

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2274  
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 29<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2022**

**PENDING COURT CASES IN WEST BENGAL**

**2274. SHRI SAUMITRA KHAN:**

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

- (a) the number of pending court cases related to murder, rape and illegal weapon at present, in West Bengal;**
- (b) whether a number of cases out of them are lying pending for more than ten years; and**
- (c) if so, the response of the Government in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE**

**(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

**(a):** As informed by High Court of Calcutta, the number of pending court cases related to murder, rape and illegal weapon at present, in West Bengal is as under:-

Name of the State	The number of Pending court cases related to murder as on 30.06.2022	The number of Pending court cases related to rape as on 30.06.2022	The number of Pending court cases related to illegal weapon as on 30.06.2022
West Bengal	10060	19936	12259

**(b):** As informed by High Court of Calcutta, the number of cases out of them are lying pending for more than ten years in West Bengal is as under:-

Name of the State	Pending court cases more than 10 (ten) years related to murder	Pending court cases more than 10 (ten) years related to rape	Pending court cases more than 10 (ten) years related to illegal weapon
West Bengal	1136	905	2704

**(c):** Disposal of pending cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. No time frame has been prescribed for disposal of various kinds of cases by the respective courts. Government has no direct role in disposal of cases in courts. Timely disposal of cases in courts depends on several factors which, inter-alia, include availability of adequate number of judges and judicial officers, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, 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. There are several factors which may lead to delay in disposal of cases. These, inter-alia, include vacancies of judges, frequent adjournments and lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing. The Central Government is fully committed to speedy disposal of cases in accordance with Article 21 of the Constitution and reducing pendency. The Government has taken several initiatives to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary.

National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms was set up in August, 2011 with the twin objectives of increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system and enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities. The Mission has been pursuing a co-ordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration, which, *inter-alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerization, increase in strength of subordinate judiciary, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation, re-engineering of court procedure for quick disposal of cases and emphasis on human resource development.

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