

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2235

ANSWERED ON:18.12.2013

PENDING COURT CASES

Ajmal Shri Badruddin; Beg Shri Mirza Mehboob; Bhagora Shri Tarachand; Chauhan Shri Sanjay Singh; Dubey Shri Nishikant ; Hazari Shri Maheshwar ; Kumar Shri Vishwa Mohan; Owaisi Shri Asaduddin; Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao; Sanjoy Shri Takam; Saroj Shri Tufani; Siddeswara Shri Gowdar Mallikarjunappa; Singh Shri Ganesh; Singh Shri Ratan; Sivakumar Alias J.K. Ritheesh Shri K.; Upadhyay Seema; Vardhan Shri Harsh

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

- (a) whether a large number of cases are pending for disposal in various courts across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof during each of the last three years and the current year and the reasons therefor, State and court-wise;
- (c) the number of cases disposed off by various courts during the above period, State and Court-wise;
- (d) the section of the public mostly affected by the delay in the justice delivery mechanism; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken for speedy disposal of pending cases in various courts? ANSWER

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (e): The data on pendency of cases is maintained by the Supreme Court and High Courts. As per the information available, 65,661 cases were pending in the Supreme Court as on 01.12.2013. Details of cases disposed off and pending in the High Courts during the last three years are given in a Statement at Annexure - I and State-wise details of cases disposed off and pending in the Subordinate Courts during the last three years are given in Statement at Annexure - II.

Delay in disposal of cases affects all sections of society. In order to expedite the trial of court cases, legislative changes have been made in procedural laws which include provisions for limiting adjournments of court proceedings in criminal and civil matters as contained in Section 309 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and Order XVII of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

Further, the Government has set up a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms to achieve the twin goals of (i) increasing access to justice by reducing delays and arrears; and (ii) enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and improving capacities. The Mission has adopted a coordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration by providing support for better court infrastructure including computerization, encouraging increase in the strength of subordinate judiciary, recommending policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation and suggesting re-engineering of court procedures for quick disposal of cases.

The Chief Justice of India, after consulting