

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2297
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 29TH JULY, 2022**

IMPACT OF ADJOURNMENT ON COURT CASES

**2297. SHRI PASUNOORI DAYAKAR:
SHRI VENKATESH NETHA BORLAKUNTA:
SHRIMATI KAVITHA MALOTHU:
DR. G. RANJITH REDDY:**

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

- (a) whether it is true that one of the main reasons for pendency and piling up of cases in courts is due to adjournments;**
- (b) whether any proposal is proposed to be brought by the Government to put limit on adjournments of court as opined by the Supreme Court or High Court on several occasions;**
- (c) if not, whether the Government is considering to persuade Supreme Court for fixing a limited number of adjournments in a case for speedy disposal of cases; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (d): Time taken for disposal of a case depends on several factors such as category of case (civil or criminal), complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stakeholders *viz.* bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants besides the availability of physical infrastructure, supporting court staff and applicable rules of procedure. There are several factors which may lead to delay in disposal of cases. These, *inter-alia*, include vacancies of judges, frequent adjournments, number of revisions / appeals and lack of

adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing. As such it is not practicable to assess the average delay in disposal of cases due to adjournments alone.

In order to expedite the trial of Court cases a number of legislative changes have been made in procedural laws, which include provisions for limiting adjournments of court proceedings in criminal and civil matters as contained in Section 309 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and order XVII of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908. The Government has adopted a co-ordinated approach to assist judiciary for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial systems, which, *inter-alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerisation, increase in strength of judicial officers / judges, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation and emphasis on human resource development.
