

rules of procedure. As such it is difficult to fix a specific time-frame for disposal of various categories of cases.

(c) As per information provided by the Bar Council of India, there is no shortage of qualified lawyers in the country and that LLB being a professional course cannot be run as a correspondence course.

Appointment of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts

583. SHRI H.K. DUA : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has stopped further appointment of Judges to fill up the vacancies in the Supreme Court and the High Courts;

(b) whether Government has decided not to appoint National Judicial Appointments Commission for the time being, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of vacancies in the Supreme Court and the High Courts at present?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) and (b) After assent by the President, the Constitution (Ninety Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the accompanying National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 have been published in the Gazette of India on 31.12.2014. They shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may by notification in the official Gazette, appoint. The process of setting up the National Judicial Appointments Commission has been initiated. Till such time the Acts are brought into force, the existing system of appointment of Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts is being continued.

(c) The details showing the number of vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts as on 20.02.2015 are given in the Statement.

Statement

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Number of vacancies as on 20.02.2015
1	2	3
A. Supreme Court of India		03
B. High Court		
1.	Allahabad	76
2.	Telangana and Andhra Pradesh	20
3.	Bombay	09
4.	Kolkata	21

1	2	3
5.	Chhattisgarh	08
6.	Delhi	19
7.	Gauhati	07
8.	Gujarat	12
9.	Himachal Pradesh	06
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	07
11.	Jharkhand	11
12.	Karnataka	27
13.	Kerala	07
14.	Madhya Pradesh	19
15.	Madras	18
16.	Manipur	01
17.	Meghalaya	0
18.	Odisha	08
19.	Patna	11
20.	Punjab and Haryana	30
21.	Rajasthan	20
22.	Sikkim	01
23.	Tripura	0
24.	Uttarakhand	05
TOTAL		343

Women judges

584. SHRI ANUBHAV MOHANTY : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has implemented the 33 per cent reservation policy for appointment of women judges in the courts;

(b) the present strength of women judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts; and