

The Central Government implements a Centrally Sponsored Plan Scheme to augment the resources of the State Governments for the development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary. Since the inception of the Plan scheme in 1993-94 and till date, the Central Government has disbursed Rs.1 132.19 crore to the States and the Union Territories for development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary against which the States have reported an expenditure of Rs.2111 crore (31.3.2010) including their own contribution.

In addition, the Central Government is implementing a scheme for computerisation of district and subordinate courts that, inter alia, provides for augmenting the facilities of power supply to the courts for their Information and Communication Technology infrastructure.

The Government is aware that the infrastructure of district and subordinate courts needs considerable improvement. The possibility of further augmenting the financial resources of the States in this regard is under examination.

The need to further improve the infrastructure available and provide better facilities has been mentioned in a Report prepared by the Registry of the Supreme Court and has been taken on record by the Hon'ble apex Court when it heard the matter of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary in an Interlocutory Application No.279/2010 in W.P.No. 1022/1989 (All India Judges' Association & Ors. case), on 12.7.2010.

#### **Pending cases**

1553. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) how many cases are pending in various courts of the country for the last five years;
- (b) how many fresh cases have been filed in Supreme Court and High Courts during the last five years; and
- (c) how many cases have been admitted out of total cases, how many cases have been dismissed and in how many cases judgments have been delivered?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) The following number of cases were pending in the Supreme Court, the various High Courts and the Subordinate courts during the last five years:

Year ending 31st Dec.	Pendency
2005	29121963
2006	28774251
2007	29282074
2008	30404830
2009	31334354

(b) and (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### **The Constitution (108th Amendment) Bill**

1554. SHRI RAASHID ALVI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the further steps being taken by Government since the passing of the Constitution (108th Amendment) Bill?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): After passing of the Bill in the Rajya Sabha on 9th March, 2010, a motion for consideration and passing of the Bill in the Lok Sabha is under active consideration of the Central Government.

#### **Vacant post of judges**

1555. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL:

SHRI RAASHID ALVI:

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

(a) the number of vacancies for judges, their period of vacancy and existing sanctioned strength in High Courts and Supreme Court at the end of March, 2010;

(b) the details of Government's plans to fill up these vacancies; and

(c) whether Government is planning to increase the retirement age of judges or giving contract employment to retired judges to speed up the process of law?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) A statement showing the number of Approved strength of judges and vacancies of Judges in the