

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
RAJYA SABHA
QUESTION NO 26.07.2010
ANSWERED ON
STEPS TO SPEED UP DISPOSAL OF CASES .

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Shri V. Hanumantha Rao

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING LAW & JUSTICE be pleased to state :-

(a) whether, in order to fast track the disposal of over 2.7 crore pending cases with subordinate judiciary in the country, Hon`ble Supreme Court recently decided to set up a Special Bench to monitor the implementation of the judiciary infrastructure with the lower courts including appointment of judges; and

(b) if so, the steps Government has taken to fill the posts of judicial officers vacant for long time and whether, with shortage of judges and judicial officers, the cases are still pending and what are the suggestions made in this regard and to what extent they have been implemented?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a) The Hon`ble Supreme Court has, in the case of All India Judges Association & Ors Vs. Union of India & Ors while hearing the Interlocutory Application No. 279 of 2010, in its Order dated 12th July, 2010, decided to sit on every Monday to re-visit the infrastructural problems faced by the Subordinate Courts.

(b) Filling up the vacancies of Judicial Officers in subordinate judiciary is within the domain of the respective State Governments and the High Courts. However, the Government has been requesting the State Governments and High Courts from time to time to fill up the vacancies of judicial officers on priority as such vacancies also contribute to increasing court arrears. This matter was also taken up with the concerned State Governments and High Courts in the regional meetings held recently to review, inter-alia, the progress of filling up the vacant posts of Judges and judicial officers. The Government also provides financial assistance to the States for setting up of Fast Track Courts, Family Courts and Gram Nyayalayas to augment the resources of the State Governments in reducing the pendency of cases. The Government has also accepted the recommendations of the 13th Finance Commission to provide Rs. 5000 Crores to the states for improvement in the justice delivery system. Of this amount, Rs. 2500 Crores have been provided for setting up of Morning/Evening/Shift/Special Magistrates Courts for reducing the court arrears. Also, Rs. 100 Crores have been provided for holding Lok Adalats and Rs. 750 Crores have been provided for promoting alternate dispute resolution mechanisms in the country. These measures are expected to reduce the pendency of cases in courts.