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Over 2.5 crore cases pending in Indian courts: LS speaker

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AHMEDABAD: More than 2.5 crore cases are pending in courts across the country and this "unacceptable level" is due to lack of efficient lawyers, judges and courts, Lok Sabha speaker Sumitra Mahajan said on Saturday.

Addressing the sixth convocation ceremony of Gujarat National Law University (GNLU), Mahajan said: "It's saddening that 63,800 cases are pending in Supreme Court, followed by 4.4 million in high courts and 20 million in district courts across the country. Justice delayed is justice denied. The majority of litigants in rural areas are struggling due to lack of courts, judges, efficient lawyers, infrastructure and lack of access to the justice delivery system."

The speaker said: "To ensure cost-effective justice, the government must strengthen the setting up of legal aid and advise boards on mechanisms of alternative dispute resolutions like lok adalats, fast track courts and consumer forums." A total of 188 undergraduate and postgraduate students were awarded their degrees at the ceremony.

16 DTH channels for distance learning

Gujarat chief minister Anandiben Patel on Saturday announced that her government will soon start 16 DTH channels in schools and colleges for distance learning.

"We want to promote distance learning in schools and colleges. So we've decided to launch 16 DTH channels soon," Patel said, addressing the convocation as the guest of honour.

