

# 2021

## RAJYA SABHA REPLIES

**BUDGET SESSION, 2021 – 253<sup>rd</sup>  
SESSION OF RAJYA SABHA,  
[2<sup>nd</sup> Part from 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2021  
to 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2021. Rajya Sabha  
adjourned sine die on 25<sup>th</sup>  
March, 2021]**

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2657

*Appoint DVA*

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 18.03.2021

**Setting up of All India Judicial Service**

2657 SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

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

- (a) whether Government is considering to establish All India Judicial Service (AIJS) on the pattern of IAS or IFS drawing best minds via competitive exams;
- (b) whether Government is also considering to give proper reservation to SCs/STs/OBCs in the judiciary; and
- (c) if so, the progress so far and how much time it will take to implement the above proposal?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) to (c): In Government's view, a properly framed All India Judicial Service on the lines of other All India Services like IAS, IPS, IFoS, etc., 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 the 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. 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 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 Chief Justices Conference was held in April 2015. However no progress was made on the subject and it was decided to leave it open to the respective High Court to evolve appropriate methods within the existing system to fill up the vacancies for appointment of District judges expeditiously.

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 of India, Solicitor General of India, Secretaries of Department of Justice, Legal affairs and Legislative Department. 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.

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

*JR Desk*

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 2658**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021**

**Infrastructure facilities for judiciary**

**2658: SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA:**

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

- (a) the total number of court halls constructed from the year 2016 till present;
- (b) the total number of new court halls commissioned/functional since 2016 till present;
- (c) the total number of residential facilities for judicial officers constructed from the year 2016 till present; and
- (d) the total number of residential facilities made functional since the year 2016 till present?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) & (c): 3112 Court halls and 1895 Residential units have been constructed / completed since the year 2016-17.

(b) & (d): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

AM

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2659  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021

**INCREASING THE NUMBER OF COURTS**

**2659. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to increase the existing number of courts for providing affordable and speedy justice to the people in the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise and location-wise details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a): The setting up of Subordinate Courts in the State falls within the domain of State Governments and High Courts concerned. The proposal for setting up of a Bench of a High Court is considered by the Central Government only after receipt of a complete proposal from the State Government which *inter-alia* includes the consent of the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. At present there is no proposal, which is complete in all aspects, for establishment of benches of High Courts pending for consideration by the Union Government.

(b) & (c): Does not arise.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Justice-I*

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2660**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2021

**Promotion of Hindi in courts**

2660. Shri HARNATH SINGH YADAV :

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

- (a) whether Government proposed to promote Hindi in Courts;
- (b) the guidelines laid down by Government to promote Hindi as the local language in the functioning of the Courts;
- (c) whether Government proposes to make the judgements issued by the High Courts and the Supreme Court mandatorily available, in local and Hindi Language; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) and (b): Under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the district and subordinate judiciary in the States vest with the concerned High Court. Use of regional language in lower courts is a subject matter of States.



Article 348(1)(a) of the Constitution states that proceedings in the Supreme Court and in every High Court, shall be in English language. Clause (2) of the Article 348 of the Constitution states that notwithstanding anything in sub-clause (a) of clause (1), the Governor of a State may, with the previous consent of the President, authorize the use of the Hindi Language, or any other language used for any official purposes of the State, in proceedings in the High Court having its principal seat in that State.

The Cabinet Committee's decision dated 21.05.1965 has stipulated that consent of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India be obtained on any proposal relating to use of a language other than English in the High Court.

(c) and (d): At present, judgments in twelve vernacular languages are being translated and uploaded on the website of the Supreme Court of India. The twelve languages are: Assamese, Bengali, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Odiya, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Nepali, Malayalam and Punjabi. The translation of judgments relates to cases arising under the appellate jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India in relation to the following subject categories:

1. Labour matters;
2. Rent Act matters;
3. Land Acquisition and Requisition matters;
4. Service matters;
5. Compensation matters;
6. Criminal matters;
7. Family Law matters;
8. Ordinary Civil matters;
9. Personal Law matters;

10. Religious and Charitable Endowments matters;
11. Simple money and Mortgage Matters;
12. Eviction under the Public Premises (Eviction) Act matters;
13. Land Laws and Agriculture Tenancies; and
14. Matters relating to Consumer Protection.

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

NM

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2661  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021**

**RISE IN PENDING CASES**

**2661. Shri Vijay Pal Singh Tomar:  
Shri P. Bhattacharya:  
Lt. Gen. (Dr.) D. P. Vats (Retd.):**

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the problem being faced by common people in getting justice in time due to continuous rise in the number of pending cases in the various courts across the country;**
- (b) if so, whether Government is setting up various courts and appointing the judges in huge numbers across the country to ensure quick delivery of judgement to the people; and**
- (c) whether Government is likely to set up a separate High Court Bench of Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh?**

**ANSWER  
MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) & (b): Disposal of pending cases in courts is within the domain of 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. As per the information provided by the Supreme Court, 66,727 cases is pending in the Supreme Court as on 01.03.2021. As per the information furnished by High Courts, 57.19 lakh cases is pending in various High Courts, and 3.79 crore cases is pending in various District and Subordinate Courts as on 15.03.2021.

The sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court is 34 and 4 posts of judges are vacant as on 09.03.2021. The sanctioned strength of judges in the High Courts is 1080 and 420 posts of judges in the High Courts are vacant as on 09.03.2021. Filling up of vacancies in High Courts is a continuous, intergrated and collaborative process between the Executive and Judiciary. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies in High Courts do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and also due to increase in strength of Judges. The appointment of Judges and Judicial Officers in the District and Subordinate Courts falls within the domain of the High Courts and State Governments concerned.

Central Government is fully committed to speedy disposal of cases and reducing pendency. The Government has adopted a co-ordinated approach to assist judiciary for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial systems, which, *inter-alia*, involves better court infrastructure including computerisation, increase in the strength of subordinate judiciary and initiating policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation and emphasis on human resource development. In pursuance of resolution passed in the Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, High Courts have set up Arrears Committees to clear the backlog of cases pending for more than five years. Arrears Committees have been set up under District Judges too. The Supreme Court has also constituted an Arrears Committee consisting of two Hon'ble Judges to formulate steps to reduce pendency of cases in High Courts and District Courts.

The Government has taken several initiatives to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary. 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. 8,295.56 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 20,070 as on 04.03.2021 and number of residential units has increased from 10,211 as on 30.06.2014 to 17,735 as on 04.03.2021 under this scheme. In addition, 2,846 court halls and 1,842 residential units are under construction.
- (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 from 13,672 (in 2014) to 18,735 as on 22.02.2021, registering an increase of 5,063. 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 03.03.2021, litigants can access case status of over 18.28 crore cases and 13.88 crore order/judgements 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, funds have been provided for setting up 235 e-SewaKendras at court complexes to facilitate lawyers and litigants needing assistance ranging from case status, getting judgements/orders, court/case related information and e-filing facilities. Nine Virtual Courts have been set up at Delhi (2 courts), Faridabad (Haryana), Pune & Nagpur (Maharashtra) Kochi (Kerala), Chennai (Tamil Nadu), Guwahati (Assam) and Bengaluru (Karnataka) to try traffic offences. As on 20.01.2021, these courts have handled 41,98,095 cases and realised Rs.139.25cr in fines.

- (iii) Filling up of vacant positions in Supreme Court, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts: From 01.05.2014 to 01.03.2021, 35 Judges were appointed in Supreme Court. 576 new Judges were appointed and 524 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 1080 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
11.03.2021	24,288	19,268

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.

Further Communications have been addressed by Minister of Law & Justice to Chief Justices of High Courts and to Chief Ministers on 20.06.2014 and 14.08.2018 drawing their attention to cases pending for more than five years and to take up pendency reduction campaign.

- (v) Emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR): Commercial Courts Act, 2015 (as amended on 20<sup>th</sup> 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 31.01.2021, 894 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. 135.26 crore has been released during the financial year 2020-21 for the scheme. 616 FTSCs are functional including 330 exclusive POCSO Courts, which disposed 39653 cases as on 31.01.2021.

- (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.

(c): 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, Bench(es) of the High Court are established after due consideration of a complete proposal from the State Government incorporating readiness to provide infrastructure and meet the expenditure, along with the consent of the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court who is authorized to look after day to day administration of the High Court and its Bench. The proposal should also have the consent of the Governor of the concerned State. No complete proposal has been received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to establish a Bench of Allahabad High Court at Meerut.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Appointt DUN*

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2662

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 18.03.2021

**Strength of Judges in Supreme Court**

2662 SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:

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

- (a) the details of present strength of Judges in the Supreme Court;
- (b) whether there is a practice of reviewing the Judge's strength from time to time and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of times in the past when Judge's strength in the Apex Court has been increased;
- (d) whether Government would strengthen the mechanism for better results in future;
- (e) whether Government recently received a proposal to appropriately increase the Judge's strength in the Supreme Court; and
- (f) if so, whether the proposal is under active consideration of Government?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) to (f): The Judge strength of the Supreme Court is 34 (including Chief Justice of India). As on 12.03.2021, 30 Judges are in position, leaving 04 vacancies to be filled.

The Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Act, 1956, as originally enacted, provided for the maximum number of Judges (excluding the Chief Justice of India) to be 10. This number was increased to 13 by the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 1960, and to 17 by the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 1977. The working strength of the Supreme Court excluding the Chief Justice of India was, however, restricted to 15 Judges by the Cabinet till the end of 1979. The restriction was withdrawn at the request of the Chief Justice of India and the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 1986 augmented the strength of the Supreme Court Judges from 17 to 25 excluding the Chief Justice of India. Subsequently, the Supreme Court (Number of Judges) Amendment Act, 2009 further augmented the strength of the Supreme Court Judges, from 25 to 30.

The Chief Justice of India vide letter dated 21.6.2019 requested the Government to consider augmenting the Judge-strength in the Supreme Court appropriately. Though there has been no criteria for fixing the judge strength of the Supreme Court, in view of the number of cases pending disposal, an increase in the judge strength was considered by Government. The sanctioned strength of Supreme Court of India has been increased from 30 to 33 (excluding the Chief Justice of India) w.e.f. 09.08.2019.

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NM

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

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2664  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021**

**NATIONAL SENTENCING POLICY**

**2664. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that India does not have any comprehensive set and strict sentencing guidelines in place, despite a clarion call for the same by courts from time to time, recognizing the need for such a policy;**
- (b) if so, whether the Ministry has formulated a policy on sentencing guidelines according to the recommendations made in the Malimath Committee (2003) and Madhav Menon Committee (2008); and**
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons for ignoring such a vital aspect of criminal jurisprudence?**

**ANSWER  
MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) to (c): Sentencing in respect of various offences is presently pronounced by Courts as per the provisions contained in various criminal laws. The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs, in its 146<sup>th</sup> Report dated 23.06.2010, had recommended that there is a need for a comprehensive review of the criminal justice system of the country. Earlier the Parliamentary Standing Committee in its 111<sup>th</sup> and 128<sup>th</sup> Report also stressed upon the need to

reform and rationalize the criminal law of the country by introducing a comprehensive legislation in Parliament. Amendments in criminal laws is a continuous process which involves consultations with all stakeholders. Pursuant to the above recommendations of the Parliamentary Standing Committee, Law Commission was tasked to recommend comprehensive amendments to be made in the various criminal laws viz. Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure, Indian Evidence Act, etc. The reports of the Malimath Committee and Madhav Menon Committee were also referred to the Law Commission for this purpose.

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

*Appoint-DUN*

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2665**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 18.03.2021**

**Bench of Allahabad High Court in western Uttar Pradesh**

2665 # SHRI HARDWAR DUBEY:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Shri Jaswant Singh Commission was constituted 37 years ago to establish a bench of Allahabad High Court in western Uttar Pradesh, if so, whether any action is being taken in this regard; and
- (b) if so, by when this bench in western Uttar Pradesh would start functioning?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) to (b): In accordance with the recommendations made in 1985 by the Jaswant Singh Commission and judgment pronounced by the Apex Court in W.P. (C) No. 379 of 2000, Bench(es) of the High Court are established after due consideration of a complete proposal from the State Government incorporating readiness to provide infrastructure and meet the expenditure, along with the consent of the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court who is authorized to look after day to day administration of the High Court and its Bench. The proposal should also have the consent of the Governor of the concerned State.

At present no complete proposal has been received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to establish a Bench of Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh.

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

*Justice-II*

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2666**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2021**

**Working of Fast Track Courts**

**2666. SHRI ANIL DESAI:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has established Fast Track Courts for speedy trial and expeditious award of punishment to the guilty;
- (b) the people or offence for which such courts have been established;
- (c) the details of such courts, State-wise prosecution and sentencing in Fast Track Courts with the time taken during the last five years; and
- (d) whether Government is satisfied with the success rate of these courts ?

**A N S W E R**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a to d): Setting up of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) and their functioning fall within the domain of the respective State Governments in consultation with the High Courts. The 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission had endorsed the proposal of Union of India

for setting up of 1800 FTCs during 2015-2020 for dealing with specific cases of heinous nature, civil cases related to women, children, senior citizens, other vulnerable sections of society and property related cases pending for more than 5 years. The Commission had urged State Governments to utilize enhanced fiscal space available through tax devolution (32% to 42%) for this purpose. As per information made available by High Courts, there are 894 functional FTCs in the country at present. Data in respect of prosecution and sentencing in FTCs with the time taken is not centrally maintained. However, State-wise number of functional FTCs across the country along with case disposal status and case pending status during the year 2017 to 2020 including current year (up to January 2021) is given at Annexures – A, B and C.



## ANNEXURE-A

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NUMBER 2666 FOR 18.03.2021						
STATUS OF NUMBER OF FUNCTIONAL FTCs DURING 2017-2021						
	NAME OF THE STATE/UT	NUMBER OF FUNCTIONAL COURTS				
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 (Upto 31/01/2021)
1	Andhra Pradesh	34	21	21	21	21
2	Assam	3	3	19	14	16
3	Mizoram	2	2	2	2	2
4	Nagaland	1	1	0	1	0
5	Bihar	48	48	57	33	33
6	Chhattisgarh	21	23	38	23	26
7	Delhi	4	4	10	5	5
8	Goa	0	2	0	0	0
9	Gujarat	0	0	0	0	0
10	Haryana	0	6	6	5	5
11	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
12	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	5	1	1
13	Jharkhand	10	32	0	40	39
14	Karnataka	0	0	0	13	13
15	Kerala	0	0	0	23	27
16	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	2	0
17	Maharashtra	90	93	91	116	116
18	Manipur	3	4	4	6	6
19	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0
20	Odisha	0	0	0	0	0
21	Punjab	0	0	0	7	7
22	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0
23	Sikkim	2	2	1	2	2
24	Tamil Nadu	39	39	74	73	74
25	Tripura	3	3	11	11	11
26	Uttar Pradesh	206	206	368	389	377
27	Uttarakhand	4	4	4	4	4
28	West Bengal	88	88	88	87	80
29	Telengana	38	38	29	29	29
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>619</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>907</b>	<b>894</b>

## ANNEXURE-B

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NUMBER 2666 FOR 18.03.2021						
STATUS OF NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED IN FTCs DURING 2017-2021						
S.No.	NAME OF THE STATE/UT	NUMBER OF CASES DISPOSED OF				
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 (Upto 31/01/2021)
1	Andhra Pradesh	3835	3949	427	26	26
2	Assam	2990	2314	1319	302	345
3	Mizoram	144	215	79	13	6
4	Nagaland	1	8	0	1	0
5	Bihar	5889	11525	1789	184	369
6	Chhattisgarh	3840	3862	996	194	275
7	Delhi	560	638	226	21	21
8	Goa	0	10430	0	0	0
9	Gujarat	0	0	0	35	38
10	Haryana	0	768	162	1	21
11	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
12	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	20	0	0
13	Jharkhand	979	1946	430	14	18
14	Karnataka	0	0	0	44	89
15	Kerala	0	0	0	101	181
16	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
17	Maharashtra	127362	160641	29779	5119	5270
18	Manipur	210	190	19	10	18
19	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0
20	Odisha	0	0	0	0	0
21	Punjab	0	0	0	23	23
22	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0
23	Sikkim	14	19	8	0	0
24	Tamil Nadu	15382	14911	688	2811	1021
25	Tripura	3591	1423	38	18	40
26	Uttar Pradesh	222295	234182	71034	7083	4993
27	Uttarakhand	608	562	83	14	39
28	West Bengal	15482	16358	3071	708	767
29	Telangana	4118	1694	4942	178	94
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>407300</b>	<b>465635</b>	<b>115110</b>	<b>16900</b>	<b>13654</b>

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NUMBER 2666 FOR 18.03.2021						
STATUS OF NUMBER OF PENDING CASES IN FTCs DURING 2017-2021						
S. No	NAME OF THE STATE/UT	NUMBER OF CASES PENDING				
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021 (Upto 31/01/2021)
1	Andhra Pradesh	6664	8179	6763	6153	6153
2	Assam	1972	1977	8108	8299	9490
3	Mizoram	109	149	154	182	191
4	Nagaland	11	3	0	30	0
5	Bihar	22616	23055	20774	11701	12126
6	Chhattisgarh	4546	4999	6882	6685	7408
7	Delhi	797	1035	4210	2022	1536
8	Goa	0	1298	0	0	0
9	Gujarat	0	0	0	3718	3776
10	Haryana	0	3337	924	781	770
11	Himachal Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0
12	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	876	168	168
13	Jharkhand	2475	4604	4632	5266	5697
14	Karnataka	0	0	0	2467	2539
15	Kerala	0	0	0	4626	5390
16	Madhya Pradesh	0	0	0	101	0
17	Maharashtra	105301	81104	107491	155861	159148
18	Manipur	132	719	210	468	459
19	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0
20	Odisha	0	0	0	0	0
21	Punjab	0	0	0	476	476
22	Rajasthan	0	0	0	0	0
23	Sikkim	13	12	6	16	16
24	Tamil Nadu	47519	62916	6036	90597	91523
25	Tripura	2921	1456	937	1449	1478
26	Uttar Pradesh	318629	410718	405127	471475	472519
27	Uttarakhand	671	886	567	668	669
28	West Bengal	39420	44231	49723	55394	54359
29	Telangana	6949	7948	9950	10606	10669
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>560745</b>	<b>658626</b>	<b>633370</b>	<b>839209</b>	<b>846560</b>

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Appoint. Dvm.*

**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3444**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25.03.2021**

**Establishment of Regional Benches of the Supreme Court**

3444. SHRI P. WILSON:

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

- (a) whether Government has plan to establish Regional Benches of the Supreme Court at Chennai, New Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai to reduce time and money on litigations, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of the request proposals/demands received from various parts of the country to setup Regional Benches of the Supreme Court during the last five years; and
- (c) the details of steps taken by Government in this regard?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

( a) to (c): According to Article 130 of the Constitution, 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.

Representations have been received time to time from various quarters for establishment of Benches of Supreme Court in various parts of the country. The Law Commission in its 229<sup>th</sup> 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, the

Southern region at Chennai/Hyderabad, the Eastern region at Kolkata and the 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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. The matter is sub-judice in the Supreme Court.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NM

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3445  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021

**INCREASE IN RETIREMENT AGE OF HIGH COURT JUDGES**

**3445. SHRI P. WILSON:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that acute shortage of judges in various courts of the country is the main reason for delay in delivery of justice / disposal of pending cases in the country;
- (b) if so, the details of the corrective measures taken/being taken by Government to fill the vacancies to address the shortage of judges; and
- (c) whether Government has any plan to increase the retirement age of High Court judges to 65 years in the country, if so the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) & (b): Disposal of pending cases in courts is within the domain of 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, 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. The Government is, however, fully committed to speedy disposal of cases. The Government has taken several initiatives to provide an ecosystem for faster disposal of cases by the judiciary. The National

Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms established by the Government has adopted a coordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration through various strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure for courts, leveraging Information and Communication Technology for better justice delivery, and filling up of vacant positions of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court.

The appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts are done under Article 124, 217 and 224 of the Constitution respectively. As per procedure prescribed in the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) for appointment of Judges in the Higher Judiciary, prepared in 1998 pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgement of October 6, 1993 (Second Judges case) read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998 (Third Judges case), the initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India, while initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the High Court concerned. The matters relating to sanctioned strength and filling up of the vacancies of judges / judicial officers in District and Subordinate courts fall within the domain of State Governments and the High Courts.

The Central Government has been taking up the matter of increasing the sanctioned strength of judges / judicial officers and filling up of vacancies in District and Subordinate Courts with the State Governments and the High Courts from time to time. Supreme Court is monitoring the recruitment of Subordinate Judiciary in the case of Malik Mazhar Sultan & Another versus U.P. Public Service Commission & Others.

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 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.

(c): There is no proposal at present to increase the retirement age of High Court judges.

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

*Justice-II*

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3446**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2021**

**Fast Track Courts for politicians**

**3446 # SMT. PHULO DEVI NETAM:**

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up Fast Track Courts for trial of cases related to public representatives and politicians;
- (b) whether Government proposes to link Fast Track Courts with the existing CBI courts or appoint special judicial officers therefor;
- (c) whether Government endorses to put a lifetime ban on a politician to contest election in case of conviction in a criminal case;
- (d) whether any discussion has been held between Election Commission of India, State Governments and the Central Government in this regard; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof alongwith the arguments made by them ?

**A N S W E R**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

- (a) & (b) There is no such proposal before the Government. Setting up of Fast Track Courts (FTCs) and their functioning fall within the domain of the respective State

Governments in consultation with the High Courts. However, the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission had endorsed the proposal of Union of India for setting up of 1800 FTCs during 2015-2020 for dealing with specific cases of heinous nature, civil cases related to women, children, senior citizens, other vulnerable sections of society and property related cases pending for more than 5 years and had urged State Governments to utilize enhanced fiscal space available through tax devolution (32% to 42%) for this purpose. As per information made available by High Courts, there are 894 aforementioned functional FTCs in the country. Also 12 Special Courts were set up in 11 States [02 in NCT of Delhi and 01 each in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal] for expeditious trial and disposal of criminal cases involving elected Members of the Parliament/ Members of the Legislative Assembly. Further, vide orders of the Supreme Court dated 04.12.2018, Special Courts of the State of Kerala and Bihar have been discontinued.

(c) At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for prescribing a life-time ban on a politician to contest election on conviction in a criminal case.

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

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Justice II*

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3448

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2021

**Special Courts for cases against legislators and politicians**

**3448. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:**

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

- (a) Whether Government has set up Special Courts to try criminal cases involving legislators and politicians across the country including the State of Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (c) whether all the cases that were entrusted to these Specials Courts have accomplished their task;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

**A N S W E R**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND**

**ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a to e) In compliance of the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition (Civil) 699/2016 [Ashwini Kumar Upadhyaya Vs Union of India & Anr] case, dated 1.11.2017 & 14.12.2017, a total of 12 Special Courts were set up in 11 States [02 in NCT of Delhi and 01 each in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka,

Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal] for expeditious trial and disposal of criminal cases involving elected Members of the Parliament/ Members of the Legislative Assembly. Further, the Apex Court vide its Order dated 04.12.2018 in the above-mentioned case had directed to discontinue the Special Courts of the State of Kerala and Bihar. The performance of these Special Courts is being monitored by the Hon'ble Apex Court. The State wise details of Special Courts including number of pending cases as received from respective High Courts is given at Annexure.

**State wise details of Special Courts for expeditious trial and disposal of criminal cases involving elected MPs/MLAs.**

**(As on 31/01/2021)**

S.NO.	NAME OF THE STATE	SPECIAL COURTS FUNCTIONAL	NO. OF CASES PENDING
1	ANDHRA PRADESH	1	103
2	NCT of DELHI	2	99
3	MAHARASHTRA	1	13
4	KARNATAKA	1	143
5	TAMIL NADU	1	74
6	UTTAR PRADESH	1	2127
7	TELEANGANA	1	219
8	WEST BENGAL	1	147
9	MADHYA PRADESH	1	170
	TOTAL	10	3095

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Appointd. DUM

**RAJYA SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3449**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25.03.2021**

**Recruitment of judges**

3449. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

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

- (a) whether out of the sanctioned strength of 1080 judges in various High Courts of the country, there are just 660 Judges working thereby leaving 40 per cent vacancies;
- (b) If so, the efforts being made by the Ministry to recruit judges as early as possible; and
- (c) the details of proposals from various High Courts pending with the Ministry and the SC Collegium?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) to (c): A Statement showing sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in the High Courts as on 18.03.2021 is at Annexure.

As per Memorandum of Procedure for appointment of High Court Judges, the proposal for appointment is initiated by the Chief Justice of the High Court

concerned. Government appoints only those persons as Judges of High Courts who are recommended by Supreme Court Collegium (SCC). At present, High Court Collegiums (HCC) have made 209 recommendations against 420 vacancies. Out of these 209 recommendations, 75 proposals are pending with SCC while 05 proposals which have not been recommended by SCC are to be remitted by the Government to the High Court and the remaining 129 proposals recommended by HCC and SCC which have been received are under various stages of processing with the Government. There are 211 vacancies in various High Courts for which recommendations are yet to be received from respective High Court Collegiums.

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 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.

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**Annexure**  
**Statement showing to in reply to part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred**  
**Question No. 3449 for 25.03.2021 regarding "Recruitment of judges".**  
**(As on 18.03.2021)**

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies
1	Allahabad	160	96	64
2	Andhra Pradesh	37	19	18
3	Bombay	94	62	32
4	Calcutta	72	32	40
5	Chhattisgarh	22	14	08
6	Delhi	60	31	29
7	Gauhati	24	20	04
8	Gujarat	52	30	22
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	10	03
10	High Court for UTs of J & K and Ladakh	17	11	06
11	Jharkhand	25	17	08
12	Karnataka	62	47	15
13	Kerala	47	40	07
14	Madhya Pradesh	53	26	27
15	Madras	75	62	13
16	Manipur	05	05	0
17	Meghalaya	04	04	0
18	Orissa	27	15	12
19	Patna	53	21	32
20	Punjab & Haryana	85	47	38
21	Rajasthan	50	23	27
22	Sikkim	03	03	0
23	High Court for the State of Telangana	24	14	10
24	Tripura	05	04	01
25	Uttarakhand	11	07	04
<b>Total</b>		<b>1080</b>	<b>660</b>	<b>420</b>



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Justice II

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3451

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2021

Fast Track Special Courts for women and children

**3451. SHRI ANAND SHARMA:**

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

- (a) the number of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) in India dedicated to justice delivery in case of rape, crimes against women and protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, State-wise;
- (b) whether all courts envisioned to be set up to deliver justice on such matters have been set up, and if not, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the current pendency of such sensitive cases which require speedy dispensation of justice; and
- (d) steps taken to address this pendency, including accelerated set up of more FTSCs?

**A N S W E R**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a,b&c): In pursuance to the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2018, the government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including 389 exclusive Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences (e-POCSO) Courts for speedy disposal of cases related to rape and

POCSO Act since October 2019. The total cost of the project is Rs. 767.25 Cr. out of which, Central Share of Rs. 474 Cr. is funded under the Nirbhaya Fund. 28 States/UTs have already joined the scheme, while 3 States/UTs viz. Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal and A&N Island are yet to give their consent to join. A total of 632 FTSCs including 340 exclusive POCSO Courts have become operational in 26 States/UTs which have disposed 43,085 cases till February 2021. In 15 States/UTs all the FTSCs are fully operational. In 11 States/UTs, the FTSCs targets are partially met while in 2 States/UTs the FTSCs have not yet been operationalized by them. The State/UT wise details of FTSCs are annexed. As per data provided by the High Courts, there are 1,53,264 pending cases in 632 FTSCs (including exclusive POCSO Courts) as on 28.02.2021.

(d) The following steps have been taken by the Department of Justice to operationalise the remaining FTSCs and reduce pendency :

(i) Nodal Officers have been appointed by the High Courts for sustained monitoring of the operationalisation and functioning of FTSCs.

(ii) An online dashboard has been created for obtaining monthly case disposal statistics for follow up.

(iii) Constant follow-up is being made with States/UTs and High Courts for setting up / operationalisation of remaining FTSCs. Minister of Law & Justice has addressed several communications to Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of High Courts stressing upon the importance of the safety of women and children and need for operationalising FTSCs expeditiously including swift and timely disposal of cases by them.

(iv) For robust implementation of the Scheme, regular review meetings are held with officials of States/UTs and High Courts to overcome bottlenecks in setting-up / operationalisation of FTSCs and monitoring the Scheme.

**ANNEXURE****States/UTs wise break-up of functional Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs)  
including exclusive POCSO Courts**

S.NO	States/UTs	Number of FTSCs allocated	Functional FTSCs including exclusive POCSO Courts	No of exclusive POCSO Courts allocated	No of Functional Exclusive POCSO Courts
1.	Chhattisgarh	15	15	11	11
2.	Gujarat	35	35	24	24
3.	Mizoram	3	3	1	1
4.	Nagaland	1	1	0	0
5.	Jharkhand	22	22	8	8
6.	Madhya Pradesh	67	67	26	26
7.	Manipur	2	2	0	2
8.	Haryana	16	16	12	12
9.	Chandigarh	1	1	0	0
10.	Rajasthan	45	45	26	26
11.	Tamil Nadu	14	14	14	14
12.	Tripura	3	3	1	1
13.	Uttar Pradesh	218	218	74	74
14.	Uttarakhand	4	4	4	0
15.	Delhi	16	16	11	11
16.	Andhra Pradesh	18	08	08	8
17.	Bihar	54	45	30	45
18.	Assam	27	7	15	7
19.	Maharashtra	138	25	30	25
20.	Himachal Pradesh	6	3	3	3
21.	Karnataka	31	13	17	13
22.	Kerala	56	28	14	0
23.	Meghalaya	5	4	5	4
24.	Odisha	45	15	22	15
25.	Punjab	12	3	2	3
26.	Telangana	36	19	10	9
27.	Goa	2	0	0	0
28.	J&K	4	0	0	0
29.	West Bengal	123	-	20	-
30.	A&N Island	1	-	1	-
31.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	-	0	-
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1023</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>340</b>

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NM

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3452  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021

**SCHEME FOR JUSTICE TO POOR**

**3452# SHRI NARAYAN RANE:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the poor are deprived of justice on account of existing judicial system and increasing fee of the lawyers;
- (b) if not, the response of Government in this regard; and
- (c) the scheme in place to get justice to the poor, alongwith the process of such scheme?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) to (c): Article 39-A of the Constitution provides that the State shall secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice on the basis of equal opportunity, and shall in particular, provide free legal aid, by suitable legislation or schemes or in any other way, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reasons of economic or other disabilities.

Towards this end, the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 was enacted by the Parliament to establish a nation-wide uniform network for providing free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society and to organise Lok Adalats to secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunities. Accordingly, Legal Services Institutions have been set up at all levels from the level of Taluk Courts to the Supreme Court under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to provide free legal services to the persons eligible

under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, and also to organise Lok Adalats.

Apart from providing Court based legal services, Legal Services Authorities are also implementing Lok Adalats and Mediation for settlement of cases at pre-litigation and pending stages. This also facilitates Access to Justice for the poor. Lok Adalat is an important Alternative Disputes Resolution Mechanism available to common people. It is a forum where the disputes/ cases pending in the court of law or at pre-litigation stage are settled/ compromised amicably. The Lok Adalat has been given statutory status under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. Under this Act, an award made by a Lok Adalat is deemed to be a decree of a civil court and is final and binding on all parties and no appeal lies against thereto before any court.

Lok Adalats are organised by Legal Services Authorities under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. Usually 3 to 4 Pan India National Lok Adalats are held in a year. Apart from this, Permanent Lok Adalats (Public Utility Services) have been established which deal with the matters relating to the public utility services at pre-litigation stage.

During the period from April, 2020 to December, 2020, more than 4.36 lacs case (both pre-litigative and pending cases) have been settled in State Lok Adalats and about 23,600 have been settled in Permanent Lok Adalat (PUS) at the pre-litigation stage. In the year 2020, more than 25.48 lacs cases (both pre-litigative and pending cases) have been settled in National Lok Adalat. In view of Covid, E-Lok Adalat was conceptualized which significantly improved access to justice for people who were otherwise unable to participate in the Lok Adalats. The first E-Lok Adalat was held on 27.06.2020 and since then E-Lok Adalats have been organized in 24 States / UTs wherein 8.07 lakh cases were taken up and 4.11 lakh cases disposed of.

Besides, the Department of Justice has implemented Tele-Law and Pro Bono Legal Services (Nyaya Bandhu) programme for legal assistance of the poor and marginalized sections of the society. The Tele-Law Service connects the citizen with the Panel lawyers to seek pre-litigation legal advice through the use of video /Tele conferencing facilities available at the Common Service Centres (CSCs) at the Panchayat level. This service is currently operational in 29,860 CSCs in 285 Districts (including 115 Aspirational districts) across 29 States /UTs. As on 15th March, 2021 advice has been enabled to 6,75,403 beneficiaries. The Pro Bono Legal Services (Nyaya Bandhu) programme aims to provide free legal assistance and counsel to the marginalized sections. Nyaya Bandhu Mobile Application has been developed to connect the registered Pro Bono Advocates with the registered applicants and as on 15th March, 2021, 2513 Pro Bono Advocates have registered under the programme.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

A2J/LAP

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RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3453

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2021

Lok Adalats in Karnataka

3453 Shri Iranna Kadadi:

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

- (a) the number of Lok Adalats organised during each of the last five years, district-wise in the State of Karnataka;
- (b) the number of cases disposed of, district-wise in Karnataka by these Adalats during the said period;
- (c) whether Government proposes to organize more such Adalats on regular basis in future, district-wise;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken/being taken by Government to organize such Adalats more frequently to bring about the early disposal of pending cases?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) and (b) The details regarding number of Lok Adalats benches constituted and cases disposed of (both in pre-litigative and pending cases) in various Lok Adalats in Karnataka, district-wise including High Court Benches, during last five years is at Annexure-A.

(c) and (d) Every year, NALSA issues calendar for the year for organising National Lok Adalats. During 2021, National Lok Adalats are scheduled to be held on 10<sup>th</sup>

April, 10<sup>th</sup> July, 11<sup>th</sup> September and 11<sup>th</sup> December. State Lok Adalats are organised by State Legal Services Authorities as per local conditions and needs.

(e) The State Legal Services Authorities have been issued guidelines/ directions by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) vide National Legal Services Authority (Lok Adalat) Regulations, 2009 to organise more Lok Adalats so that pendency of cases could be reduced. Further in view of Covid, E-Lok Adalat was conceptualized which significantly improved access to justice for people who were otherwise unable to participate in the Lok Adalats. E-Lok Adalat has been organized in Karnataka on 19.09.2020 and 19.12.2020 wherein 2.60 lakh cases were taken up and 1.35 lakh cases disposed of including 1.27 lakh pending cases.

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Statement as referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3453 for answering on 25.03.2021 raised by Shri Iranna Kadadi, MP regarding Lok Adalats in Karnataka.

Statement showing total number of Lok Adalat benches constituted and cases disposed of (both in pre-litigation and pending cases) in various types of Lok Adalats during the last five years in Karnataka.

Sl. No.	Name of the Districts	Total Number of cases disposed of in Pending matters and Pre-litigation cases in various types of Lok Adalats									
		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
		No. of Lok Adalat benches constituted	No. of cases disposed of	No. of Lok Adalat benches constituted	No. of cases disposed of	No. of Lok Adalat benches constituted	No. of cases disposed of	No. of Lok Adalat benches constituted	No. of cases disposed of	No. of Lok Adalat benches constituted	No. of cases disposed of
<b>HIGH COURT</b>											
1	Bengaluru Bench	83	6461	55	6683	56	8270	47	2209	20	1796
2	Kalaburagi Bench	34	1131	4	663	12	621	9	859	8	501
3	Dharwad Bench	49	1583	13	2418	11	1213	16	2258	10	1083
<b>DLBAs</b>											
1	Bengaluru Urban	3030	829814	2871	600963	1221	16718	1048	79687	331	57275
2	Bengaluru Rural	785	23623	435	5656	149	3376	237	8454	135	46056
3	Bagalakote	770	13225	494	11040	585	8729	303	6515	124	9384
4	Ballari	237	14363	117	4370	177	3950	279	4500	61	6720
5	Belagavi	1134	192700	1259	56110	1446	52982	947	50992	458	29981
6	Bidar	137	23723	109	15461	116	10290	124	12961	33	7070
7	Chamarajanagar	101	6531	104	4705	90	1829	67	2055	34	3114
9	Chitranagalore	762	18743	738	6252	739	3320	554	4188	308	6809
8	Chikkabellapura	167	3419	152	2746	99	2388	101	4234	39	5250
10	Chitradurga	207	16119	161	5135	188	5586	110	10548	48	16351
11	D.K. Mangaluru	1651	88050	1252	13320	1051	10753	637	10159	107	11316
13	Davanagere	129	100885	132	6667	198	4382	230	5576	72	9628
12	Dharwad	239	232152	101	9186	137	4362	171	8362	70	15960
14	Gadag	124	43114	144	2948	192	1947	204	3310	109	4881
15	Hassan	1591	218000	1525	45229	1727	8723	510	5168	113	7898
16	Haveri	484	5351	185	3786	385	2697	219	5005	83	9960
17	Kalaburagi	415	16583	143	5332	170	4451	154	8592	54	26670
18	Kodagu - Madikeri	170	16672	132	3452	166	2844	163	2884	51	13984
19	Kolar	320	89877	322	7422	343	3813	351	3930	140	9935
20	Koppal	105	8325	54	4410	61	2381	55	3834	32	12560
21	Mandya	469	22009	164	4410	160	3610	189	7766	68	12966
22	Mysuru	985	377615	396	12095	407	9026	340	16288	138	20490

Sl. No.	Name of the Districts	Total Number of cases disposed of in Pending matters and Pre-litigation cases in various types of Lok Adalats									
		2016		2017		2018		2019		2020	
		No. of Lok Adalat benches constituted	No. of cases disposed of	No. of Lok Adalat benches constituted	No. of cases disposed of	No. of Lok Adalat benches constituted	No. of cases disposed of	No. of Lok Adalat benches constituted	No. of cases disposed of	No. of Lok Adalat benches constituted	No. of cases disposed of
23	Raichur	244	10286	188	3816	103	2767	82	10913	36	22039
24	Ramanagara	376	2862	468	6965	371	5519	440	9421	120	5000
25	Shivamogga	361	182067	63	7383	119	2071	171	3949	85	9391
26	Tannakuru	315	27846	314	18565	243	6986	205	9792	103	42457
28	Udupi	118	7895	82	4126	65	2360	67	4689	45	5855
27	U.K. Karwar	271	7874	201	4293	234	3964	265	4764	118	5066
29	Vijayapura	519	16034	186	4895	387	3432	438	10648	230	30654
30	Yadgir	41	4430	7	3704	49	2799	54	3167	18	4560
	Total	16434	2638352	12571	893927	11436	200659	8807	330907	3402	472660

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

*eCourt*

RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 3454  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2021

**Virtual hearings through video conferencing**

**3454 # Shri Ram Shakal:**

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

- (a) whether several advocates attended the virtual hearings of the Supreme Court through video conferencing in the year 2020; and  
(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS  
AND ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) : As per information provided by the Supreme Court of India, the approximate number of Advocates who attended the virtual hearings of the Supreme Court through video conferencing from 23rd March 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2020 is 3,38,144.

(b) : State-wise information of advocates who attended virtual hearings is not maintained by the Supreme Court of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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A2J/LAP

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3455

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25<sup>th</sup> MARCH, 2021

e-Lok Adalats in States

3455 # Shri Ram Shakal:

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 including Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Telangana;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount allocated for such Adalats during the current financial year?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) and (b) The State Legal Services Authorities (SLSAs) under the aegis of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) are organising e-Lok Adalats from June, 2020 in various parts of the country including Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Telangana. 5423, 11967 and 11297 cases were taken up by e-Lok Adalats in Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Telangana disposing of 2763, 2707 and 9954 cases respectively. The State/UT wise details of E-Lok Adalats held so far since June 2020 is at Annexure-A.

(c) Rs. 86 Crore has been allocated to SLSAs by NALSA for implementation of various legal aid schemes and programmes including E-Lok Adalats during the financial year 2020-21 (upto February) including Rs. 6.5 Crore, Rs. 2.5 Crore and Rs. 3.5 Crore to Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Telangana SLISA respectively.

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Statement as referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3455 for answering on 25.03.2021 raised by Shri Ram Shakal, MP regarding e-Lok Adalats in States

Statement containing details of E-lok Adalats organised From June, 2020 To February, 2021

S.No	State / UT	Dates
1	Andhra Pradesh	12.12.2020, 20.01.2021, 23.01.2021, 30.01.2021
2	Arunachal Pradesh	26.09.2020
3	Bihar	12.12.2020
4	Chandigarh	12.12.2020
5	Chhattisgarh	11.07.2020, 12.12.2020
6	Delhi	08.08.2020, 20.09.2020, 12.12.2020
7	Goa	09.01.2020
8	Gujarat	26.09.2020, 12.12.2020
9	Haryana	18.09.2020, 12.12.2020
10	Himachal Pradesh	19.09.2020, 26.09.2020, 30.09.2020
11	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	22.08.2020
12	Jharkhand	26.09.2020, 17.10.2020, 26.11.2020, 12.12.2020, 27.02.2021
13	Karnataka	19.09.2020, 19.12.2020
14	Madhya Pradesh	27.06.2020, 25.07.2020, 08.08.2020, 29.08.2020, 26.09.2020, 23.10.2020, 31.10.2020, 07.11.2020, 28.11.2020, 12.12.2020
15	Maharashtra	12.12.2020
16	Manipur	02.09.2020, 29.09.2020, 12.12.2020
17	Odisha	12.09.2020, 19.12.2020
18	Punjab	12.12.2020
19	Rajasthan	22.08.2020, 12.12.2020
20	Sikkim	12.12.2020
21	Telangana	07.11.2020, 12.12.2020
22	Uttarakhand	12.09.2020, 07.11.2020, 12.12.2020
23	Uttar Pradesh	01.11.2020
24	West Bengal	22.08.2020, 19.09.2020, 28.11.2020, 12.12.2020

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Appointment-DUN

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3457**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25.03.2021**

**Fair representation in High Courts/Supreme Court**

3457. SHRI PRASHANTA NANDA:

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

- (a) whether Government has any mechanism to ensure that there is fair and suitable representation of minorities and the lower castes in High Courts and the Supreme Court;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

**(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) to (c): Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124, 217 & 224 of the Constitution of India respectively; which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. However, the Government has 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 Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women to ensure social diversity in appointment of Judges in High Courts.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NM

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3458  
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2021

PENDENCY OF CASES

3458. SHRI SHAMSHER SINGH DULLO:

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

- whether total number of pendency of cases across courts have increased during the last five years;
- if so the details thereof;
- whether vacancies of judges across courts have also increased manifold during this period;
- if so, the details thereof; and
- the steps taken by Government in this direction?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONICS  
& INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) & (b): The details of cases pending in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India during the last five years is given below:-

	As on 31.12.2016	As on 01.12.2017	As on 01.12.2018	As on 02.12.2019	As on 04.12.2020	As on 01.03.2021
Supreme Court of India	62,537	55,089	56,994	59,353	64,426	66,727

The details of cases pending in High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts during the last five years is given at **Annexure-I** and **Annexure-II** respectively.



**(c) to (e):** The sanctioned strength of Judges in the Supreme Court has been increased from 31 to 34 (including Chief Justice of India) w.e.f. 09.08.2019. In Supreme Court of India, there are 05 vacancies in 2021, as against 06 vacancies in the year 2016. As per the Memorandum of Procedure, initiation of proposal for appointment of judges in Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India. No proposal has been received so far in respect of the above five vacancies.

The sanctioned strength of High Court Judges has increased from 906 in May 2014 to 1080 in 2021. At present, 420 posts of Judges in the High Courts are vacant. High Court Collegiums (HCC) have made 209 recommendations against 420 vacancies. Out of these, 209 recommendations, 75 proposals are pending with Supreme Court Collegium (SCC) while 05 proposals which have not been recommended by SCC are to be remitted by the Government to the High Court and the remaining 129 proposals recommended by HCC and SCC which have been received are under various stages of processing with the Government. There are 211 vacancies in various High Courts for which recommendations are yet to be received from respective High Courts Collegiums. Filling up of vacancies in High Courts is a continuous, integrated and collaborative process between the Executive and Judiciary. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies in High Courts do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and also due to increase in strength of Judges.

The appointment of Judges and Judicial Officers in the District and Subordinate Courts falls within the domain of the High Courts and State Governments concerned. The sanctioned strength of the subordinate judiciary has been increased from 19,518 in 2014 to 24,288 in 2021. In the corresponding period, the vacancies rose from 4,403 to 5,020.

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 issues of appointment, promotion, reservations, etc. 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. Central Government has no role in the matter. Recruitment in the Subordinate judiciary is an ongoing and continuous process and each year vacancies are filled either fully or partially. Vacancies in Subordinate Judiciary are filled up every year in accordance with the time schedule prescribed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 04.01.2007 passed in Civil Appeal no. 1867/2006 *Malik Mazhar Sultan & Anr. vs. U.P. Public Service Commission*. As per this time schedule, the vacancies for the category of District Judge (Entry Level) and Senior Civil Judge are to be notified commencing on 31st March of a calendar year and end by 31st October of the same year.

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**ANNEXURE-I****STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) & (B) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3458 FOR ANSWER ON 25.03.2021 REGARDING DETAILS OF CASES PENDING IN HIGH COURTS DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS**

Sl. No	High Court	As on 31.12.2016*	As on 31.12.2017*	As on 31.12.2018*	As on 31.12.2019*	As on 31.12.2020**	As on 22.03.2021**
1.	Allahabad	9,16,046	9,08,827	9,39,475	9,44,657	7,73,408	7,86,052
2.	Punjab & Haryana	3,02,313	3,31,538	3,37,231	3,53,888	6,37,148	6,64,677
3.	Madras	2,97,617	3,02,476	2,93,004	2,72,722	5,80,770	5,81,186
4.	Madhya Pradesh	2,89,445	3,07,420	3,31,388	3,57,929	3,62,932	3,73,960
5.	Andhra Pradesh <sup>SS</sup>	2,91,761	3,25,608	3,54,833	1,93,594	2,07,762	2,10,900
6.	Bombay	2,61,649	2,74,305	2,87,864	3,05,962	5,59,119	5,50,048
7.	Rajasthan	2,54,131	2,61,943	2,85,012	4,59,828	5,23,600	5,36,533
8.	Karnataka	2,77,620	3,23,725	3,57,604	2,71,929	2,93,259	2,80,447
9.	Calcutta	2,19,064	2,22,648	2,31,576	2,28,060	2,67,431	2,71,570
10.	Orissa	1,68,003	1,68,297	1,67,909	1,50,562	1,72,476	1,72,038
11.	Kerala	1,66,735	1,77,262	1,92,754	1,96,823	2,14,384	2,18,173
12.	Patna	1,34,459	1,44,667	1,53,486	1,72,425	1,78,835	2,00,898
13.	Gujarat	75,098	1,13,775	1,14,962	1,29,184	1,42,803	1,48,055
14.	Jharkhand	85,757	90,988	88,932	85,272	88,445	86,398
15.	Delhi	67,082	70,284	74,536	80,950	91,195	91,195
16.	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	59,404	62,062	64,042	71,693	63,468	61,779
17.	Chhattisgarh	55,642	59,456	63,574	69,316	75,836	76,839
18.	Uttarakhand	32,004	30,022	34,049	35,407	38,676	38,676
19.	Himachal Pradesh	25,147	31,359	36,177	54,452	73,862	76,926
20.	Gauhati	29,469	30,909	33,445	37,243	51,901	52,482
21.	Manipur	3,286	3,670	3,062	2,468	4,374	4,567
22.	Tripura	2,545	2,759	2,977	2,586	2,347	2,347
23.	Meghalaya	700	697	782	757	1,443	1,386
24.	Sikkim	170	210	252	234	241	244
25.	Telangana <sup>SS</sup>	-----	-----	-----	206,413	236,852	236,852
<b>Total</b>		<b>40,15,147</b>	<b>42,44,907</b>	<b>44,48,926</b>	<b>46,84,354</b>	<b>56,42,567</b>	<b>57,24,228</b>

\*Data Source Supreme Court of India.

\*\*Data Source NJDG Portal.

<sup>SS</sup> For the period 2016, 2017 and 2018, the figures are for the erstwhile High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for the State of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

**ANNEXURE-II****STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) & (B) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3458 FOR ANSWER ON 25.03.2021 REGARDING DETAILS OF CASES PENDING IN DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS**

Sl. No	Name of the State/UTs	Total Number of Pending Cases (As on 31/12/2016) *	Total Number of Pending Cases (As on 31/12/2017) *	Total Number of Pending Cases (As on 31/12/2018) *	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) **
1	Uttar Pradesh	5980071	6390684	6987417	7807863	8572092	8821412
2	Andhra Pradesh	1077944	1040864	1068400	567096	635220	667016
3	Telangana				580193	674301	715199
4	Maharashtra	3239540	3340050	3531425	3821487	4516311	4678764
5	Goa	42074	39249	42783	49049	56545	57485
6	Diu and Daman & Silvassa	5486	5295	5468	5344	2777	2860
7	West Bengal	2728753	2141254	1950492	2048697	2380633	2434641
8	Andaman & Nicobar	8767	9227	10229	9795	0	0
9	Chhattisgarh	290434	277338	267429	285025	324273	347924
10	Delhi	636121	747704	834813	882366	955850	1009292
11	Gujarat	1822311	1555203	1447459	1595813	1890667	2052835
12	Assam	258639	276520	291960	301427	357197	374714
13	Nagaland	4430	4749	4994	3361	1539	2143
14	Meghalaya	15239	14775	13584	13673	10403	10444
15	Manipur	6978	6799	6216	6516	10794	11524
16	Tripura	148275	107089	58261	27491	41032	39560
17	Mizoram	4665	5148	6154	6589	4699	4573
18	Arunachal Pradesh	14583	9878	9652	10658	-----	-----
19	Himachal Pradesh	235193	234639	256640	293706	416564	421449
20	Jammu & Kashmir	145999	161674	163520	172769	215803	223551
21	Jharkhand	342768	338680	330607	365642	438567	460533
22	Karnataka	1362167	1432952	1494608	1531008	1746886	1924880
23	Kerala	1482667	1623212	1652509	1614277	1798342	1885520
24	U.T. of Lakshadweep	357	354	364	397	-----	-----

25	Madhya Pradesh	1260637	1332566	1354602	1455435	1690053	1755712
26	Tamil Nadu	1071366	1065878	1084286	1137684	1288573	1313263
27	Puducherry	28155	26930	27161	30094	-----	-----
28	Odisha	1049325	1178882	1319031	1433522	1382538	1412802
29	Bihar	2128325	2223744	2502204	2714344	3158070	3230617
30	Punjab	504320	572802	602014	642327	814538	852420
31	Haryana	547736	643394	728097	853375	1100904	1156771
32	Chandigarh	38907	41695	56357	62955	57418	61476
33	Rajasthan	1573986	1635389	1732308	1769823	1830462	1916328
34	Sikkim	1434	1405	1208	1142	1570	1697
35	Uttarakhand	190948	210018	232338	195281	260564	274913
36	DNH at Silvasa					3502	3378
37	Ladakh	----	----	----	---	749	792
	<b>Total</b>	<b>28248600</b>	<b>28696040</b>	<b>30074590</b>	<b>32296224</b>	<b>36639436</b>	<b>38126488</b>

\*Data Source Supreme Court of India.

\*\*Data Source NJDG Portal.