







REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN'S COURTS



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Introduction

The judicial and legal reforms which have been implemented in our country have overlooked no citizen. The main goal of the on-going reforms is to create a new era, a new Uzbekistan. In the process of achieving these goals we must work on ourselves more intensively, selflessly fulfill our obligations, and most importantly make decisions based on the interests of the people and establish a dialogue with them. Undoubtedly, personnel who are loyal, patriotic and love their profession are needed to achieve this goal.

To quote our President Shavkat Mirziyoyev,

'Justice must rule in the mind of a judge, truth in their language, honesty in their soul'.

The tasks of ensuring rule of law and further reforming the national judicial system, as identified in the Strategy for the Five Priority Areas of the Development of the Republic in 2017-2021, aims to create a truly independent and fair court in Uzbekistan.

In order to fulfill these tasks, on January 18, 2019 the Chairperson of the Supreme Court approved a road map. Active work on introducing information and communication technologies in courts has continued. Particularly the interactive services portal www.my.sud.uz has been launched, creating even more opportunities for citizens to receive information. The stat.sud.uz website was also created, containing statistical information on the activities of civil, criminal, economic and administrative courts.

In 2019, in order to provide openness and transparency of court activities, a list of events was organized which aimed to further develop interaction with mass media and civil society institutions. The announcing of every Saturday as a day of 'open doors' for mass media and civil society institutions, is proof of the intensive activities being undertaken to improve the openness and transparency of the judicial system.





Important News from the Courts System



MARCH

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The creation of the Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan 'On measures to radically improve the system of training candidates for judges, retraining, and advanced training of judges and court staff' No. PP-4096 of January 6, 2019. The current resolution considers the creation of the Higher School of Judges under the Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan, which provides for the introduction of a new modern system of training candidates for judges, and the re-training and advanced training of judges and court staff.

In accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan 'On approval of the regulations on conditions, norms and the procedure for pension provision for judges and members of their families' dated January 9, 2019, the conditions, norms and procedures for pension provision to judges of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Supreme Court and judges of the courts of the Republic of Uzbekistan, permanent members of the High Judicial Council, and members of their families, have all been identified. The right to retirement was established by the age of 60 for men, and by the age of 55 for women, for those with at least a 15-year career of being a judge. These measures aim to increase the level of financial support provided for judges of retirement age.

The creation of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan 'On amendments and additions to some legislative acts of the Republic of Uzbekistan in connection with the adoption of additional measures to improve the business climate in the country', No. ZRU-531 of March 20, 2019. According to this law, appropriate amendments and additions considering the application of mediation procedures in litigation were made to the Civil, Tax, Civil Procedure and Economic Procedure Codes of the Republic of Uzbekistan. These provided for the application of mediation procedures in litigation. Should there be a dispute in the proceedings of a court or domestic arbitration between the same parties, on the same subject, on the same grounds, if the application is left without consideration, and also if the application is left without consideration due to the signing of the mediation agreement, the state fee is refundable. Simplified proceedings have been introduced in economic courts.





Courts of the Navoi region held a media briefing. Chairpersons of criminal, civil, administrative and economic courts have provided mass media with information about new legal acts within the judicial sphere, an analysis of cases examined by courts, and an analysis of categories of cases examined, with a detailed discussion of case categories, the number of which has increased, there is a downward trend. The purpose of such briefings is to ensure the transparency and openness of the judiciary, increase the population's legal conscience and culture, and establish close interaction with the media and the public.



A meeting of the Plenum of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan was held, where three draft resolutions were discussed. These included the draft resolutions 'On judicial practice for the examination of criminal cases in supervision procedure', 'On court decision' and 'On some issues of application of the norms of the Economic Procedure Code of the

Republic of Uzbekistan in the court of first instance'. The main goal for the development and adoption of these draft resolutions for the Plenum, is to provide clarification of the uniform and proper application of norms of the current legislation, and the formation of a single judicial practice in the light of amendments and additions made to it.

In accordance with changes to the judicial system carried out in line with the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan 'On amendments and additions to some legislative acts of the Republic of Uzbekistan in connection with the improvement of the activities of some state bodies' No. ZRU-536, on May 10, 2019, amendments and additions were made to the regulation about the class ranks of court employees. These changes were made in connection with the creation of the Higher School of Judges under the Supreme Judicial Council.



In the Surkhandarya region a visiting reception was held for citizens. During this visit, 108 citizens were engaged on a variety of issues. Depending on the nature of appeals made, these were considered in a prescribed manner. In addition, an open dialogue was held with families on the verge of divorce, organized in conjunction with the Women's Committee and the Oila Research Center. The short films 'Father' and 'The Child is Most Important' were first shown during the reception, reflecting the sacredness of the family, the need for its preservation, and the importance of supporting children.



The Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan 'On amendments and additions to some legislative acts of the Republic of Uzbekistan in connection with the improvement of the activities of some state bodies' No. ZRU-566 was adopted on September 9, 2019. According to this Law, the requirements for the first time appointment of candidates to judges' posts have been changed - it has been established that judge candidates must be at least thirty-five years old. In addition, changes and additions were made to the activities of the Supreme Judicial Council, according to which the agreement with the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan was cancelled on the appointment and dismissal of judges of regional and city courts of Tashkent, and chairpersons and judges of inter-district, district, city and military courts. Similarly a procedure has been created for introducing to the Zhokargi Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan the submission by the Supreme Judicial Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan on candidates recommended for the roles of judges of courts of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, and chairpersons and judges of inter-district, district and city courts of the Republic of Karakalpakstan.

In the Navbahor district of the Navoi region a modern building of the Navbahor inter-district civil court and the Navbahor inter-district economic court was commissioned.



In accordance with the Decree of the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated October 12, 2019 No. PS 519-III 'On the approval of the description and samples of special clothes of judges in the Republic of Uzbekistan', descriptions and samples of special clothing for judges were approved. Now judges will conduct hearings in special clothes.

A new building was handed over for operation to the Ishtikhan and Tailak districts of the Samarkand region, in which four courts will be placed.





In order to resolve problems of the judicial system, and to improve the legal knowledge and literacy of citizens, the Chairperson of the Supreme Court, together with judges, has held a visiting reception of citizens in the Andijan region. The reception was attended by 145 citizens, who turned to judges on various issues. Of the total number of appeals, 20 were sent to judicial collegiums for consideration, and 20 were admitted to the Supreme Court for review by way of supervision. 58 appeals were positively resolved on the spot, and legal clarifications, advice and recommendations were given for 87 appeals.

In the Zaamin district of the Jizzakh region, the construction of modern buildings for the inter-district civil court and the inter-district economic court were commissioned.





During a meeting held on December 24, 2019, the draft resolution of the Plenum of the Supreme Court 'On the application by courts of legislation governing the review of judicial acts that have entered into force due to newly discovered circumstances' was discussed. The draft resolution was developed based on the generalization of judicial practice founded on the results of the consideration of decisions, rulings and orders of courts due to newly-discovered circumstances. The main purpose of this decision is the uniform and correct application of norms of current legislation, and the formation of a single judicial practice.



Lawmaking of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Using the right of legislative initiative, the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan prepared 31 draft normative legal acts in 2019, including:



Legal Literature



The Introduction of Information and Communication Technologies



The courts received information through the integrated information system regarding 414.889

administrative cases against

497,494 persons



879,763 executive documents

508 payments of a total of more than **1.5** billion soums were made

http://my.sud.uzjh

The information system introduced into courts was integrated with the information systems of the State Tax Committee, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Criminal Law Statistics, the information services of the General Prosecutor's Office and the Bureau of Compulsory Enforcement, the Civil Service Agency, the Central Information Base for Legal Entities and Individuals, and the Electronic Payment System of the Central bank.



were sent electronically

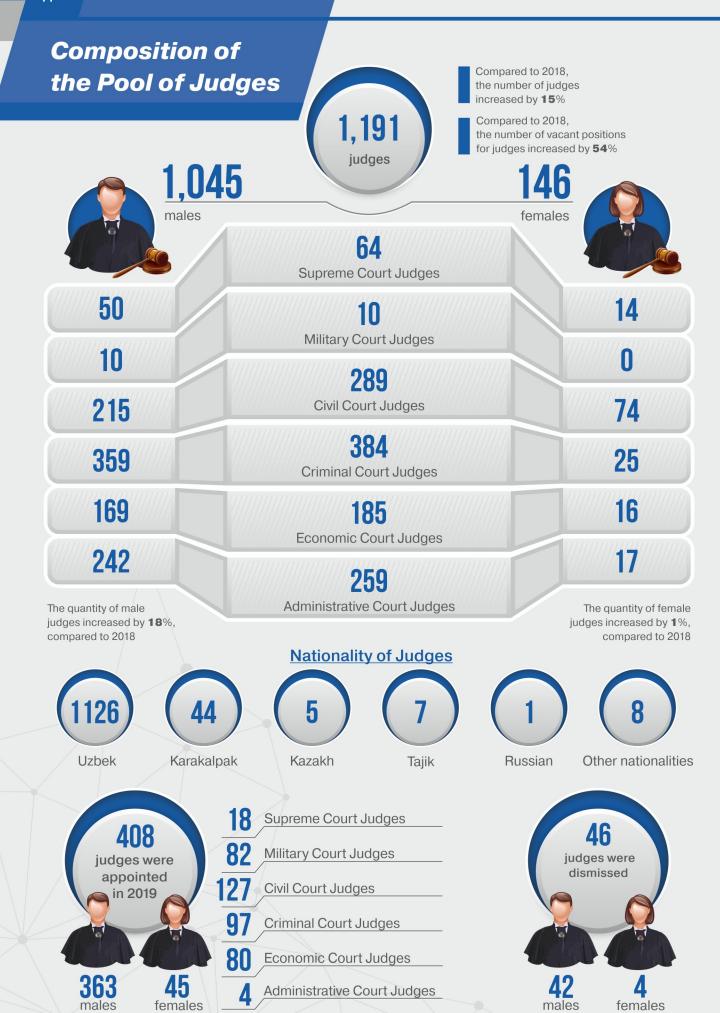


19,449 court hearings were held via

VIDEOCONFERENCING,

and as a result, parties involved saved approximately

12.8 billion soums



The activity of 1 judge was suspended



Activities of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan

Number of cases examined by the Judicial Collegiums in 2019 **3.912**

in 2018 **3,157**

In supervision procedure

3,889

In first instance

in 2018

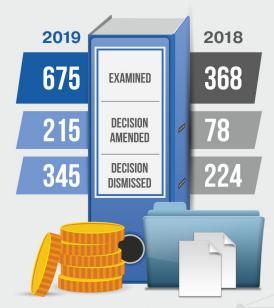
Examined in supervision procedure



Judicial Collegium on civil cases



Judicial Collegium on criminal cases



Judicial Collegium on economic cases

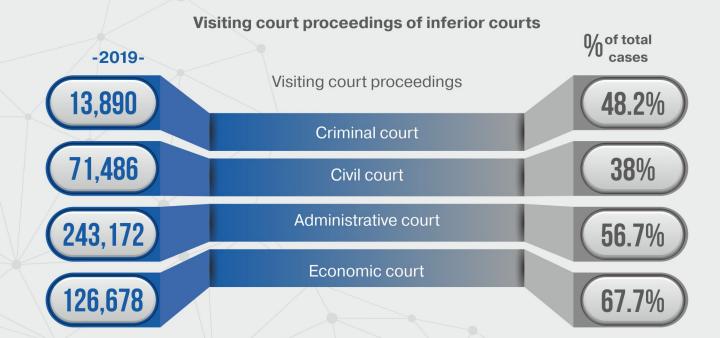


Judicial Collegium on administrative cases

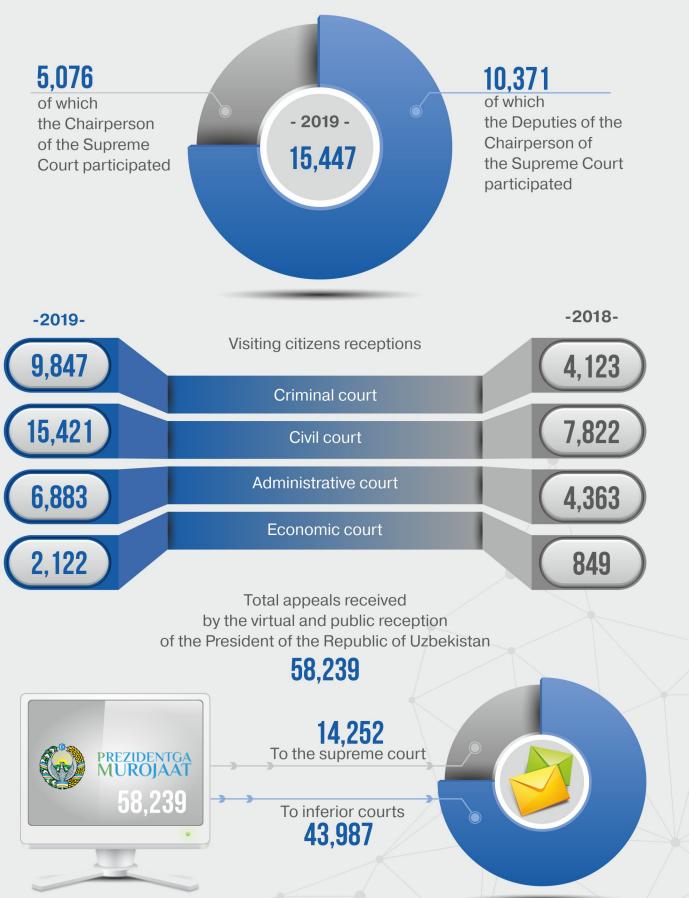
Visiting Court Proceedings











Material and Technical Support





International Relations

25 international conferences, round tables and seminars

meetings with foreign courts, and delegations of international organizations



During September 23-27, 2019, a delegation of the Judicial Department under the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation led by the Deputy General Director V. Ageev visited Uzbekistan.

Members of the delegation were thoroughly acquainted with the results of judicial and legal reforms carried out as part of the implementation of the Strategy for the Five Priority Areas of the Development of the Republic in 2017-2021. A presentation was made of the achievements made by courts in implementing modern information technologies, an electronic document manage-

ment system, and interactive services provided to citizens through the website of the Supreme Court. Members of the delegation were informed about the on-going work in our country, in improving conditions of the financial and social security of judges and court staff.

Nota bene: The agreement on cooperation between the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation and the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan was signed on June 25, 2018, during a visit of the delegation of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Russian Federation.



From June 13-15 the International Conference 'Administrative Justice in the Republic of Uzbekistan: Current State and Development Prospects' was held at the International Tashkent Hotel. This landmark conference was organized by the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan, with support from the 'Rule of Law Partnership in Uzbekistan' project implemented by the Supreme Court, USAID and UNDP, and by IRZ and OSCE.

The conference was held in Samarkand in accordance with the road map developed by the Development Strategy Center for the Implementation of the Results of the Asian Human Rights Forum, dedicated to the 70th anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.



On December 10 – 12 the 'Rule of Law Partnership in Uzbekistan' project of USAID, the Supreme Court and UNDP hosted a press tour to courts in the Sirdarya, Jizzakh, Samarkand and Bukhara regions. This tour was attended by national and international journalists, foreign lawyers, and representatives of the Diplomat.tv television channel. These participants became acquainted with the activities of the Ok oltin, Gollaarol, Toilak, Romitan inter-district economic courts, the Ok oltin, Toylak and Bukhara district courts, and the Toilak criminal court. During the press tour, participants were provided with detailed informa-

tion on court activities regarding the application of information technologies in the judicial system, and their advantages. The tour was followed by the international workshop 'Transparency and Accessibility of Courts: An Important Factor in the Protection of Human Rights'.

The main purpose of the press tour and the round table was to strengthen the transparency of courts, and in general the openness and transparency of the judicial system, as well as improving these mechanisms, and taking into account best international and domestic practice.



Special Rapporteur of the UN Council visited Uzbekistan

The UN Special Rapporteur of the UN Council on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers Mr. Diego García-Sayán met with the Chairperson of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan Kozimdjon Kamilov. During the visit, detailed information about the main directions and significance of judicial reform in Uzbekistan, measures taken to strengthen the legal framework of the

judicial sphere, measures to radically improve the efficiency of the judicial system, and those to ensure the transparency and openness of the courts, were all presented to the guest. Moreover the delegation led by the UN Special Rapporteur visited courts in the Ferghana and Samarkand regions, where they became acquainted with court activities.

Activities of Criminal Courts

Application of restraint in the form of detention 1,7%*



Refusal to apply measures of restraint in the form of detention ↑ 38 %

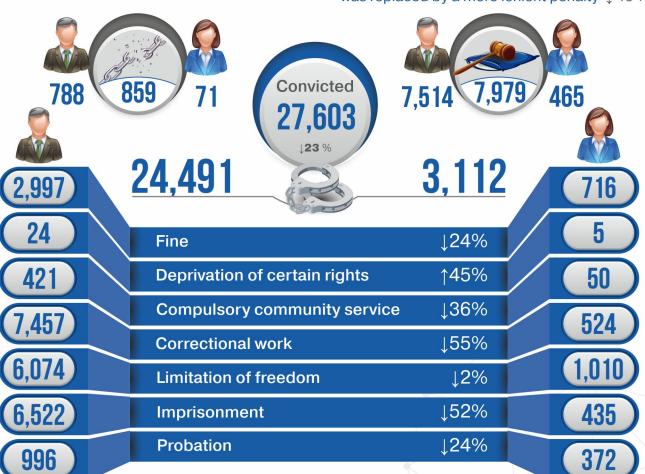


Number of convictions in accordance with the article



Number of acquitted persons ↓ 1 %

Cases where deprivation of liberty was replaced by a more lenient penalty ↓ 18 %



Convicts serving their sentence:

Early conditional release \$\gpreceq\$ 39 \%



Released from the courtroom ↓ 6 %



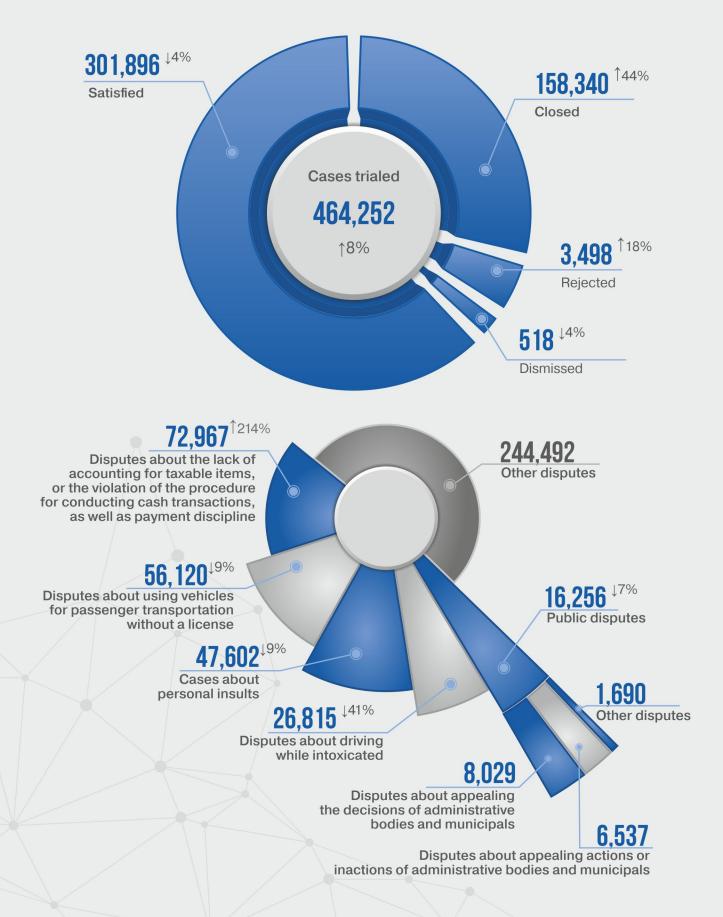
3,080

Reconciled

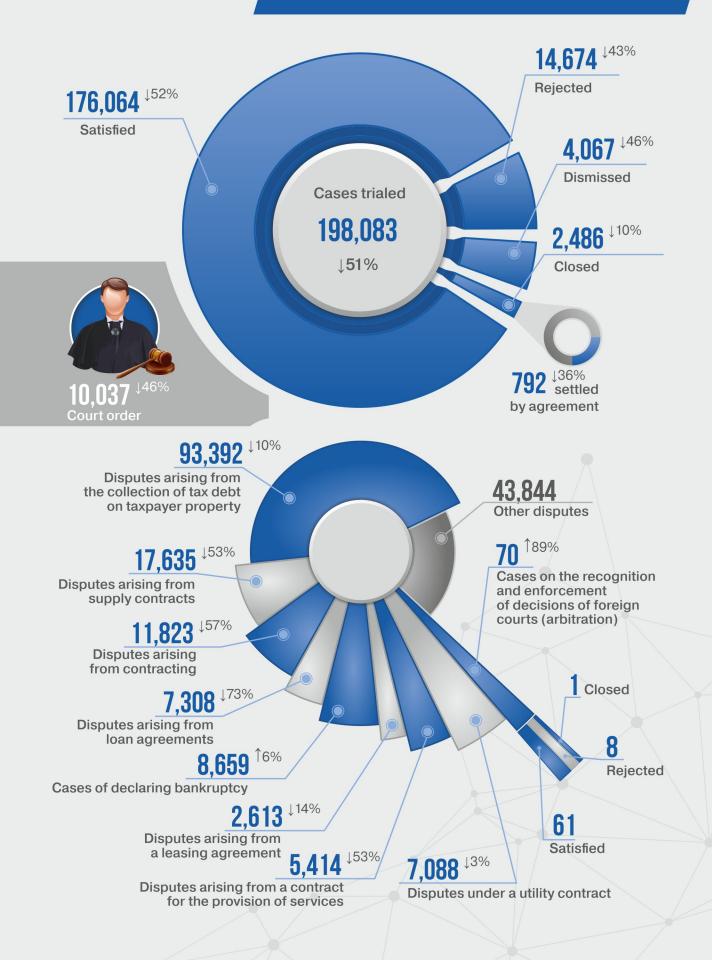


*hereinafter % of indicators of 2018

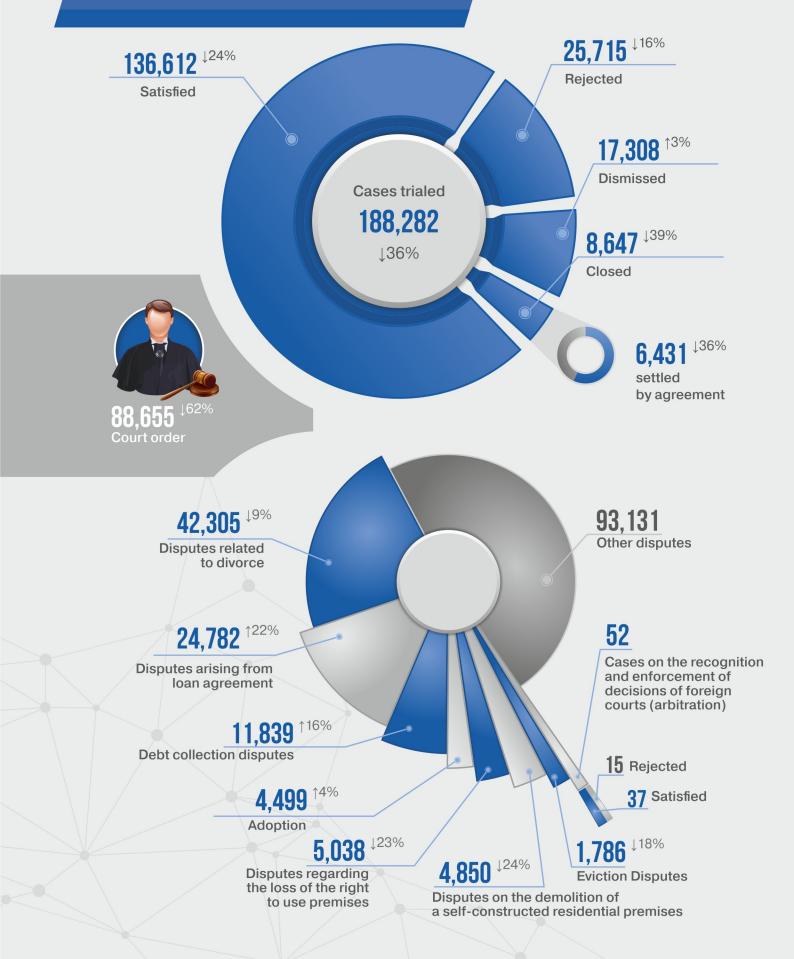
Activities of Administrative Courts



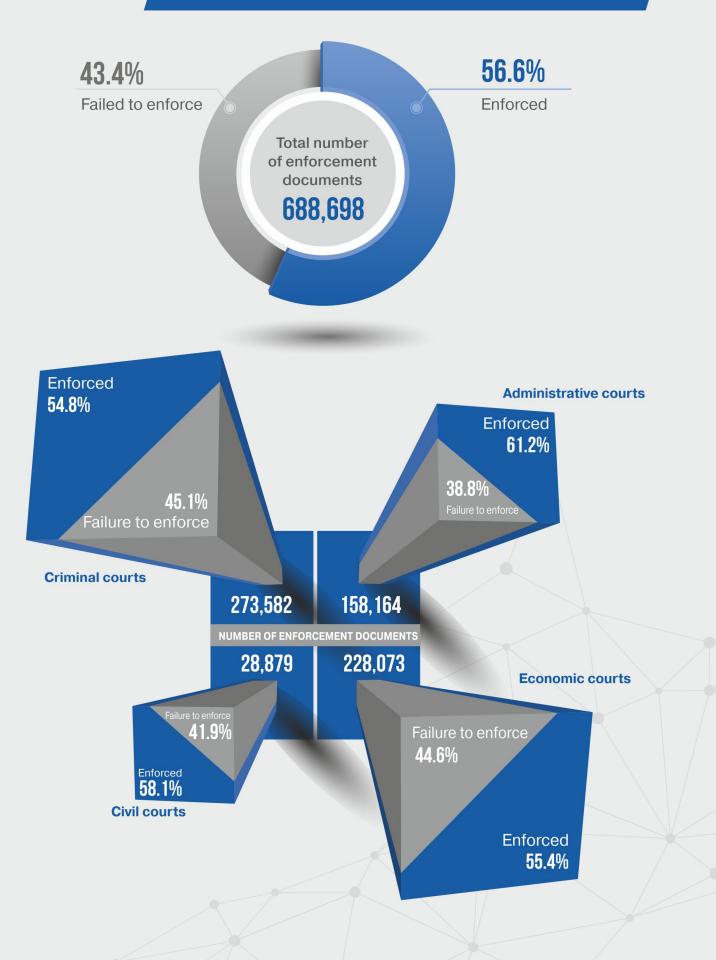
Activities of Economic Courts



Activities of Civil Courts



Enforcement of Judicial Documents





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