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

## LOK SABHA

## **UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6337**

# TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2017

#### Efficient Work Culture

#### 6337. SHRI MALYADRI SRIRAM:

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

- (a) whether the Government would come forward to bring in more efficient work culture in the entire judicial system along with adequate appointment of judges for trial of such long pending cases; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken by the Government in this regard?

#### ANSWER

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

(a) & (b) : Appointment of Judges / Judicial officers and their service conditions in Districts and Subordinate Courts is within the domain of the State Governments and the High Courts concerned. The Central Government has no role in the matter. However, the Central Government takes up the matter with the High Courts from time to time to fill up the vacancies of Judges / Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts.

Disposal of cases pending 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.

During the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of the High Courts held at New Delhi in April 2015, reduction of pendency and backlog of cases in courts emerged as an area which required focused attention at the High Court level. The Chief Justices of the High Courts in the Conference held on 03<sup>rd</sup> and 04<sup>th</sup> April 2015 have resolved that each High Court shall establish an Arrears Committee, which would go into the factors responsible for the delays and prepare an action plan to clear the backlog of cases pending for more than five years. It was further resolved in the Conference of Chief Justices of the High Courts held in April, 2016, that in order to ensure expeditious disposal of cases pertaining to women, marginalized segments, senior citizens and differently-abled, steps be taken to (a) prioritize the disposal of cases falling in these categories within the existing court system; (b) an endeavour be made to revisit the cadre strength of subordinate courts and, where necessary, create additional courts to deal with such cases. As per information available, Arrears Committees have been set up by the High Courts.

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