

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†2108
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 15TH DECEMBER, 2023**

DISPOSAL OF CASES PENDING IN COURTS

**†2108. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:
SHRI GUMAN SINGH DAMOR:
DR. K. JAYAKUMAR:
MS. CHANDRANI MURMU:
SHRI HANUMAN BENIWAL:
SHRI ABDUL KHALEQUE:**

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

- (a) whether a huge number of cases are pending in Supreme Court, High Courts and District courts in the country and if so, the number of cases pending and disposed of during each of the last three years and the current year along with the rate of increase in pendency over last eight years and the reasons therefor, court and State-wise including Rajasthan;**
- (b) the details of cases pending for more than five, ten and fifteen years in various courts, court and State-wise including Rajasthan and the time by which they are likely to be disposed of;**
- (c) whether the Government is considering to place a timeline within which the judgement/disposal of cases is to be delivered and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether the Government proposes to dispose the cases except of serious nature by launching some special campaign or setting up of special Lok Adalat and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) whether there has been a long standing demand from Rajasthan for funds in order to set up new courts in the State and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF
LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY
OF CULTURE**

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a): The detailed statement of State-wise (including Rajasthan) court cases pending and disposed of during the last three years, including the current year, as per information available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), is at *Annexure-I* for Supreme Court, *Annexure-II* for High Courts and *Annexure-III* for District and Subordinate Courts.

The detailed statement of State-wise (including Rajasthan) rate of increase in pendency of court cases, over the last eight years in the Supreme Court of India, High Courts and District & Subordinate Courts, as per information available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), is at *Annexure-IV, Annexure-V and Annexure-VI* respectively.

There are several reasons that lead to pendency of cases in courts which, *inter-alia*, include availability of physical infrastructure and supporting court staff, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders viz. bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. Other factors that lead to delay in disposal of cases include lack of prescribed timeframe by respective courts for disposal of various kinds of cases, frequent adjournments and lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing. Moreover, in case of pendency of criminal cases, the Criminal Justice System functions on assistance by various agencies viz. Police, Prosecution, Forensic Labs, Handwriting Experts and Medico-Legal Experts. Delay in providing assistance by allied agencies also entails delay in disposal of cases.

(b): The information is not available in the manner sought. As per information available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), the detailed statement of cases pending for more than five to ten years and ten to twenty years, as on 12.12.2023, is as under:

No. of Years	Supreme Court	High Court	District Courts
5-10 years	14840	68,94,578	68,94,578
10 to 20 years	4735	32,25,690	32,25,690

Source: National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)

In case of Rajasthan, the cases pending for more than five to ten years and ten to twenty years, is as under:

No. of Years	Rajasthan High Court	Rajasthan District Courts
5-10 years	1,15,712	3,93,739
10 to 20 years	87,324	77,909

Source: National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)

(c): The disposal of pending cases and prescribing timelines for judgements/disposal of cases is within the exclusive domain of the judiciary and the Central Government has no direct role in the said matter.

(d): At present, there is no proposal before the government to launch a special campaign or separately setting up special Lok Adalats other than the Lok Adalats already

being organized by NALSA for disposal of such cases, except cases of serious nature. However, the Government has undertaken several initiatives to provide for setting up of special courts/Benches in order to aid speedy disposal of pending cases. The highlights of the same are as follows:

- i.** For the safety and security of women and children, the central government has approved a scheme for setting up Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) across the country for the expeditious disposal of pending cases of Rape under IPC and crimes under Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses (POCSO) Act, 2012. As of 31.10.2023, a total of 758 FTSCs including 412 exclusive POCSO (ePOCSO) Courts are functional in 30 States/UTs across the country. FTSCs Scheme has been further extended for 3 more years i.e. from FY 2023-24 to FY 2025-26.
- ii.** Special Courts for lawmakers in order to fast track criminal cases involving elected Members of Parliament (MPs) / Member of Legislative Assembly (MLAs). Ten (10) special courts are functional in nine (9) States/UTs.
- iii.** A notable legislative reform undertaken in this direction is the enactment of The Commercial Courts Act, 2015 which provides for the establishment of Dedicated and Designated Commercial Courts for adjudication of commercial disputes. Through this specialized dispute resolution machinery, it aims to transform the commercial litigation landscape in the country by adopting robust and proactive procedures.
- iv.** As a part of the National eGovernance Plan, the Government has launched eCourts Mission Mode Project wherein 25 Virtual Courts in 20 States/UTs have been operationalized to handle traffic challan cases. More than 3.95 crore cases have been handled by 25 virtual courts and in more than 44 lakhs (44,48,543) cases online fine of more than Rs. 466.32 crores has been realized till 31.10.2023. These courts have enabled litigants to pay their fines or contest the claims 24X7 from their preferred location, thus saving time and resources for both the court system and the litigants.
- v.** The Family Courts Act, 1984 provides for the establishment of Family Courts by the State Governments in consultation with the High Courts to promote conciliation and secure speedy settlement of disputes relating to marriage and family affairs. As per the Act, it is mandatory for the State Government to set up a Family Court for every city or a town whose population exceeds one million. In other areas of the States, the Family Courts may be set up if the State

Governments deems it necessary. As on 30.09.2023, there were 774 Family Courts functional in the country which had disposed 6,28,997 cases.

vi. Lok Adalats are being given impetus as an Alternative Disputes Resolution Mechanism available to common people. It is a forum where the disputes/ cases pending in the court of law or at pre-litigation stage are settled/ compromised amicably. There are three types of Lok Adalats: National Lok Adalats, State Lok Adalats and Permanent Lok Adalats. Mobile Lok Adalats are also organized in various parts of the country, which travel from one location to another to resolve disputes in order to facilitate the resolution of disputes through a mediated mechanism. Since June, 2020, online Lok Adalat/e-Lok Adalats have been organized virtually that facilitates party interaction and exchange of information, allowing people to effectively participate from their homes with the help of internet technology.

(e): At present, there is no specific long standing demand from Rajasthan for funds in order to set up new courts. The primary responsibility for development of infrastructure facilities for judiciary rests with the State Governments. To supplement the resources of the State Governments/UTs, the Union Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the Judiciary since 1993-94 by providing financial assistance to the States/UTs in the prescribed fund-sharing pattern between the Centre and States/UTs. A sum of Rs. 10403 crores has been released under the Scheme so far since its inception, out of which Rs. 6959.16 crores (67%) has been released since 2014-15.

As far as the funding to the State Government of Rajasthan is concerned, a sum of Rs. 427.65 crore has been released to the State Government of Rajasthan under the scheme since its inception. The year-wise release of funds during the last 3 years to the State Government of Rajasthan is as follows:

2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Total (Rs. in Lakh)
2990.00	4150.00	7166.00	2787.00	17093.00

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2108 FOR ANSWER ON 15.12.2023 REGARDING 'DISPOSAL OF CASES PENDING IN COURTS'.

Year wise pendency and disposal of cases in Supreme Court of India

Year	Pending Cases	Cases Disposed
2020	65,086	19758
2021	70,239	25477
2022	69,781	38183
As on 12.12.2023	79,774	50,889

Source : National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)

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Year wise pendency and disposal of cases in High Courts.

Sl. No.	Name of Court	2020		2021		2022		As on 12.12.2023	
		Pending	Disposed	Pending	Disposed	Pending	Disposed	Pending	Disposed
1	Allahabad High Court	773408	169158	803567	243392	1028978	349919	1067245	251524
2	Bombay High Court	559119	34615	569018	57835	687269	85891	719999	104552
3	Calcutta High Court	267431	24785	225449	52466	207939	86255	196300	84755
4	Gauhati High Court	51901	43394	55649	9359	59285	13205	62180	27372
5	High Court for State of Telangana	236852	22701	256518	40334	251704	77524	249799	63653
6	High Court of Andhra Pradesh	207762	26572	222842	31860	243036	50079	250118	48954
7	High Court Of Chhattisgarh	75836	23678	81001	30809	92073	33008	90883	40698
8	High Court of Delhi	91195	19578	100068	27490	106446	46423	128252	46621
9	High Court of Gujarat	142803	6755	152130	58412	162271	77359	168253	71229
10	High Court of Himachal Pradesh	73862	22203	82238	30054	92636	36574	97426	32313
11	High Court of Jammu and Kashmir	63468	19431	47761	23617	44630	15697	44370	13164
12	High Court of Jharkhand	88445	28337	88371	40637	85992	46369	84605	45813
13	High Court of Karnataka	293259	161110	265946	89988	305331	85399	285193	83601
14	High Court of Kerala	214384	50590	212525	57003	193653	78353	254358	77833

15	High Court of Madhya Pradesh	362932	77032	413467	103415	433884	121041	449893	130763
16	High Court of Manipur	4374	717	4817	1151	4920	1837	4590	2248
17	High Court of Meghalaya	1443	458	1578	649	1150	1211	1077	1494
18	High Court of Punjab and Haryana	637148	71835	447690	87310	440184	142217	440544	151219
19	High Court Of Rajasthan	523600	84300	574064	124930	646074	152310	671491	142189
20	High Court of Sikkim	241	136	180	217	168	157	176	151
21	High Court of Tripura	2347	2434	1736	2800	1305	2605	1287	2208
22	High Court of Uttarakhand	38676	13496	41922	14703	46154	16490	50405	14272
23	Madras High Court	580770	105586	579742	146244	550020	185203	544300	316931
24	Orissa High Court	172476	61335	195161	105525	154757	136826	145630	113141
25	Patna High Court	178835	51637	225628	60822	213019	122122	195062	133869

Source: National Judicial Data Grid

Annexure-III

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2108 FOR ANSWER ON 15.12.2023 REGARDING 'DISPOSAL OF CASES PENDING IN COURTS'.

Year wise pendency and disposal of cases in District and Subordinate Courts.

Sl. No	State	2020		2021		2022		As on 12.12.2023	
		Pending	Disposed	Pending	Disposed	Pending	Disposed	Pending	Disposed
1	Uttar Pradesh	8620201	1630837	9768174	2632434	11156808	3762886	11667077	4470051
2	Bihar	3240358	256577	4846609	1196773	3488529	640768	5150733	1592837
3	Maharashtra	4538033	611393	3436235	387599	5019462	1559493	3576499	645268
4	West Bengal	2415056	233938	2622405	372608	2763283	624879	2973607	498443

5	Rajasthan	1883557	453502	2078902	722365	2158792	1048390	2296039	967645
6	Odisha	1440451	94800	1537116	203204	1562728	308483	1985549	927554
7	Kerala	2050303	311482	2053233	746229	1950092	956285	1602992	274055
8	Madhya Pradesh	1734436	423715	1918275	747923	1997030	915250	1922725	1570011
9	Karnataka	1756351	870008	1810617	1802628	1889807	1662667	1815118	1059288
10	Gujarat	1896449	390402	1926631	1420654	1693182	1416930	1567296	1451362
11	Tamil Nadu	1337121	682786	1415375	1276338	1473576	2083120	1449714	2519227
12	Delhi	940539	216657	1069112	307333	1263916	496542	1425050	683223
13	Haryana	1073049	224034	1248494	406435	1386686	685289	1218072	445718
14	Telangana	735300	125756	866426	320165	880710	625478	923182	384585
15	Jharkhand	457561	182873	769987	259864	529552	355026	861465	479306
16	Andhra Pradesh	638093	169041	520873	217046	827069	523011	847968	840669
17	Punjab	835477	278984	916885	482213	913192	713604	540520	371227
18	Himachal Pradesh	418809	167315	455183	313265	479414	459909	555120	402578
19	Assam	342012	56736	390395	120207	453146	193213	451600	218142
20	Jammu and Kashmir	223031	68946	380230	206107	291190	155255	428758	278744
21	Chhattisgarh	332942	88436	248380	138764	411239	273713	350700	171360
22	Uttarakhand	263958	87458	296553	135879	316906	187719	293199	173650
23	Chandigarh	86878	10234	111302	17755	165500	36196	159135	109100
24	Goa	59627	14167	62241	29689	59417	28327	56596	27808
25	Puducherry	35489	14372	35167	25741	33892	38398	34097	34100
26	Meghalaya	15918	3154	40933	35734	16194	15924	43740	51802
27	Tripura	43454	10983	16767	8834	38790	37753	16204	13559
28	Andaman & Nicobar	10257	2003	8582	2340	8156	1467	12944	9920
29	Manipur	10704	7839	12576	8525	11855	16994	8750	791
30	Mizoram	5067	2950	5733	4386	5391	5935	5596	1392
31	DNH at Silvassa	3588	904	3682	1686	3815	2107	4230	1485
32	Arunachal Pradesh	1434	1	2112	2	3095	129	3927	2751
33	Diu and Daman	2795	1126	2847	2035	2916	2069	3113	1579
34	Nagaland	1810	266	2225	483	2665	908	2850	1120
35	Ladakh	783	464	910	1037	1249	1335	1709	3061
36	Sikkim	1462	2039	1753	3093	1826	3755	1255	1684

Source: National Judicial Data Grid

Annexure-IV

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2108 FOR ANSWER ON 15.12.2023 REGARDING 'DISPOSAL OF CASES PENDING IN COURTS'.

Rise of Pendency of Cases in Supreme Courts of India during last 8 years		
Year	Supreme Court	Increase/ Decrease
31.12.2014	62,791	11.13%
31.12.2022	69,781	

Source: National Judicial Data Grid

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2108 FOR ANSWER ON 15.12.2023 REGARDING 'DISPOSAL OF CASES PENDING IN COURTS'.

Rise in Pendency in High Courts during last 8 years				
Sl.No	Name of High Court	Cases pending as on 31.12.2014	Cases pending as on 31.12.2022	Increase/Decrease
1	Allahabad	1014146	1028978	1.46%
2	Andhra Pradesh	249701	243036	-2.67%
3	Telangana		251704	
4	Bombay	364576	687269	88.51%
5	Calcutta	286306	207939	-27.37%
6	Chhattisgarh	45077	92073	104.26%
7	Delhi	66989	106446	58.90%
8	Gauhati	43048	59285	37.72%
9	Gujarat	87356	162271	85.76%
10	Himachal Pradesh	39616	92636	133.83%
11	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	102156	44630	-56.31%
12	Jharkhand	80815	85992	6.41%
13	Karnataka	214120	305331	42.60%
14	Kerala	145906	193653	32.72%
15	Madhya Pradesh	258713	433884	67.71%
16	Madras	263569	550020	108.68%
17	Manipur	4374	4920	12.48%
18	Meghalaya	738	1150	55.83%
19	Orissa	202082	154757	-23.42%
20	Patna	138251	213019	54.08%
21	Punjab & Haryana	279699	440184	57.38%
22	Rajasthan	228887	646074	182.27%
23	Sikkim	108	168	55.56%
24	Tripura	4465	1305	-70.77%
25	Uttarakhand	23105	46154	99.76%
	Total	4143803	6052878	46.07%

Source: National Judicial Data Grid

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Rise of Pendency of Cases in District and Subordinate Courts during last 8 years				
Sl.No	States/UTs	Cases pending as on 31.12.2014	Cases pending as on 31.12 2022	Increase/ Decrease
1	Andaman and Nicobar	8477	8156	-3.79%
2	Andhra Pradesh	471514	827069	75.41%
3	Arunachal Pradesh	275	3095	1025.45%
4	Assam	232507	453146	94.90%
5	Bihar	1795740	3488529	94.27%
6	Chandigarh	36148	165500	357.84%
7	Chhattisgarh	230620	411239	78.32%
8	Delhi	301954	1263916	318.58%
9	Diu and Daman	1594	2916	82.94%
10	DNH at Silvassa	3134	3815	21.73%
11	Goa	35439	59417	67.66%
12	Gujarat	2194970	1693182	-22.86%
13	Haryana	499595	1386686	177.56%
14	Himachal Pradesh	162363	479414	195.27%
15	Jammu and Kashmir	85702	291190	239.77%
16	Jharkhand	341818	529552	54.92%
17	Karnataka	1262424	1889807	49.70%
18	Kerala	876534	1950092	122.48%
19	Ladakh	87	1249	1335.63%
20	Madhya Pradesh	1015431	1997030	96.67%
21	Maharashtra	2951349	5019462	70.07%
22	Manipur	9557	11855	24.05%
23	Meghalaya	8767	16194	84.72%
24	Mizoram	958	5391	462.73%
25	Nagaland	390	2665	583.33%
26	Odisha	976500	1562728	60.03%
27	Puducherry	22873	33892	48.17%
28	Punjab	507460	913192	79.95%
29	Rajasthan	1272408	2158792	69.66%
30	Sikkim	1108	1826	64.80%
31	Tamil Nadu	950073	1473576	55.10%
32	Telangana	403864	880710	118.07%
33	Tripura	30493	38790	27.21%
34	Uttar Pradesh	5513363	11156808	102.36%
35	Uttarakhand	147905	316906	114.26%
36	West Bengal	1389869	2763283	98.82%
	Total:	23743263	43261070	82.20%

Source: National Judicial Data Grid