

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3944

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 17TH JULY, 2019.

Pending Court Cases

3944. SHRI L. S. TEJASVI SURYA:

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

- (a) the number of cases pending in Indian Courts involving a department / Ministry of the Union Government and a Central PSU along with the courts where these cases are filed;**
- (b) the measures undertaken to resolve such disputes out of court so that time and resources of Courts are freed up to resolving other disputes; and**
- (c) the measures that have been institutionalized to ensure that disputes amongst entities controlled by Union Government are resolved speedily and without straining the resources of the Indian judicial system?**

ANSWER

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

(a) : All the Central Government Ministries and Departments update data on pending litigations involving them on the web-portal created by Department of Legal Affairs, *namely*, Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS). As per the information available on LIMBS portal, details of cases involving Ministries / Departments etc. pending in various courts are given below:

| Court | Number of cases pending. |
|---|--------------------------|
| Supreme Court | 13,260 |
| High Courts | 1,30,031 |
| District / Subordinate Courts / Tribunals / Forums etc. | 2,58,965 |
| Total | 4,02,256 |

(b) & (c): The Ministry of Law & Justice has suggested to various Government Departments and Organisations and other related bodies to explore options for settlement of their disputes through alternate methods, *like* mediation, arbitration, conciliation, etc. either online or otherwise. For the purpose, the Government has made available information about Agencies / Institutions / Organisations working in the field of such

alternate methods of dispute resolution on the website of the Department of Justice to provide information about them to the users. The relevant Government Ministries were requested in April, 2017 to take necessary action for reducing number of court cases in which Government is a party. It was followed by a series of meetings held with various Ministries and Departments in the months of June and August 2017 requesting them to review their pending cases with a view to reduce number of litigation and to consider contempt cases in *particular* so as to weed out vexatious and unnecessary litigation pending in courts.
