

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:298  
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2004  
PENDING CASES OF LABOUR DISPUTE  
Panda Shri Prabodh

**Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether there has been a constant increase in the pending cases of labour dispute during the previous decade;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there are some vacant posts of Judges in most of the tribunals for a long time resulting in delay in the disposal of the cases; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken to fill up the vacant posts of judges to ensure the speedy disposal of the pending cases?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI SIS RAM OLA)

(a) to (d): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No.298 RAISED BY SHRI PRABODH PANDA FOR ANSWER ON 16.08.2004

(a) & (b): There has been an increase in the number of pending cases in CGIT-cum-Labour Courts. The main reasons for the pendency are as follows:

- (i) Absence of affected parties at the time of hearing;
- (ii) Parties seek frequent adjournments to file documents;
- (iii) Parties approach higher courts against order issued by the Tribunals on preliminary points and hearing of the case is stayed for a long time leading to delay; &
- (iv) Time taken for filling up the vacant posts of Presiding Officers.

(c) As on 31.07.2004 out of 22 posts of Presiding Officers, only five were vacant.

(d) The selection process has been initiated for filling up of above mentioned five vacant posts.

During the year 2003-2004 five new CGIT-cum-Labour Courts have been set up to tackle the growing number of industrial disputes. Further, as an alternative mechanism for dispute resolution, Lok Adalats are being held to dispose of the backlog of pending cases.