

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1714**  
ANSWERED ON 03/08/2023

**TIMELINE TO DISPOSE OF PENDING CASES**

**1714. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:**

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

- (a) whether there is any timeline prescribed for district judiciary and High Courts to dispose of the pending civil cases;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for non compliance;**
- (c) if not, the reasons for no timeline for disposal of civil cases; and**
- (d) the details of longest pending civil cases in the country as on date, State-wise?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

**(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)**

**(a) to (c):** The disposal of pending civil cases in District Judiciary and High Courts lies within the exclusive domain of the judiciary and the Central Government has no direct role in the matter.

The Civil Procedure Code, 1908 prescribes certain time standards for case management such as the filing of written statement should be done within 30 days of the

notice served on defendant (Order VIII, Rule 1) and the judgment should be delivered within 30 days from hearing conclusion date (Order XX, Rule 1). Further, the Code also includes provisions for limiting adjournments of court proceedings in civil matters as contained in Order XVII of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. However, it is not practicable to prescribe a definite and uniform timeline for disposal of all civil cases as the time taken for disposal of a case depends on several factors, such as category of case (civil or criminal), the complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, cooperation of various stakeholders, viz. bar, investigation agencies, witnesses, and litigants, besides the availability of physical infrastructure, supporting court staff and applicable rules of procedure. Several factors may lead to delay in disposal of cases which, inter-alia, include vacancies of judges, frequent adjournments, the number of revisions / appeals and lack of adequate arrangements to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing.

**(d):** As per information available on NJDG, the detailed statement of longest pending civil cases i.e. above 30 years in the country as on date, State-wise is at ***ANNEXURE-I***

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## Annexure – I

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (D) OF RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1714 FOR ANSWER ON 03.08.2023  
REGARDING 'TIMELINE TO DISPOSE OF PENDING CASES'.**

Total Number of Civil Pending Cases above 30 years (as on 28.07.2023)		
Sl.No	Name of the State	No. of Pending Cases above 30 years
1	Andaman & Nicobar	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	25
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4	Assam	21
5	Bihar	4266
6	Chandigarh	0
7	Chattisgarh	16
8	Delhi	54
9	Diu and Daman	0
10	DNH at Silvasa	0
11	Goa	221
12	Gujarat	258
13	Haryana	9
14	Himachal Pradesh	5
15	Jammu and Kashmir	22
16	Jharkhand	126
17	Karnataka	141
18	Kerala	124
19	Ladakh	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	49
21	Maharashtra	2083
22	Manipur	0
23	Meghalaya	12
24	Mizoram	0
25	Nagaland	0
26	Odisha	385
27	Puducherry	1
28	Punjab	7
29	Rajasthan	456
30	Sikkim	0
31	Tamil Nadu	245
32	Telangana	22
33	Tripura	1
34	Uttar Pradesh	19747
35	Uttarakhand	1
36	West Bengal	3097
<b>Total</b>		<b>31394</b>

Source:- National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)

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