

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3501  
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2026**

**PENDENCY OF CASES IN COURTS**

**3501. MS. S JOTHIMANI:**

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

- (a) the current number of the pending cases in the Supreme Court, various High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts, State-wise and category-wise;
- (b) the total number of sanctioned versus vacant judicial positions in the Supreme Court and each High Court, as well as in the subordinate judiciary and the average time taken to make appointments;
- (c) whether delays in judicial appointments and transfers have contributed to pendency of cases and if so, the steps being taken to streamline the appointment process;
- (d) the present status of judicial infrastructure in High Courts and District Courts, including digitalisation, courtroom availability and basic facilities; and
- (e) whether the Government has proposed or approved any expansion of Fast Track Courts or specialized courts, particularly for cases relating to women, children and vulnerable groups and if so, the details thereof?

**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):** The current number of pending cases in the Supreme Court, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts, State-wise and category wise are at **Annexure I & II**.

**(b) & (c):** The total number of sanctioned versus vacant judicial positions in the Supreme Court and each High Court, as well as in the subordinate judiciary are at **Annexure III & IV**.

Pendency of cases in courts arise due to several factors which inter alia, include complexity of the facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stakeholders, viz., bar, investigation agencies, witness and litigants, besides the availability of physical infrastructure, supporting court staff, etc.

Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124, 217 and 224 of the Constitution of India and according to the procedure laid down in the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) prepared in 1998 pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 (Second Judges case) read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998 (Third Judges case). As per the MoP, the responsibility for initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India, while the responsibility for initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with

the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court, in consultation with two senior-most puisne Judges of the High Court.

Filling up of the vacancy in the higher Judiciary is a continuous, integrated and collaborative process between the executive and the judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities both at State and Central level which are obtained in accordance with the MoP. The recommendations also have to be considered in the light of such other reports as may be available to the Government in respect of the names under consideration. The recommendations of the High Court Collegium, the State Governments and the Government of India are then forwarded to the Supreme Court Collegium (SCC) for advice. Only those persons whose names have been recommended by the SCC are appointed as Judges of the High Courts.

Further, filling up of vacant positions of the judicial officers in District and Subordinate courts is the responsibility of the High Courts and State Governments concerned. As per the Constitutional framework, in exercise of powers conferred under the proviso to Article 309 read with Articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the respective State Government, in consultation with the High Court, frames the rules and regulations regarding the appointment and recruitment of Judicial Officers. The Hon'ble Supreme Court vide order passed in January 2007 in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case, has inter-alia stipulated certain timelines, which are to be followed by the States and the respective High Courts for recruitment of judges in District and Subordinate Courts.

**(d):** The primary responsibility for the development of infrastructure facilities for District and Subordinate Courts in the States/UTs, rests with the State/UT Governments. However, to augment the resources of the State /UT Governments, the Union Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for District and Subordinate Courts by providing financial assistance to the State/UT Governments in the prescribed fund sharing between Center and States since 1993-94. As on 28.02.2026, there are 22,712 Court Halls and 20,052 Residential Units available in District and Subordinate Courts. The Phase-III of the eCourts Project (2023-2027) approved on 13.09.2023 with an outlay of Rs.7,210 crore to make justice delivery progressively more robust, easy and accessible. Till date, 660.36 crores pages of court records have been digitized in the High Courts and District Courts. More than 3.97 crore hearings have taken place through Video conferencing and live streaming is functional in several High Courts. The number of e Sewa Kendras (facilitation centres) has increased to 2,444 across High Courts and District Courts.

**(e):** Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) Scheme, 774 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including 398 exclusive POCSO (ePOCSO) Courts are functional across 29 States/UTs for the expeditious disposal of pending cases of Rape and POCSO Act, and have collectively disposed of 3,66,124 cases since their inception, as on 31.12.2025. The financial outlay under the scheme is Rs. 1952.23 crore with Rs. 1207.24 crore as Central Share to be incurred from Nirbhaya Fund on the CSS pattern. The Central Government, as on 02.03.2026, has released a total amount of Rs. 1,210.92 crore to States/UTs for the operationalization of FTSCs since the inception of the Scheme in 2019.

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**ANNEXURE-I****STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3501 FOR ANSWER ON 13.03.2026 REGARDING 'PENDENCY OF CASES IN COURTS'**

<b>Pendency of cases in Supreme Court of India and High Courts, category-wise</b>				
		<b>Civil</b>	<b>Criminal</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Supreme Court of India</b>		73,056	19,699	<b>92,755</b>
<b>S. No.</b>	<b>Name of High Court</b>			
1	Allahabad High Court	6,17,265	5,76,081	<b>11,93,346</b>
2	Bombay High Court	5,46,634	1,15,416	<b>6,62,050</b>
3	Calcutta High Court	172454	32179	<b>204633</b>
4	Gauhati High Court	47,555	16,954	<b>64,509</b>
5	High Court for State of Telangana	2,04,131	32,376	<b>2,36,507</b>
6	High Court of Andhra Pradesh	2,06,581	42,278	<b>2,48,859</b>
7	High Court Of Chhattisgarh	52,888	22,463	<b>75,351</b>
8	High Court of Delhi	93,069	32,893	<b>1,25,962</b>
9	High Court of Gujarat	1,16,691	57,849	<b>1,74,540</b>
10	High Court of Himachal Pradesh	90,576	13,542	<b>1,04,118</b>
11	High Court of Jammu and Kashmir	33,869	9,321	<b>43,190</b>
12	High Court of Jharkhand	32,269	40,890	<b>73,159</b>
13	High Court of Karnataka	2,74,093	57,016	<b>3,31,109</b>
14	High Court of Kerala	2,00,587	47,131	<b>2,47,718</b>
15	High Court of Madhya Pradesh	2,83,994	1,94,767	<b>4,78,761</b>
16	High Court of Manipur	51,440	891	<b>6,031</b>
17	High Court of Meghalaya	1,351	432	<b>1,783</b>
18	High Court of Punjab and Haryana	2,55,401	1,65,653	<b>4,21,054</b>
19	High Court of Rajasthan	4,79,427	1,92,415	<b>6,71,842</b>
20	High Court of Sikkim	208	88	<b>296</b>
21	High Court of Tripura	1,106	283	<b>1,389</b>
22	High Court of Uttarakhand	33,735	27,092	<b>60,827</b>
23	Madras High Court	4,77,589	75,555	<b>5,53,144</b>
24	Orissa High Court	1,22,040	41,487	<b>1,63,527</b>
25	Patna High Court	1,14,535	1,03,100	<b>2,17,635</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>44,63,188</b>	<b>18,98,152</b>	<b>63,61,340</b>

Source: National Judicial Data Grid as on 09-03-2026

**ANNEXURE-II****STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3501 FOR ANSWER ON 13.03.2026 REGARDING 'PENDENCY OF CASES IN COURTS'**

<b>Pendency of cases in District &amp; Subordinate Courts, state-wise and category-wise</b>				
<b>Sr No.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Civil</b>	<b>Criminal</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	Andaman and Nicobar	4,031	4,501	8,532
2	Andhra Pradesh	4,36,522	5,11,287	9,47,809
3	Arunachal Pradesh	3,621	12,145	15,766
4	Assam	1,13,792	4,63,784	5,77,576
5	Bihar	5,38,592	31,77,552	37,16,144
6	Chandigarh	22,839	78,400	1,01,239
7	Chhattisgarh	87,413	4,03,750	4,91,163
8	Delhi	2,17,341	13,83,042	16,00,383
9	Goa	28,169	33,820	61,989
10	Gujarat	3,25,786	16,41,937	19,67,723
11	Haryana	4,27,948	11,12,559	15,40,507
12	Himachal Pradesh	1,78,567	4,43,609	6,22,176
13	Jammu and Kashmir	1,19,520	2,32,165	3,51,685
14	Jharkhand	96,274	4,74,955	5,71,229
15	Karnataka	10,56,085	13,34,144	23,90,229
16	Kerala	5,41,843	12,59,672	18,01,515
17	Ladakh	789	842	1,631
18	Lakshadweep	151	406	557
19	Madhya Pradesh	4,26,046	16,91,148	21,17,194
20	Maharashtra	17,66,653	43,10,083	6,076,736
21	Manipur	9,157	4,938	14,095
22	Meghalaya	4,917	4,917	16,671
23	Mizoram	4,028	3,319	7,347
24	Nagaland	1,043	2,876	3,919
25	Odisha	2,69,938	15,47,258	18,17,196
26	Puducherry	11,757	24,657	36,414
27	Punjab	3,63,976	6,08,245	9,72,221
28	Rajasthan	5,14,668	21,62,933	26,77,601
29	Sikkim	933	1,339	2,272
30	Tamil Nadu	7,04,363	10,64,754	17,69,117
31	Telangana	3,39,582	6,51,905	9,91,487
32	The Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu	3,681	4,702	8,383
33	Tripura	13,524	52,082	65,606
34	Uttar Pradesh	18,43,158	1,01,61,311	1,20,04,469
35	Uttarakhand	48,932	262,101	31,10,33
36	West Bengal	6,42,234	32,60,381	39,02,615
	<b>Total</b>	<b>11,167,873</b>	<b>38,387,519</b>	<b>49,562,229</b>

Source: National Judicial Data Grid as on 09-03-2026

**ANNEXURE-III****STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3501 FOR ANSWER ON 13.03.2026 REGARDING 'PENDENCY OF CASES IN COURTS'****Total number of sanctioned versus vacant judicial positions in the Supreme Court and High Courts**

		<b>SANCTIONED STRENGTH</b>	<b>WORKING STRENGTH</b>	<b>VACANCIES</b>
<b>A.</b>	<b>Supreme Court</b>	34	33	1
<b>B.</b>	<b>High Court</b>			
1	Allahabad	160	109	51
2	Andhra Pradesh	37	33	4
3	Bombay	94	80	14
4	Calcutta	72	43	29
5	Chhattisgarh	22	15	7
6	Delhi	60	44	16
7	Gauhati	30	25	5
8	Gujarat	52	35	17
9	Himachal Pradesh	17	12	5
10	J & K and Ladakh	25	14	11
11	Jharkhand	25	14	11
12	Karnataka	62	46	16
13	Kerala	47	40	7
14	Madhya Pradesh	53	42	11
15	Madras	75	52	23
16	Manipur	5	3	2
17	Meghalaya	4	4	0
18	Orissa	33	19	14
19	Patna	53	38	15
20	Punjab & Haryana	85	61	24
21	Rajasthan	50	39	11
22	Sikkim	3	3	0
23	Telangana	42	28	14
24	Tripura	5	4	1
25	Uttarakhand	11	10	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1122</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>309</b>

**ANNEXURE-IV****STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3501 FOR ANSWER ON 13.03.2026 REGARDING 'PENDENCY OF CASES IN COURTS'****Total number of sanctioned versus vacant judicial positions in Subordinate Judiciary**

SL. NO.	STATES & UTs	TOTAL SANCTIONED STRENGTH	TOTAL WORKING STRENGTH	TOTAL VACANCY
1.	Andhra Pradesh	643	572	71
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	53	39	14
3.	Assam	485	461	24
4.	Bihar	2025	1665	360
5.	Chandigarh	30	28	2
6.	Chhattisgarh	663	465	198
7.	D & N Haveli	3	2	1
8.	Daman & Diu	4	4	0
9.	Delhi	897	838	59
10.	Goa	50	40	10
11.	Gujarat	1720	1185	535
12.	Haryana	781	643	138
13.	Himachal Pradesh	188	173	15
14.	Jammu and Kashmir	322	270	52
15.	Jharkhand	707	496	211
16.	Karnataka	1395	1129	266
17.	Kerala	611	577	34
18.	Ladakh	17	9	8
19.	Lakshadweep	4	4	0
20.	Madhya Pradesh	2028	1638	390
21.	Maharashtra	2190	1940	250
22.	Manipur	62	49	13
23.	Meghalaya	99	57	42
24.	Mizoram	74	45	29
25.	Nagaland	34	24	10
26.	Odisha	1044	861	183
27.	Puducherry	38	26	12
28.	Punjab	812	699	113
29.	Rajasthan	1698	1489	209
30.	Sikkim	35	23	12
31.	Tamil Nadu	1386	1235	151
32.	Telangana	560	445	115
33.	Tripura	133	119	14
34.	Uttar Pradesh	3700	2631	1069
35.	Uttarakhand	298	270	28
36.	West Bengal and Andaman & Nicobar	1105	863	242
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>25,894</b>	<b>21,026</b>	<b>4,868</b>