

Pay, Allowance and Pension

Last updated: 24-02-2022

Salaries, gratuity, pension, allowances etc. in respect of Judges of Supreme Court are governed by the Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958. Salaries etc. of Judges of High Courts are governed by High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1954. An amendment in the Acts is required whenever there is any proposal for revision of salaries/pension gratuity, allowances etc. in respect of Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts.

Salaries and allowances of Judges of Supreme Court and High Court were last revised w.e.f. 1.1.2006 consequent upon the recommendations of 6th CPC.

Pursuant to the implementation of the report of 7th CPC by Central Government in respect of civil servants, the Chief Justice of India (CJI) constituted a Committee of three sitting Judges to recommend revision in the salaries and other service conditions for the CJI and Judges of Supreme Court and Chief Justices of High Courts.

The report of Judges Committee, received by the Government on 21.9.2016, was sent to Finance Ministry for examination. Hon'ble Finance Minister, vide letter 28.11.2016, conveyed comments of his Ministry. A proposal was sent to Cabinet Sectt. for seeking the approval of Union Cabinet for revision of pay, allowances and pension of High Court and Supreme Court Judges.

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister approved the proposal for revision in the salaries, gratuity, allowances, pension etc. of the Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts on 22.11.2017.

A Bill was introduced in the Parliament on 21.12.2017 for amendment in the Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958 and High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1954. The Bill was passed by Parliament and enacted after the assent of the Hon'ble President.

Consequent upon amendment of both the Acts mentioned above, Department of Justice vide letter dated 30.01.2018 issued necessary instructions to all State Governments/UTs, Accountants General of all States and Registry Supreme Court to revise the pay, allowances and pension of all sitting and retired High Court and Supreme Court Judges.

Revised rates of Salary, Allowances and Pension of Supreme Court and High Court Judges w.e.f. 01.01.2016 are as under:-

Designation	Salary	Pension	Gratuity
Chief Justice of India	Rs.2,80,000/-p.m.	Rs.16,80,000/- per annum +Dearness Relief	Rs.20,00,000/-
Judges of Supreme Court	Rs.2,50,000/-p.m.	Rs.15,00,000/- per annum +Dearness Relief	Rs.20,00,000/-
Chief Justices of High Court	Rs.2,50,000/-p.m.	Rs.15,00,000/- per annum +Dearness Relief	Rs.20,00,000/-
Judges of High Court	Rs.2,25,000/-p.m.	Rs.13,50,000/- per annum +Dearness Relief	Rs.20,00,000/-

Allowances

Designation	Furnishing Allowance	HRA	Sumptuary Allowance
Chief Justice of India	Rs.10,00,000/-	24% of Basic Salary	Rs.45,000/- per month
Judges of Supreme Court	Rs.8,00,000/-	24% of Basic Salary	Rs.34,000/- per month
Chief Justices of High Court	Rs.8,00,000/-	24% of Basic Salary	Rs.34,000/- per month
Judges of High Court	Rs.6,00,000/-	24% of Basic Salary	Rs.27,000/- per month

Further increase of HRA @ 27% when Dearness Allowance (DA) crosses 25% and @ 30% when DA crosses 50% has also been agreed to by Cabinet.

The Salaries, Pension and Allowances of the Supreme Court Judges are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of India, whereas the Salaries and Allowances of the High Court Judges are charged upon the Consolidated Fund of the States and the Pension is charged on the Consolidated Fund of India.

First National Judicial Pay Commission

Last updated: 17-03-2022

1. In pursuance of the directions of the Supreme Court, the First National Judicial Pay Commission (FNJPC) was set up in March, 1996 under the Chairmanship of Justice K. J. Shetty to examine the service conditions and salary structure of the Judicial Officers in the country.
2. The necessary funds for the functioning of the Commission were arranged by Department of Justice.
3. The Commission submitted its report to the Government and Supreme Court of India on 11.11.1999.
4. The Supreme Court examined the report in full and accepted the recommendations of the FNJPC with various modifications and directed all State Governments to implement it vide Order dated 21.03.2002.
5. The recommendations of the FNJPC were considered by the Central Government in so far as they related to the Judicial Officers of the Union Territories for which the Central Government is administratively responsible. Therefore, the recommendations of the FNJPC were accepted and implemented by Department of Justice in respect of Judicial Officers of UTs.
6. All the State Governments also implemented the recommendations of the FNJPC.

Second National Judicial Pay Commission

Last updated: 23-03-2022

1. The Supreme Court of India on 09.05.2017 in Writ Petition No.643/2015 directed to appoint a Judicial Pay Commission to review the pay scales, emoluments and service conditions of the Judicial Officers of Subordinate Judiciary in India. Accordingly, with the approval of the Cabinet, the Government notified setting up of the SNJPC on 16.11.2017 under the Chairmanship of Mr. Justice (Retd.) P.VenkataramaReddi, former Judge of Supreme Court of India.
 - Member- Mr. Justice (Retd.) R. Basant, former Judge of Kerala High Court.
 - Member Secretary (to be chosen by the Commission, preferably a Judicial Officer).
2. SNJPC has submitted their report to this Department on dated 04.02.2020. A copy of report has been submitted to Supreme Court of India and to State Governments. The recommendations of SNJPC are under consideration of Supreme Court of India. This Department has filed its views/comments on the recommendations of SNJPC in the Supreme Court of India on 22.06.2020.
3. The recommendations of SNJPC shall be considered by this Department in respect of judicial officers of the Union Territories in consultation with Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance and necessary orders will be issued to Union Territories to revise the pay and allowance of Judicial Officers under their administrative control.

Memorandum of Understanding signed with other countries

Last updated: 12-10-2022

Department of Justice has signed MoUs/Protocol relating to judicial cooperation with the following countries: –

S. No.	Name of Country	Date of signing MoU
1.	Turkey	10.04.2002
2.	Russia	03.10.2000
3.	China	23.06.2003
4.	Bangladesh	08.04.2017
5.	Tunisia	30.10.2017
6.	Zambia	11.04.2018
7.	Morocco	24.07.2020
8.	Maldives	23.08.2022

Pecuniary Jurisdiction of Delhi District Courts

Last updated: 17-03-2022

Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi had received a request for enhancement of original pecuniary jurisdiction of District Courts of Delhi from the existing Rs. 20 lakh to Rs. 2 crore from the Coordination Committee of All Bar Associations of Delhi.

Government of National Capital Territory considered this request and observed that increasing the pecuniary jurisdiction would lessen the burden on High Court and there would be substantive improvement in disposal of cases in subordinate courts, since number of subordinate Courts has now increased due to creation of eleven Districts in Delhi. Enhancement of pecuniary jurisdiction of Delhi District Courts will facilitate access of general public to the District Courts within the vicinity of their location. Moreover, this would also be helpful to litigants in providing “Justice at Doorstep” due to the location of District Courts in different parts of Delhi.

The proposal received from the Govt. of NCT of Delhi seeking amendments in the Delhi High Court Act, 1966 to provide for enhancing the pecuniary limits of the District Courts of Delhi from the existing Rs.20 lakhs to Rs.2 crore was examined and a Bill viz., The Delhi High Court (Amendment) Bill, 2015 was introduced in the Parliament. The said Bill was considered and passed by both the Houses of Parliament. The Bill received the assent of the President of India on 10.08.2015 and has been brought into force w.e.f.26.10.2015.

Increasing the pecuniary jurisdiction of district Courts of Delhi would lessen the burden of Delhi High Court and there would be substantive improvement in disposal of cases in subordinate Courts. This will facilitate access of the general public to 11 District Courts located in 6 District Court Complexes within the vicinity of their location, ensuring speedy justice to the litigants at their door steps.

Use of Hindi and regional languages

Last updated: 17-03-2022

Article 348(1) of the Constitution of India provides that all proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court shall be in English language until Parliament by law otherwise provides.

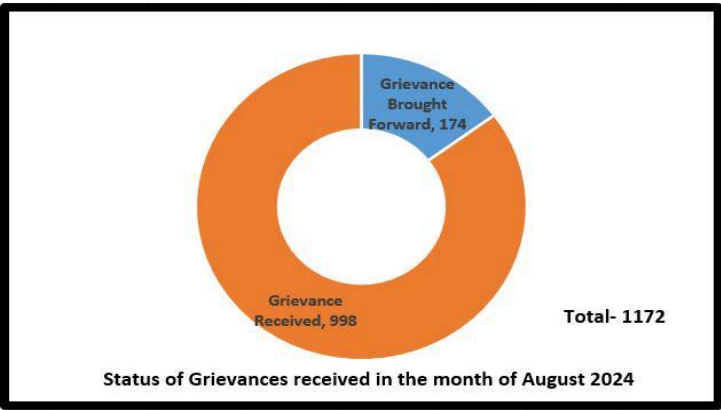
Article 348 (2) provides that the Governor of the State may, with the previous consent of the President, authorize the use of the Hindi language or any other language used for any official purpose of the State, in the proceedings of the High Court having its principal seat in that State provided that decrees, judgments or orders passed by such High Courts shall be in English. The Official Language Act, 1963 reiterates this and provides under Section 7 that the use of Hindi or official language of a State in addition to the English language may be authorized, with the consent of the President of India, by the Governor of the State for the purpose of judgments, decrees etc. made by the High Court for that State. No law has been made in this regard by the Parliament so far. Therefore, English continues to be the language for all the proceedings of the Supreme Court.

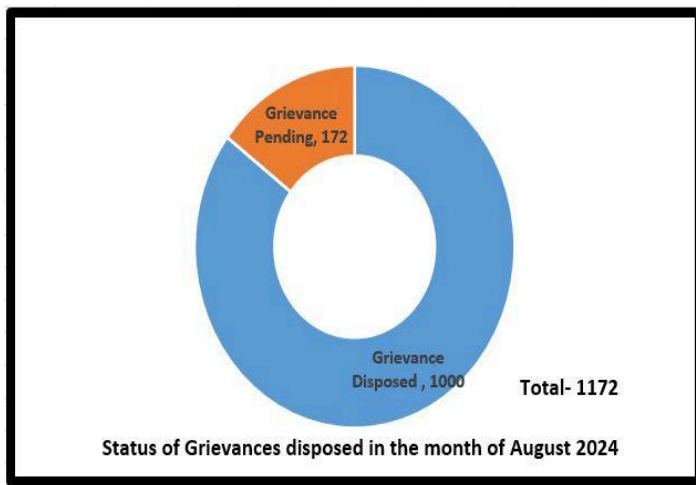
The 18th Law Commission of India in its 216th Report on “Non-Feasibility of Introduction of Hindi as Compulsory Language in the Supreme Court of India” (2008) has, after detailed discussions with all stake-holders, inter-alia, recommended that the higher judiciary should not be subjected to any kind of even persuasive change in the present societal context. The Government has accepted the stand of the Commission.

The use of Hindi has been authorized long back in the proceedings as well in the judgments, decrees or orders in the High Courts of the States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Government of India had received proposals from the Government of Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal and Karnataka to permit use of Tamil, Gujarati, Hindi, Bengali and Kannada in the proceedings of the Madras High Court, Gujarat High Court, Chhattisgarh High Court, Calcutta High Court and Karnataka High Court respectively. The advice of the Chief Justice of India was sought on these proposals as per a decision of Cabinet Committee taken in 1965 which provides that comments of the Chief Justice of India are necessary before considering any proposal for use of Hindi or any Regional language in the proceedings of a High Court. The Chief Justice of India vide his d.o. dated 16.10.2012 intimated that the Full Court, after due deliberations, decided not to accept the proposals. The Government has abided by the decision of the Supreme Court.

Based on another request from the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Government requested the Chief Justice of India to review the earlier decisions in this regard vide letter dated 04.07.2014 and convey the consent of the Supreme Court of India. Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India vide his d.o. letter dated 18.01.2016 conveyed that the Full Court, after extensive deliberations disapproved the proposal and reiterated the earlier decisions of the Hon'ble Court.

- a. Department of Justice (DoJ) receives large number of Citizen’s grievances from citizens through President’s Secretariat/Vice-President’s Secretariat/PMO/directly from the citizens through online CPGRAMS Portal. The Department has been rated as one of the 20 largest grievances receiving Departments by the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances. Besides, large number of grievances is also received through post.
- b. Department of Justice is mandated to deal with grievances related to appointment of Judges of Supreme Court/High Courts, legal assistance/legal aid/legal awareness/e-Courts/Judicial Reforms etc. Grievances related to these issues only are dealt with by Department of Justice.
- c. Grievances related to judiciary are forwarded electronically to the Secretary General, Supreme Court of India/Registrar General of the concerned High Court for further action, as appropriate. A copy is endorsed to the grievance holder for information.
- d. Grievances received in the Department of Justice are considered and examined by the Judiciary as per their own in house mechanism and the system/procedure to deal with grievances. In such cases, Department of Justice is not in a position to inform the outcome to grievance holders.
- e. CPGRAMS Version 7.0 has recently been launched in DOJ. The new version aims to reduce the travel time for resolution of a grievance. Citizens can reach to concerned officer responsible for resolution of grievance directly by choosing drop down menu.
- f. In the month of August 2024, 1172 grievance were received on CPGRAMS. A total of 1000 grievances were disposed leaving a cumulative pendency of 172.





g. Detailed guidelines for disposal of grievances by Department of Justice have been uploaded on website www.doj.gov.in for information/guidance of grievance holders/citizens.

Guidelines of Grievances

Last updated: 14-03-2022

- Judiciary is an independent organ of the State under the Constitution of India. Government of India does not interfere in the functioning of the Judiciary.
- The administrative/ disciplinary control over the members of subordinate judiciary in the States vests with the concerned High Court and the respective State Government. The State Government frames Rules and Regulation in consultation with the respective High Courts.
- Central Government neither maintains records related to any court proceedings/ decisions / judgments nor does it have and can have a mechanism to monitor the action taken on them.
- No administrative action can be taken on a grievance; subject matter of which is subjudice.
- Government cannot ask a Court of Law to expedite proceedings of any particular case. Therefore, no action can be taken by the Government where the petitioner is aggrieved of the fact that there has been inordinate delay in disposal of the case.
- A judicial order can be challenged only before appropriate Court of Law as per prescribed legal procedure. Therefore, it is a futile exercise to file a grievance against a judicial order/judgement.
- A grievance regarding a complaint against a Judge can be taken up for inquiry by the concerned High Court or Supreme Court as per in-house procedure adopted by them. There is no role of Government in disposal of such grievances.
- Detailed guidelines on grievances received in the Department of Justice are available on this Department's website doj.gov.in. As per guidelines issued by the Supreme Court of India, grievances against Judicial Officers are required to be sent on sworn affidavit with verifiable facts to the Registrar General of the concerned High Court.
- Petitions, applications and other documents to be filed before a Court of Law should not be forwarded alongwith grievances as these are to be presented in person or by a duly authorised agent or by an advocate on record duly appointed for the purpose.
- As Judiciary is independent and Government does not interfere in the functioning of the Judiciary, no further follow-up or correspondence is made by the Government after forwarding of grievance to the concerned High Court or Supreme Court, as the case may be.
- As the citizens can lodge their grievances online on pgportal.gov.in no action is being taken on the grievances received through e-mail. pgportal.gov.in has been specifically created for lodging of grievances by the citizens.
- Once final reply is given on a grievance, it should not be repeated again.