

taken as soon as the examination of the report is completed and would depend upon the availability of resources.

Writ petitions pending in various High Courts and the Supreme Court

*67. SHRI KALYAN ROY: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 136 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 17th May, 1976 and state:

(a) the number and the details of writ petitions regarding income, wealth and gift-tax cases involving amounts of Rs. 3 lakhs and above which were pending in the various High Courts and the Supreme Court at the end of the year 1976 and the number of petitions which have since been disposed of;

(b) the number of such pending cases upto the end of February, 1977; and

(c) the steps taken to expedite the disposal of such cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) to (c). The required information is being

collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Vacancies of Judges in High Courts

*68. SHRI S. W. DHABE:
SHRI H. S. NARASIAH:

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

(a) the number of vacancies of judges in various High Courts and the period for which these vacancies have been there; and

(b) by when these vacancies are likely to be filled up?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI SHANTI BHUSHAN): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House (See below).

(b) Steps to fill up these vacancies as soon as possible are being taken. Proposals to fill up some vacancies which have already been received are being processed. Proposals to fill up the remaining vacancies are awaited from the State authorities who have been reminded to expedite them.

Statement

Name of the High Court	Vacancies	The period since when these vacancies have arisen
Allahabad High Court	Permanent Judges . 5	4 vacancies from August, 1975 consequent upon the revision of judge-strength.
		1 vacancy from December, 1975.
	Additional Judges . 5	2 vacancies from July, 1974.
		2 vacancies from April, 1975.
Andhra Pradesh High Court	Permanent Judges . 1	1 vacancy from August, 1975.
	Additional Judge . 1	1 vacancy from March, 1977.
		1 vacancy from June, 1976.