

1	2	3
3.	Calcutta	2,86,306
4.	Punjab and Haryana	2,79,699
5.	Madras	2,63,569
6.	Madhya Pradesh	2,58,716
7.	Andhra Pradesh	2,49,701
8.	Rajasthan	2,28,353
9.	Karnataka	2,14,120
10.	Odisha	2,02,082
11.	Kerala	1,45,906
12.	Patna	1,40,990
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,02,156
14.	Gujarat	95,302
15.	Jharkhand	80,815
16.	Delhi	66,989
17.	Chhattisgarh	45,077
18.	Gauhati	43,048
19.	Himachal Pradesh	39,616
20.	Uttarakhand	23,105
21.	Tripura	4,465
22.	Manipur	4,374
23.	Meghalaya	738
24.	Sikkim	108
TOTAL		41,53,957

Cases pending in Courts

2188. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD:
SHRI D. P. TRIPATHI:

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

(a) the measures taken, so far, to clear the huge number of cases pending in High Courts in the country;

(b) the details of cases pending in courts, including High Court of Karnataka till 1 August, 2015; and

(c) whether Government proposes to consider amendments to the existing laws to ensure justice in time and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA): (a) to (c) Data on pendency of cases is compiled by the High Courts and the Supreme Court. As per information available, 41.53 lakh cases were pending in High Courts including 2.14 lakh cases in High Court of Karnataka as on 31.12.2014. in District and Subordinate Courts 2.64 crore cases were pending as on 31.12.2014. High Court-wise/State-wise details of pending cases are given in the Statement-I and II, respectively (*See below*).

Government has set up National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms with the twin objectives of increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system and enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities. The Mission has been pursuing a co-ordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration, which, *interalia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerization, increase in strength of subordinate judiciary, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation, re-engineering of court procedure for quick disposal of cases and emphasis on human resource development.

The actual time taken for disposal of a case depends on several factors such as category of the case (civil or criminal), complexity of the facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake-holders *viz.* bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants besides the availability of physical infrastructure, supporting court staff and applicable rules and procedures. As such, it is not practicable to fix mandatory time limits for all categories of cases. However, in order to expedite the trial of court cases, a number of legislative changes have been made in procedural laws which include provisions for limiting adjournments of court proceedings in criminal and civil matters as contained in Section 309 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and Order XVII of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.

In 2011, the Supreme Court in *Ramrameshwari Devi versus Nirmala Devi* case has, *interalia*, observed that at the time of filing of the plaint, the trial court should prepare complete schedule and fix dates for all the stages of the suit, right from filing of the written statement till pronouncement of judgment and the courts should strictly adhere to the said dates and the said time table as far as possible.

Statement-I*High Court-wise pendency of cases as on 31.12.2014*

Sl. No.	Name of High Court	Pendency of Cases in High Courts as on 31.12.2014
1	2	3
1.	Allahabad	10,14,146
2.	Bombay	3,64,576
3.	Calcutta	2,86,306
4.	Punjab and Haryana	2,79,699
5.	Madras	2,63,569
6.	Madhya Pradesh	2,58,716
7.	Andhra Pradesh	2,49,701
8.	Rajasthan	2,28,353
9.	Karnataka	2,14,120
10.	Odisha	2,02,082
11.	Kerala	1,45,906
12.	Patna	1,40,990
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,02,156
14.	Gujarat	95,302
15.	Jharkhand	80,815
16.	Delhi	66,989
17.	Chhattisgarh	45,077
18.	Gauhati	43,048
19.	Himachal Pradesh	39,616
20.	Uttarakhand	23,105

1	2	3
21.	Tripura	4,465
22.	Manipur	4,374
23.	Meghalaya	738
24.	Sikkim	108
TOTAL		41,53,957

Statement-II*Pendency of District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2014*

Sl. No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Pendency of District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2014
1	2	3
1.	Uttar Pradesh	55,17,004
2.	Maharashtra	28,68,764
3.	West Bengal	25,56,461
4.	Gujarat	21,79,979
5.	Bihar	19,23,649
6.	Rajasthan	14,54,566
7.	Kerala	13,31,558
8.	Karnataka	12,26,112
9.	Madhya Pradesh	11,81,459
10.	Odisha	10,70,377
11.	Tamil Nadu	10,38,820
12.	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	10,14,372
13.	Punjab	5,07,663
14.	Haryana	4,93,768

1	2	3
15.	Delhi	4,59,267
16.	Jharkhand	3,15,484
17.	Chhattisgarh	2,78,887
18.	Assam	2,40,597
19.	Himachal Pradesh	2,26,224
20.	Jammu and Kashmir	1,85,078
21.	Uttarakhand	1,45,326
22.	Tripura	1,15,209
23.	Chandigarh	40,414
24.	Goa	35,001
25.	Puducherry	24,431
26.	Manipur	15,147
27.	Meghalaya	14,249
28.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	9,230
29.	Arunachal Pradesh	5,895
30.	Mizoram	3,730
31.	Nagaland	3,553
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	3,102
33.	Daman and Diu	1,615
34.	Sikkim	999
35.	Lakshadweep	415
TOTAL		2,64,88,405