

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2352
ANSWERED ON 12/03/2026

PENDENCY OF CASES

2352 # SHRI TEJVEER SINGH:

Will the Minister of *Law and Justice* be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pending cases in the High Courts and subordinate courts in the country and the major reformative and administrative steps taken by Government to reduce pendency of cases during the last three years;
- (b) the number of courts wherein e-filing, virtual hearings and digital record systems have been implemented under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project so far, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of central assistance provided for strengthening judicial infrastructure and filling vacant posts of judges?

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 available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), as on 09.03.2026, 64,01,789 cases are pending in High Courts and 4,95,49,089 cases are pending in subordinate courts.

The Central Government is committed for speedy disposal of cases and reducing pendency as mandated under Article 21 of the Constitution and has taken several initiatives to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary

Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) Scheme, 774 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including 398 exclusive POCSO (ePOCSO) Courts are functional across 29 States/UTs for the expeditious disposal of pending cases of Rape and POCSO Act, and have collectively disposed of 3,66,124 cases since their inception, as on 31.12.2025. The financial outlay under the scheme is Rs. 1952.23 crore with Rs. 1207.24 crore as Central Share to be incurred from Nirbhaya Fund on the CSS pattern. The Central Government, as on 02.03.2026, has released a total amount of Rs. 1,210.92 crore to States/UTs for the operationalization of FTSCs since the inception of the Scheme in 2019.

To strengthen the criminal court based legal services, the Department of Justice through NALSA is implementing a Central Sector Scheme, namely, the Legal Aid Defense Counsel System (LADCS) Scheme, which involves full time engagement of Legal Aid Defense Counsels (LADCs) with supporting staff at district level. As on December 2025, Legal Aid Defense Counsel (LADC) offices are functional in 680 districts across the country. LADCS Scheme has been approved for the period of 3 financial years 2023-24 to 2025-26) with a total financial outlay of Rs. 998.43 crore and up to January 2026, Rs. 643.755 crore has been released to NALSA for LADCS Scheme. The details of criminal cases assigned and disposed of by LADCs during the last three years are as follows: -

Financial Year	Criminal Cases assigned	Criminal Cases disposed	Disposal Rate
2023-24	3,36,830	2,12,505	63%
2024-25	5,32,413	3,72,750	70%
2025-26 (Dec. 2025)	3,93,614	2,86,326	73%
Total	12,62,857	8,71,581	69%

Further, the Phase-III of the eCourts Project (2023-2027) approved on 13.09.2023 with an outlay of Rs.7,210 crore to make justice delivery progressively more robust, easy and accessible. Till date, 660.36 crores pages of court records have been digitized in the High Courts and District Courts. More than 3.97 crore hearings have taken place through Video conferencing and live streaming is functional in several High Courts. The number of e Sewa Kendras (facilitation centres) has increased to 2,444 across High Courts and District Courts.

(b): The details of Courts where e-filing, virtual hearings, and digital record systems have been implemented under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project so far is at **Annexure**.

(c): The primary responsibility for development of infrastructure facilities for District & Subordinate Courts in the states, including facilities essential for persons, rests with the State Governments/UTs. To augment the resources of the State Government/UTs, the Union Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary in the District & Subordinate Courts by providing financial assistance to the State/UT governments in the prescribed fund sharing between Centre and States. There are five components of the Scheme against which Central assistance is granted to the States/UTs, viz. (i) Court Halls, (ii) Residential Units, (iii) Lawyers' Halls, (iv) Toilet Complexes and (v) Digital Computer Rooms. Since inception of the scheme, total amount of Rs. 12,681.07 crores (as on 28.02.2026) has been released to States/UTs under the Scheme, out of which Rs. 9,236.76 crore has been released w.e.f. 2014-15. For the current FY 2025-26, an amount of Rs. 629.66 crore has been released to States/UTs.

Filling up of the vacancy in the higher Judiciary 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 which are obtained in accordance with the

MoP. The recommendations also have to be considered in the light of such other reports as may be available to the Government in respect of the names under consideration. The recommendations of the High Court Collegium, the State Governments and the Government of India are then forwarded to the Supreme Court Collegium (SCC) for advice. Only those persons whose names have been recommended by the SCC are appointed as Judges of the High Courts.

Further, filling up of vacant positions of the judicial officers in District and Subordinate courts is the responsibility of the High Courts and State Governments concerned. As per the Constitutional framework, in exercise of powers conferred under the proviso to Article 309 read with Articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the respective State Government, in consultation with the High Court, frames the rules and regulations regarding the appointment and recruitment of Judicial Officers. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order passed in January 2007 in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case, has inter-alia stipulated certain timelines, which are to be followed by the States and the respective High Courts for recruitment of judges in District and Subordinate Courts.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2352 FOR ANSWER ON 12.03.2026 REGARDING 'PENDENCY OF CASES'

S.No	Name of High Court	E-Filing total count as on 31.01.2026, Total Cases Submitted			Number of cases dealt with (virtual hearings) on video conferencing as on 31 st January 2026			No. of pages digitized as on 31.01.2026		
		High Courts	District Courts	Total	High Courts	District Courts	Grand Total	High Court	District Courts	Total
1	Allahabad*	0	12,531	12,531	2,49,209	67,10,672	69,59,881	58,19,35,116	1,75,86,65,405	2,34,06,00,521
2	Andhra Pradesh	23,736	44	23,780	4,22,512	14,59,891	18,82,403	3,62,30,680	18,33,14,688	21,95,45,368
3	Bombay	4,05,326	25,87,820	29,93,146	98,343	3,22,291	4,20,634	9,21,83,862	26,37,314	9,48,21,176
4	Calcutta	12,265	2,621	14,886	1,83,302	1,92,522	3,75,824	5,99,58,081	0	5,99,58,081
5	Chhattisgarh	894	3,363	4,257	1,05,246	4,68,030	5,73,276	28,25,324	2,44,45,025	2,72,70,349
6	Delhi*	0	16,63,101	16,63,101	3,22,201	76,05,823	79,28,024	23,50,99,015	10,75,60,093	34,26,59,108
7	Gauhati – Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0	3,620	8,837	12,457	5,06,407	1,26,322	6,32,729
8	Gauhati – Assam	40,764	50,098	90,862	2,67,826	5,53,598	8,21,424	2,97,53,593	15,58,31,203	18,55,84,796
9	Gauhati – Mizoram	0	0	0	4,297	13,581	17,878	12,61,775	21,45,738	34,07,513
10	Gauhati – Nagaland	0	0	0	1,508	1,284	2,792	0	0	0
11	Gujarat	64,650	10,303	74,953	4,20,550	2,38,090	6,58,640	20,56,046	20,98,653	41,54,699
12	Himachal Pradesh	3,655	1,09,090	1,12,745	1,86,441	2,03,751	3,90,192	81,71,391	14,55,412	96,26,803
13	Jammu & Kashmir	29,942	2,11,933	2,41,875	2,65,397	6,01,494	8,66,891	4,12,67,215	2,71,14,636	6,83,81,851
14	Jharkhand	70	1,375	1,445	2,25,518	7,51,716	9,77,234	3,10,02,847	31,56,964	3,41,59,811
15	Karnataka	10,360	4,15,537	4,25,897	12,79,932	1,94,764	14,74,696	5,38,81,928	4,70,33,448	10,09,15,376
16	Kerala*	0	10,93,024	10,93,024	3,17,949	7,59,988	10,77,937	8,38,48,233	1,86,11,454	10,24,59,687
17	Madhya Pradesh*	0	18,045	18,045	7,00,733	11,87,344	18,88,077	24,90,04,956	68,21,95,995	93,12,00,951
18	Madras	1,44,535	22,86,703	24,31,238	15,34,057	4,89,890	20,23,947	21,38,11,184	17,83,78,424	39,21,89,608
19	Manipur	7,546	30,146	37,692	55,340	19,086	74,426	58,94,989	57,94,737	1,16,89,726
20	Meghalaya	39	1	40	6,944	78,682	85,626	12,11,210	38,20,961	50,32,171
21	Orissa	34,988	78,437	1,13,425	3,61,055	3,71,119	7,32,174	5,33,13,761	17,63,75,480	22,96,89,241
22	Patna	7,32,678	57,660	7,90,338	2,78,263	33,11,160	35,89,423	2,41,60,047	2,68,10,068	5,09,70,115
23	Punjab & Haryana	1,22,131	1,51,344	2,73,475	6,56,708	38,02,334	44,59,042	29,65,31,164	65,06,22,740	94,71,53,904
24	Rajasthan	1,36,084	5,918	1,42,002	2,55,986	2,70,243	5,26,229	13,71,87,927	4,10,95,234	17,82,83,161
25	Sikkim	3,896	6,742	10,638	927	17,916	18,843	11,83,569	54,22,642	66,06,211
26	Telangana	10,528	52,753	63,281	15,34,185	2,02,503	17,36,688	13,08,90,654	7,90,39,244	20,99,29,898
27	Tripura	4,472	36,109	40,581	22,556	43,532	66,088	54,61,690	5,63,244	60,24,934
28	Uttarakhand	341	1,01,854	1,02,195	91,348	52,778	1,44,126	2,51,82,755	1,54,92,800	4,06,75,555
	Total	17,88,900	89,86,552	1,07,75,452	98,51,953	2,99,32,919	3,97,84,872	2,40,38,15,419	4,19,98,07,924	6,60,36,23,343

Note: - * Allahabad, Delhi, Kerala and Madhya Pradesh are using their own e-filing application for High Court.