Polity & Governance · GS - II

Case pendency poses a major challenge to the effective delivery of justice in India. Examine its causes and suggest measures to ensure timely and accessible justice.

EXAM YEAR	PAPER	SUBJECT
DAILY PRACTICE 20/10/2026	GS - II	Polity & Governance

MARKS	WORD LIMIT
10	~150 words

Answer Hint

Judicial vacancies, procedural delays, adjournments, inadequate infrastructure, Article 21, e-Courts, alternative dispute resolution, case management, judicial reforms.

Model Answer

Introduction

Timely justice is essential for upholding the rule of law and protecting constitutional rights. However, the large number of pending cases across Indian courts creates delays and affects public confidence in the judiciary.

Causes of Case Pendency

1. **Vacancies:** Shortages of judges and supporting staff constrain judicial capacity.
2. **Procedural delays:** Repeated adjournments, complex procedures and prolonged litigation increase disposal time.
3. **Infrastructure constraints:** Inadequate courtrooms, administrative support and digital facilities affect efficiency.
4. **Rising litigation:** Increasing legal awareness and disputes add to the judicial workload.

Measures to Improve Justice Delivery

- **Fill vacancies:** Ensure timely appointments of judges and recruitment of court staff.
- **Strengthen technology:** Expand e-Courts, digital filing and virtual hearings where appropriate.
- **Promote ADR:** Encourage mediation, arbitration and Lok Adalats for suitable disputes.
- **Improve case management:** Reduce unnecessary adjournments and prioritise cases involving urgent rights and vulnerable litigants.
- **Enhance infrastructure:** Improve court facilities and safe public access to judicial premises.

Conclusion

Reducing pendency requires coordinated reforms in judicial capacity, procedures, infrastructure and technology. Efficiency must be strengthened without compromising fairness, judicial independence or the quality of justice.

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