

Steps for improvement in judicial system

†3866. SHRI BALAVANT ALIAS BAL APTE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints regarding corruption in judicial system have been received;

(b) if so, the details of discussions held on it in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justice of High Courts organized recently; and

(c) whether there was concurrence in this Conference on taking some substantial steps for hi-tech courts and prompt justice; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) Complaints are received by Government from time to time regarding corruption in judicial system.

(b) No discussions were held in the Conference of the Chief Ministers and the Chief Justices of the High Courts on this subject.

(c) It was decided in the Conference of the Chief Ministers and the Chief Justices that the knowledge and expertise in use of computers and various IT tools, available in our country, be used for modernization and computerization of Justice Delivery System at all levels.

Filling up of vacancies of judges

3867. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Supreme Court passed an order on the 5th April that State Government and Union Territories should draw out a schedule for timely filling up of vacancies of judges in their respective regions and noted that it is absolutely necessary to evolve a mechanism to speedily determine and fill vacancies of judges at all levels;

(b) whether Government have considered the order of the Supreme Court;

(c) if so, the steps taken to fill all the vacancies of judges in various courts; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) by when the process is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) to (d) No information is available about the Supreme Court's order of 5th April. However, the Supreme Court, in its judgement of 21st March, 2002, in All India Judges' Association & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Ors. had directed that the existing vacancies in the Subordinate Courts at all levels should be filled, if possible latest by 31st March, 2003, in all the States.

The filling up of the vacant posts of judges/magistrates at the District and Subordinate Courts is the concern of the respective High Courts and the State Governments. The Central Government have been periodically urging all the State Governments/Union Territories and the High Courts to accord utmost priority to filling up of vacant posts of judges and magistrates. The Minister of Law and Justice had written to the Chief Justices of all High Courts and Chief Ministers of all States for ensuring compliance of the aforesaid order of the Supreme Court dated the 21st March, 2002.

As per available information a Statement indicating sanctioned posts of Judicial Officers and number of vacant posts in various States as on 1.1.2006 is given in the Statement.

Statement

*Judge strength at district/subordinate court level
As on 01.01.2006*

Sl. No.	Name of the State/UT	No. of sanctioned Posts	No. of posts filled	No. of vacant posts
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	807	768	39
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	293	293	0
3.	Assam	275	212	63
4.	Bihar	1163	691	472
5.	Chhattisgarh	235	218	17
6.	Goa	44	27	17
7.	Gujarat	826	787	39
8.	Haryana	307	230	77
9.	Himachal Pradesh	116	111	5

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RAJYA SABHA

1	2	3	4	5
10.	Jharkhand	445	415	30
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	202	180	22
12.	Karnataka	811	673	138
13.	Kerala	418	395	23
14.	Madhya Pradesh	801	695	106
15.	Maharashtra	1492	1276	216
16.	Manipur	34	29	5
17.	Meghalaya	8	6	2
18.	Mizoram	34	18	16
19.	Nagaland	25	25	0
20.	Orissa	477	425	52
21.	Punjab	328	256	72
22.	Rajasthan	792	686	106
23.	Sikkim	13	10	3
24.	Tamil Nadu	757	727	30
25.	Tripura	75	61	14
26.	Uttar Pradesh	2172	1424	748
27.	West Bengal	706	596	110
28.	Uttaranchal	200	101	99
	Total: (A)	13856	11335	2521
	Union Territories			
1.	Delhi	329	266	126
2.	Pondicherry	21	17	4
3.	Chandigarh	20	18	2
4.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	8	8	0
5.	Lakshadweep Island	3	2	1
6.	Daman & Diu	3	2	1
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	2	0
	TOTAL: (B)	449	315	134
	TOTAL (A+B):	14305	11650	2655