

1	2	3
11.	Jharkhand	351
12.	Karnataka	897
13.	Kerala	486
14.	Madras	1032
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1293
16.	Manipur	37
17.	Meghalaya	39
18.	Odisha	534
19.	Patna	1025
20.	Punjab & Haryana	1018
21.	Rajasthan	1094
22.	Sikkim	19
23.	Uttarakhand	186
24.	Tripura	69
TOTAL		16845

**One nation, one election**

593. SHRI VIJAY GOEL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating the implementation of 'one nation, one election';

(b) if so, steps taken in this direction, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government has been receiving comments from stakeholders on the issues, and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public

Grievances, Law and Justice had examined the issue of simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies in consultation with various stake-holders including Election Commission of India. The Committee has given certain recommendations in this regard in its 79th Report. The matter now stands referred to the Law Commission for further examination to work out practicable road map and framework for simultaneous elections to Lok Sabha and State Assemblies.

#### **Timely disposal of court cases**

594. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would make efforts for timely disposal of court cases by ensuring adequate number of judges, supporting court staffs and physical infrastructure and timely investigation reports;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the details of measure taken for the same during the last three years;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the details of measures taken for strict adherence of Supreme Courts directions regarding zero pendency of cases pending since last 10 years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Disposal of cases in courts is within the domain of judiciary. Timely disposal of cases in courts depends on several factors which, *inter-alia*, include availability of adequate number of judges, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stakeholders *viz.* bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures.

However, the Union Government is committed to speedy disposal of cases and reduction in pendency of cases. The National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms has adopted many strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure [court halls and residential units] for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts, leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, filling up of vacant positions of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court, reduction in pendency through follow up by Arrears Committees at District, High Court and Supreme Court level, emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) and initiatives to fast track special type of cases. The major steps taken during the last five years under various initiatives are as follows:-