

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1875
ANSWERED ON 22/12/2022**

PENDENCY IN GUJARAT HIGH COURT

1875 # SHRI NARHARI AMIN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state

- (a) the total number of pending cases in the Gujarat High Court;
- (b) the total number of cases pending for more than 10 years among these cases;
- (c) whether any special plan is being chalked out for disposal of cases pending since long time; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) & (b): As per information provided by High Court of Gujarat, the total number of pending cases in the Gujarat High Court as on 16.12.2022 is 1,60,963 and the total number of cases pending for more than 10 years is 17,546.

(c) & (d): The disposal of pending cases in courts lies within the domain of the judiciary. The Government has no direct role in this regard. However, the Central Government is fully committed to speedy disposal of cases in accordance with Article 21 of the Constitution and reducing pendency.

The High Court of Gujarat has taken the following steps for disposal of long pending cases.

1. As directed by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice, all ordinary pending matters registered upto-2005 including connected matters, are being notified before the Honourable Courts as per roster w.e.f 01.08.2022 and Assistant Registrar/Court Master attached to the Honourable Courts are informed to ensure that all pending matters registered upto-2005 including connected matters, shall remain on board and shall not be delisted from the board, except stayed or specific direction is given by Higher Forum. Instruction No. Judicial/18/2022 dated 12.07.2022 with regard to the above was published on the Website of the High Court of Gujarat with a request to learned Advocate(s)/Party-in-Person(s) and Officers of the Office of the Government Law Officers to extend cooperation and till final disposal of matters not to ask further adjournment in the matter.

2. Moreover, matters upto year 2001 pertains to Single Judge/Division Bench have been specially assigned to four Honourable Courts (2 Division Benches and 2 Single Judge) in the List of Sitting for early adjudication of these matters.

3. The High Court of Gujarat has introduced three Morning and Evening Courts at Family Court, Ahmadabad, Surat and Rajkot in the State of Gujarat to facilitate working class litigants to seek justice and also to reduce the pendency. The disposal of cases by these courts are given at *Annexure*.

4. As per the decision taken at the Honourable Chamber Meeting held on 18.11.2022, approximately 775 Single Judge First Appeals relating to MACP cases have been assigned to 16 Hon'ble Courts (Single Judge) as determined by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice and the same were listed before the Hon'ble Courts for adjudication on Wednesday,14.12.2022. These matters have been assigned to the Hon'ble Courts, till final disposal of the matters, over and above their business.

Moreover, in the List of Sitting following provisions have been made in the High Court of Gujarat:-

(i) All admission matters including applications which are not on regular board and are lying with the judicial departments for admission shall be placed before the Honourable Courts as per roster for admission as per seriatim. No request/instructions to the registry to discharge these matters from boards shall be entertained.

(ii) Members of the bar shall take notice that the old matters which are more than 05 years old will not be adjourned ordinarily by the respective Benches and they are requested to co-operate in final disposal of the matters.

(iii) The priority will be given to old matters.

(iv) Leave note will not apply to Criminal cases, Special Civil Applications and matters specially fixed for hearing or expedited by the order of the Court and matters on the Daily Board.

(v) Top Priority will be given to old Criminal Appeals/Petitions of final hearing cases in which the accused are in custody including Appeals wherein bail is rejected and unnecessary adjournment shall not be granted.

(vi) Provision in the List of Sitting had been made for listing of cases which are more than 5 years old. All cases which are more than 5 years old, have already been Marked with the Stamp of "More than 5 years old" and "Priority" on File Cover of the Judicial matters. Such cases are being listed in each Court as per their Judicial business assigned by the Honourable the Chief Justice in the Roster by preparing Board (Cause- list).

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (C) & (D) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1875 FOR ANSWER ON 22.12.2022 REGARDING 'DISPOSAL OF CASES IN MORNING/EVENING COURTS AT FAMILY COURTS, AHMEDABAD, SURAT AND RAJKOT.'

Sl No.	Year	Disposal during the year
1	2016 (From 01.07.2016)	346
2	2017	739
3	2018	1,064
4	2019	831
5	2020	131
6	2021	186
7	2022 (upto 30.09.2022)	268
	Total	3,565