

Policy to dispose of pending court cases

†2236. SHRI NARESH AGRAWAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a concrete policy is yet to be framed to dispose of crores of cases pending before the Courts, if so, the reasons therefor; and

(b) if not, the number of cases disposed of during the last three years, out of the cases pending before the lower courts upto the Supreme Court alongwith the number of cases remaining to be disposed of?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Disposal of cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. Government has adopted a co-ordinated approach to assist judiciary for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial systems, which, *inter alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerisation, increase in strength of judicial officers/judges, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation and emphasis on human resource development.

The data on pendency of cases is maintained by the Supreme Court and High Courts. As per the information made available by Supreme Court and High Courts, details of cases disposed by various courts during last three years are as under:

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Number of Cases disposed of in the year		
		2013	2014	2015
1.	Supreme Court of India	40,177	45,076	47,535
2.	High Courts	17,72,917	17,34,542	15,80,911
3.	District and Subordinate Courts	1,87,83,546	1,90,19,658	1,78,97,555

As per information available 62,657 cases were pending in the Supreme Court as on 30.06.2016. As per information made available by High Courts 38.70 lakhs cases were pending in High Courts and 2.70 crore cases were pending in District/ Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2015.

Fast Track Courts

†2237. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that separate Fast Track Courts have been set up in the country by Government to dispose of the cases which have been pending for several years, if so, the details thereof; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) the details of old cases disposed of during the last two years in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Fast Track Courts are set up by the State Governments in consultation with High Courts from their own resources to dispose of the following types of cases:

- (i) Civil disputes involving land acquisition and property/rent disputes pending for more than 5 years.
- (ii) Civil cases involving senior citizens, women, children, disabled and litigants afflicted with HIV/AIDS and other terminal ailments; and
- (iii) Cases of heinous crimes.

(b) As per the information available, a statement indicating the number of cases disposed of in Fast Track Courts is given in the Statement.

Statement

Number of cases disposed of in Fast Track Courts for the last two years

Sl. No.	State	Cases disposed of during the year	
		2014	2015
1	2	3	4
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2639	2781
2.	Assam (including the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland)	4741	2811
3.	Chhattisgarh	6915	7666
4.	Delhi	1153	1218
5.	Goa	950	8884
6.	Haryana	1493	1527
7.	Jharkhand	834	664
8.	Karnataka	18496	5389*
9.	Maharashtra	86407	116363
10.	Manipur	183	82
11.	Punjab	10875	4072
12.	Sikkim	16	12

1	2	3	4
13.	Telangana	3789	3370
14.	Tripura	4179	493
15.	West Bengal	10256	11122

*Upto 31.3.2015

Note: As per the information available, no Fast Track Court is functioning in the States of Bihar, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Odisha, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand.

National Litigation Policy

2238. SHRI DILIPBHAI PANDYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering a National Litigation Policy in order to reduce the backlog of cases in courts, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the proposed policy will include measures to avoid unnecessary litigation as well as inter-Ministerial litigation in Government, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has identified obsolete laws, Amendments Acts and Appropriation Acts for repeal, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):

(a) and (b) Formulation of the National Litigation Policy is under active consideration of the Government.

(c) Review of all laws with a view to bring them in harmony with the current economic, social and political situation in the country is a continuous process. This task is undertaken by the different nodal Ministries/Departments of the Central Government administering their respective laws and generally by the Law Commission of India. The Law Commission has submitted its 248th, 249th, 250th and the 251st Reports on "Obsolete Laws: Warranting Immediate Repeal", in which it recommended for repeal of 72, 113, 74 and 30 obsolete Acts respectively, including some State laws. Further, a Two-member Committee was also constituted by the Prime Minister's Office on 1st September, 2014 for review of repeal of obsolete laws. The Two-Member Committee submitted its report and identified total 1741 Central Acts for repeal out of total 2781 Central Acts existing as on 15th October, 2014 on the Statutes Book.

Total Acts identified for repeal are 1827 and out of them 1175 Acts have been repealed so far through the Repealing and Amending Act, 2015 (17 of 2015)