

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:501

ANSWERED ON:07.08.2013

APPOINTMENT OF HIGH COURT JUDGES

Bauri Smt. Susmita; Biswal Shri Hemanand ; Choudhry Smt. Shruti; De Dr. Ratna; Gandhi Shri Dilip Kumar Mansukhlal; Pandey Saroj; Premajibhai Dr. Solanki Kiritbhai; Putul Kumari Smt. ; Rana Shri Jagdish Singh; Reddy Shri K. Jayasurya Prakash

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

- (a) the number of vacancies of judges at different levels in the country and the number of pending cases, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has received recommendations from any State Government including Maharashtra for appointment of High Court judges;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the reaction of the Government on these recommendations;
- (e) whether there has been any delay in taking a decision on these recommendations; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefore along with the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) The number of vacancies of judges in High Courts and the Supreme Court of India and Court-wise number of pending cases are given in the Statement at Annex. I

The vacancies of judges in the Subordinate Courts and the number of pending cases therein are given in the Statement at Annex. II.

(b) to (f) 82 proposals for appointment of Judges have been received from 12 High Courts including 2 proposals from the High Court of Bombay. Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts are appointed as per the procedure laid down in the Memorandum of Procedure (M.O.P.) formulated in 1998 pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgement of October 6, 1993 read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998. As per the M.O.P., the process of initiation of proposal for appointment of a Judge of the Supreme Court rests with Chief Justice of India and for the appointment of a Judge of the High Court rests with the Chief Justice of that High Court. Filling up of the vacancies in the High Courts is a time consuming process, as it requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges.

Annex.I referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.501 for answer on 07.08.2013.

S.No.	Name of the Court	Vacancies of Judges as on 1.08.2013	Number of pending cases As on 28.02.2013
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A	Supreme Court of	3	66809
	High Court	As on 31.03.2012	

1	Allahabad	68	10,08,533
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2 Andhra Pradesh 22 1,99,229

3 Bombay 16 3,62,948

4 Calcutta 21 3,50,260

5 Chhattisgarh 08 52,264

6 Delhi 07 63,012

7 Gauhati 07 51,899

8 Gujarat 11 79,529

9 Himachal Pradesh 03 48,743

10 Jammu & Kashmir 03 85,298

11 Jharkhand 09 58,511

12 Karnataka 14 1,71,463

13 Kerala 08 1,23,437

14 Madhya Pradesh 10 2,35,150

15 Madras 17 4,83,848

16 Manipur 02

17	Meghalaya	0	
18	Orissa	07	3,07,528
19	Patna	10	1,15,329
20	Punjab& Haryana	21	2,43,733
21	Rajasthan	09	2,79,577
22	Sikkim	01	69
23	Tripura	0	
24	Uttarakhand	01	20,507
Total	275	43,40,867	

#### Newly created High Courts

Annex.II referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.501 for answer on 07.08.2013.

S.No.	State/Union Territory	Vacancies in Subordinate Courts as on 31.03.2012 concerned	Number of pending cases as on 31.03.2012
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1	Uttar Pradesh	268	57,98,272
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2	Andhra Pradesh	117	9,17,620
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3.a	Maharashtra	185	31,44,426
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3.b Goa 7 30,052

3.c Daman, Diu & Silvassa 0 4,997

4 West Bengal 156 26,38,937

5 Chhattisgarh 38 2,66,220

6 Delhi 158 6,89,766

7 Gujarat 852 21,97,565

8.a Assam 108 2,64,204

8.b Meghalaya 22 3,357

8.c Tripura 27 43,954

8.d Manipur 5 14,238

8.e Nagaland 6 4,130

8.f Mizoram 32 4,426

8.g Arunachal Pradesh 0 6,148

9 Himachal Pradesh 17 1,95,018

10 Jammu and Kashmir 17 2,07,588

11 Jharkhand 89 2,98,240

12 Karnataka 174 11,15,280

13.a Kerala 36 10,71,305

13.b Lakshadweep 1 240

14.a Tamil Nadu 123 11,93,541

14.b Puducherry 7 27,141

15 Madhya Pradesh 151 11,29,432

16 Orissa 79 11,59,482

17 Bihar 507 16,28,291

18.a Punjab 116 5,44,972

18.b Haryana 124 5,94,733

18.c Chandigarh 0 57,890

19. Rajasthan 180 14,32,967

20 Sikkim 4 1,310

21 Uttarakhand 126 1,52,640

22. Andaman & Nicobar 13,384  
Island

Total 3732 2,68,51,766