

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

Supreme Court and the High Courts as on 31.03.2010 is given in the statement (see below). Vacancies do keep arising on account of retirements, resignations or elevation of Judges.

Pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 in the Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record & Anr. Vs. Union of India, read with the Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998, the process of initiation of proposal for appointment of a Judge of the Supreme Court/High Courts lies with the Chief Justice of India and the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court respectively. The Government is periodically reminding the Chief Justices of the High Courts to initiate proposals in time for filling up the existing vacancies as well as the vacancies anticipated in next six months.

(c) A proposal to increase the retirement age of Judges of the High Courts from 62 years to 65 years is under consideration of the Government. There is no proposal to give contract employment to retired Judges in the higher judiciary.

Statement

The number of approved strength of Judges and vacancies of judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts as on 31-3-2010

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Approved Strength as on 31.03.2010	Vacancies of Judges as on 31.03.2010
1	2	3	4
A.	Supreme Court of India	31	4
B.	High Court		
1	Allahabad	160	84
2	Andhra Pradesh	49	16
3	Bombay	75	11
4	Calcutta	58	21
5	Chhattisgarh	18	6

1	2	3	4
6	Delhi	48	7
7	Gauhati	24	4
8	Gujarat	42	18
9	Himachal Pradesh	11	-
10	Jammu & Kashmir	14	5
11	Jharkhand	20	6
12	Karnataka	50	10
13	Kerala	38	7
14	Madhya Pradesh	43	10
15	Madras	60	6
16	Orissa	22	6
17	Patna	43	14
18	Punjab & Haryana	68	21
19	Rajasthan	40	13
20	Sikkim	3	1
21	Uttarakhand	9	-
	Total	895	266

Outdated Laws

1556. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 352 given in the Rajya Sabha on 23 November, 2009 and state:

(a) whether, out of total 364 Acts of pre-independence vintage and 741 of after independence, 26 have not been enforced and 13 have been partly enforced.