

Title : Need to take suitable measures for speedy disposal of pending cases in courts.

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speedy disposal of pending cases in courts.

DR. M. JAGANNATH (NAGAR KURNOOL): Respected Deputy-Speaker, Sir, Jodhpur Fast Track Court has created legal history by completing the trial in a rape case within 15 days. This is a welcome change from our snail-paced judicial process. I compliment all the concerned agencies for displaying a sense of urgency, viz., the Rajasthan High Court for taking *suo motu* notice and issuing instructions for speedy trial; the police for filing a charge sheet within two days of the incident; the DNA lab for submitting its report in record time; and the Trial Court for hearing the case and passing judgment a day after the last witness deposed before it.

Sir, this case should act as a catalyst to conclude several other cases where rapists despite having been identified, are yet to be punished. Rape is a cold blooded violation of body and soul. It deserves a harsh and expeditious sentence. Swift decision brings hope that if there is a will, there is a way to hand out punishment that need not take the endless years that our courts normally do, to conclude cases.

I strongly support the continuation of the fast track courts, which almost heard its death knell some months back in a tussle of funding. Thousands of rape cases are pending across the country. The crimes like rape need to be dealt with urgency and with harshness that can act as a deterrent. The Government should increase the working hours of the courts, reduce the number of holidays and appoint more judges to clear the pending cases awaiting justice for years.