

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2041

ANSWERED ON:11.08.2011

PENDING COURT CASES

Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram;Dhurve Jyoti;Jindal Shri Naveen;Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia;Panda Shri Prabodh;Pratapsinh Shri Chauhan Prabhatsinh;Shukla Shri Balkrishna Khanderao Balu Shukla;Singh Alias Pappu Singh Shri Uday;Vishwanath Shri katti Ramesh

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

- (a) the details of the cases pending in Supreme Court, High Courts, Sessional Courts, Lower Courts and Local Courts till July 2011;
- (b) whether the Union Government proposes to launch special programme or proposes to set up National Arrears Grid to dispose off 40 per cent of the pending court cases in coming six months across the country;
- (c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the measures being provided for disposal of pending cases during the last three years; State-wise;
- (d) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon;
- (e) whether the Ministry of Finance has agreed to provide funds to implement the aforesaid programme; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHID)

(a) As per the information received from the Supreme Court, of 57179 total filed matters as on 30.6.11, if connected matters are excluded, the number is only 33538 matters. Out of these 57179 matters as on 30.6.11, 20253 matters are current filings less than one year old and thus arrears (i.e. cases pending more than a year) are only 36926 matters as on 30.6.11. The total number of cases in the High Courts and the Subordinate judiciary were 42,17,903 and 2,79,53,070 respectively as on 30.9.2010.

(b): Yes, Madam. The Government has launched the following special initiatives to reduce pendency of cases in courts:

(i) Government has requested all the Chief Justices of High Courts to launch a campaign for pendency reduction in courts from July-December, 2011.

(ii) The Government has approved setting up of `National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms`. The major goals are :

Increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system.

Enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities

National Arrears Grid will be established under e-courts project when completed. The grid is not meant for immediate disposal of court cases but for monitoring arrears and judicial data.

(c) to (f): A number of other measures are also being undertaken by the Government for disposing of the cases pending in the courts. Budget provision for the purpose has also been considerably enhanced. The details are given below:

I. A Mission Mode approach to infrastructure development of subordinate judiciary is among the major initiatives under the National Mission for Justice Delivery which is approved by the Government. Inadequacy of infrastructure in subordinate courts has been one of the bottlenecks in the speedy delivery of justice. Keeping this in mind in the financial year 2011-12, the allocation for the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for infrastructure development has been increased fivefold from ₹100 Crore to ₹500 Crore. Funding pattern has also been increased from 50:50 to 75:25 for the non-special States and it is to continue on 90:10 basis for the NE States.

II. The Government has accepted the recommendations of the Thirteenth Finance Commission to provide a grant of 5000 Crore to the States for improving the justice delivery system in the country over a five year period 2010-15. A grant of ₹ 1000 Crore has already been released to the States during the year 2010-11. With the help of these grants, the States can, inter-alia, set up morning / evening / shift/special magistrates' courts, appoint court managers, establish ADR centres and provide training to mediators / conciliators, organise more Lok Adalats to reduced pendencies. The grants also provide for training of judicial officers, strengthening of State Judicial Academies, training of public prosecutors and maintenance of heritage court buildings.

III. In order to computerise the justice delivery system Government is implementing e-Courts Project for the District and Subordinate Courts in the country and up gradation of ICT infrastructure in superior courts at an estimated cost of 935 crore. The target is to computerize 12000 Courts by 31st March, 2012 and 14249 Courts by 31st March, 2014.

IV. Enactment of the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 which provides for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas to improve access to justice to marginalised. The current year allocation has been increased from ₹ 40 Crore to ₹ 150 Crore