

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2506

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 26th DECEMBER, 2018.

Civil and Criminal Cases

**†2506. SHRI CHANDRA PRAKASH JOSHI:
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:
SHRI SUMEDHANAND SARSWATI:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI RAMDAS C. TADAS:**

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

- (a) the State-wise details of the present number of criminal and civil cases in the country;**
- (b) the number of criminal and civil cases pending especially in Supreme Court and High Courts;**
- (c) the number of cases heard in Supreme Court and High Courts during the last three years along with the number of cases decided;**
- (d) whether the Government has any scheme to speed up the judicial process; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): State / UT-wise details of the present number of civil and criminal cases pending in District and Subordinate Courts of the country are given in Statement at **Annexure**. 46,860 civil cases and 10,134 criminal cases are pending in the Supreme Court as on 01.12.2018. In various High Courts, 24,38,561 Civil Cases, 13,26,794 Criminal Cases and 12,13,678 Writ Petitions are pending as on 21.12.2018.

(c) : The details of number of cases disposed in the Supreme Court and various High Courts during the last three years are given below:

Court	Year	Number of Cases disposed
Supreme Court	2015	82,092
	2016	75,979
	2017	63,053
High Courts	2014	17,34,542
	2015	15,80,911
	2016	15,39,315

(d) & (e) : The Government is committed to speedy disposal of cases and reduction in pendency of cases to improve access to justice in line with the mandate of the Preamble and Article 39A of the Constitution. The following interventions have been made by the Government during the last 4 years:

- 1) Pursuant to the decisions taken in the Joint Conference of the Chief Ministers of the States and Chief Justices of the High Courts in 2015, Arrears Committee has been established in the Supreme Court, all 24 High Courts and District Courts. The progress made by the High Courts and subordinate judiciary in reducing pendency was taken up for consideration again in the Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts held in April 2016, wherein it was resolved, *inter alia*, that all High Courts shall assign top most priority for disposal of cases which are pending for more than five years.
- 2) In April, 2015, the Hon'ble Prime Minister had written to all Chief Ministers of States drawing attention to the pending cases in courts and urging them to utilise the additional fiscal space provided in the form of enhanced tax devolution from 32% to 42% as recommended by the 14th Finance Commission and accepted by the Government, to improve the working of the judicial system and provide speedy justice in the country.
- 3) In September, 2016, Minister of Law & Justice wrote to the Chief Ministers of States and the Chief Justices of High Courts to enhance the cadre strength of the district and subordinate judiciary and provide physical infrastructure to the State judiciary. The same was reiterated in May, 2017. In August, 2018, in the context of increasing pendency of cases, the Minister of Law & Justice has written to all Chief Justices of High Courts to monitor the status of the vacancies regularly and to ensure proper coordination with the state Public Service Commission to fill up vacant posts as per time schedule prescribed by the Supreme Court in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case.

Besides taking up the concern of pendency of cases with the States and High Courts, the Government has simultaneously has taken several initiatives to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary. The National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms established by the Government has adopted a coordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration through various strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure [court halls and residential

units] for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts, leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, filling up of vacant positions of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court, reduction in pendency through follow up by Arrears Committees at District, High Court and Supreme Court level, emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) and initiatives to fast track special type of cases.

Statement referred to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2506 for reply on 26.12.2018

State-wise details of the present number of criminal and cases pending in District and Subordinate Courts

Sl. No	Name of States/UTs	Civil Cases	Criminal Cases	Total
1.	A & N Island*	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	295060	228852	523912
3.	Telangana	224388	291955	516343
4.	Arunachal Pradesh*	0	0	0
5.	Assam	64464	220993	285457
6.	Bihar	375746	2093808	2469554
7.	Chandigarh	17084	26456	43540
8.	Chhattisgarh	54833	205422	260255
9.	D & N Haveli	1257	1513	2770
10.	Daman & Diu	945	929	1874
11.	Delhi	187182	532120	719302
12.	Goa	21571	22631	44202
13.	Gujarat	450956	1173367	1624323
14.	Haryana	279663	446503	726166
15.	Himachal Pradesh	116524	141734	258258
16.	Jammu & Kashmir	70111	88953	159064
17.	Jharkhand	59550	295121	354671
18.	Karnataka	650064	632682	1282746
19.	Kerala	334919	833035	1167954
20.	Lakshadweep*	0	0	0
21.	Madhya Pradesh	323545	1058735	1382280
22.	Maharashtra	1181071	2377581	3558652
23.	Manipur	5532	4362	9894
24.	Meghalaya	1994	4757	6751
25.	Mizoram	1529	2117	3646
26.	Nagaland*	0	0	0
27.	Odisha	253984	877101	1131085
28.	Punjab	255953	343079	599032
29.	Rajasthan	403128	1111890	1515018
30.	Sikkim	428	879	1307
31.	Tamil Nadu	619648	477294	1096942
32.	Puducherry*	0	0	0
33.	Tripura	7640	15656	23296
34.	Uttar Pradesh	1670383	5339766	7010149
35.	Uttarakhand	34101	202940	237041
36.	West Bengal	496028	1712813	2208841
Total		8459281	20765044	29224325

\$ Source: High Courts

\$ Source: NJDG Web portal.

*Note: Data on District and Subordinate Courts in the States of **Arunachal Pradesh**, **Nagaland**, and Union Territories of **Lakshadweep** and **Puducherry** are not available on the web-portal of NJDG. Data in respect of **Andaman & Nicobar Islands** as on 20.12.2018 is not available on NJDG Portal.

