

1	2	3
4.	* 14.03.2015	41,92,313
5.	* 11.04.2015	5,32,436
6.	* 09.05.2015 & 13.06.2015	3,18,724
7.	* 11.07.2015	8,73,752
8.	*08.08.2015	3,77,507
9.	* 12.09.2015	5,79,477
10.	*10.10.2015	16,37,399
11.	12.12.2015 (All types of cases)	135,69,441
TOTAL		746,29,721

Note: \$ In the 1st National Lok Adalat held on 23.11.2015 in all States/UTs and in the Supreme Court, the total of 72,10,344 cases were settled, out of which 10,77,582 Criminal cases, 21,22,950 Pre-Litigation cases, 9,19,731 Revenue Cases, 5,22,424 Traffic Challans, 4,16,782 MNREGA cases, and 21,50,875 cases relating to other categories.

In the 2nd National Lok Adalat held on 06.12.2014 & 13.12.2014 in all 36 States/UTs and in the Supreme Court on 06.12.2014, a total of 4,49,17,663 cases were settled, out of which 40,81,637 cases were pending in Courts. The remaining break up of 4,08,36,026 cases have been - 1,30,04,343 cases at Pre-Litigative stage; 26,44,871 MNREGA cases and 2,51,86,812 cases relating to Aadhar/Voter/Ration/BPL cards.

* NLA on various subjects matters

Pending court cases and their disposal

†750. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cases in courts have been lying unattended for years in the country and no time-limit has been fixed to clear them, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the number of cases solved in the country during the last five years and the number of cases pending along with the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) and (b) Disposal of cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. 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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

procedures. As such, it is not practicable to fix mandatory time limits for all categories of cases.

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.

As per information made available by High Courts, 38.70 lakh cases were pending in High Courts and 2.70 crore cases were pending in District / Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2015. Details of cases disposed of in High Courts and the Districts / Subordinate Courts during the last five years are as under:

Year	Cases disposed of in High Courts	Cases disposed of in District / Subordinate Courts
2011	17,84,282	1,85,96,866
2012	17,86,170	1,81,97,153
2013	17,72,917	1,87,83,546
2014	17,34,542	1,90,19,658
2015	15,80,911	1,78,97,488

Shortage of Judges in HCs

751. SHRI ANAND SHARMA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is a shortage of Judges in High Courts in various States;
- (b) if so, the details of approved strength, working strength and the vacancies in 2016, State-wise; and
- (c) the reasons for the delay in appointing Judges of High Courts?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA):
(a) and (b) A Statement showing the details of approved strength, working strength and the vacancies of Judges as on 20.4.2016 in the High Courts is given in the Statement (*See below*).

(c) The Collegium system of appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts ceased to exist consequent upon the coming into force of the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 *w.e.f* 13.04.2015. However, the Constitutional validity of both the Acts was