

1	2	3	4
22.	Sikkim	-	1
23.	Goa	9	4
24.	Mizoram	16	-
25.	Andaman & Nicobar	-	-
26.	Arunachal Pradesh	-	-
27.	Chandigarh	-	-
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	-	-
29.	Delhi	5	-
30.	Lakshadweep	-	-
31.	Pondicherry	-	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>1130</b>	<b>414</b>

[English]

**Strength of Judges and Disposal of Pending Cases in Supreme Court and High Courts**

\*313. DR. A.K. PATEL:  
SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI:

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

(a) the sanctioned strength and also the vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and in each High Court as on 31 January, 1986, 31 January 1987 and 31 January, 1988;

(b) the number of pending cases in the above mentioned courts on the same dates;

(c) the progress made in reducing the number of pending cases and in filling the vacancies of Judges in these 12 month periods; and

(d) the reasons for delay in appointing the Judges against the vacant posts and the likely time by which all these vacancies will be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY):  
(a) Requisite information in respect of the Supreme Court is as follows:-

	As on 31.1.86	As on 31.1.87	As on 31.1.88
Supreme Court			
Sanctioned strength	18	26	26
Vacancies	3	12	9

Statement I showing the sanctioned strength and also the vacancies in each High Court as on 31.1.86, 31.1.87 and 31.1.88 is given below.

(b) Statement II is given below.

(c) and (d) Statement III indicating steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency in Court is given below.

Selection of Judges involves deliberation in consultation with concerned constitutional authorities and is a continuous process. Government makes all possible efforts to ensure that the vacancies of judges are filled in expeditiously. It is not possible to indicate any definite time for filling up vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts.

#### STATEMENT I

Sl. No.	High Court	As on 31.1.1986		As on 31.1.1987		As on 31.1.1988	
		Sanctioned strength	No. of vacancies	Sanctioned strength	No. of vacancies	Sanct- ioned strength	No. of vacan- cies
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Allahabad	60	13	60	11	60	10
2.	Andhra Pradesh	26	8	26	3	26	5
3.	Bombay	43	3	48	4	48	2
4.	Calcutta	41	2	41	-	42	1
5.	Delhi	27	4	27	2	27	5
6.	Gauhati	9	1	10	2	10	2
7.	Gujarat	21	4	21	5	21	4
8.	Himachal Pradesh	6	-	6	1	6	3
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	7	1	7	-	7	-

45	Written Answers	PHALGUNA 26, 1909 (SAKA)				Written Answers	46
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10.	Karnataka	24	3	24	4	25	2
11.	Kerala	18	-	21	-	21	1
12.	Madhya Pradesh	29	5	29	1	29	5
13.	Madras	25	4	25	6	25	7
14.	Orissa	11	2	12	3	12	3
15.	Patna	35	3	35	5	35	7
16.	Punjab and Haryana	23	6	23	7	23	6
17.	Rajasthan	22	1	22	1	23	-
18.	Sikkim	3	1	3	1	3	1
		430	61	440	56	443	64

#### STATEMENT-II

##### *Pendency Position in Supreme Court*

	As on 1.1.1986	As on 1.1.1987	As on 1.1.1988
	166319	152969	175748

##### *Pendency of cases in the High Courts as on 1st January of 1986, 1987 1988.*

<i>Pendency as on</i>			
<i>Name of the High Courts</i>	<i>1.1.1986</i>	<i>1.1.1987</i>	<i>1.1.1988</i>
1	2	3	4
1. Allahabad	266804	312006	**
2. Andhra Pradesh	90617	92378	80060
3. Bombay	112088	125298	139548
4. Calcutta	148330	158701	**

47	Written Answers	MARCH 16, 1988	Written Answers	48
	1	2	3	4
5.	Delhi	67109	76266	77627+14432*
6.	Gauhati	16285	17868	1856
7.	Gujarat	41750	49100	**
8.	Himachal Pradesh	10933	8820	9633
9.	Jammu and Kashmir	30022	35658	37025
10.	Karnataka	87608	66741	72190
11.	Kerala	118112	121919	42390 (Main cases)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	52079	53888	40922
13.	Madras	158518	187250	**
14.	Orissa	31362	35398	**
15.	Patna	56904	56061	64110
16.	Punjab & Haryana	40285	51366	60962
17.	Rajasthan	48921	47063	52998
18.	Sikkim	63	33	59
Total		1377790	1495814	

\*14432 cases filled under 'company application' by the Official Liquidator are yet to be registered in the High Court

\*\*Information not available.

### STATEMENT III

Steps taken from time to time to reduce pendency in courts

1. Elimination of arrears in all courts had been discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices, Chief Ministers and Law Ministers of States held on 31st August - 1st September, 1985 and the
2. Resolutions of the Conference had been commended to the High Courts and the State Governments for implementation. The Code of Civil Procedure was amended in 1976 to abolish Letters Patent Appeal from judgment of Single Judge of the High Court in Second Appeal (vide Section 100-A).

3. The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 was amended in 1978 to expedite trial of criminal cases.
4. The sanctioned strength of the High Court Judges has been increased from 351 in March 1977 to 443 as on 29th February, 1988.
5. The recommendations contained in the 79th Report of the Law Commission on delay and arrears in High Courts and other Appellate Courts are being implemented by the High Courts.
6. The High Courts are taking the following steps to expedite disposal cases:-
- (a) Cases involving common questions are being grouped together,
  - (b) Matters are fixed for hearing by giving short returnable dates;
  - (c) Printing of records is dispensed with, in many cases; and
  - (d) Priority is given to cases requiring quick disposal.
7. The Government have entrusted the Law Commission, the study of the judicial system of administration of justice by:
- (a) the need for decentralisation of the system of administration of justice by:
    - (i) establishing, extending and strengthening in rural areas the institution of Nyaya Panchayats or other mechanisms for resolving disputes;
    - (ii) setting up a system of participatory justice with defined jurisdiction and powers in suitable areas and centres; and
    - (iii) establishing other tiers or systems within the judicial hierarchy to reduce the volume of work in the Supreme Court and the High Courts;
  - (b) the matters for which Tribunals (excluding Services Tribunals) as envisaged in Part XIV-A of the Constitution need to be established expeditiously and various aspects related to their establishment and working;
  - (c) the procedural laws with a view generally to disposing of cases expeditiously, eliminating unnecessary litigation, delays in hearing of cases and reforms in procedures and procedural laws and particularly to devising procedures appropriate to the fora envisaged in items (a) (i) and (a) (i);
  - (d) the method of appointments to subordinate courts, subordinate judiciary;
  - (e) the training of Judicial Officers;
  - (f) the role of the legal profession in strengthening the system of administration of justice;
  - (g) the desirability of formulation of norms, which the Government and the Public Sector Undertakings should follow in the settlement of disputes including a review of the present system for conduct of litigation

on behalf of the Government and such Undertakings;

- (h) the cost of litigation with a view to lessening the burden on the litigants;
- (i) formation of an All India Judicial Service; and
- (j) such other matters as the Commission considers proper or necessary for the purposes aforesaid or as may be referred to it from time to time by the Government.

8. The Judges strength of the Supreme Court has been raised from 18 to 26 (including the Chief Justice) with effect from 9th May, 1986 by amending the Supreme Court (number of Judges) Act, 1956.

9. The following steps are being taken in the Supreme Court to expedite the disposal cases:-

- (i) Matters involving common question of law are grouped together and listed in groups so that they can all be disposed of together.
- (ii) In most of the matters, printing of the appeal record is dispensed with, which saves a lot of time and expenses of the litigants. In criminal appeals, counsel for the appellant is required to file cyclostyled record to save time, which would otherwise be taken in getting the record the save time, which would otherwise be taken in getting the record printed, so that the matter could be heard early.

iii) To save the Court's time, Hon'ble the Chief Justice is taking mentioning matters, which takes about one hour on each day, after the court hours.

(iv) Supreme Court Rules have been amended empowering Hon'ble Judge in Chambers and the Registrar to dispose of certain types of matters, which were previously being listed in the court. This has been done to save the Court's time.

(v) Specialised benches are constituted by Hon'ble the Chief Justice and particular types of matters are assigned to such specialised benches for quick disposal.

(vi) Computer technology is soon going to be introduced in the Supreme Court, which is expected to help, reduce the backlog of cases considerably.

(vii) Recently Hon'ble the Chief Justice has directed that the counsel in each matter should file written arguments, each side. The oral arguments on each sides are now restricted to five hours unless the Court feels that more time is to be given to the counsel in which case a maximum of ten hours are given for oral arguments by counsel of each side. The length of oral arguments by counsel of both the sides has thus been curtailed with a view to securing quick disposal of matters.

(viii) A Court Administrator-cum-Registrar General, who is a senior judicial Officer, has been

appointed very recently so that in conjunction with the present two Registrars there can be a re-organisation of the working of the Registry and improving its techniques and efficiency.

#### **Refresher Courses for All India Services and Central Services Officials**

\*314. SHRI P.M. SAYEED: Will the PRIME MINISTER pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a decision that officers of All India Services and Central Services group 'A' officers must undergo at least three refresher courses during 20 years of service;

(b) if so, the main objectives to be achieved and various courses of training; and

(c) the other important changes made in the Rules applicable to the members of All India Services and the Central Services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement giving the details is given below.

#### **STATEMENT**

(b) In pursuance of the Government's decision to restructure the training of the members of the Civil Service so as to develop competence and a work culture suited to the service of the people, instructions have been issued to cadre controlling authorities for formulating training plans, stipulating that every member of the All India and Group A Central Services

should be put through at least 3 refresher courses in a span of about 20 years. The training plans drawn up in the light of these instructions are under implementation.

In respect of the Indian Administrative Service, for instance, the three stages are at (2) 6-9 years of service, (b) 10-16 years of service; and (c) 17-20 years of service. The focus at the three stages is respectively on Programme Implementation; Management concepts and Decision making; and Policy Planning and Analysis.

(c) Certain changes have brought out in the All India Services Rules incorporating the revision of the syllabus for IAS Professional course; revised formats for the confidential reports to make them a tool of human resources development; Fourth Pay Commission Recommendations; and revision of reserves like State Deputation Reserve, Training Reserve and Leave Reserve.

#### **Simplification of Passport Rules**

\*315 SHRI SHANTARAM NAIK: Will the MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to simplify further the Rules in connection with the issue of passports; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) (a) and (b). The procedures relating to issue of passports remain under constant review with a view to further streamlining them. Whenever changes in procedures involve amendment of the Passport Rules, copies of relevant Gazette Notifications are laid on the table of the House.