

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2011

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 03RD JULY, 2019.

Pending Court Cases

2011. SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY:

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

- (a) the details regarding the average number of cases filed and cases disposed of by the Supreme Court and the High Courts in the country;**
- (b) the details regarding the number of cases which have been pending in several high courts in the country for more than last ten years;**
- (c) whether the Government has taken any concrete action plan to improve the disposal of the cases and efficacy of the system; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the success achieved as a result thereof so far?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS &
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) : As per the information available, details of total number of cases filed and disposed of during last three years in Supreme Court are given below:

YEAR	Cases filed	Cases disposed
2016	79,244	75,979
2017	56,104	63,053
2018 (As on 01.12.2018)	37,132	35,979

As per the information available, 16.01 lakh cases were disposed in High Courts the year 2016, 16.24 lakh cases were disposed in the year 2017, and 12.24 lakh cases were disposed in the year 2018 upto 30.09.2018.

(b) : As per the information available on web-portal of National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), 8.33 lakh cases are pending in various High Courts for more than ten years.

(c) & (d): Pursuant to the Joint Conference of the Chief Ministers of the States and Chief Justices of the High Courts held in 2015, where it was resolved that all High Courts would constitute Arrears Committee, the then Minister of Law and Justice had written to the Chief Justices of the High Courts requesting them to appraise the Government of the steps being taken by them to address the issue of pendency especially regarding cases pending for more than 5 years. As per the available information, all High Courts have established Arrears Committees. Progress made by the High Courts in reducing pendency was taken up for consideration again in the Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts held in April 2016. Based on the reports submitted by the Arrears Committee of various High Courts, it was, *inter-alia*, resolved that (i) all the High Courts shall assign top most priority for disposal of cases which are pending for more than five years; (ii) High Courts where cases are pending for more than five years shall facilitate their disposal in mission mode; (iii) High Court shall progressively thereafter set a target of disposing of cases for more than four years; (iv) While prioritizing the disposal of cases pending in the district courts for more than five years, additional incentives for the Judges of the district judiciary could be considered where feasible; and (v) Efforts shall be made for strengthening case-flow management rules. It was further resolved that the Chief Justices of the High Courts will set up a Cell / Committee for monitoring the implementation of the resolutions passed in the Chief Justices Conferences and each High Court shall create a mechanism for submitting progress report to the Supreme Court. Accordingly, Arrears Committees are functioning in all High Courts and in District Courts.
