

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1238
ANSWERED ON 01/08/2024

PENDING COURT CASES IN THE COUNTRY

1238. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA:

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

- (a) the total number of pending cases across various courts in the country;
- (b) the court-wise and State/UT-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether Government is taking measures to ensure faster disposal of such cases;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the measures proposed to be taken by Government to deal with the pendency situation?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) & (b): As per information available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), the total number of pending cases across various courts in the country is as under:

S. No.	Name of Court	Total no. of pending cases as on date
1.	Supreme Court	83,798
2.	High Courts	60,02,383
3.	District and Subordinate Courts	4,53,97,157

The detailed statement showing State/UT-wise pending cases in District & Subordinate courts is placed at *Annexure-I*.

(c) to (e): The resolution of pending cases in courts is within the exclusive domain of the judiciary. However, the Government is committed towards facilitating an ecosystem for expeditious disposal of cases by judiciary and reducing pendency as mandated under Article 21 of the Constitution. To this end, the Government set up the National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms in 2011, 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, inter-alia, involves improved 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.

There are several reasons that lead to pendency of cases in courts which, inter-alia, include availability of physical infrastructure and supporting court staff, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders viz. bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. Other factors that lead to delay in disposal of cases include lack of prescribed timeframe by respective courts for disposal of various kinds of cases, frequent adjournments and lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing. Moreover, in case of pendency of criminal cases, the criminal justice system functions on assistance by various agencies viz. Police, Prosecution, Forensic Labs, Handwriting Experts and Medico-Legal Experts. Delay in providing assistance by allied agencies also entails delay in disposal of cases.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) AND (B) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1238 FOR ANSWER ON 01.08.2024 REGARDING 'PENDING COURT CASES IN THE COUNTRY'.

Detailed statement showing State/UT-wise pending cases in District Courts

S.No.	State/UT	Total no. of pending cases as on date
1	Uttar Pradesh	11843447
2	Maharashtra	5448506
3	Bihar	3572352
4	West Bengal	3136410
5	Rajasthan	2313672
6	Karnataka	2040588
7	Madhya Pradesh	2016956
8	Kerala	1803020
9	Odisha	1633351
10	Gujarat	1552084
11	Tamil Nadu	1494818
12	Haryana	1430534
13	Delhi	1326935
14	Telangana	931818
15	Punjab	871930
16	Andhra Pradesh	872829
17	Himachal Pradesh	657860
18	Jharkhand	550956
19	Assam	468604
20	Chhattisgarh	414525
21	Uttarakhand	371008
22	Jammu and Kashmir	323006
23	Chandigarh	110593
24	Goa	59155
25	Tripura	49051
26	Puducherry	34920
27	Meghalaya	15472
28	Manipur	12787
29	Arunachal Pradesh	11269
30	Andaman and Nicobar	8978
31	Mizoram	5408
32	DNH at Silvasa	4464
33	Diu and Daman	3170
34	Nagaland	2959
35	Sikkim	1771
36	Ladakh	1553
37	Lakshadweep	398
	TOTAL	45397157