

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW AND JUSTICE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5164  
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2003  
VACANT POST OF JUDGES IN ANDHRA PRADESH HIGH COURT  
GANTA SRINIVASA RAO

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

- (a) the sanctioned strength of judges in Andhra Pradesh High Court as on date and the number of posts lying vacant and since when;
- (b) the reasons for not filling up the vacant posts of judges;
- (c) whether the Government propose to increase the strength of judges in the Andhra Pradesh High Court further to eliminate pendency of cases therein;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government for filling up of the vacant posts of judges in the Andhra Pradesh High Court?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY):

(a) to (e) Against the approved strength of 39 Additional/Permanent Judges in the Andhra Pradesh High Court. 35 Judges are in position, leaving 4 vacancies to be filled up. These vacancies have occurred on the retirement of Judges. The filling up of vacancies of Judges in the High Courts is a continuous, consultative process among the Constitutional authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement or elevation of Judges Justice of High Courts/Judges of the Supreme Court.

The Government reviews the Judge strength of High Courts periodically every three years. The increase in the Judge strength of a High Court is considered only when the average rate of disposal of main cases in the concerned High Court is above the national average.