

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1359
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 9TH FEBRUARY, 2024**

SPECIAL COURTS FOR DISPOSAL OF CASES

1359. DR. VISHNU PRASAD M.K.:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the approximate number of cases pending in District Courts, High Courts and the Supreme Court of the country as on date, State and court-wise;**
- (b) whether there has been a huge increase in the pendency of cases in the above courts during the last four years and if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up special courts for speedy disposal of pending cases in view of such huge pendency; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, thereasons therefor?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF
LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a): As per information available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), the pendency of cases across courts, as on 05.02.2024, is as follows:

S. No	Court	No. of Pending Cases
1	Supreme Court	80,302
2	High Court	62,09,926
3	District & Subordinate Courts	4,48,61,459

The detailed statement of pending cases in the respective High Courts and the District Courts, State-wise, is given at *Annexure-I* and *Annexure-II*.

(b): The detailed Statement of pending cases showing the increase/decrease in such cases during the last four years for the various courts is as follows:

Name of Court	Pendency of Cases as on 31.12.2020	Pendency of Cases as on 31.12.2023	Increase/Decrease
Supreme Court	65,086	80,765	(+)15,679
High Court	56,42,567	62,12,375	(+)5,69,808
District Court	3,66,39,436	4,44,09,480	(+)77,70,044

Source: National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG).

The expeditious disposal of pending cases in courts is within the exclusive domain of the judiciary. The Central Government has no role in the said matter.

(c) & (d): Presently, there are no proposals pending with the Government to set up special courts for speedy disposal of pending cases. Over the years, the Ministry of Law and Justice has undertaken several initiatives, to provide for setting up of Special Courts in order to facilitate speedy disposal of pending cases. The highlights of which are as under:-

- i.** Under the aegis of the Fourteenth Finance Commission, the Government has established Fast Track Courts for dealing with cases of heinous crimes in expeditiously; cases involving senior citizens, women, children etc. As on 30.11.2023, there were 847 Fast Track Courts functional for heinous crimes, crimes against women, and children.
- ii.** Championing the cause of safety and security of women and girl child, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme was finalized in August, 2019 and launched for setting up of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including exclusive POCSO Courts across the country to dispose of around 1,67,000 cases of sexual offences pending as on 31.03.2018 in a time-bound manner. As on 30.11.2023, 758 Fast Track Special Courts (including 411 e-POCSO Courts) are functional in 30 States/UTs across the country, which have disposed of more than 1,95,000 cases.

- iii.** Special Courts for lawmakers in order to fast track criminal cases involving elected Members of Parliament (MPs) / Member of Legislative Assembly (MLAs), ten (10) Special Courts are functional in nine (9) States/UTs.
- iv.** A notable legislative reform undertaken for expeditious commercial dispute resolution, is the enactment of The Commercial Courts Act, 2015, which provides for the establishment of Dedicated and Designated Commercial Courts for adjudication of commercial disputes. Through this specialized dispute resolution machinery it aims to transform the commercial litigation landscape in the country by adopting robust and proactive procedures like Case Management Hearing, Automatic and Random Allocation of Cases and several best practices such as e-filing, e-summons, adherence to 3-adjournment rule in the Commercial Courts.
- v.** As a part of the National eGovernance Plan, the Government has launched eCourts Mission Mode Project wherein 25 Virtual Courts in 20 States/UTs have been operationalized to handle traffic challan cases. More than 4.11 crore cases have been handled by these virtual courts and fine of Rs. 478.69 crores had been realized till 30.11.2023. These courts have enabled litigants to pay their fines or contest to the claims 24X7 from their preferred location. Thus, saving time and resources for both the court system and the litigants.
- vi.** The Family Courts Act, 1984 provides for the establishment of Family Courts by the State Governments in consultation with the High Courts to promote conciliation and secure speedy settlement of disputes relating to marriage and family affairs. As per the Act, it is mandatory for the State Government to set up a Family Court for every city or a town whose population exceeds one million. In other areas of the States, the Family Courts may be set up if the State Governments deems it necessary. As on

30.11.2023, there were 776 Family Courts functional in the country which had disposed more than 7,44,700 cases.

- vii.** The Gram Nyayalayas were established with the enactment of Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 wherein Gram Nyayalayas were established in every Panchayat at an intermediate level or a group of contiguous Panchayats at the intermediate level or for a group of contiguous Gram Panchayats. Gram Nyayalayas have the solemn aim of providing inexpensive justice to people in rural areas at their doorstep. They try criminal cases, civil suits, claims or disputes which are specified in the First Schedule and the Second Schedule to the Act. Additionally, the disputes are to be settled, as far as possible, by bringing about conciliation between the parties. There are 287 Gram Nyayalayas functional as against 477 Gram Nyayalayas notified.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1359 FOR ANSWER ON 09.02.2024 REGARDING 'SPECIAL COURTS FOR DISPOSAL OF CASES'.

Pending Cases in High Courts as on 05.02.2024

Sl. No.	Name of High Court	Pendency
1	Allahabad High Court	1073778
2	Bombay High Court	723671
3	High Court Of Rajasthan	667451
4	Madras High Court	541226
5	High Court of Madhya Pradesh	447266
6	High Court of Punjab and Haryana	440853
7	High Court of Karnataka	288478
8	High Court of Kerala	255543
9	High Court of Andhra Pradesh	249022
10	High Court for State of Telangana	248042
11	Patna High Court	198285
12	Calcutta High Court	195073
13	High Court of Gujarat	170671
14	Orissa High Court	146131
15	High Court of Delhi	123561
16	High Court of Himachal Pradesh	100640
17	High Court Of Chhattisgarh	90807
18	High Court of Jharkhand	83566
19	Gauhati High Court	62792
20	High Court of Uttarakhand	50983
21	High Court of Jammu and Kashmir	44761
22	High Court of Manipur	4715
23	High Court of Tripura	1276
24	High Court of Meghalaya	1151
25	High Court of Sikkim	184
	TOTAL	62,09,926

Source:-National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG).

Annexure-II**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1359 FOR ANSWER ON 09.02.2024 REGARDING 'SPECIAL COURTS FOR DISPOSAL OF CASES'.****Pending Cases in District and Subordinate Courts as on 05.02.2024**

Sl. No.	State/UTs	Pendency
1	Uttar Pradesh	11711349
2	Maharashtra	5245503
3	Bihar	3614171
4	West Bengal	3012709
5	Rajasthan	2338759
6	Madhya Pradesh	2013105
7	Karnataka	1978462
8	Kerala	1852293
9	Gujarat	1641149
10	Odisha	1621785
11	Haryana	1463088
12	Tamil Nadu	1452359
13	Delhi	1254506
14	Telangana	919391
15	Andhra Pradesh	869368
16	Punjab	857618
17	Himachal Pradesh	593051
18	Jharkhand	549524
19	Assam	459832
20	Chhattisgarh	415374
21	Uttarakhand	366242
22	Jammu and Kashmir	290098
23	Chandigarh	133970
24	Goa	57670
25	Tripura	52236
26	Puducherry	34291
27	Meghalaya	16173
28	Manipur	13332
29	Andaman and Nicobar	8766
30	Arunachal Pradesh	6187
31	Mizoram	5636
32	DNH at Silvasa	4322
33	Diu and Daman	3095
34	Nagaland	2893
35	Sikkim	1719
36	Ladakh	1433
	TOTAL	44861459

Source: - National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG).