

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 901**  
ANSWERED ON 27/07/2023

**PENDENCY OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES**

**901. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:**

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

- (a) the details of pending civil and criminal cases at the level of lower judiciary in the country, State-wise as on 15th July, 2023;
- (b) the details of pending civil and criminal cases at the level of lower judiciary in the country as on 15th July, 2022, State-wise;
- (c) the details of increase/decrease in pendency of criminal and civil cases, State-wise during the last one year; and
- (d) the outcome of National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms which was set up in August, 2011 to reduce pendency of cases?

**ANSWER**

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

**(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)**

**(a):** As per information available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), the details of pending civil and criminal cases at the level of lower judiciary in the country, State-wise as on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 is at *Annexure-I*.

**(b):** As per information available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), the details of pending civil and criminal cases at the level of lower judiciary in the country, State-wise as on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2022 is at *Annexure-II*.

**(c):** The details of increase/decrease in pendency of criminal and civil cases, State-wise during the last one year i.e. between 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2022 and 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 is at *Annexure-III*.

**(d):** Disposal of pending cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. No time frame has been prescribed for disposal of various kinds of cases by the respective courts. Government has no direct role in disposal of cases in courts. Timely disposal of cases in courts depends on several factors which, inter-alia, include availability of adequate number of judges and judicial officers, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, 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. There are several factors which may lead to delay in disposal of cases. These, inter-alia, include vacancies of judges, frequent adjournments and lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing.

The Central Government is fully committed to speedy disposal of cases and to reducing pendency. To this end, the Government has taken multiple initiatives the details of which are as under:-

National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms was set up in August, 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 better 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.

- i.** Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Judicial Infrastructure, funds are being released to States/UTs for construction of court halls, residential quarters for judicial officers, lawyers' halls, toilet complexes and digital computer rooms that would ease the life of lawyers and litigants, thereby aiding justice delivery. As on date, Rs. 10035 crores have been released since the inception of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the Judiciary in 1993-94. The number of court halls has increased from 15,818 as on 30.06.2014 to 21,365 as on 30.06.2023, and number of residential units has increased from 10,211 as on 30.06.2014 to 18,846 as on 30.06.2023, under this scheme.
- ii.** Further under the e-Courts Mission Mode Project, information and communication technology (ICT) has been leveraged for IT enablement of district and subordinate courts. The number of computerised district & subordinate courts has increased to 18,735 so far. WAN connectivity has been provided to 99.4% of court complexes. Video conferencing facility has been enabled between 3,240 court complexes and 1,272 corresponding jails. 815 e-Sewa Kendras have been set up at court complexes to facilitate lawyers and litigants needing assistance ranging from case status, getting judgments/orders, court/case-related information, and e-filing facilities. 22 virtual courts have been set up in 18 States/UTs. As on 31.05.2023, these courts have handled more than 3.113 crore cases and realized more than Rs. 408 crores in fines. E-courts Phase III is about to begin which intends to incorporate latest technology such Artificial Intelligence(AI) and Block chain to make justice delivery more robust, easy and accessible to all the stakeholders.
- iii.** Government has been regularly filling up the vacancies in higher judiciary. From 01.05.2014 to 10.07.2023, 56 Judges were appointed in Supreme Court.

919 new Judges were appointed and 653 Additional Judges were made permanent in the High Courts. Sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has been increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1114 currently. sanctioned and working strength of judicial officers in district and subordinate courts has increased as follow:

As on	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength
31.12.2013	19,518	15,115
21.07.2023	25,246	19,858

However, filling up of vacancies in subordinate judiciary falls within the domain of the State Governments and high courts concerned.

- iv. In pursuance of a Resolution passed in Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, Arrears Committees have been set up in all 25 High Courts to clear cases pending for more than five years. Arrears Committees have been set up under District courts as well.
- v. Under the aegis of the Fourteenth Finance Commission, the government has established Fast Track Courts for dealing with cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children etc. As on 31.05.2023, 832 Fast Track Courts are functional for heinous crimes, crimes against women, and children etc. To fast track criminal cases involving elected MPs / MLAs, ten (10) Special Courts are functional in nine (9) States/UTs. Further, the central government has approved a scheme for setting up 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) across the country for the expeditious disposal of pending cases of Rape under IPC and crimes under POCSO Act. As on date, 28 States/UTs have joined the scheme.
- vi. With a view to reduce pendency and unclogging of the courts, the Government has recently amended various laws like the Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Commercial Courts (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Specific Relief (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2019 and the Criminal Laws (Amendment) Act, 2018.

- vii.** Alternate Dispute Resolution methods have been promoted whole heartedly. Accordingly, the Commercial Courts Act, 2015 was amended on 20th August, 2018 making Pre-institution Mediation and Settlement (PIMS) mandatory in case of commercial disputes. Amendment to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 has been made by the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act 2015 for expediting the speedy resolution of disputes by prescribing timelines.
- viii.** Lok Adalat is an important Alternative Disputes Resolution Mechanism available to common people. It is a forum where the disputes/ cases pending in the court of law or at pre-litigation stage are settled/ compromised amicably. Under the Legal Services Authorities (LSA) Act, 1987, an award made by a Lok Adalat is deemed to be a decree of a civil court and is final and binding on all parties and no appeal lies against thereto before any court. . Lok Adalat is not a permanent establishment. National Lok Adalats are organized simultaneously in all Taluks, Districts and High Courts on a pre-fixed date. The details of the case disposed off in Lok Adalats during the last three years are as under:-

Years	Pre-litigation Cases	Pending Cases	Grand Total
2021	72,06,294	55,81,743	1,27,88,037
2022	3,10,15,215	1,09,10,795	4,19,26,010
2023 (upto 17.06.2023)	3,00,11,291	61,88,686	3,61,99,977
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,82,32,800</b>	<b>2,26,81,224</b>	<b>9,09,14,024</b>

- ix.** The Government launched the Tele-Law programme in 2017, which provided an effective and reliable e-interface platform connecting the needy and disadvantaged sections seeking legal advice and consultation with panel lawyers via video conferencing, telephone and chat facilities available at the

Common Service Centres (CSCs) situated in Gram Panchayat and through Tele-Law mobile App.

\*Percentage Wise break-up of Tele – Law Data

Till 28th Feb, 2023	Cases Registered	% Wise Break Up	Advice Enabled	% Wise Break Up
Gender Wise				
Female	15,75,140	34.38	15,35,775	34.39
Male	30,06,772	65.62	29,30,601	65.61
Caste Category Wise				
General	9,82,636	21.45	9,52,773	21.33
OBC	13,28,505	28.99	12,93,153	28.95
SC	14,88,971	32.50	14,53,283	32.54
ST	7,81,800	17.065	7,67,167	17.18
Total	45,81,912		44,66,376	

- x. Efforts have been made to institutionalize pro bono culture and pro bono lawyering the country. A technological framework has been put in place where advocates volunteering to give their time and services for pro bono work can register as Pro Bono Advocates on Nyaya Bandhu (Android & iOS and Apps). Nyaya Bandhu Services also available on UMANG Platform. Pro Bono Panel of advocates have been initiated in 21 High Courts at the State level. Pro Bono Clubs have been started in 69 select Laws Schools to instill Pro Bono culture in budding lawyers.

\*\*\*\*\*

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 901 FOR ANSWER ON 27.07.2023 REGARDING 'PENDENCY OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES'**

**Details of State-wise Pendency as on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 in District and Subordinate Courts.**

S. No	State/UTs	Civil	Criminal	Total
1	Uttar Pradesh	1866208	9743124	11609332
2	Maharashtra	1621800	3485391	5107191
3	Bihar	524503	2976426	3500929
4	West Bengal	622950	2280565	2903515
5	Rajasthan	559968	1711614	2271582
6	Madhya Pradesh	401707	1608776	2010483
7	Karnataka	935416	983568	1918984
8	Kerala	524817	1359356	1884173
9	Gujarat	408316	1282803	1691119
10	Haryana	458943	1073130	1532073
11	Odisha	281448	1244509	1525957
12	Tamil Nadu	754659	720413	1475072
13	Delhi	241850	985641	1227491
14	Punjab	399389	517128	916517
15	Telangana	344082	563284	907366
16	Andhra Pradesh	417212	431802	849014
17	Himachal Pradesh	163650	373794	537444
18	Jharkhand	88800	435967	524767
19	Assam	100893	365427	466320
20	Chhattisgarh	79026	329924	408950
21	Uttarakhand	45233	290164	335397
22	Jammu and Kashmir	100433	216256	316689
23	Chandigarh	23257	59160	82417
24	Goa	26060	30658	56718
25	Tripura	11683	33866	45549
26	Puducherry	13496	20599	34095
27	Meghalaya	4458	11477	15935
28	Manipur	8208	4371	12579
29	Andaman and Nicobar	3476	5292	8768
30	Mizoram	2539	3275	5814
31	DNH at Silvasa	1958	2098	4056
32	Nagaland	627	2713	3340
33	Diu and Daman	1445	1620	3065
34	Sikkim	644	1177	1821
35	Arunachal Pradesh	403	984	1387
36	Ladakh	627	579	1206
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,10,40,184</b>	<b>3,31,56,931</b>	<b>4,41,97,115</b>

Source: National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 901 FOR ANSWER ON 27.07.2023 REGARDING 'PENDENCY OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES'**

**Details of State-wise Pendency as on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2022 in District and Subordinate Courts.**

S. No	State/UTs	Civil	Criminal	Total
1	Uttar Pradesh	1906811	8652719	10559530
2	Maharashtra	1557984	3431022	4989006
3	Bihar	502186	2963593	3465779
4	West Bengal	614712	2097443	2712155
5	Rajasthan	548539	1595764	2144303
6	Madhya Pradesh	402147	1562605	1964752
7	Kerala	529501	1456561	1986062
8	Karnataka	906282	988407	1894689
9	Odisha	294560	1248295	1542855
10	Gujarat	455953	1412869	1868822
11	Haryana	455430	940324	1395754
12	Tamil Nadu	810432	645419	1455851
13	Delhi	257457	918485	1175942
14	Telangana	340444	516346	856790
15	Punjab	417916	549096	967012
16	Andhra Pradesh	419468	377213	796681
17	Jharkhand	94412	431572	525984
18	Himachal Pradesh	159623	324347	483970
19	Assam	91505	370922	462427
20	Chhattisgarh	75162	326326	401488
21	Uttarakhand	46666	288594	335260
22	Jammu and Kashmir	97546	177302	274848
23	Chandigarh	24030	52660	76690
24	Goa	26071	32354	58425
25	Tripura	11379	28807	40186
26	Puducherry	14440	20392	34832
27	Meghalaya	4552	12418	16970
28	Manipur	8011	4168	12179
29	Andaman and Nicobar	3279	4971	8250
30	Mizoram	2451	3446	5897
31	DNH at Silvassa	1879	1909	3788
32	Nagaland	497	2644	3141
33	Diu and Daman	1421	1466	2887
34	Arunachal Pradesh	244	787	1031
35	Sikkim	720	1171	1891
36	Ladakh	579	469	1048
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>1,10,84,289</b>	<b>3,14,42,886</b>	<b>4,25,27,175</b>

Source: National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)



**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (C) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 901 FOR ANSWER ON 27.07.2023 REGARDING 'PENDENCY OF CIVIL AND CRIMINAL CASES'**

**State-Wise Details of Increase/Decrease in Pendency of Criminal and Civil Cases during 2022-2023 in Lower Judiciary**

Sr. no	State/UTs	Civil			Criminal			total		
		15.07.2022	15.07.2023	increase/Decrease	15.07.2022	15.07.2023	increase/Decrease	15.07.2022	15.07.2023	increase/Decrease
1	Uttar Pradesh	1906811	1866208	-40603	8652719	9743124	1090405	10559530	11609332	1049802
2	Maharashtra	1557984	1621800	63816	3431022	3485391	54369	4989006	5107191	118185
3	Bihar	502186	524503	22317	2963593	2976426	12833	3465779	3500929	35150
4	West Bengal	614712	622950	8238	2097443	2280565	183122	2712155	2903515	191360
5	Rajasthan	548539	559968	11429	1595764	1711614	115850	2144303	2271582	127279
6	Madhya Pradesh	402147	401707	-440	1562605	1608776	46171	1964752	2010483	45731
7	Karnataka	529501	935416	405915	1456561	983568	-472993	1986062	1918984	-67078
8	Kerala	906282	524817	-381465	988407	1359356	370949	1894689	1884173	-10516
9	Gujarat	294560	408316	113756	1248295	1282803	34508	1542855	1691119	148264
10	Haryana	455953	458943	2990	1412869	1073130	-339739	1868822	1532073	-336749
11	Odisha	455430	281448	-173982	940324	1244509	304185	1395754	1525957	130203
12	Tamil Nadu	810432	754659	-55773	645419	720413	74994	1455851	1475072	19221
13	Delhi	257457	241850	-15607	918485	985641	67156	1175942	1227491	51549
14	Punjab	340444	399389	58945	516346	517128	782	856790	916517	59727
15	Telangana	417916	344082	-73834	549096	563284	14188	967012	907366	-59646
16	Andhra Pradesh	419468	417212	-2256	377213	431802	54589	796681	849014	52333
17	Himachal Pradesh	94412	163650	69238	431572	373794	-57778	525984	537444	11460
18	Jharkhand	159623	88800	-70823	324347	435967	111620	483970	524767	40797
19	Assam	91505	100893	9388	370922	365427	-5495	462427	466320	3893
20	Chhattisgarh	75162	79026	3864	326326	329924	3598	401488	408950	7462
21	Uttarakhand	46666	45233	-1433	288594	290164	1570	335260	335397	137
22	Jammu and Kashmir	97546	100433	2887	177302	216256	38954	274848	316689	41841

23	Chandigarh	24030	23257	-773	52660	59160	6500	76690	82417	5727
24	Goa	26071	26060	-11	32354	30658	-1696	58425	56718	-1707
25	Tripura	11379	11683	304	28807	33866	5059	40186	45549	5363
26	Puducherry	14440	13496	-944	20392	20599	207	34832	34095	-737
27	Meghalaya	4552	4458	-94	12418	11477	-941	16970	15935	-1035
28	Manipur	8011	8208	197	4168	4371	203	12179	12579	400
29	Andaman and Nicobar	3279	3476	197	4971	5292	321	8250	8768	518
30	Mizoram	2451	2539	88	3446	3275	-171	5897	5814	-83
31	DNH at Silvasa	1879	1958	79	1909	2098	189	3788	4056	268
32	Nagaland	497	627	130	2644	2713	69	3141	3340	199
33	Diu and Daman	1421	1445	24	1466	1620	154	2887	3065	178
34	Sikkim	244	644	400	787	1177	390	1031	1821	790
35	Arunachal Pradesh	720	403	-317	1171	984	-187	1891	1387	-504
36	Ladakh	579	627	48	469	579	110	1048	1206	158
	<b>Total:</b>	11084289	11040184	<b>-44105</b>	31442886	33156931	<b>1714045</b>	42527175	44197115	<b>1669940</b>

Source: National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)