

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No 4114

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 7TH APRIL, 2022

Expenditure on judicial infrastructure

4114. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that in spite of Government sanctioning Rs. 981 crores in 2019-20 to States under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of judicial infrastructure in courts, States could spent just Rs. 84.9 crores, if so, the reasons therefor;
- (b) the efforts being made by Government to persuade the States about importance of infrastructure in lower judiciary to clear lakhs of pending cases; and
- (c) the details of allocation made in 2022-23 for judicial infrastructure in lower courts?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): 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. During the financial year 2019-20 a sum of Rs. 982 crore has been sanctioned under this scheme.

Out of this a sum of Rs. 889.65 crore has been utilized by the State Governments /UT administrations.

Disposal of cases pending in various courts is within the domain of judiciary. 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. 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.

A Central Level Monitoring Committee is also in place to review the physical and financial progress of the construction of court halls, lawyers' hall, toilet

complexes and digital computer rooms, and residential units for judicial officers every six months. The meetings of this committee were also duly held with the States/UTs and Registrar Generals of High Court.

(c): A sum of Rs. 848 crore has been allocated at BE stage under the scheme during the year 2022-23.
