

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3312
ANSWERED ON 21/08/2025

JUDICIAL PENDENCY AND CASE BACKLOGS

3312. DR. SASMIT PATRA:

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

- (a) the current number of pending cases in Supreme Court and High Courts;
- (b) whether time-bound clearance mechanisms are being considered for long-pending civil cases;
- (c) the vacancy status of judges across all High Courts; and
- (d) whether the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) has been upgraded to improve transparency?

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) portal, the details of cases pending in the Supreme Court and High Courts as on 18.08.2025 are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of Court	Pending Cases
1.	Supreme Court	87,138
2.	High Courts	64,02,834

The disposal of pending cases in a 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.

(c): The vacancy status of judges across all High Courts as on 11.08.2025 is at ***Annexure-I***.

(d): The National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) has been upgraded with an improved dashboard for functioning as a monitoring tool to identify, manage and reduce pendency of cases. It provides timely inputs for making policy decisions to reduce case pendency. It also facilitates better monitoring of court performance and identification of systemic bottlenecks for efficient resource management. The NJDG serves as National Judicial Data Warehouse and improves transparency by providing the consolidated figures of civil and criminal cases instituted, disposed and pending duly segregated into varied categories. Further, the data uploaded and collated on the portal can be accessed and analysed to show category-wise, year-wise, month-wise and State-wise disposal of cases across institutions and across the original/appellate/execution stages of a litigation. The data can also be analysed by reasons for delay which may include:

- Accused absconding
- Witness
- Awaiting documents
- Counsel not available
- Stayed by HC
- More witness
- Misc. applications blocked
- Frequent appeals
- Stayed for reasons
- Parties not interested
- Stayed by District Court
- Record unavailable
- Legal Representatives not on record
- Execution of Decree

ANNEXURE-I**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (C) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3312 FOR ANSWER ON 21.08.2025 REGARDING 'JUDICIAL PENDENCY AND CASE BACKLOGS'****Sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges across all High Courts as on 11.08.2025**

Sl. No.	High Court	Sanctioned strength	Working strength	Vacancies
1	Allahabad	160	84	76
2	Andhra Pradesh	37	30	7
3	Bombay	94	66	28
4	Calcutta	72	48	24
5	Chhattisgarh	22	16	6
6	Delhi	60	43	17
7	Gauhati	30	25	5
8	Gujarat	52	39	13
9	Himachal Pradesh	17	11	6
10	J & K and Ladakh	25	15	10
11	Jharkhand	25	15	10
12	Karnataka	62	47	15
13	Kerala	47	43	4
14	Madhya Pradesh	53	44	9
15	Madras	75	56	19
16	Manipur	5	3	2
17	Meghalaya	4	4	0
18	Orissa	33	20	13
19	Patna	53	37	16
20	Punjab & Haryana	85	59	26
21	Rajasthan	50	43	7
22	Sikkim	3	3	0
23	Telangana	42	29	13
24	Tripura	5	4	1
25	Uttarakhand	11	9	2
	Total	1122	793	329