

examining the draft of the proposed Broadcasting Services Regulation Bill in consultation with various stakeholders including the State Governments. Full text of the draft Bill is available on this Ministry's website www.mib.nic.in. The draft Bill proposes to set up an independent Broadcasting Regulatory Authority of India (BRAI) for broadcasting services. Regulation and monitoring of content is one of the major functions required to be performed by the proposed Regulator. The proposed regulator will be empowered to issue regulations regarding the places, types and quantity of equipment to be provided by the service providers free of cost, for monitoring of content and the manner in which such monitoring may be carried out by the licensing authorities or authorized officers under the Bill.

Air-time access by religious organization

925. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that certain private channels are violating Government policy of reasonable access to air-time to religious organizations;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has received any recommendations from TRAI for banning the entry of religious organizations into broadcasting activities; and
- (d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI CHOUDHURY MOHAN JATUA): (a) and (b) Government has no specific policy for reasonable access to air-time to religious organizations for private TV channels. The private FM Radio and TV channels are free to determine their programming provided it is in compliance of the relevant programme and advertisement codes.

(c) The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in its recommendations made on 12.11.2008 has not favoured the entry of religious bodies into broadcasting activities and own their broadcasting stations and teleports.

(d) As per Government policy, a company controlled by or associated with a religious body is disqualified from seeking FM Radio permissions.

Backlog of court cases

926. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN:

SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court has run up a backlog of more than 50,000 cases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that there are 38.7 lakh cases in 21 High Courts and 2.6 crore cases pending in trial courts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government to clear these backlog?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) As per the information received from the Registry of the Supreme Court, 50,659 matters (31,363 Admission matters and 19,296 Regular Hearing matters) were pending there as on 1st June, 2009.

(c) and (d) As per the reports received from the Registries of the High Courts, 39,10,858 cases were pending in the High Courts and 2,66,50,467 cases were pending in the Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.08. The statements showing the details of these cases are enclosed as Statement-I (*See below*) and Statement-II (*See below*).

The Government has taken various measures to facilitate speedy disposal of cases in courts:-

- (1) Government reviews the Judges strength in High Courts periodically and ensures prompt filling up of vacancies so that administration of Justice does not suffer from inadequate number of Judges. On the basis of these reviews, 163 posts of Judges have been created in various High Courts. The strength of Judges in the Supreme Court has been increased from 26 to 31.
- (2) Government introduced a scheme of 'Fast Track Courts' which has been extended upto 31.3.2010. As per the information received, 25.07 lakh cases have been disposed of by these courts out of 31.01 lakh cases transferred to them.
- (3) Some legislative measures have also been introduced for improvement in judicial procedure and for expediting disposal of civil and criminal cases in courts. The Civil Procedure Code and Criminal Procedure Code have been amended and the concept of 'Plea-Bargaining' has been introduced.
- (4) Alternative modes of disposal including mediation, negotiation and arbitration have been encouraged.
- (5) Other measures like grouping of cases involving common questions of law, constitution of specialized benches, setting up of special courts and organizing Lok Adalats at regular intervals have also been taken.
- (6) Steps have also been taken for modernization of the judicial infrastructure through computerization of courts. Government is implementing a scheme for computerization of District & Subordinate Courts and for upgradation of the Information and Communication Technology infrastructure of the Supreme Court and the High Courts.
- (7) Government has enacted the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 (Act 4 of 2009) which provides for establishment of nearly 5067 Gram Nyayalayas.

Statement-I

Pendency position in the High Courts for the year 2008

Sl. No.	High Court	Case Type	Opening balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency at the end
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Allahabad	Civil	609895	146607	95928	660574
		Criminal	209789	105306	63811	251284
2	Andhra Pradesh	Civil	137990	54390	42946	149373
		Criminal	15257	13157	8573	19841
3	Bombay*	Civil	328873	111026	109500	330399
		Criminal	36589	24055	21065	39579
4	Calcutta	Civil	243222	67434	52841	257815
		Criminal	40015	21315	18672	42658
5	Delhi	Civil	60261	24760	28974	56047
		Criminal	15738	11812	13594	13956
6	Gujarat	Civil	100098	33845	46886	87057
		Criminal*	28926	20422	19816	29532
7	Gauhati	Civil	52838	20193	19299	53732
		Criminal	7493	9355	8470	8378
8	Himachal Pradesh	Civil	21312	21937	15038	28211
		Criminal	6378	3458	3409	6427
9	Jammu & Kashmir*	Civil	41556	21254	18006	44804
		Criminal	1842	1920	1926	1836
10	Karnataka	Civil	89753	77012	70927	95838
		Criminal	16103	13683	15631	14155
11	Kerala	Civil	88167	59513	64175	83505
		Criminal	24371	22694	20038	27027
12	Madras	Civil	392824	181400	162849	411375
		Criminal	36008	63199	59086	40121
13	Madhya Pradesh	Civil	122331	59815	59427	122719
		Criminal	59294	38213	37202	60305
14	Orissa*	Civil	203112	46667	40298	209481
		Criminal	18940	27747	22611	24070

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
15	Patna	Civil	71749	26197	20774	78850
		Criminal	34693	58736	51545	41650
16	Punjab & Haryana#	Civil	210171	51513	54344	207291
		Criminal	47645	42770	45382	45033
17	Rajasthan	Civil	164369	61134	48008	177495
		Criminal	53135	33196	33892	52439
18	Sikkim*	Civil	42	55	31	66
		Criminal	9	45	40	14
19	Uttarakhand	Civil	24761	8688	11924	11873
		Criminal	7133	2650	2576	5949
20	Chhattisgarh	Civil	52130	11661	16350	47441
		Criminal	23211	5710	9633	19288
21	Jharkhand	Civil	28302	9443	8786	28959
		Criminal	21668	16622	13885	24405
TOTAL			3747993	1630609	1458168	3910858

*Information as on 31.12.07

#49 RFA area transferred to the concerned District Session Judge, Punjab.

Statement-II

Pendency position in the Subordinate Courts for the year 2008

Sl. No.	States	Case Type	Opening balance	Institution	Disposal	Pendency at the end
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Andhra Pradesh	Civil	478046	304949	311148	471847
		Criminal	473608	359258	345278	487587
2	Arunachal Pradesh	Civil	461	437	287	611
		Criminal	4828	1371	2069	4130
3	Assam	Civil	71851	35281	28992	78140
		Criminal	146636	166504	161562	151578
4	Bihar	Civil	252874	47584	46973	253227
		Criminal	1120549	289858	228139	1182268
5	Chhattisgarh	Civil	51039	2271	2209	51101
		Criminal	213911	17701	13349	218263
6	Goa*	Civil	19572	10239	11061	18750
		Criminal	14376	14210	13405	15181

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	Guarat	Civil	728305	231052	237964	721393
		Criminal	2124298	1018937	1451488	1691747
8	Haryana	Civil	220552	144543	145643	219452
		Criminal	335882	297600	302523	330959
9	Himachal Pradesh	Civil	62262	50670	48644	64288
		Criminal	80648	104703	102973	82378
10	Jammu & Kashmir *	Civil	52720	51239	43107	60852
		Criminal	95630	186433	177537	104526
11	Jharkhand	Civil	44284	16662	15538	45408
		Criminal	228034	105216	108289	224960
12	Karnataka	Civil	564276	286667	283504	567439
		Criminal	535001	465607	493527	507081
13	Kerala	Civil	379876	259695	270819	368752
		Criminal	565531	785756	742064	609223
14	Madhya Pradesh	Civil	194535	216791	208805	202521
		Criminal	826048	967400	924593	868855
15	Maharashtra *	Civil	979460	337503	344338	972625
		Criminal	3168559	1314396	1409798	3073157
16	Manipur	Civil	3057	2305	2302	3060
		Criminal	3552	6339	6559	3332
17	Meghalaya	Civil	3903	1467	1372	3998
		Criminal	6807	2400	850	8357
18	Mizoram	Civil	2119	1003	601	2521
		Criminal	4743	5040	4327	5456
19	Nagaland	Civil	1799	571	493	1877
		Criminal	3566	1250	990	3826
20	Orissa *	Civil	178430	49390	46099	181721
		Criminal	814007	216881	196083	834805
21	Punjab	Civil	276798	153079	162619	267258
		Criminal	315287	267258	364628	303965
22	Rajasthan	Civil	286598	178188	159215	352375
		Criminal	842687	709513	624908	945254

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
23	Sikkim *	Civil	189	185	171	203
		Criminal	504	1059	978	585
24	Tamil Nadu	Civil	499018	814711	737663	576066
		Criminal	429028	761808	750304	440532
25	Tripura	Civil	6146	5638	5131	6653
		Criminal	30557	89698	75729	44526
26	Uttar Pradesh	Civil	1229650	473974	446540	1257084
		Criminal	3644965	2231672	1973547	3903090
27	Uttarakhand	Civil	28518	28746	26570	33204
		Criminal	102251	448082	120869	137280
28	West Bengal	Civil	496463	130015	116885	509593
		Criminal	1698168	1024587	821014	1901741
29	A & N Island#	Civil				
		Criminal				
30	Chandigarh	Civil	20566	9180	9165	20581
		Criminal	82044	104817	107531	79330
31	D & N Haveli#	Civil				
		Criminal				
32	Daman & Diu#	Civil				
		Criminal				
33	Delhi	Civil	145043	129148	76379	197812
		Criminal	935328	1215050	1199449	950931
34	Lakshadweep	Civil	91	20	33	78
		Criminal	107	93	122	78
35	Pondicherry	Civil	13449	16280	14525	15204
		Criminal	8845	19971	18974	9842
TOTAL :			26147935	16889951	16548251	26650467

*Information as on 31.12.07.

Information not received.

Problem faced by judiciary

927. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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