

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1564**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 19<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2018.**

**Cases Pending in Andhra Pradesh**

**1564. SHRI MUTHAMSETTI SRINIVASA RAO (AVANTHI):**

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

- (a) the number of cases pending in the Andhra Pradesh (AP) High Court and various district courts and Tribunals, as on date;**
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to reduce the backlog of cases in the State by filling up vacant posts and by setting up fast track courts; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS  
(SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY)**

(a) : The National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) provides details regarding cases pending in High Courts, District and Subordinate Courts. As per the information available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), 3.60 lakh cases were pending in the High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad, and 5.21 lakh cases were pending in the District and Subordinate Courts in the State of Andhra Pradesh as on 13.12.2018. The number of cases pending in Tribunals is not available on the centralised web-portal viz. National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG).

(b) & (c): The Government is committed to the mandate of the Preamble and Article 39A of the Constitution that the legal system promotes justice on the basis of equal opportunity. The Government is, therefore, fully committed to speedy disposal of cases and reduction in pendency of cases to improve access to justice.

In August, 2018, the Minister of Law & Justice had written to all the Chief Justices of High Courts including Chief Justice of High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad that increasing pendency of cases is a source of concern both for the Government and Judiciary; that one of the underlying reasons behind the high pendency is sometimes the inordinate delay in filling up the vacancies of judicial officers. It was, accordingly, requested that the High Court may monitor the status of the vacancies regularly and to

ensure proper coordination with the state Public Service Commission so that the examination and interviews are conducted in accordance with the time schedule prescribed by the Supreme Court in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which included, *inter-alia*, establishing Fast Track Courts for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children *etc.*, and urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided in the form of enhanced tax devolution from 32% to 42% to meet such requirements. At present, 708 such Fast Track Courts (including 59 Fast Track Courts in Andhra Pradesh & Telangana) are functioning across the country. To fast track criminal cases involving elected MPs / MLAs, twelve (12) Special Courts have been set up in eleven (11) States (Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Kerala, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and NCT of Delhi) and proportionate funds have been released to these States by the Government. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018 (to amend the Indian Penal Code, Indian Evidence Act, 1872, the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012) has also been enacted on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2018.

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