

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1124**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 08<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2017**

**Pending Court Cases**

**1124. DR. ANUPAM HAZRA:  
SHRI DUSHYANT CHAUTALA:  
SHRI RAYAPATI SAMBASIVA RAO:  
SHRI GOPAL SHETTY:  
SHRI RATTAN LAL KATARIA:  
SHRI CHANDU LAL SAHU:  
SHRIMATI REKHA VERMA:  
SHRI AJAY MISRA TENI:  
SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:  
SHRI R. DHRUVA NARAYANA:  
SHRI S.P. MUDDAHANUME GOWDA:  
SHRI RAJU SHETTY:  
SHRI HARISH CHANDRA ALIAS HARISH DWIVEDI:  
SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:  
SHRI SHARAD TRIPATHI:  
SHRI HUKUM SINGH:  
SHRI RAJESH VERMA:  
SHRI OM BIRLA:  
SHRI M.B. RAJESH:  
SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:  
DR. MANOJ RAJORIA:  
SHRIMATI JAYSHREEBEN PATEL:**

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

- (a) the details of the civil and criminal cases pending at various levels in the judiciary, State and district-wise;**
- (b) the steps taken / being taken to address the high pendency of cases;**
- (c) the details of the vacancies of judges at various levels in the judiciary;**
- (d) the steps being taken to fill up these vacancies; and**
- (e) the details of any other initiative taken by the Government to provide speedy justice to the citizens?**

**ANSWER  
MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY)**

(a): The data on pendency of cases is maintained by Supreme Court and High Courts. As per information made available by the Supreme Court of India 50,826 civil cases and

10,874 criminal cases were pending in Supreme Court of India as on 23.11.2016. The details of pendency of civil and criminal cases in each of the High Courts and District / Subordinate Courts as on 31.03.2016 are given in the Statements at **Annexure – I** and **Annexure – II** respectively.

(b): Disposal of cases in courts is within the domain of judiciary. The Government has adopted a co-ordinated approach to assist judiciary for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial systems, which, *inter-alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerisation, increase in strength of judicial officers / judges, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation and emphasis on human resource development.

(c): The sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court is 31 and 8 posts of judges are vacant as on 01.02.2017. The sanctioned strength of judges in the High Courts is 1079 in January, 2017. 433 posts of judges in the High Courts are vacant as on 01.02.2017 which includes 173 newly created posts. The details of present strength and vacancy position of Judges in various High Courts are given at **Annexure – III**. The Appointment of Judges and Judicial Officers in the District and Subordinate Courts falls within the domain of the High Courts and State Governments concerned.

(d) : Filling up of the vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous process, as it requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and increase in Judge strength. In view of the large number of vacancies and the fact that the process of supplementing the existing Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) for improvement in the “Collegium System” as per Supreme Court Order dated 16.12.2015 was likely to take some time, on the initiative of Government, the matter was taken up with the Supreme Court and the process of appointment of judges has been resumed. During the year 2016, 126 fresh appointment of Judges in High Courts and 131 Additional Judges have been made permanent, which is the highest number of appointments made in the last 26 years. In addition, the tenure of 22 Additional Judges of High Courts was also extended. 4 Judges have also been appointed in Supreme Court in 2016. In 2017 (up to 31.01.2017), 4 fresh appointments of Judges have also been made in High Court. The subject matter relating to filling up of vacancies in the District and Subordinate

Courts falls within the domain of the High Courts and the State Governments concerned. The Central Government has no role in appointment of Subordinate Judiciary.

(e): The 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission has endorsed the proposal to strengthen the judicial system in States which includes, inter-alia, establishing 1800 Fast Track Courts( FTCs) for a period of five years for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants affected with HIV AIDS and other terminal ailments; and civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/rent disputes pending for more than five years at a cost of Rs.4,144 crore. The 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission has urged State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution to meet such requirements.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1124 FOR ANSWER ON 08<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2017.****Number of Civil and Criminal cases Pending in High Courts as on 31.03.2016**

<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of the High Court</b>	<b>Civil cases</b>	<b>Criminal cases</b>
1	Allahabad	554626	358412
2	Andhra Pradesh	234612	38359
3	Bombay	202893	47995
4	Calcutta	181385	39826
5	Delhi	46739	16350
6	Gujarat	51856	33175
7	Gauhati	22081	4932
8	Himachal Pradesh	26314	5603
9	Jammu & Kashmir	52860	4841
10	Karnataka	221857	20661
11	Kerala	122406	35604
12	Madras	255308	35515
13	Madhya Pradesh	175326	103176
14	Orissa	128940	40280
15	Patna	79334	49017
16	Punjab & Haryana	202058	83098
17	Rajasthan	184694	63797
18	Sikkim	83	45
19	Uttarakhand	19453	8268
20	Chhattisgarh	31773	19327
21	Jharkhand	42641	38853
22	Tripura	2342	505
23	Manipur	3123	126
24	Meghalaya	568	39
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2843272</b>	<b>1047804</b>

Source: Court News, January – March, 2016, published by Supreme Court of India.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1124 FOR ANSWER ON 08<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2017.****Number of Civil and Criminal cases Pending in District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.03.2016**

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Name of State/UTs</b>	<b>Civil cases</b>	<b>Criminal cases</b>
1.	Andhra Pradesh & Telangana	492248	536989
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1630	8014
3.	Assam	68240	185401
4.	Bihar	337642	1748622
5.	Chhattisgarh	64562	215223
6.	Goa	24403	16050
7.	Gujarat	656336	1473180
8.	Haryana	234223	296419
9.	Himachal Pradesh	96683	122735
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	47419	88676
11.	Jharkhand	64997	263525
12.	Karnataka	683139	607345
13.	Kerala	429061	973475
14.	Madhya Pradesh	272399	936261
15.	Maharashtra	1097351	1997420
16.	Manipur	3732	3406
17.	Meghalaya	3359	10732
18.	Mizoram	2232	2533
19.	Nagaland	1883	2397
20.	Orissa	267479	829248
21.	Punjab	245443	268265
22.	Rajasthan	479662	1036667
23.	Sikkim	400	933
24.	Tamil Nadu	649860	431916
25.	Tripura	9762	145645
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1491145	4245179
27.	Uttarakhand	31047	142392
28.	West Bengal	566216	2089506
29.	A & N Island	3286	5762
30.	Chandigarh	15449	22330
31.	Daman & Diu	963	753
32.	D & N Haveli	1549	2399
33.	Delhi	161181	411829
34.	Lakshadweep	140	215
35.	Pondicherry	13805	12550
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8518926</b>	<b>19133992</b>

Source: Court News, January – March, 2016, published by Supreme Court of India.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1124 FOR ANSWER ON 08<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2017.****Statement showing the Approved Strength, Working Strength and Vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts.****(As on 01.02.2017)**

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Approved Strength			Working Strength			Vacancies as per Approved Strength		
A.	Supreme Court of India	31			23			08		
B.	High Court	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total
1	Allahabad	76	84	160	71	12	83	05	72	77
2	High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	46	15	61	27	0	27	19	15	34
3	Bombay	71	23	94	56	06	62	15	17	32
4	Calcutta	54	18	72	37	01	38	17	17	34
5	Chhattisgarh	17	05	22	08	03	11	09	02	11
6	Delhi	45	15	60	38	0	38	07	15	22
7	Gauhati	18	06	24	07	10	17	11	-04	07
8	Gujarat	39	13	52	25	06	31	14	07	21
9	Himachal Pradesh	10	03	13	07	02	09	03	01	04
10	Jammu & Kashmir	13	04	17	09	0	09	04	04	08
11	Jharkhand	19	06	25	08	05	13	11	01	12
12	Karnataka	47	15	62	24	06	30	23	09	32
13	Kerala	35	12	47	25	12	37	10	0	10
14	Madhya Pradesh	40	13	53	18	19	37	22	-06	16
15	Madras	56	19	75	54	03	57	02	16	18
16	Manipur	04	01	05	03	0	03	01	01	02
17	Meghalaya	03	01	04	03	0	03	0	01	01
18	Orissa	20	07	27	15	03	18	05	04	09
19	Patna	40	13	53	24	06	30	16	07	23
20	Punjab & Haryana	64	21	85	45	02	47	19	19	38
21	Rajasthan	38	12	50	23	11	34	15	01	16
22	Sikkim	03	0	03	02	0	02	01	0	01
23	Tripura	04	0	04	03	0	03	01	0	01
24	Uttarakhand	09	02	11	07	0	07	02	02	04
<b>Total</b>		<b>771</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>1079</b>	<b>539</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>646</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>433*</b>

\*Vacancies include 173 newly created posts of Judges from 01.07.2014 to 10.05.2016.

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