

8. Filling up of vacancies in the High Courts and Subordinate Courts,
9. Consideration of 118th report of the Law Commission "Proposals for constitution of Hi-Tech Fast Track Commercial Divisions in High Courts",
10. Strengthening of Legal Aid System,
11. Strengthening of A.D.R. System, including mediation and conciliation,
12. Judicial Impact Assessment,
13. Granting financial autonomy to the High Courts,
14. Progress made in setting up permanent mechanism for implementation of resolutions passed by the Chief Justices Conference and decisions taken at the Joint conferences of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices.

(d) The Resolutions have been sent to the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justice of High Courts for implementation on the matters related to them. Besides, a number of schemes are under implementation by the Government of India for development and modernisation of judicial infrastructure and improving access to justice.

Roadmap for clearing pending cases

368. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending as on the 1st November, 2009 for over five years in the trial courts and High Courts, separately;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government is planning to préparé a roadmap to clear pending cases by 2012 in these courts; and

(c) what is the roadmap for increasing efficiency of our judicial system and increasing throughput of disposal of cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) and (c) The Government is preparing a roadmap for judicial reforms in the country which aims, *inter-alia*, at reducing pendency in the courts, providing quick and effective justice, introducing accountability of the judges and bringing in transparency in judicial process for the litigants.

Amendment in Anand Marriage Act

369. SARDAR TARLOCHAN SINGH : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a request for amending the Anand Marriage Act is pending with his Ministry for long time;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice has recommended for its amendment;

(c) whether the Minister has also assured the Rajya Sabha that the Bill would be introduced at the earliest, if so, what follow up action has been taken by the Ministry;

(d) by when this Bill would be introduced in the Parliament; and

(e) whether the Ministry has any positive considerations towards the demands of the Sikh Minority Community?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) In reply to Starred Question No.141 answered on 10.3.2008, this House was informed that the issue of registration of marriage under Anand Marriage Act will be expedited. Since this requires consultation with the State Governments and other stakeholders, it will take some more time before a final decision is taken in the matter.

Overhauling of JUSTICE delivery system

370. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has prepared several radical ideas to overhaul the justice delivery system in the country including appointment of thousands of new judges, bringing down the pendency of cases from 15 years to 3 years and operating courts in three shifts;

(b) if so, the status thereof;

(c) whether Government also proposes to establish a National Arrears Grid to ascertain the exact number of cases in every court; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) to (d) The Government has taken up the work of preparing a roadmap for judicial reforms in the country which aims, *inter-alia*, at reducing pendency in the courts. In this context, the Government organized a "National Consultation for strengthening the judiciary towards reducing pendency and delays" on 24th-25th October, 2009 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. In the National Consultation, it was, *inter-alia*, resolved that the efforts will be made by all concerned to reduce the time taken for disposal of cases from 15 years to 3 years and to work together to implement the various steps including formation of a National Arrears Grid, required to ensure provision of expeditious, quality and inclusive justice. These are under consideration of the Government.

Benches of Supreme Court

371. DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE:

SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

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