

**Cases of death penalty pending in Supreme Court**

†1397. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of death penalty pending with the Supreme Court in which the accused has been confined to imprisonment for the last ten years; and

(b) the number of prisoners 60 years ago who have been sentenced to death by hanging?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(b) As per information available with the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) the number of prisoners above 50 years of age kept in Jails as on 31st December, 2002, 31st December 2003 and 31 st December 2004 awarded with capital punishment is 33,27 and 49 respectively. The number of prisoners of 60 years of age who have been sentenced to death by hanging is not available. For collection of data by NCRB, the uppermost age group of convicts is above 50 years.

**Disposal of pending cases**

1398. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:  
SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:

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

(a) the number of cases pending in civil and criminal courts, district courts and High Courts of the country, civil and criminal cases separately, State-wise.

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to clear the heavy backlog of cases in various courts in the country;

(c) the average time taken for disposal of cases by courts in the country, separately for civil and criminal cases; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.