

2022

LOK SABHA REPLIES

**BUDGET SESSION, 2022 [8TH
SESSION OF SEVENTEENTH
LOK SABHA] [Ist Part - 31st
January, 2022 to 11th
February, 2022]**

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NM

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 478
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 4th FEBRUARY, 2022**

APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES

478. SHRI ARVIND DHARMAPURI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps taken by the Government to increase the number of judges in the country;**
- (b) the reasons for the delay in appointment of judges;**
- (c) whether the Government has fixed any timeframe for fulfilling the commitment of appointment of a certain number of judges in the country;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the total number of judges appointed in the last ten years court and year-wise?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (e): The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956 was amended to increase the sanctioned strength of Supreme Court of India from 30 to 33 (excluding CJI). The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2019 came into force w.e.f. 09.8.2019. In the Joint Conference of Chief Justices and Chief Ministers held on 7.4.2013, a decision was taken to increase the number of Judges of the High Courts by 25%. Accordingly, Government has increased the Judge strength of the High Courts from 906 to 1098 i.e. by 192 posts, during the period from 01.07.2014 to 31.01.2022 with the approval of the respective State Governments, related High Courts and the

Chief Justice of India. While filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous, integrated and collaborative process requiring consultation and approval from various constitutional authorities, vacancies keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges. Government is committed to filling up of vacancy expeditiously in time-bound manner. A Statement showing the details of appointment of Judges for last ten years, High Court wise and year-wise, is enclosed herewith as *Annexure*.

As regards district and subordinate courts, under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of district and subordinate judiciary in the States vest with the concerned High Court. Further, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to Article 309 read with Articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the respective State Governments, in consultation with the High Court, frames the Rules and Regulations regarding the issue of appointment, promotion, reservations and retirement of Judicial Officers in the State Judicial Service. Hence, in so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, respective High Courts do it in certain States, whereas the High Courts do it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions in other States.

The Union Government does not have a role under the Constitution in the selection and appointment of judicial officers in District/ subordinate judiciary. The Supreme Court, in its orders of 04th January, 2007 in Malik Mazhar case, has devised a process and time frame to be followed for the filling up of vacancies in subordinate judiciary which stipulates that the process for recruitment of judges in the subordinate courts would commence on 31st March of a calendar year and end by 31st October of the same year. The Supreme Court has permitted State Governments / High Courts for variations in the time schedule in case of any difficulty based on the peculiar geographical and climatic conditions in the State or other relevant conditions.

Further, in compliance of the above directions of the Supreme Court, Department of Justice forwarded a copy of the Malik Mazhar judgement to Registrars General of all High Courts for necessary action. Department of Justice is writing from time to time to Registrars General of all High Courts to expedite the filling up of vacancies in subordinate judiciary mandated by Malik Mazhar case.

In September, 2016, Union Minister of Law & Justice wrote to the Chief Ministers of States and the Chief Justices of High Courts to enhance the cadre strength of the District and Subordinate Courts and provide physical infrastructure to the State judiciary. The same was reiterated in May, 2017. The sanctioned strength of judges in District and Subordinate Courts increased from 19,518 in the year 2014 to 24,514 as on 01.02.2022. In August, 2018, in the context of increasing pendency of cases, the Union Minister of Law & Justice has written to all Chief Justices of High Courts to monitor the status of the vacancies regularly and to ensure proper coordination with the State Public Service Commission to fill up vacant posts as per time schedule prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case. The filling up of vacancies is also being monitored by the Supreme Court in a *suo-motu* Writ Petition (Civil) No. 2 of 2018.

ANNEXURE**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 478 FOR ANSWER ON 04.02.2022 REGARDING APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES.****(As on 31.01.2022)**

S. No.	Court	No. of Judges appointed during									
		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
	Supreme Court	06	06	09	01	04	05	08	10	-	09
	High Courts										
1	Allahabad	14	09	13	05	20	31	28	10	04	17
2	Andhra Pradesh	02	16	-	-	01	10	-	02	07	02
3	Bombay	05	12	14	04	06	14	04	11	04	06
4	Calcutta	07	13	01	-	01	06	11	06	01	08
5	Chhattisgarh	-	03	02	-	03	03	04	-	-	03
6	Delhi	-	08	04	08	05	04	05	04	-	02
7	Gauhati	02	03	-	-	05	02	02	04	-	06
8	Gujarat	04	03	01	02	05	-	04	03	07	07
9	Himachal Pradesh	01	-	03	-	04	-	-	02	-	01
10	J & K and Ladakh	-	05	-	01	-	03	02	-	05	02
11	Jharkhand	01	02	03	-	04	02	03	02	-	04
12	Karnataka	01	05	05	-	05	02	12	10	10	06
13	Kerala	02	06	06	-	05	03	04	01	06	12
14	Madhya Pradesh	-	05	07	01	18	-	08	02	-	08
15	Madras	01	08	-	08	25	12	08	01	10	05
16	Manipur	-	-	01	-	01	-	-	-	01	-
17	Meghalaya	-	-	-	-	-	-	01	01	-	-
18	Orissa	01	05	03	-	-	-	01	01	02	04
19	Patna	01	-	04	-	06	06	-	04	-	06
20	Punjab & Haryana	05	09	14	-	01	08	7	10	01	06
21	Rajasthan	-	09	01	09	11	05	-	03	06	08
22	Sikkim	-	-	-	-	-	01	-	-	-	-
23	Telangana	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	03	01	07
24	Tripura	-	-	-	-	-	-	01	-	01	-
25	Uttarakhand	-	-	-	-	-	03	03	01	-	-
	Total	47	121	82	38	126	115	108	81	66	120

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)

e Courts

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 479
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 4th FEBRUARY 2022

Virtual Courts

479. SHRIMATI VEENA DEVI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to establish virtual courts in view of the positive effect seen in the virtual hearing by the courts during the corona period;
- (b) the number of service centres setup for the e-courts by the Department of Justice presently, State/UT-wise; and
- (c) whether the Government has also organized any type of training and awareness campaigns regarding functioning of said e-courts and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): Video conferencing emerged as the mainstay of the Courts during the Covid lockdown period as physical hearings and normal court proceedings in the congregational mode were not possible. Since Covid lockdown started, the District courts heard 1,08,36,087 cases while the High Court heard 57,39,966 cases (totalling 1.65 cr) till 30.11.2021 using video conferencing only. The Supreme Court held 1,81,909 hearings till 08.01.2022 since the beginning of

lockdown period, making it the world leader in Video Conferencing hearings. One video conference equipment each has been provided to all Court Complexes including taluk level courts and additionally funds have been sanctioned for additional VC equipment for 14,443 court rooms. Funds for setting up 2506 VC Cabins have been made available. Additional 1500 VC Licenses have been acquired. VC facilities are already enabled between 3240 court complexes and corresponding 1272 jails. A sum of Rs. 7.60 crore has been released for procurement of 1732 Document Visualizers.

Virtual Courts is a concept, aimed at eliminating the presence of litigant or lawyer in the court and for adjudication of cases on a virtual platform. The concept has been evolved in order to efficiently utilize court resources and to provide litigants with an effective avenue to settle petty disputes. Virtual Court can be administered by a Judge over a virtual electronic platform whose jurisdiction may extend to the entire State and function 24X7. As on 19.01.2022, 17 Virtual Courts have been set up in 13 States / UTs viz. Delhi (2), Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala (2), Maharashtra (2), Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jammu and Kashmir (2), Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Meghalaya and Himachal Pradesh to try traffic offences. Over 1.20 crore cases (1,20,31,758) have been handled by 17 virtual courts and in more than 20 lakhs (20,40,003) cases online fine of more than Rs. 212 (212.01) crore has been realised till 19.01.2022. However, the establishment of Virtual Courts is an administrative matter which falls strictly within the purview and domain of the judiciary and respective State Governments and Central Government has no role to play in the matter.

(b): Judicial Service Centres (JSC) have been established to serve as a single window for filing petitions and applications by litigants / lawyers, and for obtaining information on ongoing cases and copies of orders and judgments etc.

The State/UT-wise number of JSC setup for the e-courts are tabled below:

S. No	High Court	Number of Judicial Service Centers
1	Allahabad	100
2	Telangana and Andhra Pradesh	210
3	Bombay	419
4	Calcutta	84
5	Chhattisgarh	58
6	Delhi	6
7	Gauhati	46
8	Gujarat	216
9	Himachal Pradesh	25
10	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	33
11	Jharkhand	20
12	Karnataka	181
13	Kerala	46
14	Madhya Pradesh	168
15	Madras	223
16	Manipur	13
17	Meghalaya	1
18	Orissa	110
19	Patna	46
20	Punjab & Haryana	117
21	Rajasthan	232
22	Sikkim	4
23	Tripura	12
24	Uttarakhand	29
	Total	2399

In addition, eSewa Kendras have been rolled out to bridge the digital divide by providing eFiling services to lawyers and litigants. Government has released Rs. 12.54 crore for setting up eSewa Kendras. As on 31.12.2021, 451 eSewa Kendra's have been made functional in District Courts under 25 High Courts.

(c): Training programs and awareness campaigns have been conducted from time to time to train various stakeholders and familiarise them with court digitisation initiatives as follows:

- Towards creating awareness and familiarization of e-Filing amongst lawyers, Webinars on e-Filing for Tamil Nadu, Goa, Maharashtra and Delhi Bar Council was organized during June 2020 which had more than 19,000 viewers.
- A Manual on e-Filing entitled as “Step by Step Guide for e-Filing” has been prepared and made available on the e-Filing portal, in both English and Hindi, for use of advocates and litigants. It has also been released in 11 regional languages.
- The e-Committee, Supreme Court of India has issued user manual for e-Courts Services Mobile Application and uploaded it on the official website of e-Committee in 14 languages namely English, Hindi, Bengali, Assamese, Gujarati, Kannada, Khasi, Malayalam, Marathi, Nepali, Odia, Punjabi, Tamil and Telugu.
- A Brochure in English and Hindi on “How to register for e-Filing” has been made available on the e-Filing portal for the use of lawyers. It has also been released in 12 regional languages.
- As part of awareness campaign, a YouTube Channel has been created in the name of eCourts Services where video tutorials on e-Filing have been made available for larger outreach to stakeholders.
- 12 self-help videos on e-Filing in 7 regional languages apart from Hindi and English was prepared and circulated for the advocates as part of awareness raising programme. The said videos are available in the e filing portal help desk and also in the social media through the eCommittee YouTube channel.
- To conduct awareness programme for advocates on eFiling and ECMT tools under eCourt Services, training of trainers has already been undertaken by eCommittee of the Supreme Court at the National and State level.

- 25 Master Trainers have been trained in each High Court who in turn have already trained 5409 Master Trainers across the country. These, 5409 Master Trainers have in turn imparted training programme on eCourt Services and eFiling in each district of the country for advocates in their regional languages and also identified Master Trainer Advocates.
- Following trainings and awareness programmes on the ICT services for different stakeholders have been conducted by the eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India:

Training & Awareness programs from May 2020 to December 2021

Trainees	Numbers
Advocates & Clerks	259881
Advocate Master Trainers	4050
Court Staff	72134
High Court Judges	259
Judicial Officers (District Judiciary)	1307
NJDG Workshop	1443
ICT Awareness Program for Judicial Officers and Staffs	21202
Law Students	675
Cyber Crime (Master Trainers)	42
Total	360993

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 481

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 4th FEBRUARY, 2022

eCourts

E-Lok Adalats

481. SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJI KUNDARIYA:
SHRI DIPSIK SHANKARSINH RATHOD:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up more "E-Lok Adalats" in the country to clear pending cases in High Courts and Lower Courts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of E-Lok Adalats presently functioning in various States including Jharkhand;
- (c) the number of cases cleared by the E-Lok Adalats during the last three years along with the steps taken by the Government to promote E-Lok Adalats; and
- (d) the extent to which it has reduced the number of pending cases in High Courts and Lower Courts?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

- (a) to (c) Lok Adalat is not a permanent establishment and is organised at such intervals as felt required with a view to reduce pendency of cases in courts and settle disputes at pre-litigation stage. During the covid pandemic, the Legal Services Authorities under the aegis of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) ingeniously integrated technology to move Lok Adalat on to the virtual platform, better known as e-Lok Adalats. Since e-Lok Adalats are organized simultaneously with regular Lok Adalats, benches are constituted on the basis of volume of cases referred by various courts or tribunals and institutions for pre-litigation cases.

The first e-Lok Adalat was held in Madhya Pradesh on 27.06.2020. The detail of e-Lok Adalats organized from June, 2020 to December, 2021 in various States/UTs including Jharkhand is at Annexure – A.

Steps taken by Legal Services Authorities to promote e-Lok Adalats include - Standard Operating Procedure for conduct of e-Lok Adalat, Technical training through System officers to the Court Staff, Whatsapp groups for litigants, advocates and respondents for conveying them relevant information/ link for attending e-Lok Adalats and Video conferencing link and cause list displayed on the website of the District Courts.

- (d) The Lok Adalats are most effective mode of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism in arresting the mounting arrears of the Courts including High Courts. 15.29 lakh pre-litigation cases and 8.17 lakh pending cases in Courts have been disposed of by e-Lok Adalats during June, 2020 to December, 2021.

Annexure-A

Statement as referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 481 for answering on 04.02.2022 raised by Shri Mohanbhai Kalyanji Kundariya and Shri Dipsinh Shankarsinh Rathod, MPs - E-Lok Adalats

Statement showing details of e- Lok Adalats organized from June, 2020 to December, 2021

S.No	Name of the State Authority	Dated	Pre-Litigation Cases		Pending Cases in Courts		Total	
			Taken Up	Disposal	Taken Up	Disposal	Taken Up	Disposal
1	Madhya Pradesh	27.06.2020	0	0	94	91	94	91
2	Chhattisgarh	11.07.2020	0	0	5067	2270	5067	2270
3	Madhya Pradesh	25.07.2020	2529	148	14893	2085	17422	2233
4	Delhi	08.08.2020	0	0	8112	5838	8112	5838
5	Rajasthan	22.08.2020	17724	4395	54366	29151	72090	33546
6	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	22.08.2020	502	395	5255	3878	5757	4273
7	West Bengal	22.08.2020	0	0	120	59	120	59
8	Madhya Pradesh	08.08.2020 & 29.08.2020	694	52	6122	1841	6816	1893
9	Manipur	02.09.2020	0	0	12	7	12	7
10	Odisha	12.09.2020	3870	171	16910	2061	20780	2232
11	Uttarakhand	12.09.2020	398	217	5067	1787	5465	2004
12	Haryana	18.09.2020	3755	3625	9412	4913	13167	8538
13	West Bengal	19.09.2020	5577	1363	6890	5911	12467	7274
14	Karnataka	19.09.2020	12613	7383	218752	108555	231365	115938
15	Delhi	20.09.2020	0	0	14856	13491	14856	13491
16	Gujarat	26.09.2020	881	803	16169	10142	17050	10945
17	Madhya Pradesh	26.09.2020	130	77	6445	1326	6575	1403
18	Arunachal Pradesh	26.09.2020	78	13	24	11	102	24
19	Jharkhand	26.09.2020	9700	9700	1648	1019	11348	10719
20	Manipur	29.09.2020	20	14	0	0	20	14
21	Himachal Pradesh	19.09.2020, 26.09.2020 & 30.09.2020	130	59	416	244	546	303
22	Madhya Pradesh	23 & 31.10.2020	254	32	5860	1696	6114	1728
23	Jharkhand	17.10.2020	19389	19389	8716	6940	28105	26329
24	Uttar Pradesh	01.11.2020	0	0	5423	2763	5423	2763
25	Telangana	07.11.2020	809	807	10419	9116	11228	9923
26	Uttarakhand	07.11.2020	0	0	3161	469	3161	469

27	Madhya Pradesh	07.11.2020	0	0	830	188	830	188
28	Jharkhand	26.11.2020	36000	35115	96	18	36096	35133
29	Madhya Pradesh	28.11.2020	54	3	1378	569	1432	572
30	West Bengal	28.11.2020	1389	89	2195	1121	3584	1210
31	Andhra Pradesh	12.12.2020	213	37	7053	5640	7266	5677
32	Bihar	12.12.2020	57903	17296	7727	2387	65630	19683
33	Chandigarh	12.12.2020	0	0	70	12	70	12
34	Chhattisgarh	12.12.2020	566	55	4244	2473	4810	2528
35	Delhi	12.12.2020	0	0	14785	12956	14785	12956
36	Gujarat	12.12.2020	9607	1580	21569	10803	31176	12383
37	Haryana	12.12.2020	0	0	153	72	153	72
38	Jharkhand	12.12.2020	41887	17206	12489	7504	54376	24710
39	Madhya Pradesh	12.12.2020	0	0	970	589	970	589
40	Maharashtra	12.12.2020	0	0	654	653	654	653
41	Manipur	12.12.2020	132	79	37	17	169	96
42	Punjab	12.12.2020	3226	417	4495	2826	7721	3243
43	Rajasthan	12.12.2020	19001	2043	3499	523	22500	2566
44	Sikkim	12.12.2020	11	11	0	0	11	11
45	Telangana	12.12.2020	6	6	63	25	69	31
46	Uttarakhand	12.12.2020	3000	128	341	106	3341	234
47	West Bengal	12.12.2020	2036	100	164	86	2200	186
48	Karnataka	19.12.2020	1837	250	27026	18840	28863	19090
49	Odisha	19.12.2020	6840	305	3589	892	10429	1197
50	Goa	09.01.2020	0	0	19	2	19	2
51	Andhra Pradesh	20.01.2021	0	0	1	1	1	1
		23.01.2021	28	28	4295	1856	4323	1884
		30.01.2021	10	3	521	460	531	463
52	Jharkhand	27.02.2021	185	133	1947	1812	2132	1945
53	Uttar Pradesh	07.03.2021	0	0	2165	1657	2165	1657
54	Delhi	07.03.2021, 13.03.2021 & 21.03.2021	1835	1481	0	0	1835	1481
55	Andhra Pradesh	March, 2021	50	50	3705	789	3755	839
56	Karnataka	27.03.2021	0	0	1391	1246	1391	1246
57	Odisha	10.04.2021	6777	175	2476	609	9253	784
58	Manipur	10.04.2021	73	58	0	0	73	58
59	Punjab	10.04.2021	2000	115	4541	3589	6541	3704
60	Andhra Pradesh	April, 2021	9	9	480	454	489	463
61	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	17.04.2021	1779	1180	3668	2413	5447	3593
62	Jharkhand	10.04.2021	18081	10542	7249	5223	25330	15765

		24.04.2021	122	99	80	77	202	176
3	Uttarakhand	10.04.2021	0	0	48	2	48	2
64	Delhi	10.05.2021	0	0	1	1	1	1
65	Jharkhand	29.05.2021	83	41	83	76	166	117
66	Andhra Pradesh	May, 2021	16	8	537	491	553	499
67	Telangana	June, 21	0	0	18	8	18	8
68	Andhra Pradesh	June, 21	17	11	2171	2625	2188	2636
69	Jharkhand	26.06.2021	175	89	311	204	486	293
70	Sikkim	June, 21	77	1	2	0	79	1
71	Delhi	10.07.2021	14	12	29345	26312	29359	26324
72	Uttarakhand	10.07.2021	193	63	3527	1822	3720	1885
73	Sikkim	July, 2021	92	13	24	12	116	25
74	Tripura	July, 2021	505	47	606	62	1111	109
75	Chhattisgarh	10.07.2021	89	89	1565	1565	1654	1654
76	Goa	July, 2021	0	0	151	63	151	63
77	Jharkhand	July, 2021	36385	19040	24253	13391	60638	32431
78	Manipur	July, 2021	109	99	57	32	166	131
79	Mizoram	July, 2021	199	104	106	25	305	129
80	Odisha	10.07.2021	546	198	1189	667	1735	865
81	Andhra Pradesh	July, 2021	31	23	176	157	207	180
82	West Bengal	July, 2021	1540	126	60	37	1600	163
83	Telangana	10.07.2021	21	15	312	188	333	203
84	Meghalaya	10.07.2021	129	29	16	3	145	32
85	Uttar Pradesh	July, 2021	3503	484	131	113	3634	597
86	Kerala	09.07.2021	3985	986	35541	25271	39526	26257
87	Bihar	July, 2021	55	45	393	234	448	279
88	Punjab	August, 2021	0	0	1	1	1	1
89	Andhra Pradesh	August, 2021	133	11	229	191	362	202
90	Karnataka	August, 2021	4645	4213	26249	21837	30894	26050
91	Sikkim	August, 2021	39	6	15	3	54	9
92	Mizoram	August, 2021	28	7	0	0	28	7
93	Maharashtra	August, 2021	11680	192	8737	3170	20417	3362
94	Uttar Pradesh	August, 2021	12964	2	2281	1177	15245	1179
95	Uttarakhand	September,	0	0	24	24	24	24

		2021						
96	Arunachal Pradesh	September, 2021	38	5	37	12	75	17
97	Manipur	September, 2021	320	277	66	35	386	312
98	Bihar	September, 2021	224	128	903	457	1127	585
99	Chhattisgarh	September, 2021	8456	5576	966	638	9422	6214
100	Mizoram	September, 2021	1291	86	61	21	1352	107
101	Odisha	September, 2021	5773	294	108	7	5881	301
102	Tripura	September, 2021	1845	458	866	107	2711	565
103	Karnataka	September, 2021	0	0	6947	6075	6947	6075
104	Andhra Pradesh	September, 2021	126	12	159	145	285	157
105	Telangana	September, 2021	10	9	278	144	288	153
106	Delhi	September, 2021	2263	223	28390	23366	30653	23589
107	Sikkim	September, 2021	45	18	19	5	64	23
108	Jharkhand	September, 2021	19026	6114	1960	1147	20986	7261
109	Uttar Pradesh	September, 2021	0	0	107	18	107	18
110	Maharashtra	September, 2021	3328	1829	1651648	337351	1654976	339180
111	Meghalaya	September, 2021	4	4	6	2	10	6
112	West Bengal	September, 2021	2084	118	704	543	2788	661
113	Delhi	October, 2021	1205	1166	0	0	1205	1166
114	Telangana	October, 2021	0	0	1	1	1	1
115	Mizoram	October, 2021	30	7	0	0	30	7
116	Meghalaya	October, 2021	0	0	1	1	1	1
117	Andhra Pradesh	October, 2021	0	0	78	72	78	72
118	Uttar Pradesh	October, 2021	17	3	159	14	176	17
119	Sikkim	October, 2021	39	19	16	6	55	25
120	Uttar Pradesh	November, 2021	0	0	860	298	860	298
121	Andhra Pradesh	November, 2021	0	0	629	623	629	623
122	West Bengal	November,	196	8	348	339	544	347

		2021						
123	Delhi	November, 2021	443	443	0	0	443	443
124	Mizoram	November, 2021	155	36	1	1	156	37
125	Sikkim	November, 2021	42	2	19	1	61	3
126	Delhi	December, 2021	1985	1840	0	0	1985	1840
127	Arunachal Pradesh	December, 2021	25	0	5	0	30	0
128	Karnataka	December, 2021	854	32	5438	4805	6292	4837
129	West Bengal	December, 2021	0	0	340	266	340	266
130	Telangana	December, 2021	14	14	519	433	533	447
131	Maharashtra	December, 2021	3624341	1214039	2190	2148	3626531	1216187
132	Andhra Pradesh	December, 2021	7	7	736	711	743	718
133	Punjab	December, 2021	101	4	348	221	449	225
134	Manipur	December, 2021	129	119	0	0	129	119
135	Mizoram	December, 2021	76	10	0	0	76	10
136	Chhattisgarh	December, 2021	5	5	384	330	389	335
137	Sikkim	December, 2021	72	20	32	13	104	33
138	Uttar Pradesh	December, 2021	184776	133404	49984	33524	234760	166928
	Grand Total		4230308	1529519	2463646	817796	6693954	2347315

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

LOK SABHA

Appointment DUN

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †512

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 04.02.2022

Vacancies in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh High Court

**†512. SHRIMATI KESHARI DEVI PATEL:
SHRI KANAKMAL KATARA:**

Will the Minister of **LAW AND JUSTICE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the sanctioned strength of judges in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh against actual strength thereof at present, district-wise including High Courts;
- (b) the steps taken to fill up the vacancies of the judges;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to fix any time limit for quick disposal of cases facing delay on account of vacancies of the judges;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether any proposal sent for setting up a bench of High court in Udaipur has been received by the Central Government, if so, the details of the action/ taken thereon?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (b): The sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancy position of Judges in respect of Rajasthan High Court and Allahabad High Court and Judicial

Officers in respect of district and subordinate courts of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh is as under :-

(as on 31.01.2022)

Sl No.	High Courts	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancy
1	Rajasthan	50	28	22
2	Allahabad	160	93	67
District and Subordinate Courts				
1	Rajasthan	1549	1274	275
2	Uttar Pradesh	3634	2542	1092

As per the existing Memorandum of Procedure for appointment of Judges of High Courts, the Chief Justice of the High Court is required to initiate the proposal for filling up of vacancies of a Judge in a High Court six months prior to the occurrence of vacancies. Government appoints only those persons as Judges of High Courts who are recommended by Supreme Court Collegium (SCC). At present, against 22 vacancies in Rajasthan High Court, 04 proposals have been received from High Court Collegium (HCC) which are at various stages of processing while 18 proposals are yet to be received from HCC. As regards, 67 vacancies in Allahabad High Court, 27 proposals have been received from HCC which are at various stages of processing while 40 proposals are yet to be received.

Filling up of vacancies in High Courts is a continuous, integrated and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities both at the State and Centre level. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies of Judges in High Courts do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and also due to increase in the strength of Judges.

Under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of district and subordinate judiciary in the States vest with the concerned High Court. Further, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to Article 309 read with Articles 233 and 234 of the constitution, the respective State Government, in consultation with the High Court, frames the Rules and Regulations regarding the issue of appointment, promotion, reservations and retirement of Judicial Officers in the State Judicial Service. Hence, in so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, respective High Courts do it in certain States, whereas the High Courts do it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions in other States.

(c) & (d): Disposal of pending cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. No time frame has been prescribed for disposal of various kinds of cases by the respective courts. Government has no role in disposal of cases in courts. Timely disposal of cases in courts depends on several factors which, inter-alia, include availability of adequate number of judges and judicial officers, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders viz. bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. There are several other factors which may lead to delay in disposal of cases. These, inter-alia, include vacancies of judges, frequent adjournments and lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing.

(e): It is stated that High Court Benches are established in accordance with the recommendations made by the Jaswant Singh Commission and judgment pronounced by the Apex Court in W.P. (C) No. 379 of 2000 and after due consideration of a complete proposal from the State Government which has to provide necessary expenditure and infrastructural facilities and the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court who is required to look after the day to day administration of the High Court. The proposal to be complete should also

have the consent of the Governor of the concerned State. A representation in this regard was received from Shri Kankamal Katara, M.P. (Lok Sabha) to set up a Bench of Rajasthan High Court at Udaipur. Since at present, no complete proposal regarding setting up of a Bench of Rajasthan High Court is pending with the Government, he has been kept apprised accordingly on 14.09.2021.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

A2J/LAP

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 527**

TO BE ANSWERED ON, FRIDAY, THE 4th February, 2022

Engagement of Law Interns under Tele-Law Scheme

†527.SHRI NAYAB SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has proposed to utilize the expertise of advocates and law students under Tele law scheme to benefit vulnerable section of society;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the government has any plan to involve students completing internship under various Government training programmes to fasten the justice delivery system;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the plan of the Government to utilize the talent of such law interns?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government through its Tele-Law scheme provides pre-litigation advice and consultation to the citizens through a cadre of Panel Lawyers via tele-video conferencing facilities available at the Common Service Centers and through Citizens' Tele-Law Mobile Application. So far 129 Panel Lawyers have been on-boarded under Tele-Law. To maximize the benefits of Tele-Law reach the vulnerable sections of society, law students in

particular and students in general are motivated to volunteer and register as Para legal Volunteers (PLVs) on the Citizens' Tele-Law Mobile App.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. National Legal Service Authority (NALSA) conducts 3-week internship programme for law students during summer and winter period of the year. The objective of the internship programme is that law interns get a comprehensive idea of the working of the Legal Services Institutions and the legal services programmes with regional focus. During this internship the students visit Central jail or Sub Jail and interact with the inmates to find out if they are represented by a counsel and find out the difficulties of inmates, observe the working of the Legal Services Clinics, visit Observation Home/Juvenile Justice Board/Child Welfare Committee/Drug Rehabilitation Centre/District Courts including Magisterial, Sessions and Civil courts and police stations and look at the role of the legal services lawyers in these institutions. The students also attend and participate in Legal Literacy/Legal awareness programmes. On successful completion of the internship a certificate is issued to the law interns.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

JR Desk

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No †538
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 04TH FEBRUARY, 2022**

Gram Nyayalayas

**†538. SHRI PARBATBHAI SAVABHAI PATEL:
SHRI BHAGIRATH CHOUDHARY:
SHRI NARANBHAI KACHHADIYA:
SHRI RANJEETSINGH HINDURAO NAIK NIMBALKAR:
SHRI DEVJI M. PATEL:
SHRI SUDHAKAR TUKARAM SHRANGARE:**

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases pending in High courts and Lower courts across the country;
- (b) whether setting up of Gram Nyayalayas (rural courts) at the Panchayat level comparatively will decrease the number of such pending cases, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to set up Gram Nyayalayas at the Panchayat level and empower them to hear cases of limited nature;
- (d) if so, the time by which the said Gram Nyayalayas are likely to be set up; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a): As per information available on the web-portal of National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) the number of cases pending in High courts and Lower courts across the country as on 19.01.2022 is as under:

	Civil Cases	Criminal Cases	Total
High Courts	40,95,419	15,64,601	56,60,020
District and Subordinate Courts	1,07,23,895	2,95,39,122	4,02,63,017

(b) to (e): To provide access to justice to the citizen at their door steps, the Central Government has enacted the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008. In terms of Section 3 (1) of the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, the State Governments are responsible for establishing Gram Nyayalayas in consultation with the respective High Courts. However, the Act does not make setting up of Gram Nyayalayas mandatory. The Gram Nyayalayas Act provides for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas for every Panchayat at intermediate level or a group of contiguous Panchayats at intermediate level in a district or where there is no Panchayat at intermediate level in any State, for a group of contiguous group Panchayats. Gram Nyayalayas are deemed to be a Court of Judicial Magistrate of First Class with civil and criminal jurisdiction as provided in the Schedule to the Act. Central Government and State Government have the power to add or omit any item in such Schedules.

As per the information made available by the various State Governments / High Courts there are 476 Gram Nyayalayas notified in 15 States/UTs, out of which 276 are operational in 10 States and as per data uploaded on the Gram Nyayalaya Portal 41,108 cases (including 39,746 criminal cases) were disposed of in these Gram Nyayalayas from January to December 2021.

The issues affecting the implementation of the Gram Nyayalayas scheme were discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers of the States on 7th April, 2013. It was decided in the Conference that the State Governments and High Courts should decide the question of establishment of Gram Nyayalayas wherever feasible, taking into account their local problems with focus on covering those Talukas under the Gram Nyayalaya scheme where regular courts have not been set up.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 547

Appointment DUT

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 04.02.2022

Additional Bench of Bombay High court

547. SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL:

Will the Minister of **LAW AND JUSTICE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposal or request to add any additional bench of the High Court of Bombay beyond the existing locations of Mumbai, Nagpur and Aurangabad, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government is planning to establish any additional bench in South or Western part of Maharashtra, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for not considering such plan for expansion?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): High Court Benches are established in accordance with the recommendations made by the Jaswant Singh Commission and judgment pronounced by the Apex Court in W.P. (C) No. 379 of 2000 and after due consideration of a complete proposal from the State Government which has to provide necessary expenditure and infrastructural facilities and the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court who is required to look after the day to day administration of the High Court. The proposal to be complete should also have the consent of the Governor of the concerned State. At present, no complete proposal regarding setting up of Bench of Bombay High Court in South or Western part of Maharashtra is pending with the Government.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

Appointment DN

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 550**

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 04.02.2022

Vacancies of Judges In High Courts

550. SHRI SANJAY KAKA PATIL:

Will the Minister of **LAW AND JUSTICE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken steps to fill up the large number of vacancies of judges in high courts, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether the Government has undertaken steps to ensure that the composition of higher judiciary reflects the socio-economic diversity of our country, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (b): As per the existing Memorandum of Procedure for appointment of Judges of High Courts, the Chief Justice of the High Court is required to initiate the proposal for filling up of vacancies of a Judge in a High Court six months prior to the occurrence of vacancies. Government appoints only those persons as Judges of High Courts who are recommended by Supreme Court Collegium (SCC). At present, 172 proposals are at various stages of processing between the Government and the Supreme Court Collegium. Further recommendations from High Court Collegiums are yet to be received in respect of 239 vacancies in High Courts. Filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous, integrated and

collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities both at the State and Centre level. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies of Judges in High Courts do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and also due to increase in the strength of Judges.

Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124, 217 and 224 of the Constitution of India, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. Hence no class/category wise data is maintained centrally. However, the Government has been requesting the Chief Justices of High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women to ensure social diversity in appointment of Judges in High Courts.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

A25/LAP

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 559
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, 4TH FEBRUARY 2022**

Free Legal Aid

559. SHRI ANURAG SHARMA:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is successfully implementing Nyaya Mitra Scheme in Uttar Pradesh, if so, the details thereof along with its aims and objectives;
- (b) the number of cases disposed-off during the last two years under the said scheme;
- (c) whether the scheme has achieved the objective for which it was set up and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the further steps taken by the Government to provide free legal aid to the marginalized people?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

- (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. Nyaya Mitra aims to facilitate expeditious disposal of decade old pending cases in High Courts and Subordinate Courts. Since April 2017, a total number of 27 Nyaya Mitras were engaged in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Odisha and Maharashtra who assisted the courts concerned in disposal of 2019 cases including 111 cases in Uttar Pradesh. The State-wise details of case disposal by Nyaya Mitra is at Annexure-A. No fresh Nyaya Mitra could be engaged during the year 2020-2021 due to closure of courts and social distancing protocols caused by Covid pandemic. Nyaya Mitras who were engaged have helped in disposal of 2019 old cases, which include civil cases such as matrimonial cases, accident claim cases and also criminal cases.

(d) The Legal Services Authorities (LSA) Act, 1987 provides free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society including beneficiaries covered under Section 12 of the Act to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities, and to organize Lok Adalats to secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunities.

For this purpose, the legal services institutions have been setup from the Taluk Court level to the Supreme Court. During the period from April, 2021 to November, 2021, 60.17 lakhs persons have been provided with free legal services and 132.37 lakhs cases (pending in courts and disputes at pre-litigation stage) have been settled through Lok Adalats.

In addition, the Government has launched Nyaya Bandhu (Pro-bono Legal Services) programme to link the persons eligible to avail free legal aid under Section 12 of LSA Act, 1987 with the pro-bono lawyers. 3710 pro bono advocates have been registered under the programme and 1485 cases have been registered by the beneficiaries till 31st December 2021. Tele-law programme, being run by the Government across 669 districts in 36 States/UTs provides legal advice to public including persons entitled for free legal aid under Section 12 of LSA Act, 1987, at pre-litigation stage by the Panel Lawyers through 75,000 Common Service Centre (CSC) at the Panchayats. Tele-law has enabled advice to more than 12.81 lakh beneficiaries till 31st December 2021.

Annexure-A

Statement as referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 559 for answering on 04.02.2022 raised by Shri Anurag Sharma on Free Legal Aid		
A State-wise Statement containing number of cases disposed off by Nyaya Mitra		
S.No	State	No. of cases disposed off
1	Bihar	44
2	Maharashtra	313
3	Odisha	169
4	Rajasthan	1360
5	Uttar Pradesh	111
6	West Bengal	22
	Grand Total	2019

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-567**

A2J/LJP

TO BE ANSWERED ON, FRIDAY, THE 4th February, 2022

Tele Law Scheme

567. SHRIMATI SUNITA DUGGAL:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases registered under Tele-Law scheme along with the number of beneficiaries who have been provided for free legal aid;
- (b) whether the Government has proposed to introduce any mobile app to reachout to more people and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) 12,97,332 cases have been registered and 12,81,591 beneficiaries have been provided pre-litigation advice till 31st December, 2021 under Tele-law scheme.

(b) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has launched the Citizens' Tele-Law Mobile App on 13.11.2021. The Mobile Application enables the beneficiary to access pre-litigation advice and consultation directly from the Panel Lawyer, free of cost. The Application is available in 6 languages viz. Marathi, Punjabi, Tamil, Telugu, Hindi and English on Android and iOS platform.

Appointment Div

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †569**

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 04.02.2022

All India Judicial Service Examination

†569. SHRI DULAL CHAND GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of **LAW AND JUSTICE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to conduct All India Judicial Service Examination for appointment of judges in district level courts;
- (b) if so, the details of the medium of language and pattern in which the examination is likely to be conducted; and
- (c) the details of the modalities likely to be chalked out to set up an All India Authority to conduct such examinations?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c) : In Government's view, a properly framed All India Judicial Service is important to strengthen overall justice delivery system. This will give an opportunity for induction of suitably qualified fresh legal talent selected through a proper all-India merit selection system as well as address the issue of social inclusion by enabling suitable representation to marginalized and deprived sections of society.

A comprehensive proposal was formulated for the constitution of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) and the same was approved by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012. Besides attracting some of the best talent in the country, it may also facilitate inclusion of competent persons from marginalized sections and women in the judiciary. The proposal was included as an agenda item in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held in April, 2013 and it was decided that the issue needs further deliberation and consideration.

The views of the State Governments and High Courts were sought on the proposal. There was divergence of opinion among the State Governments and among the High Courts on the constitution of All India Judicial Service. While some State Governments and High Courts favoured the proposal, some were not in favour of creation of All India Judicial Service while some others wanted changes in the proposal formulated by the Central Government.

The matter regarding creation of a Judicial Service Commission to help the recruitment to the post of district judges and review of selection process of judges/judicial officers at all level was also included in the agenda for the Chief Justices Conference, which was held on 03rd and 04th April, 2015, wherein it was resolved to leave it open to the respective High Courts to evolve appropriate methods within the existing system to fill up the vacancies for appointment of District judges expeditiously. The proposal for constitution of All India Judicial Service with views from the High Courts and State Governments received thereon was included in the agenda for the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of High Courts held on 05th April, 2015.

The proposal of setting up of an All India Judicial Service was again discussed on points of eligibility, age, selection criteria, qualification, reservations etc. in a meeting chaired by Minister of Law and Justice on 16th January 2017 in the presence of Minister of State for Law and Justice, Attorney General for India, Solicitor General of India, Secretaries of Department of Justice, Department of Legal Affairs and Legislative Department. Setting up AIJS was also deliberated in a meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee in March, 2017 and the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of SCs/STs on 22.02.2021.

In view of the existing divergence of opinion amongst the stakeholders, the Government is engaged in a consultative process with the stakeholders to arrive at a common ground.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)

eCourts

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 571
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 4th FEBRUARY 2022

e-Courts Mission Mode Project

571. MS. DEBASREE CHAUDHURI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Ministry has developed a new version of e-filing system with the successful computerization of 16,875 district and subordinate courts in the country under e-Courts Mission Mode Project;
- (b) the manner in which this version is advanced and different from earlier version of e-filing; and
- (c) whether the Ministry will consider mandatory e-filing of cases, documents, etc., in view of the emphasis given on digital transactions given by the Government?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) & (b): The eCourts Mission Mode Project Phase-II is being implemented by the Department of Justice in collaboration with eCommittee of the Supreme Court

of India headed by a Supreme Court Judge. The technical team of e-Committee, Supreme Court of India has developed the new e-Filing version 3.0, and the new e-filing 3.0 Portal was inaugurated on 9th April 2021 and is accessible on <https://filing.ecourts.gov.in>.

e-Filing version 3.0 has a new User Interface which is more user friendly and has certain other additional features as mentioned below:

1. Services Offered:

- Pleadings – Use of Readymade templates: Ready editable templates of various legal documents are available. User can download and use the templates for further drafting the pleadings.
- Upload and e-sign Pleadings: The facility enables user to upload various legal documents in PDF format.
- Oath Recording: Video recording facility is provided to administer the oath without visiting the court.
- File IAs/Applications: Facility to file IAs offers relief to Advocates from filing each application separately in every court.
- Online Vakalat: The service enables online creation and submission of vakalatnama.
- Online Payment: The service enables user to pay Court Fee, Judicial Deposit, Fine, Penalty or Others payments online.

2. Exclusive Services for Advocates:

- Add Partners: Advocates can add Partners/Bar Colleagues/Juniors.

3. Other Services:

- Portfolio Management: The service enables user to manage the portfolio and planner for the new as well as existing cases.
- New Dashboard: The dashboard provides at-a-glance status of all the completed/pending activities related to cases in the portfolio.

- Help section provided in the new version provides tutorial videos, FAQ and user manual.
- It provides option to litigant to send offer to the Advocates.
- The new portal also provides the option of indexing of the documents for the Advocates

(c): Department of Justice has requested all Central & State Government departments including the Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs) to use eFiling in all commercial disputes coming up in the commercial courts. Instructions have been issued by eCommittee to all HCs to ensure that all Government litigation should be e-filed by January 2022. A communication has been sent by the Department of Justice to all Central Ministries/ departments requesting to use eFiling in all Government litigation by January 2022. A similar communication has also been sent by the Department of Legal Affairs to all to all the Secretaries to the Government of India, as well as to all Law Officers and Assistant Solicitors General in the High Courts across the country to ensure e-filing in respect of litigation on behalf of Union of India by the Ministries/Departments concerned, including Autonomous Bodies/ Subordinate Offices/ Attached Offices and PSUs under their administrative control, before the Courts across India w.e.f. 1st January, 2022.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)

e courts

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 609
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 4th FEBRUARY 2022

e-Court Mission

609. SHRI A.K.P. CHINRAJ:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that only reportable order/judgements are uploaded on Madras High Court website, if so, the details thereof and the reasons for not uploading the daily orders of the Hon'ble Judges of Madras High Court on time;
- (b) the number and details of complaints received on functioning of Madras High Court website;
- (c) whether under e-court mission, District Courts are under obligation to upload orders and judgements on their website and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the District Courts in State of Tamil Nadu have not been uploading judgements on their website and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

- (a) to (d): Judiciary is an independent organ under the Indian Constitution and fully empowered to handle all its matters. High Court of Madras has informed that instructions have been issued to all the Subordinate Courts across the State

of Tamil Nadu vide circular dated 29.08.2013 with regard to uploading of judgments/orders of all cases and accordingly the judgments/orders are uploaded in the E-Court Services portal <http://ecourts.gov.in>. As on 30.01.2022, 20,46,381 number of judgments/orders have been uploaded in respect of the District Courts of Tamil Nadu. As regards the High Court of Madras, judgments/orders of all case types are being uploaded in the official Website of Madras High Court with effect from 16.06.2014. As on 30.01.2022, 11,89,446 number of judgments and 10,11,569 number of orders have been uploaded in both the Principal Seat and Madurai Bench of Madras High Court. It has been further informed by the Madras High Court that complaints received in the Registry with respect to the functioning of Madras High Court website are addressed immediately by the officers in charge of the Computer Section and Technical Team in-coordination with the NIC officials.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

A25/LJP

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 633
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 4th FEBRUARY, 2022

Legal Aid Authorities

633. SHRI RAVIKUMAR D.:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- the funds allocated and sanctioned by the Department of Justice to National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) during the last three years;
- whether the NALSA provides funds to all State Legal Aid Authorities for implementation of the legal aid schemes, if so, the details there of particularly the Tele- Law, Nyaya Mitra and Pro-bono Legal scheme;
- the funds allocated and sanctioned by NALSA to different State Legal Aid Authorities during the last three years, State-wise; and
- the details of funds utilized for this purpose during each of the last three years, States/Union Territory-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

- (a) The funds allocated and sanctioned by the Government to National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) during the last three financial years is as under:

(in Rs crore)

Year	Grant-in-Aid allocated by the Government	Grant-in-Aid sanctioned by the Government
2018-19	150	150
2019-20	140	140
2020-21	100	100

- (b) NALSA provides funds to all the State Legal Services Authorities including Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC) for implementation of various legal aid schemes/programmes framed under the Legal Services

Authorities Act, 1987. As far as Tele-Law, Nyaya Mitra and Pro-bono (Nyaya Bandhu) are concerned, these are implemented by Department of Justice. The details of funds incurred in respect of these programmes during last three years is as follows:

S.No	Programme	Annual Expenditure (in Rs crore)			
		2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	Total
1	Tele Law	3.92	17.21	28.01	49.14
2	Nyaya Mitra	0.09	0.27	0.03	0.39
3	Pro-bono legal (Nyaya Bandhu)	0.22	0.62	0.48	1.32

(c) and (d) A statement showing the details of the funds allocated and utilized by Legal Services Authorities and Supreme Court Legal Services Committee during last three financial years is at Annexure-A.

Statement as referred to in reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 633 for 04.02.2022 raised by Shri Ravikumar D. - Legal Aid Authorities

Statement showing the details of the fund allocated and utilized by State/UT Legal Services Authorities and Supreme Court Legal Services Committee during the last three financial years (in Rs.)

S. No.	Name of the Legal Services Authority	2018-19		2019-20		2020-21	
		Allocation of fund	Total Expenditure	Allocation of fund	Total Expenditure	Allocation of fund	Total Expenditure *
1	Andhra Pradesh	40,000,000	38,042,726	20,000,000	29,492,173	34,000,000	34,000,000
2	Arunachal Pradesh	10,000,000	20,066,927	20,000,000	14,535,311	10,000,000	10,000,000
3	Assam	80,000,000	62,240,773	30,000,000	39,504,374	37,000,000	37,000,000
4	Bihar	25,000,000	41,819,188	45,000,000	58,414,148	37,000,000	37,000,000
5	Chhattisgarh	80,000,000	79,490,176	60,000,000	66,671,201	39,500,000	39,500,000
6	Goa	0	9,249,755	0	6,899,290	5,000,000	5,000,000
7	Gujarat	35,000,000	38,558,186	35,000,000	37,603,240	34,500,000	34,500,000
8	Haryana	85,000,000	92,364,186	90,000,000	91,187,548	45,000,000	45,000,000
9	Himachal Pradesh	40,000,000	48,801,820	40,000,000	43,317,401	18,500,000	18,500,000
10	Jammu and Kashmir	45,000,000	52,201,533	60,000,000	58,778,074	35,000,000	35,000,000
11	Jharkhand	70,000,000	75,356,349	40,000,000	55,304,040	40,000,000	40,000,000
12	Karnataka	85,000,000	99,864,451	70,000,000	82,051,129	62,500,000	62,500,000
13	Kerala	105,000,000	126,318,797	110,000,000	101,880,265	52,500,000	52,500,000
14	Madhya Pradesh	30,000,000	34,471,835	45,000,000	40,757,696	30,000,000	30,000,000
15	Maharashtra	60,000,000	59,755,445	60,000,000	65,981,539	62,500,000	62,500,000
16	Manipur	35,000,000	37,187,009	40,000,000	37,255,268	10,000,000	10,000,000
17	Meghalaya	0	2,516,765	10,000,000	28,554,591	5,000,000	5,000,000
18	Mizoram	40,000,000	31,128,500	25,000,000	30,785,476	5,000,000	5,000,000
19	Nagaland	30,000,000	41,214,223	25,000,000	23,822,472	5,000,000	5,000,000
20	Odisha	70,000,000	67,868,417	60,000,000	71,849,246	32,500,000	32,500,000
21	Punjab	95,000,000	95,883,025	100,000,000	100,414,509	32,500,000	32,500,000
22	Rajasthan	180,000,000	180,404,152	65,000,000	63,948,717	45,500,000	45,500,000
23	Sikkim	0	21,189,760	25,000,000	26,588,720	5,000,000	5,000,000
24	Tamil Nadu	60,000,000	65,711,092	50,000,000	59,012,437	42,000,000	42,000,000
25	Telangana	20,000,000	34,542,481	35,000,000	30,170,866	35,000,000	35,000,000
26	Tripura	30,000,000	40,696,281	30,000,000	33,408,355	28,000,000	28,000,000
27	Uttar Pradesh	10,000,000	34,988,140	30,000,000	26,471,905	65,000,000	65,000,000
28	Uttarakhand	20,000,000	22,416,032	20,000,000	26,078,888	25,000,000	25,000,000
29	West Bengal	90,000,000	85,877,572	90,000,000	105,332,916	52,000,000	52,000,000

30	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	0	2,094,149	0	0		-
31	Chandigarh	0	16,354,799	10,000,000	19,530,137	8,000,000	8,000,000
32	Dadra & Ngr Haveli	0	18,711,873	0	214,576	250,000	250,000
33	Daman & Diu	0	368,147	0	330,325	250,000	250,000
34	Delhi	100,000,000	98,287,197	80,000,000	77,862,835	50,000,000	50,000,000
35	Lakshadweep	0	996,759	0	1,747,471		-
36	Puducherry	0	7,928,126	0	5,778,833	1,000,000	1,000,000
37	Supreme Court Legal Services Committee	0	0	0	0	10,000,000	10,000,000
	Total	155,00,00,000	178,49,66,646	142,00,00,000	156,15,35,972	100,00,00,000	100,00,00,000

* Expenditure for the year 2020-21 is provisional.

Note: Total Expenditure includes Funds allocated, funds carried forward from previous year, Interest and other receipts.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 634

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 04.02.2022

Reservation for Women in Judiciary

Appointment Duty

634. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH:

Will the Minister of **LAW AND JUSTICE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to implement reservation for women and dalits in judiciary;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to constitute a Committee for studying the requirement of affirmative action in judiciary by considering the existence of systemic gaps and under-representation of dalits and women in judiciary; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) & (b): Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124, 217 and 224 of the Constitution of India, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. However, the Government has been requesting the Chief Justices of High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to

suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women to ensure social diversity in appointment of Judges in High Courts.

(c): No Sir.

(d): Does not arise in view of (c) above.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

Nm

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †640
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 4th FEBRUARY, 2022**

PENDING CASES RELATED TO LAND ACQUISITION

†640. SHRIMATI RAMA DEVI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pending court cases related to land acquisition at present, State-wise;**
- (b) the number of cases out of them that are pending for more than ten years;**
- (c) whether these cases are lying pending due to shortcomings of land acquisition laws; and**
- (d) if so, the response of the Government in this regard?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (d): Land acquisition is a concurrent subject. Land acquisition is undertaken by the Central and State Governments under various Central and State Acts, including the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (RFCTLARR) Act, 2013. Information on pending land acquisition cases is not centrally maintained in the Department of Justice.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

Appointment D UN

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 643**

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 04.02.2022

Recruitment of Judges

643. MS. LOCKET CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of **LAW AND JUSTICE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has proposed to create all India judicial services for the recruitment of judges at the district level; and
- (b) if so, the essential elements thereof and the time by which it will be created?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (b) : In Government's view, a properly framed All India Judicial Service is important to strengthen overall justice delivery system. This will give an opportunity for induction of suitably qualified fresh legal talent selected through a proper all-India merit selection system as well as address the issue of social inclusion by enabling suitable representation to marginalized and deprived sections of society.

A comprehensive proposal was formulated for the constitution of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) and the same was approved by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012. Besides attracting some of the best talent in the country, it may also facilitate inclusion of competent persons from marginalized sections and women in the judiciary. The proposal was included as an agenda item in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held in April, 2013 and it was decided that the issue needs further deliberation and consideration.

The views of the State Governments and High Courts were sought on the proposal. There was divergence of opinion among the State Governments and among the High Courts on the constitution of All India Judicial Service. While some State Governments and High Courts favoured the proposal, some were not in favour of creation of All India Judicial Service while some others wanted changes in the proposal formulated by the Central Government.

The matter regarding creation of a Judicial Service Commission to help the recruitment to the post of district judges and review of selection process of judges/ judicial officers at all level was also included in the agenda for the Chief Justices Conference, which was held on 03rd and 04th April, 2015, wherein it was resolved to leave it open to the respective High Courts to evolve appropriate methods within the existing system to fill up the vacancies for appointment of District judges expeditiously. The proposal for constitution of All India Judicial Service with views from the High Courts and State Governments received thereon was included in the agenda for the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of High Courts held on 05th April, 2015.

The proposal of setting up of an All India Judicial Service was again discussed on points of eligibility, age, selection criteria, qualification, reservations etc. in a meeting chaired by Minister of Law and Justice on 16th January 2017 in the presence of Minister of State for Law and Justice, Attorney General for India, Solicitor General of India, Secretaries of Department of Justice, Department of Legal Affairs and Legislative Department. Setting up AIJS was also deliberated in a meeting of the Parliamentary Consultative Committee in March, 2017 and the Parliamentary Committee on the Welfare of SCs/STs on 22.02.2021.

In view of the existing divergence of opinion amongst the stakeholders, the Government is engaged in a consultative process with the stakeholders to arrive at a common ground.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

Justice-II

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 660**

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 4th FEBRUARY, 2022

Fast Track Courts

660. SHRI AJAY NISHAD:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Fast Track Courts functioning in the country, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the number of cases settled during the last three years along with the number of cases lying pending at present in these courts, State/UT-wise;
- (c) the funds allocated and utilized for setting up these courts during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up additional number of Fast Track Courts in the country in view of the present pendency of large number of cases; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) & (b): As per information made available by the High Courts, the details of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) functioning in the country and the number of cases disposed during the last three years along with the number of cases lying pending in these courts, State/UT-wise, is given in **Annexure-I** and **Annexure-II** respectively.

(c) to (e): Setting up of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) and allocation of funds lies within the domain of the State Governments who set up such courts as per their need and resources, in consultation with the respective High Courts. The 14th Finance Commission had recommended the setting up of 1800 FTCs during 2015-2020 and had urged State Governments to utilize enhanced fiscal space available through tax devolution (32% to 42%) for this purpose. Information on funds allocated and utilized for setting up these Courts by States is not maintained centrally.

Annexure-I**Details of Fast Track Courts, States/UTs wise****As on 31/12/2021**

S.No.	States/UTs	Functional Fast Track Court
1	Andhra Pradesh	21
2	Assam	16
3	Chhattisgarh	23
4	Delhi	7
5	Gujarat	35
6	Haryana	06
7	Jammu & Kashmir	04
8	Jharkhand	06
9	Karnataka	18
10	Kerala	28
11	Maharashtra	110
12	Manipur	06
13	Mizoram	02
14	Odisha	19
15	Punjab	07
16	Sikkim	02
17	Tamil Nadu	74
18	Telangana	35
19	Tripura	11
20	Uttar Pradesh	376
21	Uttarakhand	04
22	West Bengal	88
	Total	898

Annexure-II**Details of the number of cases disposed during the last three years along with the number of cases lying pending at present in these courts**

S.No.	States/UTs	Cases disposed during 2019	Cases disposed during 2020	Cases disposed during 2021	Cases Pending as on 31.12.2021
1	Andhra Pradesh	5456	1177	312	6153
2	Assam	3173	2615	3780	9942
3	Bihar	14595	1759	1603	NA
4	Chhattisgarh	9392	2877	5324	6060
5	Delhi	19841	393	223	2776
6	Goa	NA	130	59974	NA
7	Gujarat	14318	462	37102	5633
8	Haryana	23348	825	899	856
9	Himachal	9388	NA	5	NA
10	Jammu & Kashmir	NA	27	391	620
11	Jharkhand	6244	624	861	1009
12	Karnataka	11722	210	2051	3962
13	Kerala	27872	217	2333	7653
14	Madhya Pradesh	18732	1	NA	NA
15	Maharashtra	59279	63470	114254	130868
16	Manipur	541	45	73081	430
17	Meghalaya	NA	NA	11	NA
18	Mizoram	130	179	1758	207
19	Nagaland	89	3	3	NA
20	Odisha	6664	NA	234	3244
21	Puducherry	126	NA	NA	NA
22	Punjab	24854	85	471	300
23	Rajasthan	22346	NA	32	NA
24	Sikkim	114	5	5	23

25	Tamil Nadu	18083	9389	7865	97262
26	Telangana	5044	1525	2849	12063
27	Tripura	1399	100	347	1607
28	Uttar Pradesh	329345	148466	86013	732759
29	Uttarakhand	6215	170	215	763
30	West Bengal	7753	5202	3172	61335
	Total	646063	239956	405168	1085525

NA : Not Available

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

LOK SABHA

NM

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 667
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 4th FEBRUARY, 2022**

REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN LEGAL SYSTEM

667. SHRI VIJAYAKUMAR (ALIAS) VIJAY VASANTH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken note that the representation of women at all levels in the legal field is quite low, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps regarding under-representation of women in the judiciary; and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): As on 01.02.2022, 04 women Judges are working in the Supreme Court against the current sanctioned strength of 34 Judges and 83 women judges are working in various High Courts of the country against the sanctioned strength of 1098 judges. The appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts are made under Articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively. These Articles do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. The Government has, however, been requesting the Chief Justices of the High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Schedules Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women.

As regards district and subordinate courts, under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of district and subordinate judiciary in

the States vest with the concerned High Court. Further, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to Article 309 read with Articles 233 and 234 of the constitution, the respective State Government, in consultation with the High Court, frames the Rules and Regulations regarding the issue of appointment, promotion, reservations and retirement of Judicial Officers in the State Judicial Service. Hence, in so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, respective High Courts do it in certain States, whereas the High Courts do it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions in other States. The Union Government does not have a role under the Constitution in the selection and appointment of judicial officers in District/ subordinate judiciary.

Bar Council of India has informed that the Advocates Act, 1961 does not provide for any special provision for women or for any reservation for them.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

A2J/LAP

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 151
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11th FEBRUARY, 2022

DELAY IN JUDICIAL DECISIONS DUE TO COVID-19

†*151.SHRI DEVENDRA SINGH BHOLE:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the COVID-19 pandemic has delayed judicial decisions in the country leading to under trial prisoners not getting timely and effective justice, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to deal with this situation; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 151 FOR ANSWER ON 11.02.2022 REGARDING 'DELAY IN JUDICIAL DECISIONS DUE TO COVID-19'.

(a) to (c) Disposal of pending cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. No time frame has been prescribed for disposal of various kinds of cases by the respective courts. The Central Government is fully committed to speedy disposal of cases in accordance with Article 21 of the Constitution and reducing pendency. After announcement of nation-wide lockdown, directions have been issued from time to time by the respective High Courts to the Subordinate Courts under their administrative jurisdiction for hearing of urgent civil and criminal matters in virtual or physical mode depending on local conditions and take up all kind of cases, including those pertaining to under-trial prisoners.

2. Following initiatives have been taken under eCourts project by the eCommittee of the Supreme Court and the Government to tackle the challenges poised by COVID-19 pandemic:

- i. Under the Wide Area Network (WAN) Project, 2960 courts sites have been commissioned (as on 07.02.2022) with 10 Mbps to 100 Mbps bandwidth speed. This forms the backbone for ensuring data connectivity in courts across the length and breadth of the country.
- ii. Case Information Software (CIS) which forms the basis for the e-Court services is based on customized Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS) which has been developed by NIC. Currently CIS National Core Version 3.2 is being implemented in District Courts and the CIS National Core Version 1.0 is being implemented for the High Courts. A new software patch and user manual for COVID-19 management has also been developed to help in smart scheduling of cases.
- iii. National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) is a database of orders, judgments and cases, created as an online platform under the eCourts Project. It provides information

relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of all computerized district and subordinate courts of the country. Litigants can access case status information in respect of over 19.81 crore cases and more than 16.61 crore orders / judgments pertaining to these computerized (as on 01.02.2022). Open APIs have been introduced in 2020 to allow Central and State Governments and institutional litigants including local bodies to access NJDG data to improve pendency monitoring and compliance.

- iv. As part of eCourts project, 7 platforms have been created to provide real time information on case status, cause lists, judgements etc. to lawyers/Litigants through SMS Push and Pull (2,00,000 SMS sent daily), Email (2,50,000 sent daily), multilingual and tactile eCourts services Portal (35 lakh hits daily), JSC (Judicial Service centres) and Info Kiosks. In addition, Electronic Case Management Tools (ECMT) have been created with Mobile App for lawyers (total 72.20 lakh downloads till 3rd January 2022) and JustIS app for judges (16,961 downloads till 2nd February 2022). JustIS mobile app is now available in iOS as well.
- v. 17 Virtual Courts in 13 States/UTs have been operationalized to handle traffic challan cases. More than 1.24 crore cases have been handled by 17 virtual courts and in more than 21 lakhs cases online fine of more than Rs. 221 crore has been realised till 02.02.2022.
- vi. The Supreme Court of India emerged as a global leader by conducting 1,81,909 hearings (till 08.01.2022 since the beginning of lockdown period). The High Courts (57,39,966 cases) and Subordinate Courts (1,08,36,087 cases) have conducted 1.65 crore virtual hearings till 30.11.2021. VC facilities have also been enabled between 3240 court complexes and corresponding 1272 jails. Funds for 2506 VC cabins and VC equipment for 14,443 court rooms have also been released. 1500 VC licenses have been procured to promote virtual hearings.

- vii. New e-filing system (version 3.0) has been rolled out for the electronic filing of legal papers with upgraded features like new dashboard including the options of my partners, Case Filing, Vakalatnama, pleading, e-payments, applications and case portfolio management. Draft eFiling rules have been formulated and circulated to the High Courts for adoption. A total of 17 High Courts have adopted the model rules of e-Filing as on 31.12.2021.
- viii. e-Filing of cases requires the option for electronic payment of fees which includes court fees, fines and penalties which are directly payable to the Consolidated Fund. Online payment of court fees, fines, penalties and judicial deposits has been initiated through <https://pay.ecourts.gov.in>. A total of 16 High Courts have implemented ePayments in their respective jurisdictions. The Court Fees Act has been amended in 23 High Courts till 31.12.2021.
- ix. eSewa Kendras have been rolled out to bridge the digital divide by providing e filing services to lawyers and litigants. Government has released Rs. 12.54 crore for setting up eSewa Kendras. As on 31.12.2021, 451 eSewa Kendra's have been made functional in District Courts under 25 High Courts.
- x. National Service and Tracking of Electronic Processes (NSTEP) has been launched for technology enabled process serving and issuing of summons. It has currently been implemented in 26 States/ UTs.
- xi. A new "Judgment Search" portal has been started with features such as search by Bench, Case Type, Case Number, Year, Petitioner/ Respondent Name, Judge Name, Act, Section, Decision: From Date, To Date and Full Text Search. This facility is being provided free of cost to all.
- xii. To make effective use of database created through National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) and to make the information available to public 30 LED Display Message Sign Board System called Justice Clocks, have been installed in 20 High Courts.

xiii. Towards creating widespread awareness and familiarization of eFiling and eCourts services and to address "skill divide", a manual on E filing and a Brochure on "How to register for E Filing" has been made available in English, Hindi and 12 regional languages for the use of the lawyers. A YouTube channel has been created in the name of the e Court services with video tutorials on e-filing. The eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India has conducted trainings and awareness programmes on the ICT services. These programmes have covered nearly 3,60,993 stakeholders, including High Court Judges, Judges of the District Judiciary, Court Staff, Master Trainers among Judges/DSA, Technical Staff of High Courts, and Advocates.

3. National Legal Service Authority (NALSA) has taken the following measures during the COVID-19 pandemic to enable timely and effective justice:

- i. During the period from 24th March 2020 to 29th January 2022, more than 1.95 crore cases were disposed off by the District and Subordinate Courts.
- ii. National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) moved holding of Lok Adalats to the virtual platform known as E-Lok Adalat. The first E-Lok Adalat was held on 27.06.2020 and since then E-Lok Adalats have been organized in 28 States / UTs; wherein 66.93 lakh cases were taken up and 23.47 lakh cases were disposed of.
- iii. During the period from 1st April 2020 to 31st December 2021, more than 1.41 crore pre-litigation and pending cases were disposed of in National Lok Adalats. Further, during the same period, 11.72 lakh pre-litigation and pending cases were settled through State Lok Adalats and 1.23 lakh pre-litigation cases were settled through Permanent Lok Adalats.
- iv. Legal Services Institutions have been mandated to conduct pre-suit mediation in the commercial matters as per Section 12(A) of Commercial Court Act, 2018. During 1st April 2020 – 30th November 2021, 55,569 commercial disputes have been settled at pre-litigation stage through mediation.

- v. In wake of threat of spreading of COVID-19 virus, particularly, in overcrowded prisons, the State Governments and UT Administrations have constituted High Powered Committees (HPCs) comprising of Executive Chairman of the State Legal Services Authority (SLSA), the Principal Secretary (Home/Prison), Director General of Prison(s) for identification and facilitation in releasing Undertrial Prisoners/Convicts either on interim bail or on parole.
- vi. During the lockdown period(March - May 2020), 58,797 Under Trial Prisoners (UTPs) and 20,972 convicts were released on interim bail/parole on recommendations of HPCs or through efforts of Legal Services Authorities. After emergence of the second wave of COVID-19 (April-May, 2021), 70,382 UTPs and 22,211 Convicts were released on interim bail/parole on the recommendations of HPCs.
- vii. During the period 1st April 2020 to 31st December 2021, NALSA through SLSAs and District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) organized 18,582 Under Trial Review Committee (UTRC) meetings after which 28,115 inmates were released.
- viii. NALSA has issued a Protocol for Early Access to Justice at Pre-Arrest, Arrest and Remand Stage for providing assistance to suspects and accused at Pre-Arrest, Arrest and Remand Stage. During January 2020 to September 2021, legal assistance was provided to 8,433 suspects/accused at pre-arrest stage pursuant to which 2,879 suspects/accused were not arrested by the police. Further, assistance was provided to 10,191 arrestees at police stations before producing them in courts. Moreover, during the same period, 1,65,947 persons were provided legal assistance at remand stage and 73,452 bail applications were filed wherein bail was granted in 40,303 such matters.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)**

eCourts

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION No. *159
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11th FEBRUARY, 2022**

Utilisation of Artificial Intelligence in Judicial Process

***159. SHRI KURUVA GORANTLA MADHAV:
SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA VISWANATH:**

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government plans to utilize blockchain technology and Artificial Intelligence to supplement judicial process and help reducing judicial delays, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) the steps undertaken by the Government to ensure continuous upgradation of e-court project?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE**

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (b) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*159 FOR 11th FEBRUARY, 2022 REGARDING UTILISATION OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN JUDICIAL PROCESS

(a): Presently eCourts Phase II is under implementation since 2015. While Phase II is still underway, a need was felt for adoption of new cutting edge technology of machine learning and Artificial Intelligence for enhancing the efficiency of the justice delivery system. To explore the use of AI in judicial domain, the Supreme Court of India has constituted Artificial Intelligence Committee which has mainly identified application of AI technology in Translation of judicial documents; Legal research assistance and Process automation.

(b): The salient ongoing steps taken to upgrade the eCourts project includes:

- i. Under the Wide Area Network (WAN) Project, 2960 courts sites have been commissioned (as on 07.02.2022) with 10 Mbps to 100 Mbps bandwidth speed. This forms the backbone for ensuring data connectivity in courts across the length and breadth of the country.
- ii. Case Information Software (CIS) which forms the basis for the e-Court services is based on customized Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS) which has been developed by NIC. Currently CIS National Core Version 3.2 is being implemented in District Courts and the CIS National Core Version 1.0 is being implemented for the High Courts.
- iii. A new software patch and user manual for COVID-19 management has also been developed to help in smart scheduling of cases.
- iv. National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) is a database of orders, judgments and cases, created as an online platform under the eCourts Project. It provides information relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of all computerized district and subordinate

courts of the country. Litigants can access case status information in respect of over 19.81 crore cases and more than 16.61 crore orders / judgments pertaining to these computerized (as on 01.02.2022). Open APIs have been introduced in 2020 to allow Central and State Governments and institutional litigants including local bodies to access NJDG data to improve pendency monitoring and compliance.

- v. As part of eCourts project, 7 platforms have been created to provide real time information on case status, cause lists, judgements etc. to lawyers/Litigants through SMS Push and Pull (2,00,000 SMS sent daily), Email (2,50,000 sent daily), multilingual and tactile eCourts services Portal (35 lakh hits daily), JSC (Judicial Service centres) and Info Kiosks. In addition, Electronic Case Management Tools (ECMT) have been created with Mobile App for lawyers (total 72.20 lakh downloads till 3rd January 2022) and JustIS app for judges (16,961 downloads till 2nd February 2022). JustIS mobile app is now available in iOS as well.
- vi. 17 Virtual Courts in 13 States/UTs have been operationalized to handle traffic challan cases. More than 1.24 crore cases have been handled by 17 virtual courts and in more than 21 lakhs (21,45,341) cases online fine of more than Rs. 221 crore has been realised till 02.02.2022.
- vii. The Supreme Court of India emerged as a global leader by conducting 1,81,909 hearings (till 08.01.2022 since the beginning of lockdown period). The High Courts (57,39,966 cases and Subordinate Courts (1,08,36,087 cases) have conducted 1.65 crore virtual hearings till 30.11.2021. VC facilities have also been enabled between 3240 court complexes and corresponding 1272 jails. Funds for 2506 VC cabins and VC equipment for 14,443

court rooms have also been released. 1500 VC licenses have been procured to promote virtual hearings. A sum of Rs. 7.60 crore has been released for procurement of 1732 Document Visualizers.

- viii. New e-filing system (version 3.0) has been rolled out for the electronic filing of legal papers with upgraded features like new dashboard including the options of my partners, Case Filing, Vakalatnama, pleading, e-payments, applications and case portfolio management. Draft eFiling rules have been formulated and circulated to the High Courts for adoption. A total of 17 high Courts have adopted the model rules of e-Filing as on 31.12.2021.
- ix. e-Filing of cases requires the option for electronic payment of fees which includes court fees, fines and penalties which are directly payable to the Consolidated Fund. Online payment of court fees, fines, penalties and judicial deposits has been initiated through <https://pay.ecourts.gov.in>. A total of 16 High Courts have implemented ePayments in their respective jurisdictions. The Court Fees Act has been amended in 23 High Courts till 31.12.2021.
- x. eSewa Kendras have been rolled out to bridge the digital divide by providing e filing services to lawyers and litigants. Government has released Rs. 12.54 crore for setting up eSewa Kendras. As on 31.12.2021, 451 eSewa Kendra's have been made functional in District Courts under 25 High Courts.
- xi. National Service and Tracking of Electronic Processes (NSTEP) has been launched for technology enabled process serving and issuing of summons. It has currently been implemented in 26 States/ UTs.
- xii. A new "Judgment Search" portal has been started with features such as search by Bench, Case Type, Case Number, Year, Petitioner/ Respondent Name, Judge Name, Act, Section, Decision:

From Date, To Date and Full Text Search. This facility is being provided free of cost to all.

- xiii. To make effective use of database created through National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) and to make the information available to public 30 LED Display Message Sign Board System called Justice Clocks, have been installed in 20 High Courts.
- xiv. Towards creating widespread awareness and familiarization of eFiling and eCourts services and to address “skill divide”, a manual on E filing and a Brochure on “How to register for E Filing” has been made available in English, Hindi and 12 regional languages for the use of the lawyers. A YouTube channel has been created in the name of the e Court services with video tutorials on e-filing. The eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India has conducted trainings and awareness programmes on the ICT services. These programmes have covered nearly 3,60,993 stakeholders, including High Court Judges, Judges of the District Judiciary, Court Staff, Master Trainers among Judges/DSA, Technical Staff of High Courts, and Advocates.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1619
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11.02.2022
DELIVERY OF JUSTICE

Coord.

1619. SHRI NAYAB SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken any steps to tackle the challenges and improve delivery of justice to the citizens under the Strategy for New India at 75 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps for addressing the challenges being faced by judiciary as stated in the recent reports of economic survey and NITI Aayog and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Ministry is working out any plan to use the talent of law graduates who have completed their internship and have obtained practical experience in Ministries and Judiciary;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Government in this regard; and
- (e) the further steps taken by the Government to deliver justice for all in the society?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) and (b): The NITI Aayog has formulated a document " Strategy for New India@75" which is placed in public domain at https://www.niti.gov.in/sites/default/files/2019-01/Strategy_for_New_India_2.pdf". Government has taken initiative to improve the infrastructure facilities viz., court halls and residential units under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for judiciary. An amount of Rs.8,758.71 crores has been released to the States since the inception of the scheme in 1993-1994. During the period from 2014 to 31.01.2022, the number of court halls has increased from 15,818 to

21,376 and the number of residential units increased from 10,211 to 18,276. Government has also approved the continuance of this CSS upto 31.03.2026, with a total budgetary outlay of Rs.9000 crores, including Central share of Rs.5,307 crores. The scheme components have been expanded, to also cover the construction of toilets, digital computer rooms and Lawyers' Hall, in addition to the Court Halls & Residential Units in the district and subordinate courts. From 2016 to 31.1.2022, 36 judges have been appointed in the Supreme Court and 616 Judges were appointed in the High Courts while 502 Additional Judges were made permanent judges and 42 Additional Judges were given a fresh term. A separate High Court has been established in Andhra Pradesh State and a circuit bench of Calcutta High Court was established in Siliguri. The Government has approved a scheme for setting up 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) across the country for expeditious disposal of pending cases of Rape under IPC and crimes under POCSO Act.

Under e-Courts Mission Mode Project, 18,735 District and Subordinate courts have been computerized. The other salient initiatives taken under the eCourts project include:

- i. Under Wide Area Network (WAN) Project, 2960 courts sites have been commissioned (as on 07.02.2022) with 10 Mbps to 100 Mbps bandwidth speed. This forms the backbone for ensuring data connectivity in courts across the length and breadth of the country.
- ii. Case Information Software (CIS) which forms the basis for the e-Court services is based on customized Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS) which has been developed by NIC. Currently CIS National Core Version 3.2 is being implemented in District Courts and the CIS National Core Version 1.0 is being implemented for the High Courts. A new software patch and user manual for COVID-19 management has also been developed to help in smart scheduling of cases.
- iii. National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) is a database of orders, judgments and cases, created as an online platform under the eCourts Project. It provides information relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of all computerized district and subordinate courts of the country. Litigants can access case status information in respect of over 19.81 crore cases, and more than 16.61 crore orders / judgments pertaining to these have been computerized (as on 01.02.2022). Open APIs have been introduced in 2020 to allow Central and State Governments and institutional litigants including local bodies to access NJDG data to improve pendency monitoring and compliance.

- iv. As part of eCourts project, 7 platforms have been created to provide real time information on case status, cause lists, judgements etc. to lawyers/Litigants through SMS Push and Pull (2,00,000 SMS sent daily), Email (2,50,000 sent daily), multilingual and tactile eCourts services Portal (35 lakh hits daily), JSC (Judicial Service centres) and Info Kiosks. In addition, Electronic Case Management Tools (ECMT) have been created with Mobile App for lawyers (total 72.20 lakh downloads till 3rd January 2022) and JustIS app for judges (16,961 downloads till 2nd February 2022). JustIS mobile app is now available in iOS as well.
- v. 17 Virtual Courts in 13 States/UTs have been operationalized to handle traffic challan cases. More than 1.24 crore cases have been handled by 17 virtual courts and in more than 21 lakhs (21,45,341) cases online fine of more than Rs. 221 crore has been realised till 02.02.2022.
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- vii. New e-filing system (version 3.0) has been rolled out for the electronic filing of legal papers with upgraded features like new dashboard including the options of my partners, Case Filing, Vakalatnama, pleading, e-payments, applications and case portfolio management. Draft eFiling rules have been formulated and circulated to the High Courts for adoption. A total of 17 high Courts have adopted the model rules of e-Filing as on 31.12.2021.
- viii. e-Filing of cases requires the option for electronic payment of fees which includes court fees, fines and penalties which are directly payable to the Consolidated Fund. Online payment of court fees, fines, penalties and judicial deposits has been initiated through <https://pay.ecourts.gov.in>. A total of 16 High Courts have implemented ePayments in their respective jurisdictions. The Court Fees Act has been amended in 23 High Courts till 31.12.2021.

- ix. eSewa Kendras have been rolled out to bridge the digital divide by providing e filing services to lawyers and litigants. Government has released Rs. 12.54 crore for setting up eSewa Kendras. As on 31.12.2021, 451 eSewa Kendra's have been made functional in District Courts under 25 High Courts.
- x. National Service and Tracking of Electronic Processes (NSTEP) has been launched for technology enabled process serving and issuing of summons. It has currently been implemented in 26 States/ UTs.
- xi. A new "Judgment Search" portal has been started with features such as search by Bench, Case Type, Case Number, Year, Petitioner/ Respondent Name, Judge Name, Act, Section, Decision: From Date, To Date and Full Text Search. This facility is being provided free of cost to all.
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- xiii. Towards creating widespread awareness and familiarization of eFiling and eCourts services and to address "skill divide", a manual on E filing and a Brochure on "How to register for E Filing" has been made available in English, Hindi and 12 regional languages for the use of the lawyers. A YouTube channel has been created in the name of the e Court services with video tutorials on e-filing. The eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India has conducted trainings and awareness programmes on the ICT services. These programmes have covered nearly 3,60,993 stakeholders, including High Court Judges, Judges of the District Judiciary, Court Staff, Master Trainers among Judges/DSA, Technical Staff of High Courts, and Advocates.

(c) and (d): National Legal Service Authority (NALSA) has been conducting internship programme for the law students. The objective of the internship programme is that law interns should get a comprehensive idea of the working of the legal services institutions and the legal services programmes with regional focus. The programme is a 3 weeks programme. The interns are required to spend about two weeks with the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) of their choice. After the period of two weeks with the DLSA, the interns are associated with the Delhi State Legal Services Authority and National Legal Services Authority to observe its working. During the period of their internship programmes, the law students visit Central jail or Sub Jail and interact with the inmates; visit Observation Home/Juvenile Justice Board/Child

Welfare Committee/Drug Rehabilitation Centre/District Courts including magisterial, Sessions and Civil courts and police stations; attend and participate in Legal Literacy/Legal awareness programme; watch the mediation proceedings as Mediation/ADR centres and Lok Adalat; etc. On successful completion of the internship, a certificate is issued to the law interns. In addition, Legal Aid Clinics are operational in various Law Colleges and Universities, wherein the students were provided opportunity to work under the guidance of the District Legal Services Authorities of the district. Through such clinics legal aid is promoted and awareness in the villages wherein the students are involved.

(e): With the objective to deliver “justice for all”, the Government has launched “Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice in India” (DISHA) that seeks to enrich the quality of Legal Aid particularly for the marginalised. Tele Law under DISHA seeks to connect the citizens with the Panel Lawyers to seek pre-litigation legal advice via Tele/video conferencing facilities available at the Common Service Centres (CSC) across India and directly through Citizens’ Tele- Law Mobile Application. To maximise the benefits of Tele-Law Outreach to the vulnerable sections of the society, law students in particular and students in general are being motivated to volunteer and register as Para Legal Volunteers on the citizens’ Tele-Law Mobile Application. Till 31.1.2022 more than 13.50 lakh beneficiaries have received advice under Tele-Law. Government has also launched the legal empowerment initiatives of Nyaya Bandhu to link persons eligible to avail free legal aid under Section 12 of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 with pro bono lawyers. 3853 pro bono advocates and 1436 beneficiaries have been registered. Furthermore to inculcate a culture of pro bono amongst law students, Pro bono Clubs have been initiated wherein 29 Law Schools have been on boarded under the Nyaya Bandhu programme. National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) a statutory body, has taken various steps to strengthening and improving the delivery of legal services to the common citizens in the country, including creation of a web portal to file Applications through online for getting legal assistance; launched Legal Services Mobile App for Android and IOS version to facilitate citizens seeking legal assistance/advice and track their application; provide legal assistance at remand stage to suspects and arrestees; and provide Legal aid to convicts for filing appeals; etc.

The Legal Services Authorities (LSA) Act, 1987 provides free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society including beneficiaries covered under Section 12 of

the Act to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities, and to organize Lok Adalats to secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice on the basis of equal opportunities.

To meet the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic, NALSA moved holding of Lok Adalats to the virtual platform known as E-Lok Adalat. The first E-Lok Adalat was held on 27.06.2020 and since then E-Lok Adalats have been organized in 28 States / UTs; wherein 66.93 lakh cases were taken up and 23.47 lakh cases were disposed of. During the period from 1st April 2020 to 31st December 2021, more than 1.41 crore pre-litigation and pending cases were disposed of in National Lok Adalats. Further, during the same period, 11.72 lakh pre-litigation and pending cases were settled through State Lok Adalats and 1.23 lakh pre-litigation cases were settled through Permanent Lok Adalats.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

Appointment DUT

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1661**

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11.02.2022

Regional Benches of Supreme Court

1661. DR. SUJAY RADHAKRISHNA VIKHE PATIL:

Will the Minister of **LAW AND JUSTICE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Law Commissions (95th, 120th, 125th, and 229th) recommendations to set up regional benches of Supreme Court has resulted in instituting of any assessments or surveys, if so, the details thereof and if not the reason therefor;
- (b) whether regional benches are being set up in the States of Maharashtra, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh and if so, details thereof and if not the reason therefor;
- (c) the funds released to the said States for providing infrastructure facility in this regard; and
- (d) the details of funds estimated for completion of these projects along with the amount spent till date?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

- (a): Article 130 of the Constitution of India provides that the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint.

The Eleventh Law Commission in its 125th Report titled "The Supreme Court – A Fresh Look", submitted in 1988, reiterated the recommendations made by Tenth Law Commission in its 95th Report for splitting the Supreme Court into two namely (i) Constitutional Court at Delhi and (ii) Court of appeal or Federal Court sitting in North, South, East, West and Central India. The Eighteenth Law Commission in its 229th Report had also suggested that a Constitutional Bench be set up at Delhi and four Cassation Benches be set up in the Northern region at Delhi, Southern region at Chennai/Hyderabad, Eastern region at Kolkata and Western region at Mumbai.

The matter was referred to the Chief Justice of India, who has informed that after consideration of the matter, the Full Court in its meeting held on 18th February, 2010, found no justification for setting up of Benches of the Supreme Court outside Delhi.

In Writ Petition WP(C) No. 36/2016 on establishment of National Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court vide its judgment dated 13.07.2016 deemed it proper to refer the aforementioned issue to Constitutional Bench for authoritative pronouncement. The matter is sub-judice in the Supreme Court.

(b): No Sir.

(c) & (d): Do not arise.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

Appointment DUN

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †1678**

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11.02.2022

Sanctioned Posts of Judges in High Court

**†1678. SHRI ASHOK KUMAR RAWAT:
SHRI ARUN KUMAR SAGAR:**

Will the Minister of **LAW AND JUSTICE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the respective number of sanctioned posts of judges in the State High Courts along with the posts lying vacant and time since when the same posts have been lying vacant;
- (b) the reasons for not filling up the vacant posts of judges so far;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to increase the number of sanctioned posts of judges in High Courts in order to reduce the pendency of cases in these Courts, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) whether hearing of cases in the High Courts is getting delayed due to inadequate number of judges in the High Courts, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (b) : Judges of various High Courts are appointed as per the procedure laid down in the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) prepared in 1998 pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 (Second Judges case) read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998 (Third Judges case). As per MoP, initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. Chief Justice of the High Court is

required to initiate the proposal to fill up of vacancy of a High Court Judge six months prior to the occurrence of vacancy. However, this timeline is often not adhered to by the High Courts. A statement showing High Court wise vacancy position as on 07.02.2022 is at **Annexure**.

As on 07.02.2022, against the sanctioned strength of 1098 Judges in the High Courts, 687 Judges are in position, leaving 411 vacancies of Judges to be filled. At present, 172 proposals are at various stages of processing between the Government and the Supreme Court Collegium. Further recommendations from High Court Collegiums are yet to be received in respect of remaining 239 vacancies in High Courts.

While filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous, integrated and collaborative process requiring consultation and approval from various constitutional authorities, vacancies keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges. Government is committed to filling up of vacancy expeditiously in time-bound manner.

(c) to (d): The sanctioned strength of Judges of High Court has increased from 906 in 2014 to 1098 in 2021. However, it may be mentioned that the pendency of cases in courts is not only due to shortage of judges in High Courts but also due to various other factors like (i) increase in number of state and central legislations, (ii) accumulation of first appeals, (iii) continuation of ordinary civil jurisdiction in some of the High Courts, (iv) appeals against orders of quasi-judicial forums going to High Courts, (v) number of revisions/appeals, (vi) frequent adjournments, (vii) indiscriminate use of writ jurisdiction, (viii) lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, tracking and bunching of cases for hearing, (ix) vacation period of Courts, (x) assigning work of administrative nature to the Judges, etc.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (b) of Unstarred Question No. 1678 to be answered in Lok Sabha on 11.02.2022 regarding 'Sanctioned Posts of Judges in High Court' by Shri Ashok Kumar Rawat and Shri Arun Kumar Sagar, Hon'ble Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha).

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Vacancy position as on 07.02.2022
1	Allahabad	67
2	Andhra Pradesh	17
3	Bombay	34
4	Calcutta	33
5	Chhattisgarh	09
6	Delhi	30
7	Gauhati	01
8	Gujarat	20
9	Himachal Pradesh	04
10	J & K and Ladakh	04
11	Jharkhand	05
12	Karnataka	17
13	Kerala	08
14	Madhya Pradesh	24
15	Madras	15
16	Manipur	01
17	Meghalaya	01
18	Orissa	09
19	Patna	27
20	Punjab & Haryana	36
21	Rajasthan	22
22	Sikkim	0
23	Telangana	23
24	Tripura	0
25	Uttarakhand	04
Total		411

**MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

LOK SABHA

JR Desk

UNSTARRED QUESTION No 1683

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11TH FEBRUARY, 2022

Status of Judicial Infrastructure

1683. DR. ALOK KUMAR SUMAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Registry of Supreme Court of India has compiled data on the status of judicial infrastructure and court amenities including size of court room, basic medical facilities, drinking water with purifiers, library and toilets in all district courts of country including Gopalganj district;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the remedial steps being taken in these areas;
- (c) whether it is fact that the district courts of country are faced with the problem of lack of judicial infrastructure and facilities, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the measures are being taken by the Ministry to extend a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for developing the infrastructure for the judiciary, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the funds allocated/released and spent in Bihar and the amount yet to be released to the State?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) to (e): The Registry of Supreme Court of India has compiled data on the status of judicial infrastructure and court amenities, including shortage of toilets and waiting rooms for lawyers and litigants. A proposal has been received from Chief Justice of India for setting up of National Judicial Infrastructure Authority of India (NJIAI) for arrangement of adequate

infrastructure for courts, as per which there will be a Governing Body with Chief Justice of India as Patron-in-Chief. The other salient features of the proposal are that NJIAI will act as a Central body in laying down the road map for planning, creation, development, maintenance and management of functional infrastructure for the Indian Court System, besides identical structures under all the High Courts. The proposal has been sent to the various State Government/UTs, as they constitute an important stakeholder, for their views on the contours of the proposal to enable taking a considered view on the matter.

As far as status of judicial infrastructure in Gopalganj District is concerned, as per information made available by the State Government there are 29 old and 24 new court rooms. Facility of drinking water and toilets is also available.

The primary responsibility of development of Infrastructure facilities for judiciary rests with the State Governments. To augment the resources of the State Governments, the Union Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities in district and subordinate courts by providing financial assistance to State Governments / UTs in the prescribed fund sharing pattern. The scheme is being implemented since 1993-94. Till date, the Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 8758.70 crore under the Scheme to States/UTs, out of which

Rs. 5314.39 crore has been released since 2014-15 which is around 60.68% of the total release under the scheme. During the financial year 2021-22, an amount of Rs. 770.44 crore has been allocated for the scheme, out of which Rs. 433.45 crore has been released till date. The Government has approved the continuance of this CSS for a period of 5 years from 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2026, with a total budgetary outlay of Rs.9000 crores, including Central share of Rs.5307 crores. The scheme components have been expanded, to also cover the construction of toilets, digital computer rooms and Lawyers' Hall, in addition to the Court Halls & Residential Units in the district and subordinate courts.

Under this scheme, an amount of Rs. 412.97 crore has been released to the State of Bihar till date. In the current financial year, an allocation of Rs. 51.74 crore has been made for the State of Bihar, however, the same can be released after submission of Utilization Certificate(s) for the unspent balance of Central and State share lying with the State Government, compliance of revised Public Financial Management System guidelines and complete Action Plan for the projects to be taken up.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

M2J/LAP

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1695
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11th FEBRUARY, 2022

e-Lok Adalats

1695. SHRI VINAYAK RAUT:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether e-Lok Adalats were conducted in the year 2020 in various States of the country, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the funds allocated for such Adalats during the last and current financial year?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

- (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Legal Services Authorities under the aegis of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) moved Lok Adalat to the virtual platform known as E-Lok Adalat. The first E-Lok Adalat was held in Madhya Pradesh on 27.06.2020. The detail of E-Lok Adalats organized during the year 2020 in various States/UTs including Maharashtra is at Annexure – A.
- (c) Allocation of funds to State/UT State Legal Services Authorities is made for all activities including expenses to be incurred in organization of Lok Adalat and E-Lok Adalat. During the last and current financial year, Rs. 100 crore and Rs. 145 crore, respectively, has been allocated to NALSA for conduct of their various activities including for Lok Adalats and E-Lok Adalats.

Annexure-A

Statement as referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1695 for answering on 11.02.2022 raised by Shri Vinayak Raut, MP - e-Lok Adalats

Statement showing details of E- Lok Adalats organized during the year 2020

S. No.	Name of the State Authority	Date of Organization of E-Lok Adalat	Pre-Litigation Cases		Pending Cases in Courts		Total	
			Taken Up	Disposed	Taken Up	Disposed	Taken Up	Disposed
1	Madhya Pradesh	27.06.2020	0	0	94	91	94	91
2	Chhattisgarh	11.07.2020	0	0	5067	2270	5067	2270
3	Madhya Pradesh	25.07.2020	2529	148	14893	2085	17422	2233
4	Delhi	08.08.2020	0	0	8112	5838	8112	5838
5	Rajasthan	22.08.2020	17724	4395	54366	29151	72090	33546
6	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	22.08.2020	502	395	5255	3878	5757	4273
7	West Bengal	22.08.2020	0	0	120	59	120	59
8	Madhya Pradesh	08.08.2020 & 29.08.2020	694	52	6122	1841	6816	1893
9	Manipur	02.09.2020	0	0	12	7	12	7
10	Odisha	12.09.2020	3870	171	16910	2061	20780	2232
11	Uttarakhand	12.09.2020	398	217	5067	1787	5465	2004
12	Haryana	18.09.2020	3755	3625	9412	4913	13167	8538
13	West Bengal	19.09.2020	5577	1363	6890	5911	12467	7274
14	Karnataka	19.09.2020	12613	7383	218752	108555	231365	115938
15	Delhi	20.09.2020	0	0	14856	13491	14856	13491
16	Gujarat	26.09.2020	881	803	16169	10142	17050	10945
17	Madhya Pradesh	26.09.2020	130	77	6445	1326	6575	1403
18	Arunachal Pradesh	26.09.2020	78	13	24	11	102	24
19	Jharkhand	26.09.2020	9700	9700	1648	1019	11348	10719
20	Manipur	29.09.2020	20	14	0	0	20	14
21	Himachal Pradesh	19.09.2020, 26.09.2020 & 30.09.2020	130	59	416	244	546	303
22	Madhya Pradesh	23 & 31.10.2020	254	32	5860	1696	6114	1728
23	Jharkhand	17.10.2020	19389	19389	8716	6940	28105	26329
24	Uttar Pradesh	01.11.2020	0	0	5423	2763	5423	2763
25	Telangana	07.11.2020	809	807	10419	9116	11228	9923
26	Uttarakhand	07.11.2020	0	0	3161	469	3161	469
27	Madhya Pradesh	07.11.2020	0	0	830	188	830	188

S.No.	Name of the State Authority	Date of Organization of E-Lok Adalat	Pre-Litigation Cases		Pending Cases in Courts		Total	
			Taken Up	Disposed	Taken Up	Disposed	Taken Up	Disposed
28	Jharkhand	26.11.2020	36000	35115	96	18	36096	35133
29	Madhya Pradesh	28.11.2020	54	3	1378	569	1432	572
30	West Bengal	28.11.2020	1389	89	2195	1121	3584	1210
31	Andhra Pradesh	12.12.2020	213	37	7053	5640	7266	5677
32	Bihar	12.12.2020	57903	17296	7727	2387	65630	19683
33	Chandigarh	12.12.2020	0	0	70	12	70	12
34	Chhattisgarh	12.12.2020	566	55	4244	2473	4810	2528
35	Delhi	12.12.2020	0	0	14785	12956	14785	12956
36	Gujarat	12.12.2020	9607	1580	21569	10803	31176	12383
37	Haryana	12.12.2020	0	0	153	72	153	72
38	Jharkhand	12.12.2020	41887	17206	12489	7504	54376	24710
39	Madhya Pradesh	12.12.2020	0	0	970	589	970	589
40	Maharashtra	12.12.2020	0	0	654	653	654	653
41	Manipur	12.12.2020	132	79	37	17	169	96
42	Punjab	12.12.2020	3226	417	4495	2826	7721	3243
43	Rajasthan	12.12.2020	19001	2043	3499	523	22500	2566
44	Sikkim	12.12.2020	11	11	0	0	11	11
45	Telangana	12.12.2020	6	6	63	25	69	31
46	Uttarakhand	12.12.2020	3000	128	341	106	3341	234
47	West Bengal	12.12.2020	2036	100	164	86	2200	186
48	Karnataka	19.12.2020	1837	250	27026	18840	28863	19090
49	Odisha	19.12.2020	6840	305	3589	892	10429	1197
	Total		262761	123363	537636	283964	800397	407327

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

Appointment DUN

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1710**

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11.02.2022

Supreme Court Collegium

**1710. SHRI KANUMURU RAGHU RAMA KRISHNA RAJU:
SHRI KOTHA PRABHAKAR REDDY:**

Will the Minister of **LAW AND JUSTICE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has taken up the demand for more women Judges with the Supreme Court Collegium in view of the under-representation of women in all the courts in the country, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the recommendations made in this regard; and
- (c) whether the inclusion of more women as judges and lawyers in the country will substantially improve the justice delivery system and women can bring a different perspective to the law enriching the legal field, if so, the details thereof and steps being taken in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124, 217 and 224 of the Constitution of India, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. As per Memorandum of Procedure for appointment of Judges of High Courts, the Chief Justice of High Court is required

to initiate the proposal in consultation with two senior most Judges. The Government has therefore been requesting the Chief Justices of High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women to ensure social diversity in appointment of Judges in High Courts. As per Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of Judges in Subordinate Courts is the responsibility of the concerned High Courts and State Governments. More women Judges and lawyers is expected to add to social diversity of the overall justice delivery system.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

Justice

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1717

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11th FEBRUARY, 2022

Fast Track Special Courts for Rape and POCSO cases

1717. SHRI MARGANI BHARAT:
DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR:

Will the Minister of Law and Justice be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1025 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSC) for expeditious trial and disposal of cases related to rape and POCSO were to be set up, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for failure to set up even fifty percent of recommended FTSCs indicating the number of FTSCs set up in various States;
- (b) whether these FTSCs are functional with full judicial and non-judicial strength, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has directed ten States to set up FTSC to hear exclusively the sex abuse cases, if so, the details thereof along with the names of such States; and
- (d) the details of response received from these States in this regard along with the status of setting up of such courts?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) to (d): In pursuance to the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2018, the Department of Justice is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up of 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including 389 exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) Courts for expeditious trial and disposal of cases related to rape and POCSO Act. The Scheme was initially started for 1 year in October 2019 in 31 States/UTs across the country. Government has further approved

continuation of the Scheme up to March 2023. 28 States/UTs have joined the Scheme so far. West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh and A&N Island are yet to join. As per information made available by the High Courts, 700 FTSCs including 383 exclusive POCSO Courts are operational which disposed of more than 73,600 pending cases (December, 2021). The details of earmarked and functional FTSCs is given at **Annexure**.

As per guidelines issued for the Scheme of FTSCs, one Presiding Officer and seven support staff for each functional FTSC are to be deputed by the respective State/UT and High Courts for trial of exclusively rape and POCSO Act cases. However, data on vacancies of staff strength in FTSCs is not maintained centrally. As per data furnished by the High Courts, in 19 States/UTs, the earmarked FTSCs are fully functional, in 08 States/UTs FTSCs are partially functional, in 1 State (Goa) the earmarked FTSC is yet to be operationalized and 3 States/UT have still not joined the Scheme.

The issue of setting up of FTSCs and their early operationalization has been taken up with concerned States/UTs at various level from time to time. Minister of Law & Justice has addressed letters to Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts in this regard. In addition, regular review meetings with officials of the States/UTs and High Court functionaries are being held from time to time for operationalization of remaining FTSCs so as to further reduce the burden on judiciary.

**Annexure as referred to in Reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Q.NO- 1717 for
11th February 2022**

Status of Earmarked and Functional FTSCs (as on 31.12.2021)

S.No.	State/UT	Earmarked FTSCs		Functional FTSCs	
		FTSCs including ePOCSO	ePOCSO (Out of Col- 3)	FTSCs including ePOCSO	ePOCSO (Out of Col-5)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	8	10	10
2.	Assam	27	15	15	15
3.	Bihar	54	30	45	45
4.	Chandigarh	1	0	1	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	15	11	15	11
6.	Delhi	16	11	16	11
7.	Goa	2	0	0	0
8.	Gujrat	35	24	35	24
9.	Haryana	16	12	16	12
10.	Himachal Pradesh	6	3	6	3
11.	J&K	4	0	4	2
12.	Jharkhand	22	8	22	8
13.	Karnataka	31	17	18	16
14.	Kerala	56	14	28	0
15.	Madhya Pradesh	67	26	67	56
16.	Maharashtra	138	30	34	22
17.	Manipur	2	0	2	0
18.	Meghalaya	5	5	5	5
19.	Mizoram	3	1	3	1
20.	Nagaland	1	0	1	1
21.	Odisha	45	22	36	15
22.	Punjab	12	2	12	3
23.	Rajasthan	45	26	45	30
24.	Tamil Nadu	14	14	14	14
25.	Telangana	36	10	25	4
26.	Tripura	3	1	3	1
27.	Uttar Pradesh	218	74	218	74
28.	Uttarakhand	4	4	4	0
Consent Not Given					
29.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	0	0	0
30.	A&N	1	1	0	0
31.	WB	123	20	0	0
	TOTAL	1023	389	700	383

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)

e courts

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1721
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11th FEBRUARY, 2022

Progress of e-Courts Project

1721 SHRI DULAL CHAND GOSWAMI:
SHRIMATI PRATIMA MONDAL

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the e-Courts project has made significant progress, if so, the details thereof and the current status of the project along with the funds released and utilised for the same;
- (b) the number of courts digitized by the court under e-court mission including the number of district courts that have complied with the project;
- (c) the steps taken for ICT enablement of district and subordinate courts of the country and the number of electronic transactions, transacted under e-Courts Project; and
- (d) the steps taken in order to provide efficient and time-bound access to the court services to litigant public, who are on the other side of the digital divide and don't have access to internet?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): With the objective of universal computerisation of all the District & Subordinate Court complexes, Department of Justice in close coordination with eCommittee of Supreme Court of India is implementing eCourts Mission Mode

Project. In the phase-I of the project from 2011-2015, out of total outlay of Rs. 935 crore, the Government incurred an expenditure of Rs. 639.41 crore. In the phase- II of the project which is started in 2015, out of total outlay of Rs. 1670 crore, the Government has released a sum of Rs. 1620.72 crore till 07.02.2022 to various implementing agencies involved in the implementation of the project. As per information provided by eCommittee of Supreme Court of India total 18,735 District and Sub-ordinate courts have been digitised under the eCourts Project so far. Towards enhancement of ICT enablement of Courts, following initiatives have been taken under eCourts project by the eCommittee of the Supreme Court and the Department of Justice:

- i. Under the Wide Area Network (WAN) Project, 2960 courts sites have been commissioned (as on 07.02.2022) with 10 Mbps to 100 Mbps bandwidth speed.
- ii. Case Information Software (CIS) which forms the basis for the e-Court services is based on customized Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS) which has been developed by NIC. Currently CIS National Core Version 3.2 is being implemented in District Courts and the CIS National Core Version 1.0 is being implemented for the High Courts.
- iii. A new software patch and user manual for COVID-19 management has also been developed to help in smart scheduling of cases.
- iv. National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) is a database of orders, judgments and cases, created as an online platform under the eCourts Project. It provides information relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of all computerized district and subordinate courts of the country. Litigants can access case status information in respect of over 19.81 crore cases and more than 16.61 crore orders / judgments pertaining to these computerized (as on 01.02.2022). Open APIs have been introduced in 2020 to allow Central and State Governments and institutional litigants

including local bodies to access NJDG data to improve pendency monitoring and compliance.

- v. As part of eCourts project, 7 platforms have been created to provide real time information on case status, cause lists, judgements etc. to lawyers/Litigants through SMS Push and Pull (2,00,000 SMS sent daily), Email (2,50,000 sent daily), multilingual and tactile eCourts services Portal (35 lakh hits daily), JSC (Judicial Service centres) and Info Kiosks. In addition, Electronic Case Management Tools (ECMT) have been created with Mobile App for lawyers (total 72.20 lakh downloads till 3rd January 2022) and JustIS app for judges (16,961 downloads till 2nd February 2022). JustIS mobile app is now available in iOS as well.
- vi. 17 Virtual Courts in 13 States/UTs have been operationalized to handle traffic challan cases. More than 1.24 crore cases have been handled by 17 virtual courts and in more than 21 lakhs (21,45,341) cases online fine of more than Rs. 221.07 crore has been realised till 02.02.2022.
- vii. The Supreme Court of India emerged as a global leader by conducting 1,81,909 hearings (till 08.01.2022 since the beginning of lockdown period). The High Courts (57,39,966 cases and Subordinate Courts (1,08,36,087 cases) have conducted 1.65 crore virtual hearings till 30.11.2021. VC facilities have also been enabled between 3240 court complexes and corresponding 1272 jails. Funds for 2506 VC cabins and VC equipment for 14,443 courtrooms have also been released. 1500 VC licenses have been procured to promote virtual hearings. A sum of Rs. 7.60 crore has been released for procurement of 1732 Document Visualizers.
- viii. New e-filing system (version 3.0) has been rolled out for the electronic filing of legal papers with upgraded features. Draft eFiling rules have been formulated and circulated to the High Courts for adoption. A total of 17 high Courts have adopted the model rules of e-Filing as on 31.12.2021.

- ix. e-Filing of cases requires the option for electronic payment of fees which includes court fees, fines and penalties which are directly payable to the Consolidated Fund. A total of 16 High Courts have implemented ePayments in their respective jurisdictions. The Court Fees Act has been amended in 23 High Courts till 31.12.2021.
- x. National Service and Tracking of Electronic Processes (NSTEP) has been launched for technology enabled process serving and issuing of summons. It has currently been implemented in 26 States/ UTs.
- xi. A new "Judgment Search" portal has been started with features such as search by Bench, Case Type, Case Number, Year, Petitioner/ Respondent Name, Judge Name, Act, Section, Decision: From Date, To Date and Full Text Search. This facility is being provided free of cost to all.
- xii. To make effective use of database created through National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) and to make the information available to public 30 LED Display Message Sign Board System called Justice Clocks, have been installed in 20 High Courts.
- xiii. Towards creating widespread awareness and familiarization of eFiling and eCourts services and to address "skill divide", a manual on eFiling and a Brochure on "How to register for eFiling" has been made available in English, Hindi and 12 regional languages for the use of the lawyers. A YouTube channel has been created in the name of the e Court services with video tutorials on eFiling. The eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India has conducted trainings and awareness programmes on the ICT services. These programmes have covered nearly 3,60,993 stakeholders, including High Court Judges, Judges of the District Judiciary, Court Staff, Master Trainers among Judges/DSA, Technical Staff of High Courts, and Advocates.

As per data published on Electronic Transaction Aggregation & Analysis Layer (eTaal) portal, eCourts is leading among top 5 MMPs in India with total 371 Cr e-transactions in last one year.

(d): To bridge digital divide, Government has released Rs. 12.54 crore for setting up eSewa Kendras. As on 31.12.2021, 451 eSewa Kendras have been made functional under 25 High Courts. Rs. 12.12 cr has been allocated for creating 1732 Help Desk counters for e-Filing in Court Complexes; Judicial Service Centres have been established at all computerized courts to serve as a single window for filing petitions and applications by litigants / lawyers and for disseminating judicial information related to cause lists and other case related information to the lawyers and litigants through Info Kiosks. Mobile e-courts van equipped with Wi-Fi and computers for video conferencing for speedy disposal of cases have also been started in Uttarakhand and Telangana.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

NM

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1744
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11th FEBRUARY, 2022**

CASES PENDING IN COURTS

**1744. SHRI UPENDRA SINGH RAWAT:
SHRI BHOLANATH (B.P. SAROJ):**

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases pending in the Supreme Court, High Courts and District Courts in the country during the last three years, court-wise, State/UT-wise including Uttar Pradesh; and
(b) the number of vacancies of Judges in Supreme Court, High Courts and District Courts of the country during the last three years, court-wise, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): The total number of pending cases in Supreme Court of India during the last three years is as under:-

2020 (as on 02.01.2020)	2021 (as on 01.01.2021)	2022 (as on 01.01.2022)
59,859	65,086	70,239

As per information available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), the total number of pending cases during the last three years in various High Courts and District & Subordinate Courts in the country is at *Annexure I & Annexure II* respectively.

(b): A statement showing the sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of judges in Supreme Court of India and High Courts during the last three years is at *Annexure-III*.

A statement showing the sanctioned strength working, strength and vacancies of judges in District & Subordinate Courts during the last three years is at *Annexure IV*.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1744 FOR ANSWER ON 11.02.2022 REGARDING CASES PENDING IN COURTS.

Sl. No	High Court	Pendency As on 31.12.2019*	Pendency As on 31.12.2020**	Pendency As on 22.03.2021**	Pendency As on 31.01.2022**
1.	Allahabad	9,44,657	7,73,408	7,86,052	8,09,043
2.	Punjab & Haryana	3,53,888	6,37,148	6,64,677	4,48,889
3.	Madras	2,72,722	5,80,770	5,81,186	5,79,140
4.	Madhya Pradesh	3,57,929	3,62,932	3,73,960	4,13,467
5.	Andhra Pradesh	1,93,594	2,07,762	2,10,900	2,24,459
6.	Bombay	3,05,962	5,59,119	5,50,048	5,72,380
7.	Rajasthan	4,59,828	5,23,600	5,36,533	5,79,340
8.	Karnataka	2,71,929	2,93,259	2,80,447	2,62,297
9.	Calcutta	2,28,060	2,67,431	2,71,570	2,25,807
10.	Orissa	1,50,562	1,72,476	1,72,038	2,01,729
11.	Kerala	1,96,823	2,14,384	2,18,173	2,12,002
12.	Patna	1,72,425	1,78,835	2,00,898	2,24,072
13.	Gujarat	1,29,184	1,42,803	1,48,055	1,52,129
14.	Jharkhand	85,272	88,445	86,398	86,908
15.	Delhi	80,950	91,195	91,195	1,01,599
16.	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	71,693	63,468	61,779	48,341
17.	Chhattisgarh	69,316	75,836	76,839	82,376
18.	Uttarakhand	35,407	38,676	38,676	42,511
19.	Himachal Pradesh	54,452	73,862	76,926	83,199
20.	Gauhati	37,243	51,901	52,482	55,927
21.	Manipur	2,468	4,374	4,567	4,942
22.	Tripura	2,586	2,347	2,347	1,785
23.	Meghalaya	757	1,443	1,386	1,613
24.	Sikkim	234	241	244	184
25.	Telengana	206,413	236,852	236,852	2,60,532
Total		46,84,354	56,42,567	57,24,228	56,74,671

*Data Source Supreme Court of India.

**Data Source NJDG Portal.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1744 FOR ANSWER ON 11.02.2022 REGARDING CASES PENDING IN COURTS.

Sl. No	Name of the State/UTs	Total Number of Pending Cases (As on 31/12/2019)*	Total Number of Pending Cases (As on 31/12/2020) **	Total Number of Pending Cases (As on 22.03.2021)**	Total Number of Pending Cases (As on 31.01.2022)**
1	Uttar Pradesh	7807863	8572092	8821412	9912623
2	Andhra Pradesh	567096	635220	667016	780331
3	Telangana	580193	674301	715199	812076
4	Maharashtra	3821487	4516311	4678764	4927025
5	Goa	49049	56545	57485	57526
6	Diu and Daman	5344	2777	2860	2914
7	West Bengal	2048697	2380633	2434641	2614101
8	Andaman & Nicobar	9795	0	0	0
9	Chhattisgarh	285025	324273	347924	380784
10	Delhi	882366	955850	1009292	1103855
11	Gujarat	1595813	1890667	2052835	1982577
12	Assam	301427	357197	374714	422544
13	Nagaland	3361	1539	2143	2613
14	Meghalaya	13673	10403	10444	14787
15	Manipur	6516	10794	11524	12929
16	Tripura	27491	41032	39560	36222
17	Mizoram	6589	4699	4573	6135
18	Arunachal Pradesh	10658	--	--	--
19	Himachal Pradesh	293706	416564	421449	464579
20	Jammu & Kashmir	172769	215803	223551	249751
21	Jharkhand	365642	438567	460533	501563
22	Karnataka	1531008	1746886	1924880	1853931
23	Kerala	1614277	1798342	1885520	1963012
24	U.T. of Lakshadweep	397	--	--	--
25	Madhya Pradesh	1455435	1690053	1755712	1897219
26	Tamil Nadu	1137684	1288573	1313263	1383304
27	Puducherry	30094	--	--	34254
28	Odisha	1433522	1382538	1412802	1529466
29	Bihar	2714344	3158070	3230617	3394905
30	Punjab	642327	814538	852420	933806
31	Haryana	853375	1100904	1156771	1306494
32	Chandigarh	62955	57418	61476	71130
33	Rajasthan	1769823	1830462	1916328	2063032
34	Sikkim	1142	1570	1697	1942
35	Uttarakhand	195281	260564	274913	307491
36	D & N Haveli		3502	3378	3708
37	Ladakh	----	749	792	928
	Total	32296224	36639436	38126488	41029557

*Data Source Supreme Court of India.

**Data Source NJDG Portal.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1744 FOR ANSWER ON 11.02.2022 REGARDING CASES PENDING IN COURTS.

Statement showing sanctioned strength, working strength of the judges in the Supreme Court and High Court as on 01.01.2020

		Sanctioned strength			Working strength			Vacancies		
A.	Supreme Court	34			33			01		
B.	High Court	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total
1	Allahabad	76	84	160	67	40	107	09	44	53
2	Andhra Pradesh	28	09	37	15	0	15	13	09	22
3	Bombay	71	23	94	55	15	70	16	08	24
4	Calcutta	54	18	72	22	18	40	32	0	32
5	Chhattisgarh	17	05	22	11	04	15	06	01	07
6	Delhi	45	15	60	36	0	36	09	15	24
7	Gauhati	18	06	24	15	06	21	03	0	03
8	Gujarat	39	13	52	27	0	27	12	13	25
9	Himachal Pradesh	10	03	13	09	01	10	01	02	03
10	Jammu & Kashmir	13	04	17	08	0	08	05	04	09
11	Jharkhand	19	06	25	17	02	19	02	04	06
12	Karnataka	47	15	62	19	21	40	28	-06	22
13	Kerala	35	12	47	27	05	32	08	07	15
14	Madhya Pradesh	40	13	53	31	0	31	09	13	22
15	Madras	56	19	75	46	09	55	10	10	20
16	Manipur	04	01	05	04	0	04	0	01	01
17	Meghalaya	03	01	04	03	0	03	0	01	01
18	Orissa	20	07	27	14	0	14	06	07	13
19	Patna	40	13	53	26	0	26	14	13	27
20	Punjab & Haryana	64	21	85	38	17	55	26	04	30
21	Rajasthan	38	12	50	21	0	21	17	12	29
22	Sikkim	03	0	03	03	0	03	0	0	0
23	Telangana	18	06	24	12	01	13	06	05	11
24	Tripura	04	0	04	03	0	03	01	0	01
25	Uttarakhand	09	02	11	09	01	10	0	01	01
	Total	771	308	1079	538	140	678	233	168	401

Cont.....

Statement showing sanctioned strength, working strength of the judges in the Supreme Court and High Court as on 01.01.2021

		Sanctioned strength			Working strength			Vacancies		
A.	Supreme Court	34			30			04		
B.	High Court	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total
1	Allahabad	120	40	160	82	14	96	38	26	64
2	Andhra Pradesh	28	09	37	18	0	18	10	09	19
3	Bombay	71	23	94	49	15	64	22	08	30
4	Calcutta	54	18	72	32	02	34	22	16	38
5	Chhattisgarh	17	05	22	13	01	14	04	04	08
6	Delhi	45	15	60	30	0	30	15	15	30
7	Gauhati	18	06	24	17	03	20	01	03	04
8	Gujarat	39	13	52	29	0	29	10	13	23
9	Himachal Pradesh	10	03	13	09	0	09	01	03	04
10	J & K and Ladakh	13	04	17	11	0	11	02	04	06
11	Jharkhand	19	06	25	17	0	17	02	06	08
12	Karnataka	47	15	62	26	20	46	21	-05	16
13	Kerala	35	12	47	30	07	37	05	05	10
14	Madhya Pradesh	40	13	53	32	0	29	11	13	24
15	Madras	56	19	75	52	10	62	04	09	13
16	Manipur	04	01	05	04	01	05	0	0	0
17	Meghalaya	03	01	04	04	0	04	-01	01	0
18	Orissa	20	07	27	15	0	15	05	07	12
19	Patna	40	13	53	22	0	22	18	13	31
20	Punjab & Haryana	64	21	85	42	11	53	22	10	32
21	Rajasthan	38	12	50	23	0	23	15	12	27
22	Sikkim	03	0	03	03	0	03	0	0	0
23	Telangana	18	06	24	14	0	14	04	06	10
24	Tripura	04	0	04	04	0	04	0	0	0
25	Uttarakhand	09	02	11	08	01	09	01	01	02
	Total	815	264	1079	583	85	668	232	179	411

Cont.....

Statement showing sanctioned strength, working strength of the judges in the Supreme Court and High Court as on 01.01.2022

		Sanctioned strength			Working strength			Vacancies		
A.	Supreme Court	34			32			02		
B.	High Court	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total
1	Allahabad	120	40	160	74	19	93	46	21	67
2	Andhra Pradesh	28	09	37	20	0	20	08	09	17
3	Bombay	71	23	94	52	08	60	19	15	34
4	Calcutta	54	18	72	30	09	39	24	09	33
5	Chhattisgarh	17	05	22	10	03	13	07	02	09
6	Delhi	45	15	60	30	0	30	15	15	30
7	Gauhati	18	06	24	17	06	23	01	0	01
8	Gujarat	39	13	52	32	0	32	07	13	20
9	Himachal Pradesh	10	03	13	08	01	09	02	02	04
10	J & K and Ladakh	13	04	17	13	0	13	0	04	04
11	Jharkhand	19	06	25	19	01	20	0	05	05
12	Karnataka	47	15	62	39	06	45	08	09	17
13	Kerala	35	12	47	27	12	39	08	0	08
14	Madhya Pradesh	40	13	53	29	0	29	11	13	24
15	Madras	56	19	75	45	15	60	11	04	15
16	Manipur	04	01	05	03	01	04	01	0	01
17	Meghalaya	03	01	04	03	0	03	0	01	01
18	Orissa	20	07	27	18	0	18	02	07	09
19	Patna	40	13	53	26	0	26	14	13	27
20	Punjab & Haryana	64	21	85	43	06	49	21	15	36
21	Rajasthan	38	12	50	28	0	28	10	12	22
22	Sikkim	03	0	03	03	0	03	0	0	0
23	Telangana	32	10	42	19	0	19	13	10	23
24	Tripura	04	01	05	05	0	05	-01	01	0
25	Uttarakhand	09	02	11	07	0	07	02	02	04
	Total	829	269	1098	600	87	687	229	182	411

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1744 FOR ANSWER ON 11.02.2022 REGARDING CASES PENDING IN COURTS.

Statement showing sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of the judges District & Subordinate Courts as on 01.01.2020

Sl. No.	States & UTs	Total Sanctioned Strength	Total Working Strength	Total Vacancy
1	Andaman and Nicobar	0	13	-13
2	Andhra Pradesh	597	529	68
3	Arunachal Pradesh	41	27	14
4	Assam	441	412	29
5	Bihar	1925	1149	776
6	Chandigarh	30	29	1
7	Chhattisgarh	468	393	75
8	D & N Haveli	3	3	0
9	Daman & Diu	4	3	1
10	Delhi	799	681	118
11	Goa	50	43	7
12	Gujarat	1521	1185	336
13	Haryana	772	475	297
14	Himachal Pradesh	175	153	22
15	Jammu and Kashmir	290	232	58
16	Jharkhand	677	461	216
17	Karnataka	2703	2169	534
18	Kerala	536	457	79
19	Lakshadweep	3	3	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	2021	1620	401
21	Maharashtra	2189	1942	247
22	Manipur	55	39	16
23	Meghalaya	97	49	48
24	Mizoram	64	46	18
25	Nagaland	33	25	8
26	Odisha	919	770	149
27	Puducherry	26	11	15
28	Punjab	675	579	96
29	Rajasthan	1428	1120	308
30	Sikkim	25	19	6
31	Tamil Nadu	1255	1080	175
32	Telangana	413	334	79
33	Tripura	120	96	24
34	Uttar Pradesh	3416	2578	838
35	Uttarakhand	294	228	66
36	West Bengal	1014	918	96
TOTAL		25079	19871	5208

Cont.....

Statement showing sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of the judges District & Subordinate Courts as on 01.01.2021

Sl. No.	States & UTs	Total Sanctioned Strength	Total Working Strength	Total Vacancy
1	Andaman and Nicobar	0	13	-13
2	Andhra Pradesh	607	510	97
3	Arunachal Pradesh	41	32	9
4	Assam	466	412	54
5	Bihar	1936	1433	503
6	Chandigarh	30	26	4
7	Chhattisgarh	480	387	93
8	D & N Haveli	3	2	1
9	Daman & Diu	4	4	0
10	Delhi	799	648	151
11	Goa	50	40	10
12	Gujarat	1521	1152	369
13	Haryana	772	493	279
14	Himachal Pradesh	175	161	14
15	Jammu and Kashmir	296	255	41
16	Jharkhand	675	544	131
17	Karnataka	1357	1071	286
18	Kerala	538	470	68
19	Ladakh	16	8	8
20	Lakshadweep	3	3	0
21	Madhya Pradesh	2021	1610	411
22	Maharashtra	2190	1940	250
23	Manipur	54	36	18
24	Meghalaya	97	49	48
25	Mizoram	64	43	21
26	Nagaland	33	26	7
27	Odisha	950	756	194
28	Puducherry	26	11	15
29	Punjab	692	593	99
30	Rajasthan	1489	1292	197
31	Sikkim	25	20	5
32	Tamil Nadu	1298	1049	249
33	Telangana	474	378	96
34	Tripura	120	97	23
35	Uttar Pradesh	3634	2581	1053
36	Uttarakhand	297	255	42
37	West Bengal	1014	918	96
TOTAL		24247	19318	4929

Cont.....

Statement showing sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of the judges District & Subordinate Courts as on 01.01.2022

Sl. No.	States & UTs	Total Sanctioned Strength	Total Working Strength	Total Vacancy
1	Andaman and Nicobar	0	13	-13
2	Andhra Pradesh	607	491	116
3	Arunachal Pradesh	41	32	9
4	Assam	467	436	31
5	Bihar	1954	1394	560
6	Chandigarh	30	30	0
7	Chhattisgarh	482	409	73
8	D & N Haveli	3	2	1
9	Daman & Diu	4	4	0
10	Delhi	884	692	192
11	Goa	50	40	10
12	Gujarat	1523	1123	400
13	Haryana	772	482	290
14	Himachal Pradesh	175	160	15
15	Jammu and Kashmir	300	241	59
16	Jharkhand	675	523	152
17	Karnataka	1363	1087	276
18	Kerala	569	488	81
19	Ladakh	17	9	8
20	Lakshadweep	3	3	0
21	Madhya Pradesh	2021	1552	469
22	Maharashtra	2190	1940	250
23	Manipur	59	42	17
24	Meghalaya	97	49	48
25	Mizoram	65	42	23
26	Nagaland	34	24	10
27	Odisha	976	785	191
28	Puducherry	26	11	15
29	Punjab	692	607	85
30	Rajasthan	1549	1274	275
31	Sikkim	28	20	8
32	Tamil Nadu	1316	1082	234
33	Telangana	474	425	49
34	Tripura	122	97	25
35	Uttar Pradesh	3634	2542	1092
36	Uttarakhand	299	271	28
37	West Bengal	1014	918	96
TOTAL		24515	19340	5175

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

N2J/LAP

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1745
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11th FEBRUARY, 2022

National Legal Service Day

1745. SHRI JANARDAN SINGH SIGRIWAL:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government observed National Legal Service Day in the country;
- (b) if so, the details and objectives thereof;
- (c) the details of institutions involved in providing free legal aid to the poor in the country;
- (d) whether the Government has any plan to strengthen these institutions and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the details of mechanism to monitor the functioning of these institutions?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

- (a) and (b) National Legal Services Day is observed every year on 9th November to commemorate the commencement of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 which came into force on 9th November, 1995. On National Legal Services Day, legal awareness camps are held by State Legal Services Authorities across the country to apprise people about the availability of free legal aid. Further, nationwide programmes are organised every year to make people aware of the various services provided by Legal Services Authorities.

In the year 2021, six-week long Pan India Legal Awareness and Outreach Campaign was launched from 2nd October to 14th November, 2021 which included Door-to-Door Campaigns, Legal Awareness Programs, awareness

through Mobile Vans and awareness through Legal Aid Clinics. Further, 'Legal Services Week' was observed from 8th November to 14th November, 2021 wherein more than 38 crore persons were surveyed or interacted or made aware of their rights. On the Legal Services Day i.e., 9th November, 2021, a national level event was also organised by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), wherein iOS version of the Legal Services Mobile Application was launched and online portal for filing Legal Aid applications was made accessible in 10 languages.

(c) The following Authorities/Institutions are established to provide free legal aid to poor and weaker sections of the society :-

- i. National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) at National level
- ii. Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC) at Supreme Court level
- iii. 39 High Court Legal Services Committees (HCLSCs) at High Court level
- iv. 37 State Legal Services Authorities (SLSAs) at State level
- v. 673 District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) at District level
- vi. 2465 Taluk Legal Services Committees (TLSCs) at Taluk level

(d) The Government extends all support to strengthen the legal services authorities/institutions in the form of Grant-in-Aid and other logistical support.

(e) In order to monitor the performance of the legal services authorities, NALSA receives monthly activity reports from all the State Legal Services Authorities (SLSAs) highlighting all the activities carried out in a particular month. Apart from monthly activity reports, NALSA also receives Annual Reports from all the SLSAs and prepares its own Annual Report, which is laid before both Houses of the Parliament of India.

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

NM

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1757
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11th FEBRUARY, 2022**

PENDING CASES IN SUPREME COURT AND HIGH COURT

1757. SHRI G.M. SIDDESHWAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of pending cases of civil and criminal nature in the Supreme Court and various High Courts in the country;**
- (b) the number of cases lying pending in each of these above courts, for less than five years, between five to ten years, and more than ten years; and**
- (c) whether any measures have been taken by the Government to expedite the process of disposal of these cases?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): As per the information provided by the Supreme Court of India, the total number of pending cases in Supreme Court of India are 70,101 out of which 55,856 are civil matters and 14,245 are criminal matters. As per information available on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), the total number of pending cases of civil and criminal in various of High Courts is at *Annexure I*.

(b): The number of cases lying pending in Supreme Court of India for less than five years, between five to ten years and more than ten years are as under:-

Pendency Criteria	No. of Pending Cases
Less than 5 years	42819
5 to 10 years	17571
More than 10 years	9711

The number of cases lying pending in High Courts, for less than five years, between five to ten years and more than ten years is at *Annexure II*.

(c): Disposal of pending cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. No time frame has been prescribed for disposal of various kinds of cases by the respective courts. Government has no role in disposal of cases in courts. Timely disposal of cases in courts depends on several factors which, inter-alia, include availability of adequate number of judges and judicial officers, supporting court staff and physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders viz. bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. There are several factors which may lead to delay in disposal of cases. These, inter-alia, include vacancies of judges, frequent adjournments and lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing. The Central Government is fully committed to speedy disposal of cases in accordance with Article 21 of the Constitution and reducing pendency. The Government has taken several initiatives to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary.

National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms was set up in August, 2011 with the twin objectives of increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system and enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities. The Mission has been pursuing a co-ordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration, which, *inter-alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerization, increase in strength of subordinate judiciary, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation, re-engineering of court

procedure for quick disposal of cases and emphasis on human resource development.

The major steps taken during the last six years under various initiatives are as follows:

(i) **Improving infrastructure for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts:** As on date, Rs. 8,758.71 crores have been released since the inception of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary in 1993-94. The number of court halls has increased from 15,818 as on 30.06.2014 to 21,376 as on 31.01.2022 and number of residential units has increased from 10,211 as on 30.06.2014 to 18,276 as on 31.01.2022 under this scheme. In addition, 2,832 court halls and 1,693 residential units are under construction. The Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary has been extended till 2025-26 at a total cost of Rs. 9000 crores, out of which Central share will be Rs. 5307 crores. Besides, construction of Court Halls and Residential Units, it would also cover construction of Lawyer's Halls, Toilet Complexes and Digital Computer Rooms.

(ii) **Leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for improved justice delivery:** Government has been implementing the e-Courts Mission Mode Project throughout the country for Information and Communication Technology enablement of district and subordinate courts. Number of computerized District & Subordinate courts has increased to 18,735 so far. WAN connectivity has been provided to 98.8% of court complexes. New and user-friendly version of Case Information Software has been developed and deployed at all the computerized District and Subordinate Courts. All stakeholders including Judicial Officers can access information relating to judicial proceedings/decisions of computerized District & Subordinate Courts and High Courts on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG). As on 21.01.2022, litigants can access case status of over 19.75 crore

cases and 16.50 crore order/judgments pertaining to these courts. eCourts services such as details of case registration, cause list, case status, daily orders & final judgments are available to litigants and advocates through eCourts web portal, Judicial Service Centres (JSC) in all computerized courts, eCourts Mobile App, email service, SMS push & pull services. Video Conferencing facility has been enabled between 3240 court complexes and 1272 corresponding jails. With a view to handle the COVID- 19 challenges better and to make the transition to virtual hearings smoother, 451 eSewa Kendras have been set up at court complexes to facilitate lawyers and litigants needing assistance ranging from case status, getting judgments/orders, court/case related information and efilings facilities. Rs. 5.01 crores has been allocated for providing equipment in Video Conferencing cabins in various court complexes to facilitate virtual hearings. Rs. 12.12 crores has been allocated for 1732 Help desk counters for efilings in various court complexes.

Seventeen Virtual Courts have been set up in 13 States/UTs viz. Delhi (2), Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala (2), Maharashtra (2), Assam, Chhattisgarh, Jammu & Kashmir (2), Uttar Pradesh, Odisha, Meghalaya and Himachal Pradesh to try traffic offences. As on 15.01.2022, these courts have handled more than 1.2 crore cases and realized more than Rs.212.01 crore in fines.

Video conferencing emerged as the mainstay of the Courts during the Covid lockdown period as physical hearings and normal court proceedings in the congregational mode were not possible. Since Covid lockdown started, the District courts heard 1,08,36,087 cases while the High Court heard 57,39,966 cases (totalling to 1.65 crore) till 30.11.2021 using video conferencing. The Supreme Court had 1,81,909 hearings since the lockdown period upto 08.01.2022.

(iii) **Filling up of vacant positions in Supreme Court, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts:** From 01.05.2014 to 31.01.2022, 44 Judges were appointed in Supreme Court. 690 new Judges were appointed and 587 Additional Judges were made permanent in the High Courts. Sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has been increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1098 currently. Sanctioned and working strength of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts has increased as follows:

As on	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength
31.12.2013	19,518	15,115
31.01.2022	24,514	19,341

However, filling up of vacancies in Subordinate judiciary falls within the domain of the State Governments and High Courts concerned.

(iv) **Reduction in Pendency through / follow up by Arrears Committees:** In pursuance of Resolution passed in Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, Arrears Committees have been set up in High Courts to clear cases pending for more than five years. Arrears Committees have been set up under District Judges too. Arrears Committee has been constituted in the Supreme Court to formulate steps to reduce pendency of cases in High Courts and District Courts. In the past, Minister of Law & Justice has taken up the matter with Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers in the past drawing their attention to cases pending for more than five years and to take up pendency reduction campaign. The Department has developed an online portal for reporting by all High Courts on the compliance of Arrears Eradication Scheme guidelines of the Malimath Committee Report.

(v) **Emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR):** Commercial Courts Act, 2015 (as amended on 20th August, 2018) stipulates mandatory pre-institution

mediation and settlement of commercial disputes. Amendment to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 has been made by the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act 2015 for expediting the speedy resolution of disputes by prescribing timelines.

(vi) **Initiatives to Fast Track Special Type of Cases:** The Fourteenth Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which included, inter-alia, establishing Fast Track Courts for cases of heinous crimes; cases involving senior citizens, women, children etc., and urged the State Governments to use the additional fiscal space provided in the form of enhanced tax devolution from 32% to 42% to meet such requirements. As on 31.12.2021, 898 Fast Track Courts are functional for heinous crimes, crimes against women and children etc. To fast track criminal cases involving elected MPs / MLAs, ten (10) Special Courts are functional in nine (9) States/UTs (1 each in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and 2 in NCT of Delhi). Further, Government has approved a scheme for setting up 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) across the country for expeditious disposal of pending cases of Rape under IPC and crimes under POCSO Act. As on date, 28 States/UTs have joined the scheme for setting up of 842 FTSCs including 363 'exclusive POCSO Courts'. Rs.140 crore was released in the financial year 2019-20 and Rs. 160.00 crore has been released during the financial year 2020-21 and Rs. 62.23 crore has been released during the FY 2021-22 upto 31.12.2021 for the scheme. 700 FTSCs are presently functional including 383 exclusive POCSO Courts, which disposed 73627 cases as on 31.12.2021. The continuation of the Scheme of FTSC has been approved for another two years (2021-23) at a total outlay of Rs. 1572.86 crore, including Rs. 971.70 crore as Central share.

(vii) In addition, to reduce pendency and unclogging of the courts, the Government has recently amended various laws like the Negotiable Instruments (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Commercial Courts (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Specific Relief (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2019 and the Criminal Laws (Amendment) Act, 2018.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1757 FOR ANSWER ON 11.02.2022 REGARDING PENDING CASES IN SUPREME COURT AND HIGH COURT.

Details of Pending Cases in the Country High Court - Wise

Sl. No	Name of High Courts	Pending Cases (Civil)	Pending Cases (Criminal)	Number of Cases pending in High Courts as on 31.01.2022
1.	Allahabad	419480	389563	809043
2.	Calcutta	190577	35230	225807
3.	Gauhati	45054	10873	55927
4.	Telangana	224611	35921	260532
5.	Andhra Pradesh	191311	33148	224459
6.	Bombay	474782	97598	572380
7.	Chhattisgarh	52537	29839	82376
8.	Delhi	74376	27223	101599
9.	Gujarat	101464	50665	152129
10.	Himachal Pradesh	72861	10338	83199
11.	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	41472	6869	48341
12.	Jharkhand	42413	44495	86908
13.	Karnataka	222775	39522	262297
14.	Kerala	169182	42820	212002
15.	Madhya Pradesh	256719	156748	413467
16.	Manipur	4434	508	4942
17.	Meghalaya	1396	217	1613
18.	Punjab & Haryana	283842	165047	448889
19.	Rajasthan	426537	152803	579340
20.	Sikkim	150	34	184
21.	Tripura	1590	195	1785
22.	Uttarakhand	24601	17910	42511
23.	Madras	520843	58297	579140
24.	Orissa	149444	52285	201729
25.	Patna	113736	110336	224072
Total		4106187	1568484	5674671

Source:- National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1757
FOR ANSWER ON 11.02.2022 REGARDING PENDING CASES IN SUPREME COURT AND HIGH COURT.**

(as on 08.02.2022)

S. No.	Name of High Courts	Less than 5 years		5 to 10 years		More than 10 years	
		Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal
1	Allahabad	137009	165899	104749	79265	178285	144065
2	Bombay	240518	64006	106816	17558	128744	16484
3	Calcutta	64054	14706	47610	9937	79115	10567
4	Gauhati	35994	8202	7657	2423	1397	267
5	Telangana	120840	22122	64123	9517	40732	4274
6	Andhra Pradesh	96123	19142	57573	8859	38236	5136
7	Chhattisgarh	40002	18412	11632	7789	1238	3706
8	Delhi	51279	17516	14264	5631	9048	4215
9	Gujarat	65251	31355	24672	10965	11541	8345
10	Himachal Pradesh	60648	7534	9877	2509	2645	409
11	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	22473	4753	13030	1624	5943	512
12	Jharkhand	27745	22251	9071	9569	5605	12841
13	Karnataka	121230	24551	53170	8213	47866	6639
14	Kerala	99370	19705	53812	11691	15917	11369
15	Madhya Pradesh	120932	70747	73239	44660	62548	41341
16	Manipur	3653	435	383	28	413	40
17	Meghalaya	1211	214	186	2	0	1
18	Punjab and Haryana	148234	93685	62725	42456	73401	29264
19	Rajasthan	281705	94303	79997	24934	66036	33864
20	Sikkim	140	34	10	0	1	0
21	Tripura	1584	188	14	2		
22	Uttarakhand	18420	13426	4633	3702	1592	893
23	Madras	307059	48815	93074	4503	118950	5205
24	Orissa	89501	27523	37094	11037	24243	13187
25	Patna	79159	76380	24653	14010	10366	19603
	Total	2234134	865904	954064	330884	923862	372227

Source:- National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

NM

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1761
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11th FEBRUARY, 2022**

JUDICIAL DELAYS

1761. DR. SANJAY JAISWAL:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pending cases till date across all courts in the country;**
- (b) whether the Government is planning to constitute a committee to enquire into the reasons for pendency of cases in the country, if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) whether the Government has considered any proposal for penalizing judicial delay, if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): The number of pending cases across all courts in the country is as under:-

Sl. No.	Name of Court	Pendency as on
1	Supreme Court of India	70,239 (01.01.2022)*
2	High Courts	56,80,280 (08.02.2022)**
3	District & Subordinate Courts	4,12,07,097 (08.02.2022)**

Source *Website of Supreme Court of India.

**National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG).

(b) & (c): Disposal of cases in courts is within the domain of the judiciary. The reasons for pendency of cases may be due to several factors which, inter-alia, include availability of adequate number of judges, supporting court staff and

physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, cooperation of stake holders viz. bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. However, the Union Government is committed to speedy disposal of cases and reduction in pendency of cases.

National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms was set up in August, 2011 with the twin objectives of increasing access by reducing delays and arrears in the system and enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and capacities. To advise on the goals, objectives and strategies of the National Mission and the Action Plan and its implementation, an Advisory Council has been set up under the Chairmanship of Minister of Law and Justice with a wide ranging membership. Activities under the National Mission are of an on-going nature and regular reports are presented before the Advisory Council of the National Mission.

The Mission has been pursuing a co-ordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration, which, *inter-alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerization, increase in strength of subordinate judiciary, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation, re-engineering of court procedure for quick disposal of cases and emphasis on human resource development.

eCourts

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1776
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11th FEBRUARY, 2022

Operational e-Courts

1776. SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of operational e-courts in the State of Maharashtra, district-wise;
- (b) the number of cases that have been disposed of by these e-courts so far;
- (c) whether e-courts have increased or decreased the pendency in cases in comparison to physical hearings of cases along with the details in this regards; and
- (d) the advantages of e-courts as noted by the Government especially with regards to the integration of land records for speedy redressal of land disputes?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): District wise number of courts covered under eCourts project in the State of Maharashtra under Phase I & Phase II is enclosed at Annexure I and II respectively.

(b) & (c): As per NJDG data, total number of cases disposed of by the District and Subordinate Courts in the state of Maharashtra from 01.03.2020 till 08.02.2022 is 9,08,774 which includes 2,25,645 Civil cases and 6,83,129 Criminal Cases. No

comparative data as such is maintained on the impact of physical hearings of cases vis-à-vis eCourts on the pendency of cases.

(d): The advantages of eCourts especially with regards to the integration of land records inter alia includes:

- The courts will have first-hand information on substantive and authentic evidence of Record of Rights, Cadastral map including geo referenced and legacy data.
- The information is helpful to the courts in deciding admission as well as disposal of the disputes. Courts are /will be able to easily know whether any case relating to a particular property is pending in any court.
- Prospective buyers will be able to know the dispute status in respect of landed property which will enable them to take an informed decision after considering risk factor in transacting such property.
- The system is likely to reduce number of land disputes since prospective buyers/ sellers can take informed decisions as information of land related disputes pending in all courts of law will be readily available. In the long run it will reduce dubious land transactions and help in dispute containment and reduce clogging of the courts.

Annexure -I

Statement referred to in reply of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1776 for 11/02/2022 regarding Operational e-Courts. The District wise details of courts in State of Maharashtra covered under Phase I of eCourts project are as under:

Sl. No.	District	Court Covered
1	Ahmednagar	79
2	Akola	35
3	Amravati	65
4	Aurangabad	92
5	Beed	52
6	Bhandara	29
7	Buldana	39
8	Chandrapur	39
9	Dhule	29
10	Diu	2
11	Gadchiroli	17
12	Gondia	21
13	Jalgaon	64
14	Jalna	28
15	Kolhapur	61
16	Latur	53
17	Moti Daman	2
18	Mumbai	225
19	Nagpur	117
20	Nanded	54
21	Nandurbar	15
22	Nashik	78
23	North Goa	24
24	Osmanabad	36
25	Parbhani	52
26	Pune	164
27	Raigad – Alibag	36
28	Ratnagiri	22
29	Sangli	52
30	Satara	65
31	Silvassa	3
32	Sindhudurg-Oros	20
33	Solapur	66
34	South Goa	23
35	Thane	103
36	Wardha	42
37	Washim	21
38	Yavatmal	53
	Total	1978

Annexure -II

Statement referred to in reply of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1776 for 11/02/2022 regarding Operational e-Courts. The District wise details of courts in State of Maharashtra covered under Phase II of eCourts project are as under:

Sl. No.	District	Court Covered
1	Ahmednagar	103
2	Akola	48
3	Amravati	73
4	Aurangabad	97
5	Beed	55
6	Bhandara	28
7	Buldana	51
8	Chandrapur	57
9	Dhule	30
10	Diu	2
11	Gadchiroli	16
12	Gondia	23
13	Jalgaon	78
14	Jalna	42
15	Kolhapur	89
16	Latur	61
17	Moti Daman	3
18	Mumbai	230
19	Nagpur	124
20	Nanded	64
21	Nandurbar	21
22	Nashik	89
23	North Goa	25
24	Osmanabad	46
25	Parbhani	58
26	Pune	184
27	Raigad – Alibag	55
28	Ratnagiri	34
29	Sangli	66
30	Satara	69
31	Silvassa	3
32	Sindhudurg-Oros	13
33	Solapur	88
34	South Goa	21
35	Thane	146
36	Wardha	45
37	Washim	27
38	Yavatmal	80
	Total	2344

A25/LAP

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1833
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11TH FEBRUARY 2022**

Nyaya Mitras

1833. MS. DEBASREE CHAUDHURI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the aims and objectives of Nyaya Mitras proposed by the Government;
- (b) the details of Nyaya Mitras proposed to be engaged in district courts of West Bengal;
- (c) whether around 100 Nyaya Mitras have been engaged in various district courts of the country; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/UT-wise including West Bengal?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

- (a) Nyaya Mitra aims to facilitate expeditious disposal of decade old pending cases in High Courts and Subordinate Courts.
- (b) Two Nyaya Mitras are proposed to be engaged in District courts of West Bengal in 2021-22 that includes one each in South 24 Parganas and Calcutta District court.
- (c) & (d) Since introduction of Nyaya Mitra programme in 2017, a total of 27 Nyaya Mitra were engaged in various district courts across the country. This includes 6 in West Bengal at Birbhum (1), Purba Bardhaman (1), Cooch Behar (1), Howrah (1) and North 24 Parganas (2) district courts. No Nyaya Mitra could be engaged during the year 2020-2021 due to closure of courts and social distancing protocols caused by Covid pandemic. State/UT-wise details of engaged Nyaya Mitra is at Annexure-A.

Annexure-A

Statement as referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1833 for answering on 11.02.2022 raised by Ms. Debasree Chaudhuri on Nyaya Mitra		
A State-wise Statement containing number of Nyaya Mitra engaged from 2017-2020		
S.No	State	Number of Nyaya Mitra engaged
1	Bihar	1
2	Maharashtra	3
3	Odisha	2
4	Rajasthan	9
5	Uttar Pradesh	6
6	West Bengal	6
	Grand Total	27

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1836**

Justice II

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11th FEBRUARY, 2022

Fast Track Special Courts

1836. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

MS. RAMYA HARIDAS:

SHRI SANJAY KAKA PATIL:

Will the Minister of Law and Justice be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the target set for establishment of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSC) in the country along with the number of FTSC set up and functional against the set target;
- (b) whether there exists a shortfall of about forty percent in establishment of FTSC, if so, the details thereof along with the conviction rate of FTSC;
- (c) whether the Union Government has conducted an impact evaluation study of the efficiency of FTSC in terms of conviction rate in such courts vis-a-vis regular courts, if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the steps undertaken by the Government to expedite the establishment of remaining FTSC?

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) to (d): The Department of Justice is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up of 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including 389 exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) Courts since October 2019. 700 FTSCs (68%) including 383 e-POCSO courts have been made operational in 27 States/UTs up

to December 2021. As per information made available by High Courts the details of the target set for establishment of FTSC in the country along with the number of FTSC set up and functional against the set target is given at Annexure.

Third Party Evaluation of the Scheme was conducted by National Productivity Council (NPC) during the third quarter of 2020. Evaluation of the conviction rates of the FTSCs vis-a-vis the Regular Courts was one of the terms of reference of the Study. As per the findings, it was observed that conviction to disposal rate for Regular Court Cases, FTSC Cases and e-POCSO Court Cases are 5.54%, 7.21% and 17.64% respectively.

The issue of setting up of FTSCs and their early operationalization has been taken up with concerned States/UTs at various level from time to time. Minister of Law & Justice has addressed letters to Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts in this regard. In addition, regular review meetings with officials of the States/UTs and High Court functionaries are being held from time to time for operationalization of remaining FTSCs so as to further reduce the burden on judiciary.

**Annexure as referred to in Reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Q.NO- 1836 for
11th February 2022**

Status of Earmarked and Functional FTSCs (as on 31.12.2021)

S.No.	State/UT	Earmarked FTSCs		Functional FTSCs	
		FTSCs including ePOCSO	ePOCSO	FTSCs including ePOCSO	ePOCSO
1.	A&N	1	1	0	0
2.	Andhra Pradesh	18	8	10	10
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	0	0	0
4.	Assam	27	15	15	15
5.	Bihar	54	30	45	45
6.	Chandigarh	1	0	1	0
7.	Chhattisgarh	15	11	15	11
8.	Delhi	16	11	16	11
9.	Goa	2	0	0	0
10.	Gujrat	35	24	35	24
11.	Haryana	16	12	16	12
12.	Himachal Pradesh	6	3	6	3
13.	J&K	4	0	4	2
14.	Jharkhand	22	8	22	8
15.	Karnataka	31	17	18	16
16.	Kerala	56	14	28	0
17.	Madhya Pradesh	67	26	67	56
18.	Maharashtra	138	30	34	22
19.	Manipur	2	0	2	0
20.	Meghalaya	5	5	5	5
21.	Mizoram	3	1	3	1
22.	Nagaland	1	0	1	1
23.	Odisha	45	22	36	15
24.	Punjab	12	2	12	3
25.	Rajasthan	45	26	45	30
26.	Tamil Nadu	14	14	14	14
27.	Telangana	36	10	25	4
28.	Tripura	3	1	3	1
29.	Uttar Pradesh	218	74	218	74
30.	Uttarakhand	4	4	4	0
31.	WB	123	20	0	0
	TOTAL	1023	389	700	383