

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1383
ANSWERED ON 31/07/2025

LARGE NUMBER OF CASES PENDING IN COURTS

1383. DR. KANIMOZHI NVN SOMU:

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

- (a) whether large number of cases are still pending despite several steps like setting up Fast Track Courts and village courts being taken by Government in various States/UTs;
- (b) if so, the number of pending cases disposed by the Fast Track Courts and village courts since their inception;
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up more courts and appoint more judges in the existing courts to dispose the pending cases at the earliest;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including Tamil Nadu; and
- (e) the other steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government to dispose the pending cases in time bound manner?

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) & (b): As per information available on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), the details of pending cases in the Supreme Court, High Courts and District & Subordinate Courts as on 25.07.2025 are as under:

S. No.	Name of court	No. of pending cases
1.	Supreme Court of India	86,723
2.	High Courts	63,29,222
3.	District and Subordinate Courts	4,66,24,074

As per information received from the High Courts, 865 Fast Track Courts (FTCs) are functional across 21 State/UT as on 30.06.2025. The State/UT-wise details are at ***Annexure-I***. These Fast Track Courts (FTCs) have disposed 76,57,175 cases till date, whereas 14,38,198 cases are currently pending with them. The State/UT-wise data of cases disposed by FTCs is not maintained centrally.

Further, the Central Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme since October, 2019 for the establishment of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs), including exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) Courts. These courts are dedicated to the time-bound trial and disposal of pending cases related to rape and offences under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. As per data provided by the High Courts, 725 FTSCs, including 392 exclusive POCSO Courts, are functional across 29 States/UTs as on 30.06.2025. Since the inception of the Scheme, these courts have collectively disposed of 3,34,213, while 2,00,349 cases are currently pending with them. The State/UT-wise details are enclosed at ***Annexure-II***.

The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 was enacted with the objective of providing accessible and speedy justice to citizens at the grassroots level, particularly in rural areas, and to reduce the burden on regular courts. In terms of Section 3(1) of the Act, the State Governments, after consultation with the High Court concerned, may establish one or more Gram Nyayalayas (GNs) for every Panchayat or a group of contiguous group Panchayats. The Department of Justice has been encouraging the State Governments and High Courts for operationalization of more Gram Nyayalayas. Under the Gram Nyayalaya Scheme, which is a Sub-scheme of Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Judicial Infrastructure, the funds are released to the States/UTs to support the establishment and effective functioning of the GNs. Presently, there are **488** GNs notified across the States, of which **331** are operational. The State-wise details of notified and operational Gram Nyayalayas are at ***Annexure-III***.

As per data available on the Gram Nyayalaya Portal, 5,39,200 cases were registered in the GNs during the period from December, 2020 to June, 2025. During the same period, GNs disposed of 4,11,071 cases. As on 30.06.2025, the number of cases pending with GNs is 1,28,129.

(c) & (d): At present, there is no complete proposal pending with the Government to establish any High Court. In case of District and Subordinate courts, the decision to set up more courts is taken by the State Government and the respective High Court.

Appointment of the Judges of the Constitutional Courts is a continuous, integrated and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various constitutional authorities both at state and central level. Appointments of judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts are governed by Articles 124, 217 and 224 of the Constitution. The procedure for appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is laid down in the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) prepared in 1998 pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 (Second Judges case) read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998 (Third Judges case). As per the MoP, initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India and initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. Only those persons are appointed as Judges of High Courts and the Supreme Court who are recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium (SCC). From May 2014 till 25.07.2025, 70 Judges have been appointed in the Supreme Court and 1068 Judges have been appointed to various High Courts. Also, during the period from 01.07.2014 to 25.07.2025, in consultation with respective State Governments, concerned High Courts and the Chief Justice of India, the Judge strength of the High Courts has been increased from 906 to 1122 i.e. by 216 posts.

As regards the appointment of more judicial officers in District and Subordinate Courts, under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of district and subordinate judiciary in the States vests with the concerned High Court. In exercise of powers conferred under proviso to Article 309 read with Articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the respective State Governments, in consultation with the High Court, frame the Rules and Regulations regarding the issues of appointment etc. of Judicial Officers in the State Judicial Service. As per the MIS Portal of the Department of Justice, the sanctioned strength of judicial officers has increased from 19,518 (in the year 2014) to 25,843 as on 25.07.2025. The details of state-wise sanctioned strength and working strength in respect of judges of the District and Subordinate Courts during past 5 years are at *Annexure-IV*.

(e): The disposal of pending cases in time bound manner is within the exclusive domain of the judiciary. However, the Central Government is committed towards facilitating an ecosystem for expeditious disposal of cases. To this end, the Government set up the National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms in 2011, with the twin objectives of increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system and enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities. The Mission has been pursuing a co-ordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration, which, inter-alia, involves improved infrastructure for courts including computerization, increase in strength of subordinate judiciary, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation, re-engineering of court procedure for quick disposal of cases and emphasis on human resource development.

The e-Courts project is being implemented as integrated Mission Mode Project for the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) development of the Indian Judiciary as part of the National e-Governance Plan. Phase III of the e-Courts Project (for the period from 2023 to 2027) was approved in September 2023 with an outlay of ₹7,210 crore. Under Phase-III, several steps have been taken to improve the court management processes and digitize the services for the various stakeholders including lawyers, litigants and judges.

ANNEXURE-I**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) & (B) OF RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1383 FOR ANSWER ON 31.07.2025 REGARDING
'LARGE NUMBER OF CASES PENDING IN COURTS'.****State/UT-wise Details of Functional Fast Track Court (FTCs) as on 30.06.2025**

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	Number of Functional FTCs
1	Andhra Pradesh	21
2	Andaman & Nicobar island	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4	Assam	16
5	Bihar	0
6	Chandigarh	0
7	Chhattisgarh	27
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0
9	Delhi	26
10	Goa	4
11	Gujarat	54
12	Haryana	6
13	Himachal Pradesh	3
14	Jammu & Kashmir	8
15	Jharkhand	41
16	Karnataka	0
17	Kerala	0
18	Ladakh	0
19	Lakshadweep	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	0
21	Maharashtra	102
22	Manipur	6
23	Meghalaya	0
24	Mizoram	2
25	Nagaland	0
26	Odisha	0
27	Puducherry	1
28	Punjab	7
29	Rajasthan	0
30	Sikkim	2
31	Tamil Nadu	72
32	Telangana	0
33	Tripura	2
34	Uttar Pradesh	373
35	Uttarakhand	4
36	West Bengal	88
	TOTAL	865

ANNEXURE-II**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) & (B) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1383 FOR ANSWER ON 31.07.2025 REGARDING 'LARGE NUMBER OF CASES PENDING IN COURTS'.**

State/UT-wise details of functional Fast Track Special Courts including exclusive POCSO Courts (As on 30.06.2025)

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	Functional Courts		Cumulative Disposal since the inception of the Scheme			Pendency
		FTSCs including Exclusive POCSO	Exclusive POCSO	FTSCs	Exclusive POCSO	Total	
FUNCTIONAL							
1	Andhra Pradesh	16	16	0	7487	7487	6303
2	Assam	17	17	0	8943	8943	6435
3	Bihar	46	46	0	17232	17232	18459
4	Chandigarh	1	0	374	0	374	214
5	Chhattisgarh	15	11	1289	5139	6428	1739
6	Delhi	16	11	760	1958	2718	3560
7	Goa	1	0	82	34	116	155
8	Gujarat	35	24	3389	13227	16616	5315
9	Haryana	18	14	2018	6069	8087	4420
10	Himachal Pradesh	6	3	600	807	1407	643
11	J&K	4	2	144	167	311	497
12	Karnataka	30	17	5377	8654	14031	5220
13	Kerala	55	14	18256	7946	26202	6292
14	Madhya Pradesh	67	56	4920	27193	32113	10713
15	Maharashtra	2	1	8727	12017	20744	290
16	Manipur	2	0	194	0	194	49
17	Meghalaya	5	5	0	733	733	1097
18	Mizoram	3	1	199	70	269	75
19	Nagaland	1	0	65	3	68	59
20	Odisha	44	23	7218	13036	20254	9065
21	Puducherry	1	1	0	162	162	218
22	Punjab	12	3	2785	2480	5265	1451
23	Rajasthan	45	30	5830	13602	19432	4892
24	Tamil Nadu	14	14	0	10199	10199	5234
25	Telangana	36	0	8648	2731	11379	8782
26	Tripura	3	1	252	237	489	224
27	Uttarakhand	4	0	1930	0	1930	1094
28	Uttar Pradesh	218	74	43558	47901	91459	92700
29	West Bengal	8	8	0	457	457	5154
NON- FUNCTIONAL							
30	Jharkhand *	0	0	2777	6337	9114	0
31	A&N Islands**	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Arunachal Pradesh***	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	Ladakh	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Sikkim	0	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	725	392	119392	214821	334213	200349

Note: At the inception of the Scheme, the allocation of FTSCs across the country was based on a criterion of 65 to 165 pending cases per court, meaning one FTSC would be established for every 65 to 165 pending cases. Based on that, only 31 States/UTs were eligible to join the Scheme.

*The State of Jharkhand has decided to exit the FTSC Scheme. However, the cumulative disposal of 9,114 cases since the inception of the Scheme up to May 2025 continues to be included in the overall disposal figures reported under the FTSC Scheme.

** A&N islands has consented to join the Scheme, but is yet to operationalize any court.

*** Arunachal Pradesh has opted out of the Scheme citing a very low number of pending cases of Rape and POCSO Act.

ANNEXURE-III**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) & (B) OF RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1383 FOR ANSWER ON 31.07.2025 REGARDING
'LARGE NUMBER OF CASES PENDING IN COURTS'.****State-wise Gram Nyayalayas (As on 30.06.2025)**

Sl. No.	State	Gram Notified	Nyayalayas	Gram Functional	Nyayalayas
1.	Madhya Pradesh		89		89
2.	Rajasthan		45		45
3.	Karnataka		2		2
4.	Odisha		31		21
5.	Maharashtra		39		26
6.	Jharkhand		6		4
7.	Goa		2		2
8.	Punjab		9		2
9.	Haryana		3		2
10.	Uttar Pradesh		113		108
11.	Kerala		30		30
12.	Andhra Pradesh		42		0
13.	Telangana		55		0
14.	Jammu Kashmir		20		0
15.	Ladakh		2		0
Total			488		331

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (C) & (D) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1383 FOR ANSWER ON 31.07.2025 REGARDING 'LARGE NUMBER OF CASES PENDING IN COURTS'.

Sl. No	Name of the State/UTs	As on 31.12.2021		As on 31.12.2022		As on 31.12.2023		As on 31.12.2024		As on 25.07.2025	
		Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength
1	Andhra Pradesh	607	491	607	534	618	535	623	564	639	574
2	Telangana	474	425	560	410	560	445	560	445	560	445
3	Arunachal Pradesh	41	32	41	33	44	34	44	33	44	39
4	Assam	467	436	485	425	485	439	485	461	485	461
5	Bihar	1954	1394	2016	1349	2016	1550	2021	1517	2022	1679
6	Chandigarh	30	30	30	30	30	29	30	30	30	30
7	Chhattisgarh	482	409	527	437	562	423	663	465	663	465
8	D & N Haveli and Daman & Diu	7	6	7	6	7	6	7	6	7	6
9	Delhi	884	692	884	681	887	798	897	803	897	788
10	Goa	50	40	50	40	50	40	50	40	50	40
11	Gujarat	1523	1123	1582	1151	1720	1175	1720	1185	1720	1185
12	Haryana	772	482	772	464	772	564	781	551	781	661
13	Himachal Pradesh	175	160	179	163	179	158	179	160	179	160
14	Jammu and Kashmir	300	241	314	223	317	223	322	279	322	272
15	Ladakh	17	9	17	9	17	10	17	11	17	10
16	Jharkhand	675	523	694	508	693	512	707	504	707	501
17	Karnataka	1363	1087	1365	1132	1375	1150	1375	1156	1394	1167
18	Kerala	569	488	595	473	605	514	612	533	614	579
19	Lakshadweep	3	3	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	4
20	Madhya Pradesh	2021	1552	2021	1649	2028	1730	2028	1692	2028	1669
21	Maharashtra	2190	1940	2190	1940	2190	1940	2190	1940	2190	1940
22	Manipur	59	42	59	42	59	49	62	49	62	49
23	Meghalaya	97	49	99	51	99	57	99	57	99	57
24	Mizoram	65	42	74	41	74	41	74	45	74	45
25	Nagaland	34	24	34	24	34	24	34	24	34	24
26	Odisha	976	785	1001	767	1008	803	1041	841	1043	835
27	Puducherry	26	11	28	11	29	10	38	26	38	26
28	Punjab	692	607	797	589	797	585	804	723	811	716
29	Rajasthan	1549	1274	1587	1256	1638	1342	1641	1313	1683	1506
30	Sikkim	28	20	30	21	35	23	35	23	35	23
31	Tamil Nadu	1316	1082	1340	1068	1371	1040	1374	1256	1375	1240
32	Tripura	122	97	128	108	128	108	133	109	133	106
33	Uttar Pradesh	3634	2542	3647	2474	3696	2449	3700	2704	3700	2675
34	Uttarakhand	299	271	299	269	298	271	298	270	298	270
35	West Bengal	1014	918	1014	918	1014	918	1105	863	1105	863
36	A & N Island	0	13	0	13	0	13	0	12	0	12
Total		24515	19340	25077	19313	25439	20011	25753	20694	25843	21122

