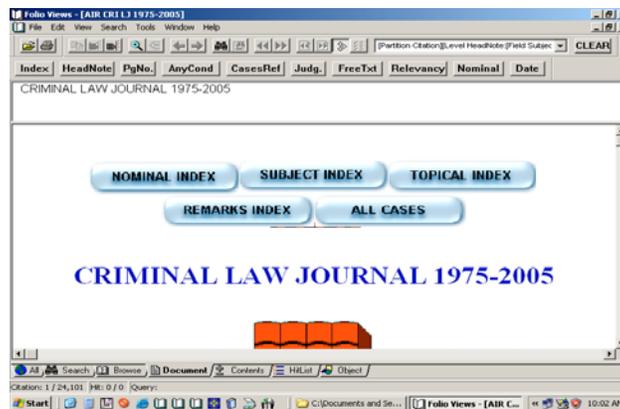


Picture 9: Front Page of AIR Supreme Court

3.2.5 Criminal Law Journals

Criminal Law Journal Software contains data of various High Court and Supreme Court decisions besides decisions of Foreign Courts from 1960 till 2009. This data

containing approximately 33,000 judgments of which 25,000 Decisions on Three Major Acts in over One Lakh Twenty Three Thousand pages covering 1622 Statutes/Acts of Central and State legislation having Cognizable and Non-Cognizable offences. The Software is easy to install, use and customer friendly, keeping in view International Standards and norms. This Data is extremely useful for Prosecutors and the Bench & Bar especially at the lowest strata of the judicial system. Some sensational and land mark decisions on Criminal Law are available in this data base. There is a Comparative Table of Old and New Statutes for ready reference. Moreover, Criminal Law Journal is the oldest running journal in the sub-continent on any specialized field.



Picture 10: Index Page of Criminal Law Journals

3.2.6 Corporate Law Advisor Plus

Corporate Law Advisor Plus is a product of Corporate Law Advisor Limited (Jus Scriptum). It provides digital contents of Corporate Law Advisor a corporate magazine along with Business Law Supplement. CLA Plus in short form, covers all volumes since its inception of both Corporate Law Advisor and Business Law Supplement. The following searches have been provided.

- Article Search
- Case Law Search
- Notification Search
- Circulars Search
- Acts Search
- Rules Search
- Regulations Search



Picture 11: Home Page of CLA Plus