

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1944
ANSWERED ON:11.08.2011
DISPOSAL OF PENDING CASES
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Bhagat Shri Sudarshan

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

- (a) the number of cases disposed off in Supreme Court, High Court and Lower Courts during the last three years. State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has prepared a scheme to dispose off all the pending cases within three years;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a): As per information available from the Registries of the High Courts, two statements indicating the number of cases disposed off in High Courts and Lower Courts during the last three years. State-wise are annexed. As per the information received from the Registry of the Supreme Court, the number of cases disposed off in Supreme Court during the last three years is given below;

Year ending	Disposal
31st Dec.	

2008	67459
2009	71179
2010	79509

(b) & (c): Government has requested the Chief Justices of all the High Courts to take up a campaign for pendency reduction for a period of six months from 1st July to 31st December, 2011,

(d): Does not arise.

(e): In order to facilitate expeditious disposal of cases in Courts, Government has taken a number of other measures as mentioned below:

I. To provide timely delivery of justice to all, the Government has approved on 23.06.2011 the setting up of the National Mission for Delivery of Justice and Legal Reforms. The major goals of the National Mission are:

Increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system.

Enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities

II. A Mission Mode approach to infrastructure development of subordinate judiciary is among the major initiatives under the National Mission for Justice Delivery which is approved by the Government. Inadequacy of infrastructure in subordinate courts has been one of the bottlenecks in the speedy delivery of justice. Keeping this in mind in the financial year 2011-12, the allocation for the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for infrastructure development has been increased fivefold from 100 Crore to 500 Crore. Central/ State share ratio has also been revised from 50:50 to 75:25 (75% being Central Share) for the states other than North Eastern States. The Central/ State share ratio for the North Eastern states is 90:10.

III. The Government has accepted the recommendations of the Thirteenth Finance Commission to provide a grant of ₹ 5000 Crore to the States for improving the justice delivery system in the country over a five year period 2010-15. A grant of ₹ 1000 Crore has already been released to the States during the year 2010-11. With the help of these grants, the States can, inter-alia, set up morning / evening / shift / special magistrates' courts, appoint court managers, establish ADR centres and provide training to mediators / conciliators, organise more Lok Adalats to reduce pendencies. The grants also provide for training of judicial officers, strengthening of State Judicial Academies, training of public prosecutors and maintenance of heritage court buildings.

IV. In order to computerise the justice delivery system Government is implementing e-Courts Project for the District and Subordinate Courts in the country and up gradation of ICT infrastructure in superior courts at an estimated cost of 935 crore. The target is to computerize 12000 Courts by 31st March, 2012 and 14249 Courts by 31st March, 2014.

V. The Thirteen Finance Commission while recommending a grant of ₹ 5000 Crore made a condition for release of 2nd year installment only after formulating State Litigation policy. State Litigation policy is to be formulated with the aim to transform government into an efficient and responsible litigant. If the cases involving government are reduced then the courts will have time to dispose of a large number of cases to achieve the target of reducing the pendency.

VI. Enactment of the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 which provides for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas to improve access to justice to people at grass roots level. The current year allocation has been increased from ₹ 40 Crore to ₹ 150 Crore So far 151 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified by the states.