

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5744  
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2012  
DISPOSAL OF CASES  
Pandey Saroj

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

- (a) Whether the Government has formulated any special scheme for the expeditious disposal of cases of common people who are detained under the lighter sections of the IPC e.g. 294, 456 etc. and who are not capable to hire legal aid;
- (b) If so, the details thereof; and
- (c) If not, whether the Government proposes to launch any such scheme as such persons spend as much time in jail during prosecution itself as their punishment too does not warrant?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) to (c): The Government of India undertook a pendency reduction drive from 1st July, 2011 to 31st December, 2011. The Chief Justices of the High Courts were inter-alia requested to initiate in a campaign mode clearance of long pending cases, petty cases, cases relating to marginalised groups and undertrials under prolonged incarceration. As per available information, about 1.33 Lakh undertrial have been released during the drive.

Besides, the Government has taken several other steps for reducing pendency and assisting marginalised section of society. These are as follows:

(i) A National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms has been set up with the twin objectives of increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system and enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities. The Mission will pursue a co-ordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in the judicial administration.

(ii) In order to improve the infrastructure in courts, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary is being implemented since 1993-94 under which central assistance for construction of court buildings and residential quarters for judicial officers is released to augment the resources of the State Governments.

(iii) The Central Government is providing assistance to States for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas for delivery of justice to citizens at their door steps. Under the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, the Gram Nyayalayas shall exercise both civil and criminal jurisdictions and follow summary trial procedure in the manner and to the extent provided under the Act.

(iv) Computerization of the District and Subordinate Courts (e-Courts project) has been taken up under a centrally sponsored scheme with the objective of enhancing judicial productivity and making justice delivery system more affordable and cost effective.

(v) Fast Track Courts were set up on the recommendation of the 11th Finance Commission for expeditious disposal of long pending sessions cases. The 13th Finance Commission has allocated a sum of Rs.5000 crore to be given as grants to the States for 5 years between 2010-15, for reducing pendency and improving justice delivery through the morning/evening/special courts, Alternate dispute resolution mechanism as well as for providing legal aid to those in need of it.

(vi) For legal empowerment of the marginalized people in India, an externally aided project 'Access to Justice for Marginalized People in India' is being implemented, in the selected 07 States.

(vii) Legal Services are being provided by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) to the common man through a scheme of trained Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs) selected from the community. The PLVs act as bridge between the legal services institution and the common man. In case of need, assistance of professional lawyers is also provided to weaker and marginalised sections of society.