GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1827
TO BE ANSWERED ON MONDAY, THE 21st SEPTEMBER, 2020

PENDING COURT CASES

†1827: SHRI PARBATBHAI SAVABHAI PATEL:
SHRI JASWANT SINGH BHABHOR:
SHRIMATI RATHVA GITABEN VAJESINGBHAI:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI SHANTANU THAKUR:

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

(a)   the number of cases pending in High Courts and Lower Courts in the country along with the details thereof;
(b)   whether there is any possibility of qualitative reduction in the number of the said pending cases, if rural courts that are set up at Panchayat level and are accorded the rights to hear cases of limited nature;
(c)   if so, whether the Government is likely to set up such courts and accord them such rights; and
(d)   if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up and if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(a):   Details of cases pending in High Courts and Lower Courts in the country are given in Annexure-I & Annexure-II respectively.

(b):   To provide access to justice to the citizen at their door steps and bring about reduction in case pendency, the Central Government has enacted the Gram

Nyayalayas Act, 2008. It provides for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas at intermediate panchayat level. The State Governments are responsible for establishing Gram Nyayalayas in consultation with the respective High Courts. As per information made available by State Governments / High Courts, 395 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified so far by 12 States, of which 225 are operational at present. Civil and criminal cases pending before District / Session Courts or Courts subordinate to it falling within the jurisdiction of the Gram Nyayalayas can be transferred to Gram Nyayalayas.

(c)&(d): The issues affecting operationalization of the Gram Nyayalayas were discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers of the States on 7th April, 2013. It was decided in the Conference that the State Governments and High Courts should decide the question of establishment of Gram Nyayalayas wherever feasible, taking into account the local issues and situation.

The Central Government has been encouraging the States to set up Gram Nyayalayas by providing financial assistance. As per the scheme for assistance to State Governments for establishing and operating Gram Nyayalayas, the Central Government provides one-time assistance to States towards non-recurring expenses for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas subject to a ceiling of Rs. 18.00 lakhs per Gram Nyayalaya. The Central Government also provides assistance towards recurring expenses for operating these Gram Nyayalayas subject to a ceiling of Rs. 3.20 lakhs per Gram Nyayalaya per year for the first three years.

The Central Government has requested the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas in the respective States. Recently, the Registrars General of High Courts and Law / Home / Finance

Secretaries of State Governments were requested through video conferences held in January 2018, July 2018, November, 2018, 24th September – 3rd October, 2019 and 18th May – 22nd May, 2020 to set up Gram Nyayalayas and seek financial assistance for operationalising them under the Scheme mentioned above.

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Details of Pending Cases in the High Courts

Sl. No	Name of High Courts	Pending Cases (Civil)	Pending Cases (Criminal)	Number of Cases pending in High Courts as on 16.09.2020
1.	Allahabad High Court	399710	346967	746677
2.	High Court of Bombay	224685	55242	279927
3.	Calcutta High Court	222935	40120	263055
4.	Gauhati High Court	40166	10011	50177
5.	High Court for the State of Telangana	198908	32852	231760
6.	High Court of Andhra Pradesh	172657	30467	203124
7.	High Court of Chhattisgarh	45589	27984	73573
8.	High Court of Delhi	65419	25479	90898
9.	High Court of Gujarat	95018	47100	142118
10.	High Court of Himachal Pradesh	61886	8941	70827
11.	High Court of UT of Jammu & Kashmir and UT of Ladakh	59510	7946	67456
12.	High Court of Jharkhand	40316	44708	85024
13.	High Court of Karnataka	165645	32045	197690
14.	High Court of Kerala	162495	44616	207111
15.	High Court of Madhya Pradesh	232187	143443	375630
16.	High Court of Manipur	3785	385	4170
17.	High Court of Meghalaya	1320	102	1422
18.	High Court of Punjab & Haryana	362372	244697	607069
19.	High Court of Rajasthan	374582	133167	507749
20.	High Court of Sikkim	194	46	240
21.	High Court of Tripura	1792	335	2127
22.	High Court of Uttarakhand	23379	14783	38162
23.	Madras High Court	511362	58920	570282
24.	Orissa High Court	115338	51136	166474
25.	Patna High Court	95839	74340	170179
	Total	**3677089**	**1475832**	**5152921**

Details of Pending Cases in District and Subordinate Courts

Sl. No	Name of States/UTs	Pending Cases (Civil)	Pending Cases (Criminal)	Total Number of Cases pending in District and Subordinate Courts as on 16.09.2020
1.	A & N Island	0	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	319224	262137	581361
3.	Telangana	264778	358207	622985
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	---	---	---
5.	Assam	76157	255471	331628
6.	Bihar	413335	2680851	3094186
7.	Chandigarh	19861	33722	53583
8.	Chhattisgarh	56979	228673	285652
9.	D & N Haveli	1547	1783	3330
10.	Daman & Diu	1221	1272	2493
11.	Delhi	203886	702920	906806
12.	Goa	22639	29368	52007
13.	Gujarat	435216	1259011	1694227
14.	Haryana	357183	639770	996953
15.	Himachal Pradesh	136497	247306	383803
16.	Jammu & Kashmir	78436	117957	196393
17.	Jharkhand	71785	337558	409343
18.	Karnataka	813511	923496	1737007
19.	Kerala	450469	1111490	1561959
20.	Ladakh	362	319	681
21.	Lakshadweep	---	---	---
22.	Madhya Pradesh	336139	1188971	1525110
23.	Maharashtra	1292547	2928871	4221418
24.	Manipur	6335	3865	10200
25.	Meghalaya	2646	7463	10109
26.	Mizoram	1915	3533	5448
27.	Nagaland	138	1207	1345
28.	Odisha	272666	1062942	1335608
29.	Punjab	321582	429618	751200
30.	Rajasthan	469267	1269221	1738488
31.	Sikkim	537	968	1505
32.	Tamil Nadu	653793	503881	1157674
33.	Punducherry	---	---	---
34.	Tripura	8364	26055	34419
35.	Uttar Pradesh	1794177	6392233	8186410
36.	Uttarakhand	37856	202773	240629
37.	West Bengal	528220	1810888	2339108
	Total	**9449268**	**25023800**	**34473068**

Note: Data on District and Subordinate Courts in the States of **Arunachal Pradesh,** and Union Territories of **Lakshadweep** and **Puducherry** are not available on the web-portal of NJDG.