

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5553  
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2026**

**CURRENT NUMBER OF PENDING CASES IN COURTS**

**5553. DR. PRABHA MALLIKARJUN:**

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

- (a) the current number of pending cases in the Supreme Court, High Courts, and subordinate courts and the average duration of cases pending beyond standard timelines, State-wise;
- (b) the measures undertaken by the Government to expedite disposal of cases, including digitization of court processes, e-courts and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms;
- (c) the initiatives taken to strengthen judicial infrastructure, including recruitment of judges, capacity building and modernizing court facilities; and
- (d) the future plans proposed to further reduce case backlog, improve access to justice and enhance transparency and efficiency in the judicial system?

**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 information available on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), the current number of pending cases in the Supreme Court, High Courts and subordinate courts, State-wise is at **Annexure I & II**. However, the information regarding average duration of cases pending is not centrally maintained.

**(b) to (d):** The disposal of the cases is within the exclusive domain of judiciary. However, the Government is fully committed for speedy disposal of cases and reducing pendency as mandated under Article 21 of the Constitution. The Government has taken several initiatives to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary which, inter-alia, includes amalgamation of latest technologies for increasing access to justice and greater transparency under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project and supplementing of the resources of the State Governments/UTs for providing suitable infrastructure facilities for the District and Subordinate Judiciary under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary.

- i. The Government has demonstrated its commitment in modernizing judiciary with advanced digital infrastructure by significantly increasing the budget of Phase III (2023–2027) to ₹7,210 crore. This phase envisions transforming Indian courts into Digital and Paperless Courts by digitizing legacy and current case records, expanding video conferencing to all courts, jails, and hospitals, and extending online courts beyond traffic violations. It also aims for universal saturation of eSewaKendras, creation of a state-of-the-art cloud-based data repository for storing digitized court records and applications, and deployment of emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Optical Character Recognition (OCR) for case analysis and forecasting.

- ii. Currently, over 660.36 crore pages of court records have been digitized, and 2,444 eSewaKendras have been established to enhance citizen service delivery. Courts have conducted over 3.97 crore hearings through video conferencing facilities. Approximately 1.07 cr. cases have been filed electronically through the eFiling platform. Live streaming of court proceedings has expanded to four additional High Courts, Uttarakhand, Calcutta, Telangana, and Meghalaya, making it 11. All eCourts portals are now hosted on the NIC's cloud infrastructure, and district court websites have been migrated to the Secure, Scalable, and Sugamya Website as a Service (S3WAAS) platform.
- iii. The Digital Justice System under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project has expedited and simplified judicial processes and has also improved transparency and accessibility in the justice delivery system.
- iv. 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, Rs. 770.53 crore were allocated and Rs. 629.66 crore were utilized for judicial infrastructure development across the country.
- v. The Government has been filling up vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts from time to time. From 01.05.2014 to 28.02.2026, 72 Judges have been appointed in the Supreme Court. 1164 new Judges were appointed and 820 Additional Judges were made permanent in the High Courts during the same period. The sanctioned strength of Judges of the High Courts has increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1122 till date.
- vi. Arrears Committees have been set up in all 25 High Courts and the District Courts as well to clear cases pending for more than five years.
- vii. The Government has also amended The Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Act, 2018, The Commercial Courts (Amendment) Act, 2018, The Specific Relief (Amendment) Act, 2018, The Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2019 and The Criminal Laws (Amendment) Act, 2018 with a view to reduce pendency.
- viii. Alternate Dispute Resolution methods have been promoted. The Commercial Courts Act, 2015 was amended in August, 2018 making Pre-institution Mediation and Settlement (PIMS) mandatory in case of commercial disputes. Amendment to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 has been made by the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act 2015 for expediting the speedy resolution of disputes by prescribing timelines.
- ix. Lok Adalat is an important Alternative Disputes Resolution Mechanism available to common people, where the disputes/ cases pending in the court of law or at pre-litigation stage are settled/ compromised amicably. Under The Legal Services Authorities (LSA) Act, 1987, an award made by a Lok Adalat is deemed to be a decree of a civil court and is final and binding on all parties and no appeal lies against it before any court. National Lok Adalats are organized simultaneously in all Taluks, Districts and High Courts on a pre-fixed date.
- x. Further, the Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice, has framed the 'Directive for the Efficient and Effective Management of Litigation by Government of India', which is an integrated approach in reinforcing the goal of good governance and ensuring public welfare and timely dispensation of justice. The Directive seeks to introduce effective measures to simplify legal processes, prevent unnecessary litigation, address inconsistencies in notifications and orders, minimize unwarranted appeals, streamline inter-departmental coordination in litigation, ensure greater public accountability in arbitration matters, and establish a strong Knowledge Management System (KMS) to improve overall efficiency. The Department of legal Affairs,

Ministry of Law and Justice has also developed the Legal Information Management and Briefing System (LIMBS), a web-based portal designed to effectively monitor court cases involving the Union of India. These measures are to proactively take action towards disposal of all pending court cases.

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**ANNEXURE-I**

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5553 FOR ANSWER ON 27.03.2026 REGARDING 'CURRENT NUMBER OF PENDING CASES IN COURTS'**

**Pending cases in Supreme Court and High Courts, as on 23.03.2026**

<b>Supreme Court of India</b>		92,782
<b>Sr No.</b>	<b>Name of High Court</b>	
1	Allahabad High Court	12,26,330
2	Bombay High Court	6,61,117
3	Calcutta High Court	2,04,056
4	Gauhati High Court	64,594
5	High Court for State of Telangana	2,36,629
6	High Court of Andhra Pradesh	2,48,497
7	High Court Of Chhattisgarh	75,698
8	High Court of Delhi	1,26,567
9	High Court of Gujarat	1,73,544
10	High Court of Himachal Pradesh	1,04,305
11	High Court of Jammu and Kashmir	43,401
12	High Court of Jharkhand	72,517
13	High Court of Karnataka	3,31,468
14	High Court of Kerala	2,47,843
15	High Court of Madhya Pradesh	4,76,166
16	High Court of Manipur	6,054
17	High Court of Meghalaya	1,795
18	High Court of Punjab and Haryana	4,18,842
19	High Court Of Rajasthan	6,75,503
20	High Court of Sikkim	301
21	High Court of Tripura	1,385
22	High Court of Uttarakhand	60,951
23	Madras High Court	5,55,779
24	Orissa High Court	1,63,660
25	Patna High Court	2,18,570
	<b>Total</b>	<b>63,95,572</b>

Source: National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)

**ANNEXURE-II**

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5553 FOR ANSWER ON 27.03.2026 REGARDING 'CURRENT NUMBER OF PENDING CASES IN COURTS'**

**Pending cases in Subordinate Courts, as on 23.03.2026**

<b>Sr No.</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	Andaman and Nicobar	8,667
2	Andhra Pradesh	9,23,640
3	Arunachal Pradesh	15,600
4	Assam	5,78,163
5	Bihar	37,09,244
6	Chandigarh	99,845
7	Chhattisgarh	4,62,014
8	Delhi	16,86,426
9	Goa	61,780
10	Gujarat	15,60,074
11	Haryana	14,90,023
12	Himachal Pradesh	5,98,819
13	Jammu and Kashmir	3,52,352
14	Jharkhand	5,71,746
15	Karnataka	22,61,280
16	Kerala	17,91,465
17	Ladakh	1,629
18	Lakshadweep	567
19	Madhya Pradesh	20,91,722
20	Maharashtra	59,61,061
21	Manipur	14,191
22	Meghalaya	16,671
23	Mizoram	7,318
24	Nagaland	3,946
25	Odisha	18,16,722
26	Puducherry	36,414
27	Punjab	9,25,788
28	Rajasthan	25,96,147
29	Sikkim	2,319
30	Tamil Nadu	17,59,825
31	Telangana	9,90,868
32	The Dadra And Nagar Haveli And Daman And Diu	8,285
33	Tripura	56,318
34	Uttar Pradesh	1,19,49,059
35	Uttarakhand	3,01,345
36	West Bengal	39,22,188
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4,86,33,521</b>

Source: National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)