

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:145
ANSWERED ON:02.07.2009
WORKING DAYS IN HIGH COURTS
Mahajan Smt. Sumitra

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

- (a) whether the number of working days in the High Courts is less than that in the lower courts;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the number of working days in High Courts for early disposal of the cases; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a) to (d): The working days in the High Courts are regulated by the rules framed by the respective Courts. According to available information, all High Courts in the country normally have 210 working days in a year and the number of working days of the District/Subordinate Courts are regulated by the concerned High Court.

In the year 2002-2003, this Department had examined the matter of increasing the number of working days in Courts. In order to reduce the huge pendencies prevailing in the High Courts, this Department addressed to all the High Courts, requesting them to fix the period of vacations in such a way that the number of working days of High Courts generally do not fall below 222 days in a year.

Various other steps have been taken by the Government to expedite disposal of cases, these include periodically monitoring the pendency position in courts, grouping of cases involving common question of law, constitution of specialized benches, timely filling up the vacancies of judges, increasing the judge strength, organizing Lok Adalats at regular intervals, encouraging alternative modes of disputes resolution like negotiation, mediation and arbitration and setting up of special tribunals like Central Administrative Tribunals., State Administrative Tribunals, Income Tax Appellate Tribunals, Family Courts, Labour Courts etc., establishing Fast Track- Courts, and computerization of courts.