

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) :
(a) to (d) Huge backlog and pendency has been a matter of concern as it delays the disposal of cases. Of the 3 crore cases pending, 74% are less than 5 years old. The Hon'ble Chief Justice of India has expressed the need of making the judicial system 5+ free by addressing 26% of the old cases which are of more than 5 years vintage.

The Government has been constantly endeavouring and working towards improvement in judicial system in the country jointly with the judiciary. The Government has been undertaking computerization of courts since 2007 and has been investing on improving infrastructure in the judiciary since 1993-94. Of late, National Court Management System has been notified by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India for establishment. This would be addressing issues of case management, court management, setting standards for measuring performance of the courts and a national system of judicial statistics in the country. Prior to that, the Government has in June, 2011 set up a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms. The objective of the Mission is to look at the requirement for policy changes, re-engineering of court procedures, propose/undertake measures for human resource development and leverage information and communication technology for better justice delivery.

In order to free the criminal justice system of clogging, which is taking place on account of cases under the Negotiable Instrument Act, 1881 and the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 serious efforts are being made to dispose them of on priority through special courts, Lok Adalats, Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms. Instructions have also been given to the States to utilize funds under the Thirteenth Finance Commission for this purpose as well as for setting up special courts and morning/evening courts to dispose of such cases.

Status of Fast Track Courts

3337. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI :

SHRI N.K. SINGH :

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to discontinue Fast Track Courts in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the total number of cases disposed of by these courts during the last three years, year-wise; and
- (d) the steps being taken to expedite the disposal of cases in the judiciary?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) :
(a) and (b) The Central Government had provided financial assistance to the State

Governments for Fast Track Courts from 2000-01 to 2010-11. The scheme has not been extended beyond 31.03.2011. However, some of the State Governments have continued the Fast Track Courts beyond 31.03.2011 from their own funds.

In its judgement, in *Brij Mohar Lal vs Union of India & Others* on 19.04.2012, the Supreme Court has directed the States that they shall not take a decision to continue the Fast Track Courts scheme on an adhoc and temporary basis. They (States) will need to decide either to bring the Fast Track Courts scheme to an end or to continue the same as a permanent feature in the State.

(c) The total number of cases disposed of by these courts in the three calendar years from 2009 to 2011, year-wise is given in Statement (*See below*).

(d) The Government has been taking several initiatives from time to time to expedite the disposal of cases in the judiciary. These initiatives *inter-alia* include measures for strengthening the judicial system, reviewing the strength of the judges from time to time and setting up of part time/special courts, improving infrastructure in the courts and increasing use of ICT for court management as well as for providing citizen centric services at all levels starting from Supreme Court/High Courts to the district and subordinate courts.

Statement

*Total number of cases disposed by the Fast Track Courts in
three calendar years from 2009 to 2011 year-wise*

Sl. No.	Name of the States	Number of cases disposed by the Fast Track Courts in the year		
		2009	2010	2011
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	17490	21087	22295
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	247	178	162
3.	Assam	6722	6482	7340
4.	Bihar	17278	21442	4899 (upto March, 2011)
5.	Chhattisgarh	8809	8465	2770 (upto March, 2011)
6.	Goa	6968 (since inception till the end of December, 2011)		
7.	Gujarat	46370	41820	5355 (upto Feb., 2011)

1	2	3	4	5
8.	Haryana	29652 (since inception till Dec. 2010)		Not available
9.	Himachal Pradesh	6373	6691	8607
10.	Jharkhand	87789 (since inception till the end of March, 2011)		
11.	Karnataka	39512	29119 (upto Aug. 2010)	Not available
12.	Kerala	11098	11277	9925
13.	Madhya Pradesh	65888	64092	Not Available
14.	Maharashtra	35137	35190	4198 (upto February, 2011)
15.	Manipur	246	171	314
16.	Meghalaya	192	79	52
17.	Mizoram	119	102	82
18.	Nagaland	81	79	48
19.	Orissa	65860 (since inception till the end of December, 2011)		
20.	Punjab	39157 (since inception till Dec. 2010)		Not Available
21.	Rajasthan	12385	11747	4315 (upto March, 2011)
22.	Tamil Nadu	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available
23.	Tripura	424	408	278 (upto June, 2011)
24.	Uttar Pradesh	41056	45512	8497 (upto March, 2011)
25.	Uttarakhand	4426	13102	9912
26.	West Bengal	14000	10336	10499