

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
FINANCE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2868

ANSWERED ON:17.12.2004

AGRAHAYANA SAKA EXCISE CASES PENDING IN COURTS

Gadhavi Shri Pushpdan Shambhudan;Mahato Shri Bir Sing;Mahato Shri Sunil Kumar

**Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:**

(a) the details of cases relating to Central Excise and Customs pending in Supreme Court, High Courts and Tribunals as on 31.10.2004; and

(b) since when they are pending alongwith the reasons for which they have not been disposed-of and the steps taken/being taken to expedite these cases?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM)

(a): The number of cases pending in Supreme Court, High Courts and the Tribunal as per the report for the quarter ending 30.9.2004 are as under :- (as reports are collected on a quarterly basis)

Sl. No.	Court	No. of Appeals
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1.	Supreme Court	2051
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2.	High Courts	8564
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3.	CESTAT	22333
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Total		32948
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(b): Majority of cases are pending for over five years along with cases that are added on day-to-day basis. As litigation is a continuous process, no specific reason can be attributable for delay. However, the Government in its endeavour to liquidate the arrears of pendency has initiated the following steps, namely,

(i) Legislative measures to correct the lacuna pointed out by the Courts;

(ii) Creation of dedicated units to speed up the process of litigation by monitoring the cases on day-to-day basis before the High Courts and the Supreme Court.

(iii) Periodical meetings with officials of the Law Ministry to identify and overcome the areas of difficulty to achieve the desired results.

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