

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2732

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 04.12.2019

Appointment of Judges

†2732. SHRI VINOD KUMAR SONKAR:

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

- (a) whether the number of Judges appointed in each and every High Court of the country is less than the sanctioned strength;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, high court-wise;
- (c) the number of cases pending in the High Court of Uttar Pradesh during the last five years along with the court-wise details thereof;
- (d) the steps being taken to dispose of/reduce the number of cases pending with the High Court of Uttar Pradesh;
- (e) whether the Government has any proposal to appoint Judges in the High Court of Uttar Pradesh to meet the sanctioned strength; and
- (f) if so, the time by which the Judges are likely to be appointed?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b): A Statement showing the Sanctioned Strength, Working Strength and Vacancies of Judges in the various High Courts of the country is at Annexure.

(c) & (d): The disposal and pending of cases in Allahabad High Court comes within the domain of judiciary. As per the information available on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) pendency during the last few years is given below:-

Sl. No	High Court	As on 31.12.2016*	As on 31.12.2017**	As on 21.12.2018**	As on 27.11.2019**
1.	Allahabad	9,16,046	Not available	7,24,726	7,31,249

However, the Union Government is committed to speedy disposal of cases and reduction in pendency of cases to improve access to justice in line with the mandate under Article 39A of the Constitution. The National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms, established by the Union Government in 2011, has adopted many 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, reduction in pendency through follow up by Arrears Committees at District and High Court emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) and initiatives to fast track special type of cases.

(e) & (f): Proposals for appointment of 13 Advocates and 19 Judicial Officers are under various stages of process as per the procedure prescribed in the Memorandum of Procedure. Filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a collaborative and integrated process, between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities both at the Centre and State. Hence total time taken in the process of appointment cannot be indicated.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2732 to be answered on 04.12.2019 regarding 'Appointment of Judges'.
(Position as on 27.11.2019)

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies
1	Allahabad	160	100	60
2	Andhra Pradesh	37	15	22
3	Bombay	94	65	29
4	Calcutta	72	40	32
5	Chhattisgarh	22	15	07
6	Delhi	60	37	23
7	Gauhati	24	21	03
8	Gujarat	52	28	24
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	10	03
10	High Court for Union territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Union territory of Ladakh	17	08	09
11	Jharkhand	25	19	06
12	Karnataka	62	40	22
13	Kerala	47	32	15
14	Madhya Pradesh	53	31	22
15	Madras	75	54	21
16	Manipur	05	04	01
17	Meghalaya	04	03	01
18	Orissa	27	14	13
19	Patna	53	27	26
20	Punjab & Haryana	85	56	29
21	Rajasthan	50	21	29
22	Sikkim	03	03	0
23	Telangana	24	13	11
24	Tripura	04	03	01
25	Uttarakhand	11	10	01
Total		1079	669	410