

FOREWORD

The problem of court delays has been a perennial one, but a great deal of concern has been shown recently to find ways and means to reduce this delay. This monograph was undertaken in response to this concern for the laws' delays. The monograph analyses the problem of arrears at the level of the Supreme Court of India. It has collected statistical data from the court's registry to give a picture of the pending cases under the vast and varied jurisdiction of the court. It explores ways and means to reduce the arrears. It is hoped that the monograph would provide a basis for taking steps to achieve that end apart from increasing the number of judges.

The monograph was prepared by Dr. Rajeev Dhavan, Visiting Associate Research Professor (1977-78) at the Indian Law Institute, assisted by Mrs. P. Kalpakam, Research Associate of the Institute. I am thankful to them for finishing the task in record time on a difficult and complex subject.

We began with the highest court but, resources permitting, we do hope we would take up such studies of other courts as well.

S. N. Jain
Director

