MINISTRY OF JUSTICE



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PARLIAMENT WEEK MARCH 2025

WRITTEN QUESTION FOR THE MINISTER FOR JUSTICE

Friday 14 March 2025

10/2025

Hon. Faiyaz Koya to ask the Minister for Justice — Can the Minister inform Parliament on the following statistics, from January 2023 to January 2025

Response: From the onset it must be noted that this question is best directed to the AG as he has ministerial assisgnment over the Judiciary.

(a) The total number of pending cases in the High Court, Court of Appeal, and the Supreme Court of Fiji, categorised by year;

Year	Month	The total number of pending cases in:			
		High Court Court of		Supreme	
			Appeal	Court of Fiji	
2023	January to December	3,740	747	134	
2024	January to December	3,606	601	69	
2025	January	2,819	689	105	

(b) A breakdown of pending cases by type (civil, criminal, or other categories), categorised by year; and

SUPREME COURT AND COURT OF APPEAL						
Summary of Pending Cases						
Name of Court	Case Type	2023	2024	2025		
		[January to	[January to	[January]		
		December]	December]			
Supreme	Criminal	102	47	73		
Court	Civil	32	22	32		
	TOTAL	134	69	105		
Court of	Criminal	509	388	439		
Appeal	Civil	238	213	250		

TOTAL	747	601	689

HIGH COUR	T: CRIMINAL	& CIVIL					
Summary of Pending Cases from 2023 to 2025							
	2023 [January to December]						
CASE TYPE	SUVA	LAUTOKA	LABASA	NATIONAL TOTAL			
Criminal	356	103	355	814			
Civil	1,814	168	944	2,926			
TOTAL	2,170	271	1,299	3,740			
	2024 [January to December]						
CASE TYPE	SUVA	LAUTOKA	LABASA	NATIONAL TOTAL			
Criminal	300	105	267	672			
Civil	1,573	174	1,187	2,934			
TOTAL	1,873	279	1,454	3,606			
	2025 [January]						
CASE TYPE	SUVA	LAUTOKA	LABASA	NATIONAL TOTAL			
Criminal	336	287	113	736			
Civil	697	1,207	179	2,083			
TOTAL	1,033	1,494	292	2,819			

Response: Additionally at this juncture we cannot provide a detailed breakdown of the pending cases by type. The MoJ is working closely with the Chief Registrar to obtain the breakdown.

(c) The average time taken to dispose of cases in each court.

The Chief Registrar under the guidance of the Chief Justice, in the last 24 months have implemented a system that has worked on the principle as outlined in the Constitution Section 15 (3):

"that every person charged with an offence & every party to a civil disputes, has the right to have their case determined within a reasonable time..."