

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

(b) The matter is sub-judice as the contempt proceedings are pending before the Supreme Court, which is competent to take appropriate action. The complaints against the Judges of the Supreme Court are, at present, being examined by the Chief Justice of India.

Disposal for pending court cases

†3634. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases lying pending/under consideration in the Supreme Court, High Courts and district courts of the country;

(b) the average number of cases registered every year and those disposed of;

(c) whether sufficient number of judges and staff are available for the cases under consideration in courts of the country; and

(d) the details of Government's new plan to facilitate easy and speedy justice to the common man in view of large number of pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) As on 31.10.2010, 54,600 cases were pending in the Supreme Court. The number of cases pending in the High Courts and the Subordinate Courts were 41,08,555 and 2,73,74,908 respectively as on 31.3.2010.

(b) As per the information received from the Registry of the Supreme Court, the average number of cases registered every year is 53,961.36 and the average number of disposal of cases every year is 50,740.18. The average number of cases registered and disposed of in the High Courts and Subordinate Courts during the last three years is given below:

Courts	Average Institution	Average disposal
High Courts	1633178.33	1482794.33
Subordinate Courts	16139721.66	15689324.00

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) As per the information received from the Registry of the Supreme Court, sufficient number of judges and staff are not available for the cases under consideration in courts of the country. Study shows "Judges: Population" ratio to be hardly 12/13 Judges per million, "Pending file: staff" ratio is non-existent and courts are heavily understaffed.

(d) Disposal of cases in the courts is within the domain of the judiciary. However, in order to facilitate expeditious disposal of cases in Courts, Government has taken a number of measures as mentioned below:

- (i) To reduce burden on courts, Government have provided under Thirteenth Finance Commission funds inter-alia for operation of morning/evening/shift courts, strengthening Alternate Dispute Resolution system and Lok Adalats etc. A provision of Rs. 2500 crore has been made for operation of morning/evening/shift courts, Rs. 750 crore for ADR centres and Rs. 100 crore for Lok Adalats.
- (ii) In order to modernise the judicial infrastructure, Government is implementing a Central Sector Scheme (E-Courts Project) for computerization of the District and Subordinate Courts in the country and upgradation of ICT infrastructure in superior courts at an estimated cost of Rs. 935 crore.
- (iii) The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 has been notified and brought into force w.e.f. 2nd October, 2009 to provide for speedy justice to common man at grassroots level. Government provides financial assistance to the States for setting up and operation of Gram Nyayalayas.
- (iv) The Government has decided, in principle, to set up a 'National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms' with the objective of reducing backlog of cases in courts from an average of 15 years at present to 3 years by taking a series of strategic initiatives.

Construction of buildings of Madras High Court

3635. SHRI PAUL MANOJ PANDIAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any proposal has been received from the Madras High Court for construction of new buildings and for other infrastructure facilities for the Court; and