

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1593**

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 19.12.2018

Vacancies in High Courts

1593. SHRI JITENDRA CHAUDHURY:
SHRI RAJU SHETTY

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

- a) the number of posts of Judges lying vacant in various benches of High Courts in the country and the number of cases pending in various benches;
- b) the time since when the posts are lying vacant and the reasons therefor and the time by which these posts are likely to be filled; and
- c) the efforts being made by the Government to fill these vacancies?

ANSWER

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

(a): Statement showing vacancies of Judges and number of pending cases High Court-wise is annexed.

(b) and (c): Filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities.

As per the existing Memorandum of Procedure for appointment of Judges of High Courts (MoP), the Chief Justices of the High Courts are required to initiate the proposals for filling up of vacancies of Judges in their respective High Courts. As per the existing MoP, the Chief Justice of the High Court is required to initiate the proposals for filling up of vacancies of a Judge in a High Court six months prior to the occurrence of vacancies but this timeline is rarely adhered to. 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 also due to increase in the strength of Judges. Hence, the time frame for filling up of the vacancies cannot be indicated.

Annexure

Statement referred to in reply to Part(a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1593 to be answered on 19.12.2018 regarding "Vacancies in High Courts".

As on 14.12.2018

Sl. No.	Name of High Court	Vacancies	Pending Cases
1	Allahabad	51	721844
2	Telangana & Andhra Pradesh	34	360384
3	Bombay	23	464074
4	Calcutta	35	242635
5	Chhattisgarh	07	63013
6	Delhi	21	73612
7	Gauhati	05	40398
8	Gujarat	23	112913
9	Himachal Pradesh	05	36084
10	Jammu & Kashmir	08	91658
11	Jharkhand	06	87930
12	Karnataka	29	181706
13	Kerala	09	192633
14	Madhya Pradesh	18	330122
15	Madras	14	397933
16	Manipur	02	9167
17	Meghalaya	01	1028
18	Orissa	13	167589
19	Patna	25	150900
20	Punjab & Haryana	30	393953
21	Rajasthan	25	738585
22	Sikkim	0	252
23	Tripura	01	2891
24	Uttarakhand	02	55412
Total		387	4916716