

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3578  
ANSWERED ON:17.04.2000  
CASES PENDING IN CRIMINAL COURTS  
VAIKO

**Will the Minister of LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number of criminal cases pending in various High Courts are more than that of civil cases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, Court-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure expeditious disposal of these cases on the lines of civil cases?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a)&(b): No, Sir. However, available information is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Government has been taking a series of steps to simplify procedures and speed up the disposal of cases on the basis of the advice and recommendations of expert bodies like the Law Commission etc. Keeping this in view, the Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Bill, 1994 is under consideration of the Parliament. The Law Commission, in its 154th Report has also made a number of recommendations in this regard.

In addition to the above, the Supreme Court of India and various High Courts have taken a number of steps for expeditious disposal of cases, viz., grouping and classification of cases involving similar question of law, setting up of specialised benches, computerization of records, etc.

Various other measures have also been taken by the Government including appointment of Special Judicial/Metropolitan Magistrates for the disposal of petty criminal cases. Further, in pursuance of directions given by the Supreme Court in its Judgement dated 1.5.96 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 1128 of 1996, Common Cause Vs UOI, the Subordinate Courts have been directed to close cases involving minor offences, pending for two years and more in which proceedings have not commenced.

In addition, pursuant to the orders passed on 13.10.1999 and 7.12.1999 by the Supreme Court of India, in the case - R.D.Upadhyay Vs State of Andhra Pradesh & Others, the Central Government has also written to all the State Governments and UT Administrations to take urgent necessary steps for expeditious disposal of cases of undertrials who are languishing in various jails in the country.

STATEMENT IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3578 FOR 17.04.2000.

STATEMENT OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES PENDING IN THE HIGH COURTS.

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	CIVIL	CRIMINAL	AS ON
1	Allahabad	690666	125366	9/99
2	Andhra Pradesh	127047	8518	12/99
3	Bombay	260105	24098	12/99
4	Calcutta	268342	37356	9/99
5	Delhi	152308	18593	6/99
6	Gauhati	33034	5003	12/98
7	Gujarat	105403	16129	12/98
8	Himachal Pradesh	9345	2583	12/99
9	J & K	69917	2034	9/99
10	Karnataka	78128	4359	9/99
11	Kerala	87015	9888	12/99
12	Madhya Pradesh	63121	40699	12/99
13	Madras	323712	33383	9/99
14	Orissa	105242	9306	9/99
15	Patna	66962	15950	9/99
16	Punjab & Haryana	148837	29160	9/99

17 Rajasthan	97720	21778	9/99
18 Sikkim	170	33	9/99

Total	26,87,074	4,04,236	
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