

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4447
ANSWERED ON - 02/04/2026

GUIDELINES FOR DISPOSAL OF PENDING CASES

4447. # SMT. DARSHANA SINGH:

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

- (a) whether there are any guidelines issued by Government for disposal of cases pending for ten years and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the current number of such cases, State-wise;
- (c) whether Artificial Intelligence (AI) or other technological tools are being utilized to reduce the burden of pending cases in courts; and
- (d) if so, the details of steps taken in this regard and the impact thereof?

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) and (b): Disposal of cases is within the exclusive domain of the judiciary. As such no guidelines have been issued by the Government for disposal of cases pending for ten years.

However, the Government is fully committed for speedy disposal of cases and reducing pendency as mandated under Article 21 of the Constitution. The Government has taken several initiatives to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary which, inter-alia, includes amalgamation of latest technologies for increasing access to justice and greater transparency under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project and supplementing of the resources of the State Governments/UTs for providing suitable infrastructure facilities for the District and Subordinate Judiciary under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary.

The current number of cases, pending for ten years, is at **Annexure .**

(c) and (d): Artificial Intelligence (AI) is being utilized to reduce the burden of pending cases in courts and improve efficiency in the criminal justice system. The Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) project, based on the principle of 'one data one entry', aims to achieve seamless information exchange across all the pillars of criminal justice system and digitally link the databases of police (CCTNS), e-Courts, e-Prisons and e-Prosecution and e-Forensics. Data between the Case Information System (CIS) under e-Courts and other pillars of ICJS are shared within the ambit of data sharing matrix approved by the eCommittee of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

As part of the National e-Governance Plan, Phase-III of the eCourts Mission Mode project is under implementation for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) enablement of courts and to enhance the judicial productivity, both qualitatively & quantitatively, making the justice delivery system accessible, cost effective, reliable and transparent. Under this project, Rs. 53.57 crore have been earmarked for the component “Future Technological Advancements” to integrate modern technologies for smoother user experience.

To explore the use of AI in judicial domain, the Supreme Court of India constituted an AI Committee, which is responsible for conceptualizing, implementing and monitoring use of AI in the judiciary. However, no formal policy or guidelines exist for adopting AI tools in judicial processes, as AI-based solutions remain in the controlled pilot phase and authorities use AI only within the areas approved in the DPR of eCourts Phase III. Besides, formulation and regulation of operational frameworks in this regard will be governed by the rules of business and policies of the concerned High Courts.

The Supreme Court of India in collaboration with IIT Madras is testing the prototypes of AI and ML tools for curing document defects, meta data extraction and integration with the electronic filing module and the case management software, namely Integrated Case Management & Information System (ICMIS). An AI based tool called Legal Research Analysis Assistant [LegRAA] has been developed to aid judges in legal research and document analysis. Another AI based tool called Digital Courts 2.1 has been developed to assist Judges and Judicial Officers in managing the court in paperless manner by providing a single window for all case-related information and tasks. The platform includes voice-to-text (ASR-SHRUTI) and translation (PANINI) functionalities to assist the judges with order and judgment dictation.

The Digital Justice System under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project has expedited and simplified judicial processes and has also improved transparency and accessibility in the justice delivery system. Further, the Digital Courts platform enables judges to access all case-related documents, pleadings and evidence digitally, marking a significant leap toward a paperless court ecosystem.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4447 FOR ANSWER ON 02.04.2026 REGARDING 'GUIDELINES FOR DISPOSAL OF PENDING CASES'

Number of cases pending for 10 years, in District & Subordinate Courts, state-wise, as on 27.03.2026		
Sr. No	State/UTs	No. of cases pending for more than 10 years
1	Andaman and Nicobar	1,732
2	Andhra Pradesh	17,135
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1,630
4	Assam	10,331
5	Bihar	8,62,219
6	Chandigarh	412
7	Chhattisgarh	1,166
8	Delhi	40,972
9	Goa	4,254
10	Gujarat	60,529
11	Haryana	4,704
12	Himachal Pradesh	10,024
13	Jammu and Kashmir	20,137
14	Jharkhand	43,436
15	Karnataka	95,504
16	Kerala	43,589
17	Ladakh	10
18	Lakshadweep	26
19	Madhya Pradesh	31,796
20	Maharashtra	5,29,517
21	Manipur	764
22	Meghalaya	2,372
23	Mizoram	30
24	Nagaland	277
25	Odisha	2,95,382
26	Puducherry	2,479
27	Punjab	3,677
28	Rajasthan	75,966
29	Sikkim	3
30	Tamil Nadu	65,026
31	Telangana	19,148
32	The Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	373
33	Tripura	711
34	Uttar Pradesh	22,37,931
35	Uttarakhand	6,882
36	West Bengal	7,66,149
	Total	52,56,293

Source: National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)