

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1883
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 06TH DECEMBER, 2024**

NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT ACT, 1881

†1883. SHRI DAMODAR AGRAWAL:

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

- (a) the details of cases registered under the Negotiable Instrument Act, 1881 in the district and subordinate courts of the country during the last five years, court and year-wise;**
- (b) whether High Courts/Supreme Court have issued any order to accelerate the disposal rate of the such cases pending in district and subordinate courts;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether Magistrate or Judges working in the district and subordinate courts have the power of fast track hearing on daily basis in the matters related to the Negotiable Instrument Act,1881;**
- (e) if so, the details of the provision of law under which this privilege is given to them; and**
- (f) the provision for protecting the legal, constitutional and human rights of the plaintiff/defendant in the process of fast track hearings on daily basis?**

ANSWER

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

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

- (a):** As per the information available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), the details of cases registered under the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 in the

District and Subordinate Courts of the country during the last five years, court and year-wise is at *Annexure-I*.

(b) & (c): Recently, in the month of April, 2024, the Supreme Court Committee on "Model Case Flow Management Rules for Trial Courts, District Appellate Courts, High Courts and to suggest a plan for reduction of arrears in the High Courts and District Courts", has prepared and shared the Action Plan for Arrears Reduction in District Judiciary' to dispose of old pending cases in time bound manner.

In the month of November, 2024, the National Court Management Systems, Supreme Court of India, released the comprehensive baseline reports on various issues including the Case Management Systems in the High Courts and District Courts.

Further, in compliance to the Resolutions of the Chief Justices' Conferences, 'Arrears Committee' at High Courts have been constituted to deal with the issues relating to speedy disposal of cases.

Further, directions are given by Hon'ble the Supreme Court, time to time, through its various judgments/orders. Some of the relevant judgments/orders are as such:

1. Imtiyaz Ahmad Vs. State of Uttar Pradesh and Others
Criminal Appeal No. 254 of 2012, Decided on: 01.02.2012
Citation: (2012) 2 SCC 688 (Para 54,55,56) = [2012] 1 S.C.R. 779
2. Krishnakant Tamrakar Vs. State of Madhya Pradesh
Criminal Appeal No. 470 of 2018, Decided on: 28.03.2018
Citation: (2018) 17 SCC 27 (Para 11) = (2018] 4 S.C.R. 1098

Recently, certain directions have been issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case titled Yashpal Jain v. Sushila Devi, 2023 SCC Online SC 1377, decided on 20.10.2023.

(d) & (e): Section 143 of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 provides for summary trial of offences under Chapter XVII by a Judicial Magistrate of the first class or by a Metropolitan Magistrate. It further provides that the trial of a case under this section shall, so far as practicable, consistently with the interests of justice, be continued from day to day until its conclusion, unless the Court finds the adjournment of the trial beyond the following day to be necessary for reasons to be recorded in writing. Furthermore, it states that every trial under this section shall be conducted as expeditiously as possible and an endeavour shall be made to conclude the trial within six months from the date of filing of the complaint.

(f): In the case of *Indian Bank Association and others Vs Union Bank of India* reported in (2014) 5 SCC 590 and others, detailed directions have been given by the Supreme Court of India to all Criminal Courts in the country on the matter of summary trial procedure for cases falling under Section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act. These directions lay down the detailed procedure to be followed by the courts while ensuring the protection of the rights of the plaintiff/defendant. Further, several directions with respect to the expeditious trial of cases have also been issued in the matter of *“In Re: Expeditious Trial of Cases Under Section 138 of N.I. ACT, 1881”*. Among other aspects, the protection of rights of the plaintiff/ defendant have been covered in the aforesaid directions, in addition to the other relevant legal provisions.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1883 FOR ANSWER ON 06.12.2024
REGARDING 'NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENT ACT, 1881'.**

Cases registered under the Negotiable Instrument Act, 1881 in the District and Subordinate Courts of the country during the last five years							
Sr. No.	State/UTs	Year					
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1.	Andhra Pradesh	22055	13898	16854	18250	19941	14878
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	6	5	10	9	33	71
3.	Assam	5575	3026	4483	6025	4688	4419
4.	Bihar	8488	5077	8205	11087	9717	9325
5.	Chandigarh	11886	7316	8124	8330	10843	12110
6.	Chhattisgarh	20471	7767	19667	18756	19171	15826
7.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu	396	314	275	286	268	294
8.	Delhi	170442	67100	81598	102631	117770	117114
9.	Goa	5095	2849	3567	4200	3658	3270
10.	Gujarat	159565	87387	144727	159330	157830	160651
11.	Haryana	89247	53436	60158	64183	68690	53562
12.	Himachal Pradesh	15940	10577	11318	16448	16182	14445
13.	Jharkhand	8897	5045	6100	9658	11954	13156
14.	Karnataka	36350	22024	41807	45109	69225	80407
15.	Kerala	15454	9275	11522	32450	40200	36120
16.	Lakshadweep	1	2	-	2	5	4
17.	Madhya Pradesh	55639	23548	38415	47082	45714	35183
18.	Maharashtra	163020	80879	101550	123232	105625	93482
19.	Odisha	9104	5264	7246	9212	8083	7811
20.	Puducherry	799	673	1435	1756	1797	854
21.	Punjab	74412	50013	58468	66556	69584	70503
22.	Rajasthan	121393	82045	106163	144510	138958	102569
23.	Sikkim	7	4	1	9	14	18
24.	Tamil Nadu	31913	20601	30765	43751	33956	28429
25.	Telangana	21543	8453	19313	13759	11659	8431
26.	Tripura	79	72	92	136	109	219
27.	Uttar Pradesh	84591	53637	63883	82566	79929	93154
28.	Uttarakhand	12232	7932	9408	11276	12337	13745
29.	West Bengal	49102	25845	69136	49169	58364	40732
30.	Meghalaya	-	-	-	1	-	-
31.	Nagaland	-	-	5	11	-	3
	Total	1193702	654064	924295	1089780	1116304	1030785

Source: -Report as per statistics available on National Judicial Data grid (NJDG) portal dated 03.12.2024.