

(b) A National Court Management System (NCMS) mechanism has been established in May, 2012, under the overall control of Hon'ble Chief Justice of India. One of the major initiative of the NCMS is the "five plus zero" policy initiative. Under this initiative special focus has been given to reduce cases before every court that are more than five years old. Disposal of cases in courts is within the domain of Judiciary. Data on disposal of cases is not maintained centrally.

(c) Data on pendency of cases is maintained by the Supreme Court and the High Courts. As per information made available by the Supreme Court, 48,772 Civil Cases and 9,666 Criminal Cases were pending in the Supreme Court of India as on 14.07.2017. As per information made available by the High Courts, 29.26 lakh Civil Cases and 10.88 lakh Criminal Cases were pending in the various High Courts as on 31.12.2016.

**Simultaneous elections for Parliament and Assembly Constituencies,
Urban Local Bodies and Panchayats**

2976. SHRI T. G. VENKATESH:

DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU:

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

(a) whether Government is planning to hold simultaneous election to Panchayats, Urban Local Bodies, Parliament and Assembly constituencies so as to reduce the expenditure on frequent elections and to make use of the time for service of the people, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) whether Government has held discussions at various levels and took the opinion of the States and Union Territories in this regard, if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) The matter regarding conduct of simultaneous election for Lok Sabha and State Assemblies was examined by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice. The Committee in its 79th Report has given certain recommendations which are under examination of the Government.

Funds for infrastructure in Courts

2977. DR. VIKAS MAHATME: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of funds allocated for modernisation and infrastructure development of High Courts and Lower Courts during the last year and current year, court-wise;