

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 427
ANSWERED ON 25/07/2024

**VACANT POSTS OF JUDICIAL OFFICERS IN DISTRICT COURTS AND
SUBORDINATE COURTS IN BIHAR**

427. # DR. BHIM SINGH:

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

(a) number of civil and criminal cases pending in the High Court, District Courts and other Subordinate Courts in Bihar;

(b) details of the number of cases pending for less than 5 years, 5 to 10 years and for 10 years and more in all the above categories, respectively;

(c) the number of posts of Judicial Officers lying vacant in the District and Subordinate Courts of Bihar;

(d) whether Government has taken any measures to clear the backlog of previous vacancies, the details thereof; and

(e) whether any measures have been taken to expedite the process of disposal of cases?

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a): As per information received from the High Court, the pendency of cases in the High Court of Judicature at Patna and District Courts of Bihar as on 30.06.2024 is as under:-

Nature of Cases	High Court	District and other Subordinate Courts
Civil	107923	521750
Criminal	92191	3161289
Total	200114	3683039

(b): Age-wise Pendency of cases in the High Court of Judicature at Patna and District and Subordinate Court of Bihar as on 30.06.2024 is as under: -

Age-wise Pendency of cases in the High Court of Judicature as on 30.06.2024			
Nature of Cases	0-5 Years old	5-10 Years old	10 Years and Above
Civil	59307	35381	13235
Criminal	52044	17610	22537
Total	111351	52991	35772

Age-wise Pendency of Cases in District and other subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2024			
Nature of Cases	0-5 Years old	5-10 Years old	10 Years and Above
Civil	299085	134944	87287
Criminal	1666762	920080	568134
Total	1965847	1055024	655421

(c): The number of posts of Judicial Officers lying vacant in District and other subordinate Courts as on 30.06.2024 is as under: -

Cadre	Vacancy
Superior Judicial Service	85
Civil Judge(Senior Division)	106
Civil Judge(Junior Division)	295
Total	486

(d): Filling up of vacancies of Judicial Officers in District & Subordinate Courts lies in the domain of respective High Courts and State Governments. As informed by the High Court, vacancies in the Bihar Superior Judicial Services, Civil Judge (Senior and Junior Divisions) are notified annually as per the schedule set by the Supreme Court in their Order passed on 04.01.2007 in the Malik Mazhar Sultan Case and in accordance with the relevant recruitment rules in force. Expeditious steps are taken from time to time to fill up vacancies by way of regular monitoring and follow up by the High Court in respect of recruitment of District Judges (Direct Entry) and Civil Judges (Junior Division).

(e): The disposal of cases is within the exclusive domain of the Judiciary. However, the following steps have been taken by Arrears Committee of the High Court to reduce the pendency in Subordinate Courts: -

- (i) Each Court at District level has been given target to dispose of 15 oldest cases pending as shown on NJDG in every quarter.
- (ii) All the District & Sessions Judges have been directed to monitor the disposal of old cases of every Court under their respective jurisdiction on the clearance day of every month through District Arrear Committee.
- (iii) All the District & Sessions Judges have also been directed to ensure that every Court must prepare quarterly plan for disposal of old cases of their respective courts.
