

2022

RAJYA SABHA REPLIES

**BUDGET SESSION, 2022 [256th
Session of Rajya Sabha]
[IInd Part – 14 March, 2022 to
07April ,2022]**

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Appointment DVH

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

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. 166

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 17.03.2022

Appointment of judges from various communities

166. SHRI P. WILSON:

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government with regard to ensuring appointment of judges in High Courts and the Supreme Court, belonging to SC, ST, OBC, women and minority, the data relating to the judges of these communities from 2019 to 2021; and
- (b) the details of the action taken by the Government on various recommendations of the Department related Parliamentary Committee of the Ministry in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) & (b) of Rajya Sabha
Starred Question No. 166 due for answer on 17.03.2022 regarding
“Appointment of judges from various communities”**

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 caste/category wise data is maintained centrally. The primary responsibility for making recommendations against vacancies in the High Courts vests with the High Court Collegium. In the present system of appointment of Judges to the constitutional courts through the Collegium system, the onus to provide social diversity and representation to all sections of the society including SC/ST/OBC/Women/Minorities primarily falls on the Judiciary. Government cannot appoint any person as a High Court Judge who is not recommended by the High Court Collegium/Supreme Court Collegium.

Reservation in Higher Judiciary has been recommended by the Department related Parliamentary Committee in its 107th Report, 2021-22 (Para 5.16); 87th Report, 2016 [Para 51 (xxiv)] and 21st Report, 2007 (Para 22). The Government remains committed to social diversity in the appointment of Judges in the Higher Judiciary and 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 & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

JR Desk

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION No 174

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 17TH MARCH, 2022

Modernization of district courts of Madhya Pradesh

174. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the poor situation of the litigants including women lawyers, attending witnesses and public and even the dismal standard of courtrooms of judges which requires immediate attention especially the District Courts of Shahdol, Mandla, Narsinghpur, Katni, Hoshangabad, Gwalior, Morena, Datia, Ujjain, Seoni, Chhindwara and Satna in Madhya Pradesh;
- (b) whether Government proposes to modernize the District Courts and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) & (B) of RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 174 FOR ANSWER ON 17TH MARCH, 2022.

(a) & (b): As per information made available by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh the details of Judicial Infrastructure in the District Courts of Shahdol, Mandla, Narsinghpur, Katni, Hoshangabad, Gwalior, Morena, Datia, Ujjain, Seoni, Chhindwara and Satna in Madhya Pradesh are as follows:

Gwalior- The construction of new Court building at Gwalior is going on which has provision of 64 Court Rooms and other ancillary facilities. The construction work is almost 44% completed at present.

Mandla- The construction of new Court building at Mandla is going on which has provision of 10 Court Rooms with other ancillary facilities. The construction work is almost 75% completed at present.

Narsinghpur- The District Court of Narsinghpur is functioning in its recently completed new District Court Complex having 12 Court Rooms with other ancillary facilities.

Katni, Ujjain and Datia- The new Court buildings with necessary facilities are already built at District Headquarters of Katni, Ujjain and Datia.

Shahdol- The proposal for construction of 04 additional Court Rooms + 01 Child Friendly Court with other necessary facilities is awaiting administrative and financial sanction from the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

Satna- The State Government has already granted administrative and financial sanction for construction of additional Court building with 17 Court Rooms & other ancillary facilities at Satna. Construction work is yet to commence.

Hoshangabad, Seoni, Morena, Chhindwara- At present the Courts are functioning in their old buildings and the State Government shall have special attention to provide sufficient necessary facilities in these Districts.

As per the information made available by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh on MIS portal of the Department, in the State of Madhya Pradesh 1531 Court Halls and 1626 Residential Units are available against the working strength of 1550 and sanctioned strength of 2021 Judges/Judicial Officers of district and subordinate courts, as on 28.02.2022. As the available infrastructure also includes court halls leased from Centre/ States and rented buildings, the aim is to shift all the court halls to judiciary owned buildings and to match the Judicial Infrastructure with sanctioned strength of judges. The Registry of High Court of Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur has framed standard norms for construction of court complexes for 01 to 30 court rooms with all necessary facilities and provided to the Government of Madhya Pradesh for incorporation in all new projects of subordinate Judiciary of Madhya Pradesh.

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. Allocation of funds under this scheme is made to a State as per the scheme guidelines and not made district-wise or project-wise.

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. Pursuant to the extension of the scheme and introduction of new features in the scheme, revised guidelines have been issued on 19.08.2021 for implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary.

A sum of Rs. 598.05 crore has already been released under this scheme since its inception to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh out of which Rs. 408.33 crore has been released since 2014-15. During the current financial year a sum of Rs. 55.00 crore has been released so far, for the development of infrastructure facilities for Judiciary.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

A2J/LAP

IS (NKG)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 1870
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 17th MARCH, 2022

Pending cases in Lok Adalats

1870 Shri Iranna Kadadi:

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

- (a) the number of various Lok Adalats organized during each of the last three years and the current year in the country, especially in the State of Karnataka;
- (b) the number of cases disposed and number of cases pending in various Lok Adalats during the said period;
- (c) whether Government has been able to achieve the target of disposal of cases filed in various Lok Adalats and if so, the details thereof and if not, the corrective action taken in this regard; and
- (d) whether Government has provided funds to State Legal Services Authorities to enhance legal aid?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

- (a) to (c) A statement showing number of various Lok Adalats held and cases disposed (both at pre-litigative stage and pending cases) during the last three years and the current year all over the country and in the State of Karnataka is at **Annexure-A**. Lok Adalats are organized by Legal Services Institutions at such intervals as it deems fit in order to reduce the pendency of cases in courts and also to settle the disputes at pre-litigation stage. Lok Adalats are not a permanent establishment and handle pending court cases as referred to it by the respective courts. Not being permanent in nature, all unsettled cases in Lok Adalats revert to respective courts

and do not remain as pendency with Lok Adalats. No specific disposal target is fixed prior to organization of any type of Lok Adalat.

- (d) Government has released the following grant-in-aid to National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) during the last three years and the current year for implementing legal aid programmes through State Legal Services Authorities.

(Rs. In Crore)

| Year | Funds Released |
|--------------|-----------------------|
| 2018-19 | 150.00 |
| 2019-20 | 140.00 |
| 2020-21 | 100.00 |
| 2021-22 | 145.00 |
| Total | 535.00 |

Annexure - A

Statement as referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1870 for 17.03.2022 raised by Shri Iranna Kadadi, MP - Pending cases in Lok Adalats.

Details of various Lok Adalats held and cases disposed of during last three years and the current year all over the country and in the State of Karnataka.

State Lok Adalat:

| State | 2019 | | 2020 | | 2021 | | 2022 (upto January) | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Number of benches constituted | Number of cases disposed of | Number of benches constituted | Number of cases disposed of | Number of benches constituted | Number of cases disposed of | Number of benches constituted | Number of cases disposed of |
| Total all over the country | 107585 | 624659 | 52067 | 538793 | 77153 | 734888 | 7246 | 23890 |
| Karnataka | 5244 | 51099 | 2444 | 134108 | 693 | 3779 | 35 | 167 |

National Lok Adalat:

The Number of cases disposed off by National Lok Adalats during last three years:

| State | Year | | |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|----------|
| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
| Total all over the country | 5293273 | 2548368 | 12788037 |
| Karnataka | 281849 | 334681 | 1277856 |

Permanent Lok Adalat:

| State | 2019 | | 2020 | | 2021 | | 2022 (upto January) | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| | Number of Sittings | Number of cases settled | Number of Sittings | Number of cases settled | Number of Sittings | Number of cases settled | Number of Sittings | Number of cases settled |
| Total all over the country | 28632 | 114233 | 20507 | 47475 | 27600 | 99436 | 2916 | 4788 |
| Karnataka | 1610 | 5523 | 1146 | 4635 | 1215 | 4745 | 130 | 310 |

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

APM

J.S. (G.R.P.)

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1871
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 17TH MARCH, 2022

**DISPOSAL OF COMMERCIAL DISPUTES TO PROMOTE EASE OF DOING
BUSINESS**

1871. SHRI SUJEET KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the fact that the commercial disputes reportedly are not disposed of in a time bound manner causing negative impact on ease of doing business;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (c) the total number of commercial disputes pending in the country in various courts during each of the last three years;**
- (d) whether Government has taken any measures to ensure that commercial disputes are disposed of in a time bound manner to promote ease of doing business; and**
- (e) if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (e): The total number of commercial disputes pending in various commercial courts during the last three years is at **Annexure**. As a part of improving the Ease of Doing Business framework, Department of Justice has been endeavouring to make the Contract Enforcement Regime speedy and robust. Some of the measures taken by the Government to ensure timely disposal of commercial disputes and promoting Ease of Doing Business are as follows:

- i.** The Commercial Courts Act, 2015, which was further amended in 2018 provides for setting up of a Commercial Court at the district level and a Commercial Division in all

- the High Courts to promote faster resolution of commercial disputes. In many States, the designated Commercial Courts have been replaced by Dedicated Commercial Courts so that they handle commercial disputes exclusively to enable speedier resolution. The pecuniary jurisdiction of these Commercial Courts have been reduced from Rs. 1 Crore to Rs. 3 Lakhs to streamline their functioning.
- ii. Designated Special Courts for hearing Infrastructure projects related disputes have been set up in 23 High Courts. Some of these courts have allocated dedicated days in a week/month for hearing disputes related to infrastructure project contracts.
 - iii. High Courts of Delhi, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Allahabad, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh, Sikkim, Patna and Madras have set up Special Commercial Benches for dealing with high value commercial disputes i.e. above Rs. 500 crores. Bombay and Delhi High Courts have set up benches for dealing with high value commercial disputes above Rs. 100 crores.
 - iv. The Government has also notified Commercial Courts (Statistical Data) Rules, 2018 for effective monitoring of time taken in case disposal by these courts.
 - v. The Commercial Courts (Amendment) Act, 2018 provides for mandatory Pre-Institution Mediation Settlement (PIMS) process with opt out option in cases where no urgent, interim relief is contemplated and an opportunity is provided to the parties to resolve the commercial disputes outside the ambit of the courts in a speedy manner. This has led to dispute avoidance and reduced clogging of cases in Commercial Courts.
 - vi. Commercial Courts Act, 2015 mandates holding of Case Management Hearing (Pre-trial Conference) to complete trial and arguments in a time bound manner. Case Management Hearing has been successfully institutionalized and integrated with CIS 3.2 software. Automatic and random allocation of commercial cases without human intervention using Case Information System (CIS) Software has been implemented in select dedicated commercial courts which has enhanced judicial transparency and court automation. e-Committee, Supreme Court has ensured compliance of *three adjournment Rule* by creating the facility of colour banding in CIS software. The

colours provide information regarding the number of adjournments in a case and facilitates speedy decision making. E-filing has also been operationalised in most Commercial Courts to reduce the time taken in filing legal documents. A software patch has been developed and is presently being used by few commercial courts for sending of online summons in commercial disputes, which reduces the delay in sending summons to parties. Electronic Case management tools for Judges and Advocates have been integrated into one single CIS Software, which has enhanced judicial productivity and made the justice delivery system more accessible, reliable and transparent. Dedicated Websites have been started for Commercial Courts.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a to e) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1871 FOR ANSWER ON 17.03.2022 REGARDING DISPOSAL OF COMMERCIAL DISPUTES TO PROMOTE EASE OF DOING BUSINESS

Commercial Disputes pending in India in last 3 years:

| Year | Commercial Appellate Division | Commercial Division | Commercial Courts (Below District Judge Level) | Commercial Courts (At District Judge Level) | Commercial Appellate Courts (District Judge Level) |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|--|---|--|
| 2019 | 1458 | 9739 | 17375 | 29048 | 348 |
| 2020 | 2037 | 11742 | 22936 | 70007 | 378 |
| 2021 (till 30.06.2021) | 2768 | 12316 | 28544 | 91248 | 501 |

Source: Department of Legal Affairs

Appointment DUN

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

AS(A&A)

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1872

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 17.03.2022

Stand of Government on appointment of judges

1872. Dr. Sasmit Patra:

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

- (a) details on the stand of Government on National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) vis-à-vis Collegium for appointment of judges;
- (b) whether Government is contemplating against legislating NJAC and if so, the present status thereof; and
- (c) the demerits in the Collegium due to which NJAC was considered?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c): In order to replace the Collegium system of appointments of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts with a more broad-based, transparent, accountable appointment mechanism and to bring greater objectivity in the system, the Government brought into operation the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 and the National Judicial Appointments Commission Act, 2014 w.e.f. 13.04.2015. However, both the Acts were challenged in the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court vide Judgment dated 16.10.2015 declared

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both the Acts as unconstitutional and void. The Collegium system as existing prior to the enforcement of the Constitution (Ninety-Ninth Amendment) Act, 2014 was declared to be operative.

Subsequently, the Supreme Court vide order dated 16.12.2015 directed the Government to finalize the existing MoP by supplementing it in consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium taking into consideration eligibility criteria, transparency, establishment of secretariat and mechanism to deal with complaints.

The Government of India after due deliberations, proposed changes in the existing MoP and the draft MoP were sent to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India vide letter dated 22.03.2016. The response of the Chief Justice of India thereon was received on 25.05.2016 and 01.07.2016. The views of the Government were conveyed to the Chief Justice of India on 03.08.2016. The inputs on the MoP of the Supreme Court Collegium was received from Chief Justice of India vide letter dated 13.03.2017. The Department of Justice has conveyed the stand of the Government vide letter dated 11.07.2017 of Secretary (Justice) to Secretary General, Supreme Court of India. The MoP is under finalization by the Government in consultation with the Supreme Court Collegium.

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

AS (A&A)

Appointment DVN

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1873

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 17.03.2022

Appointment of Judges in the High Courts

1873. SHRI MAHESH PODDAR:

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

- (a) the number of judges appointed to the High Courts during the last four years, the details thereof, State and caste-wise;
- (b) the current strength of judges in the High Courts and details of vacant positions; and
- (c) whether there are any pending appointments currently with Government/Supreme Court, if so, by when does Government expect to finalize the same?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): A Statement showing the details of appointment of Judges to the High Courts during the last four years is enclosed herewith as **Annexure-A**.

Appointment of Judges of High Courts is made under Articles 217 and 224 of the Constitution of India which do not provide for reservation for any

: 2 :

caste or class of person. Hence no caste/category wise data is maintained centrally.

Against the sanctioned strength of 1104 Judges in the High Courts, 700 Judges are working in the High Courts leaving 404 vacancies. The current strength of Judges in the High Courts and details of vacant positions is enclosed at **Annexure-B**. At present, 171 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 233 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.

ANNEXURE-A

| S. No. | High Courts | Number of Appointments during the past four years | | | | Total |
|--------|------------------|---|-----------|-----------|------------|------------|
| | | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | |
| 1 | Allahabad | 28 | 10 | 04 | 17 | 59 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | - | 02 | 07 | 02 | 11 |
| 3 | Bombay | 04 | 11 | 04 | 06 | 25 |
| 4 | Calcutta | 11 | 06 | 01 | 08 | 26 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 04 | - | - | 03 | 07 |
| 6 | Delhi | 05 | 04 | - | 02 | 11 |
| 7 | Gauhati | 02 | 04 | - | 06 | 12 |
| 8 | Gujarat | 04 | 03 | 07 | 07 | 21 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | - | 02 | - | 01 | 03 |
| 10 | J & K and Ladakh | 02 | - | 05 | 02 | 09 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 03 | 02 | - | 04 | 09 |
| 12 | Karnataka | 12 | 10 | 10 | 06 | 38 |
| 13 | Kerala | 04 | 01 | 06 | 12 | 23 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 08 | 02 | - | 08 | 18 |
| 15 | Madras | 08 | 01 | 10 | 05 | 24 |
| 16 | Manipur | - | - | 01 | - | 01 |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 01 | 01 | - | - | 02 |
| 18 | Orissa | 01 | 01 | 02 | 04 | 08 |
| 19 | Patna | - | 04 | - | 06 | 10 |
| 20 | Punjab & Haryana | 07 | 10 | 01 | 06 | 24 |
| 21 | Rajasthan | - | 03 | 06 | 08 | 17 |
| 22 | Sikkim | - | - | - | - | - |
| 23 | Telangana | - | 03 | 01 | 07 | 11 |
| 24 | Tripura | 01 | - | 01 | - | 02 |
| 25 | Uttarakhand | 03 | 01 | - | - | 04 |
| | Total | 108 | 81 | 66 | 120 | 375 |

ANNEXURE-B

(As on 11.03.2022)

Details of Sanctioned Strength, Working strength and Vacancies across various High Courts

| B. | High Court | Sanctioned Strength | | | Working Strength | | | Vacancy | | |
|----|------------------|---------------------|------------|-------------|------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | Pmt. | Addl | Total | Pmt. | Addl | Total | Pmt. | Addl | Total |
| 1 | Allahabad | 120 | 40 | 160 | 74 | 19 | 93 | 46 | 21 | 67 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 28 | 9 | 37 | 26 | 0 | 26 | 2 | 9 | 11 |
| 3 | Bombay | 71 | 23 | 94 | 51 | 7 | 58 | 20 | 16 | 36 |
| 4 | Calcutta | 54 | 18 | 72 | 31 | 8 | 39 | 23 | 10 | 33 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 17 | 5 | 22 | 10 | 3 | 13 | 7 | 2 | 9 |
| 6 | Delhi | 45 | 15 | 60 | 34 | 0 | 34 | 11 | 15 | 26 |
| 7 | Gauhati | 18 | 6 | 24 | 17 | 6 | 23 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 8 | Gujarat | 39 | 13 | 52 | 32 | 0 | 32 | 7 | 13 | 20 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 10 | 3 | 13 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 10 | J & K and Ladakh | 13 | 4 | 17 | 13 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 19 | 6 | 25 | 19 | 1 | 20 | 0 | 5 | 5 |
| 12 | Karnataka | 47 | 15 | 62 | 39 | 6 | 45 | 8 | 9 | 17 |
| 13 | Kerala | 35 | 12 | 47 | 27 | 12 | 39 | 8 | 0 | 8 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 40 | 13 | 53 | 35 | 0 | 35 | 5 | 13 | 18 |
| 15 | Madras | 56 | 19 | 75 | 44 | 15 | 59 | 12 | 4 | 16 |
| 16 | Manipur | 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 18 | Orissa | 24 | 9 | 33 | 21 | 0 | 21 | 3 | 9 | 12 |
| 19 | Patna | 40 | 13 | 53 | 25 | 0 | 25 | 15 | 13 | 28 |
| 20 | Punjab & Haryana | 64 | 21 | 85 | 43 | 6 | 49 | 21 | 15 | 36 |
| 21 | Rajasthan | 38 | 12 | 50 | 26 | 0 | 26 | 12 | 12 | 24 |
| 22 | Sikkim | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 23 | Telangana | 32 | 10 | 42 | 19 | 0 | 19 | 13 | 10 | 23 |
| 24 | Tripura | 4 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 5 | -1 | 1 | 0 |
| 25 | Uttarakhand | 9 | 2 | 11 | 7 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| | Total | 833 | 271 | 1104 | 615 | 85 | 700 | 218 | 186 | 404 |

Coord. Section

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

AS (ASBA)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No.1874
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 17th MARCH, 2022

Publication of law reports

1874. # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:

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

- (a) whether the Supreme Court and the High Courts are publishing law reports regularly;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) if not, the details of the courts out of the courts mentioned in part (a) above which are not publishing law reports regularly and the steps taken by Government to ensure regular publication of these reports;
- (d) whether Government proposes to engage the services of private publishers for publication of law reports and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (d): Publication of Law Reports is a matter which falls within the purview of the judiciary. Reportable decisions of the Supreme Court are published in Supreme Court Reports (SCR). SCR is the official journal of reportable Supreme Court decisions, which is published under the authority of the Supreme Court of India. In respect of High Courts, as per information received, while some are publishing Law Reports like the High Courts of Sikkim, Punjab & Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Karnataka, Calcutta, Andhra Pradesh and Allahabad; certain High Courts like Manipur, Meghalaya, Patna, Guwahati, Jharkhand, Tripura, Telangana and Bombay are not publishing any Law Report. In accordance with the recommendation of the Law Reporting Council Delhi High Court dated 21.4.2015, the publication of Law Reports (Delhi Series) has been discontinued by the High Court of Delhi since the judgments of this Court reportable as well as non-reportable are already published on the official website of the Delhi High Court.

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

JS(GRR)

JR

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No 1875
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 17TH MARCH, 2022**

ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL JUDICIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

1875. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there are challenges like lack of infrastructure in the judicial system, paucity of administrative staff and acute shortage of judges;
- (b) if so, the details of action taken by Government to address these problems;
- (c) the ratio of the cases currently pending in the court to the total number of judges, State-wise;
- (d) the details of total vacancies of judges at present, State-wise;
- (e) whether Government is planning to set up a National Judicial Infrastructure Corporation (NJIC) to address these problems; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): As per the information made available by the High Courts, as on 28.02.2022 there are 20,814 Court Halls and 18,319 Residential Units available for Judicial Officers/Judges in the country against the working strength of 19,350 Judges/Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts and sanctioned strength of 24,520 as on 28.02.2022. There is presently a vacancy of 5,170 Judicial Officers. As the available infrastructure also includes court halls leased from Centre/ States

and rented buildings, the aim is to shift all the court halls to judiciary owned buildings and to match the Judicial Infrastructure with sanctioned strength of judges.

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 for Judiciary by providing financial assistance to State Governments / UTs in the prescribed fund sharing pattern between Centre and States. The Scheme is being implemented since 1993-94. It covers the construction of court buildings and residential accommodations for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Judiciary. As on date a sum of Rs. 8758.71 crore has been released under the Scheme so far since its inception, out of which Rs. 5314.40 crore (60.68 %) has been released since 2014-15. The Scheme has been extended from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a budgetary outlay of Rs. 9000 crore including Central share of Rs. 5307.00 crore. Besides the construction of Court Halls and Residential Quarters, the Scheme now also covers the construction of Lawyers' Halls, Digital Computer Rooms and Toilet Complexes in the District and Subordinate Courts.

(c): The State-wise statement of the ratio of the cases currently pending in the court to the total number of judges is at *Annexure-I*.

(d): The State-wise detail of total vacancies of Judges at present is at *Annexure-II*.

(e) & (f): The Registry of Supreme Court of India has compiled data on the status of judicial infrastructure and court amenities. 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 Governments/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.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (C) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1875 FOR ANSWER ON 17.03.2022 REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL JUDICIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

(As on 09.03.2022)

| Sl. No. | States & UTs | Sanctioned Strength of Judges/Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts | Working Strength of Judges/Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts | Total pendency of District and Subordinate Courts | Ratio of Pending Cases to Judges /Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts |
|---------|---------------------|--|---|---|--|
| 1 | Andaman and Nicobar | 0 | 13 | * | * |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 607 | 487 | 805572 | 1654.15 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 41 | 32 | * | * |
| 4 | Assam | 467 | 436 | 436061 | 1000.14 |
| 5 | Bihar | 1954 | 1389 | 3391187 | 2441.46 |
| 6 | Chandigarh | 30 | 30 | 73262 | 2442.07 |
| 7 | Chhattisgarh | 482 | 407 | 398480 | 979.07 |
| 8 | D & N Haveli | 3 | 2 | 3706 | 1853.00 |
| 9 | Daman & Diu | 4 | 4 | 2902 | 725.50 |
| 10 | Delhi | 884 | 686 | 1123292 | 1637.45 |
| 11 | Goa | 50 | 40 | 57603 | 1440.08 |
| 12 | Gujarat | 1523 | 1176 | 1996428 | 1697.64 |
| 13 | Haryana | 772 | 477 | 1332388 | 2793.27 |
| 14 | Himachal Pradesh | 175 | 162 | 472766 | 2918.31 |
| 15 | Jammu and Kashmir | 300 | 240 | 253828 | 1057.62 |
| 16 | Jharkhand | 675 | 517 | 507853 | 982.31 |
| 17 | Karnataka | 1364 | 1085 | 2022290 | 1863.86 |
| 18 | Kerala | 569 | 487 | 1955155 | 4014.69 |
| 19 | Ladakh | 17 | 9 | 957 | 106.33 |
| 20 | Lakshadweep | 3 | 3 | * | * |
| 21 | Madhya Pradesh | 2021 | 1550 | 1916155 | 1236.23 |
| 22 | Maharashtra | 2190 | 1940 | 4949069 | 2551.07 |
| 23 | Manipur | 59 | 46 | 12706 | 276.22 |
| 24 | Meghalaya | 97 | 49 | 17005 | 347.04 |
| 25 | Mizoram | 65 | 41 | 6114 | 149.12 |
| 26 | Nagaland | 34 | 24 | 2763 | 115.13 |
| 27 | Odisha | 977 | 781 | 1546864 | 1980.62 |
| 28 | Puducherry | 26 | 11 | 34668 | 3151.64 |
| 29 | Punjab | 692 | 606 | 972103 | 1604.13 |
| 30 | Rajasthan | 1549 | 1272 | 2124411 | 1670.13 |
| 31 | Sikkim | 28 | 20 | 1920 | 96.00 |
| 32 | Tamil Nadu | 1319 | 1080 | 1411371 | 1306.83 |
| 33 | Telangana | 474 | 424 | 838703 | 1978.07 |
| 34 | Tripura | 122 | 106 | 36374 | 343.15 |
| 35 | Uttar Pradesh | 3634 | 2528 | 10254226 | 4056.26 |
| 36 | Uttarakhand | 299 | 272 | 320215 | 1177.26 |
| 37 | West Bengal | 1014 | 918 | 2648005 | 2884.54 |

Source: - National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) and MIS Portal of DoJ.

* Data Not available on NJDG portal

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (D) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1875 FOR ANSWER ON 17.03.2022 REGARDING ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL JUDICIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

(As on 09.03.2022)

| Sl. No. | States & UTs | Total Sanctioned Strength of Judges/Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts | Total Strength of Judges/Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts | Working of | Total vacancy of Judges/Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts |
|---------|---------------------|--|---|------------|--|
| 1 | Andaman and Nicobar | 0 | 13 | | -13 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 607 | 487 | | 120 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 41 | 32 | | 9 |
| 4 | Assam | 467 | 436 | | 31 |
| 5 | Bihar | 1954 | 1389 | | 565 |
| 6 | Chandigarh | 30 | 30 | | 0 |
| 7 | Chhattisgarh | 482 | 407 | | 75 |
| 8 | D & N Haveli | 3 | 2 | | 1 |
| 9 | Daman & Diu | 4 | 4 | | 0 |
| 10 | Delhi | 884 | 686 | | 198 |
| 11 | Goa | 50 | 40 | | 10 |
| 12 | Gujarat | 1523 | 1176 | | 347 |
| 13 | Haryana | 772 | 477 | | 295 |
| 14 | Himachal Pradesh | 175 | 162 | | 13 |
| 15 | Jammu and Kashmir | 300 | 240 | | 60 |
| 16 | Jharkhand | 675 | 517 | | 158 |
| 17 | Karnataka | 1364 | 1085 | | 279 |
| 18 | Kerala | 569 | 487 | | 82 |
| 19 | Ladakh | 17 | 9 | | 8 |
| 20 | Lakshadweep | 3 | 3 | | 0 |
| 21 | Madhya Pradesh | 2021 | 1550 | | 471 |
| 22 | Maharashtra | 2190 | 1940 | | 250 |
| 23 | Manipur | 59 | 46 | | 13 |
| 24 | Meghalaya | 97 | 49 | | 48 |
| 25 | Mizoram | 65 | 41 | | 24 |
| 26 | Nagaland | 34 | 24 | | 10 |
| 27 | Odisha | 977 | 781 | | 196 |
| 28 | Puducherry | 26 | 11 | | 15 |
| 29 | Punjab | 692 | 606 | | 86 |
| 30 | Rajasthan | 1549 | 1272 | | 277 |
| 31 | Sikkim | 28 | 20 | | 8 |
| 32 | Tamil Nadu | 1319 | 1080 | | 239 |
| 33 | Telangana | 474 | 424 | | 50 |
| 34 | Tripura | 122 | 106 | | 16 |
| 35 | Uttar Pradesh | 3634 | 2528 | | 1106 |
| 36 | Uttarakhand | 299 | 272 | | 27 |
| 37 | West Bengal | 1014 | 918 | | 96 |
| | TOTAL | 24520 | 19350 | | 5170 |

Source: - MIS Portal of DoJ.

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

eCourt

JS(PPP)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 1876
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 17th MARCH, 2022

Online courts for ensuring fair trial

1876. Shri N.R. Elango:

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

- (a) whether online courts are yet to adapt to ensure a fair trial and evidence taking; and
- (b) if so, the remedial steps being taken by Government keeping in view the fact that the digital divide is enormous, and also that the infrastructure in all the approximately 19,000 courts in the country are not up to the mark?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): In the pre-Covid period, the virtual hearing setup was being used by most of the courts primarily for conducting remand matters without movement of prisoners between court and jails. This experience helped in expanding the video-conferencing (VC) of court hearings in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. To bring about uniformity and standardization in the conduct of VC, an overarching order was passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on 6th April 2020 which gave legal sanctity and validity to the court hearings done through VC. Further, Model VC rules were framed by a 5-judge committee which was circulated to all

the High Courts for adoption after local contextualization. 23 High Courts have already adopted these Model Rules. 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 1,11,40,223 cases while the High Court heard 60,21,688 cases (totalling 1.71 cr) till 31.01.2022 using video conferencing. The Supreme Court held 1,81,909 hearings till 08.01.2022 since the beginning of lockdown period. To augment the VC infrastructure of the Courts, one VC 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.

(b): To bridge digital divide, Government has released Rs. 12.54 crore for setting up eSewa Kendras. As on 31.01.2022, 475 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 High Courts. Training programs and awareness campaigns have been conducted from time to time to train various stakeholders to bridge digital divide and familiarise them with court digitisation initiatives. 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.

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

ASCA&A)

Appointment DVN

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1878

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 17.03.2022

Vacancy of Judges in Calcutta High Court

1878. SMT. SHANTA CHHETRI:

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

- (a) the total sanctioned posts of Judges in Calcutta High Court;
- (b) whether the post of Judges are lying vacant in Calcutta High Court at present: and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): Against the sanctioned strength of 72 Judges, 39 Judges (31 Permanent Judges and 08 Additional Judges) are currently working in the Calcutta High Court. As regards, 33 vacancies in Calcutta High Court, 10 recommendations have been received from HCC which are at various stages of processing while names against remaining 23 vacancies are yet to be received from High Court Collegium.

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 central 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 strength of Judges.

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

JR

RAJYA SABHA

JS(GRR)

**UNSTARRED QUESTION No 1880
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 17TH MARCH, 2022**

**NATIONAL JUDICIAL INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY OF
INDIA**

1880. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

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

- (a) aims and objectives of proposed National Judicial Infrastructure Authority of India (NJIAI);
- (b) the manner in which NJIAI is different from the existing procedure of spending money under Centrally Sponsored Scheme;
- (c) whether Government considers creating a special purpose vehicle to create judicial infrastructure in lower judiciary;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether NJIAI proposal has been received from the Supreme Court in the Ministry; and
- (f) if so, the details of action taken so far on this?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): The Registry of Supreme Court of India has compiled data on the status of judicial infrastructure and court amenities. 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 the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary is concerned, 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. 8758.71 crore under the Scheme to States/UTs, out of which Rs. 5314.40 crore has been released since 2014-15 which is around 60.68% of the total release under the scheme. 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. Pursuant to the extension of the scheme and introduction of new features in the scheme, revised guidelines have been issued on 19.08.2021 for implementation of Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary.

JQ

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JSS(GRR)

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No 1881

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 17TH MARCH, 2022

INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT OF SUBORDINATE COURTS

1881. SHRI MUZIBULLA KHAN :

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

- (a) whether in Odisha under centrally sponsored scheme for Infrastructure Development of Sub-ordinate Judiciary, 6 judicial building projects have been taken up for construction and 2 court buildings are in progress out of 6; and
(b) if so, the time by which the balance amount of Rs. 1,174/- lakh required by the State Government for completion of above project be released?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) & (b): As far as status of judicial infrastructure in the State of Odisha is concerned, as per information made available by the State Government on the Nyaya Vikas web portal presently 53 court halls and 56 residential units are under construction.

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 this 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. 148.43 crore has been released to the State of Odisha till date. In the current financial year, an allocation of Rs. 27.93 crore has been made for the State of Odisha and the release will be subject to 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

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2501
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, 24TH MARCH 2022

Aims and objective of Nyaya Mitra Yojana

2501. Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu:

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

- (a) the aims and objective of Nyaya Mitra Yojana;
- (b) whether assistance is also provided to the poor communities through Nyaya Mitra for redressal of disputes;
- (c) if so, the details of measures being taken to provide immediate assistance to the people of tribal areas in the State of Tamil Nadu;
- (d) the details of Nyaya Mitras proposed to be engaged in the district courts of Tamil Nadu;
- (e) whether about 100 Nyaya Mitras have been engaged in various district courts of the country; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof particularly in Tamil Nadu?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (c) Nyaya Mitra Programme aims to facilitate expeditious disposal of decade old pending cases in High Courts and Subordinate Courts. Nyaya Mitra helps in disposal of old cases, which includes civil cases such as matrimonial cases, accident claim cases and also criminal cases irrespective of parties/communities involved.

(d) to (f) Since introduction of Nyaya Mitra programme in 2017, a total of 27 Nyaya Mitra were engaged in various courts of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Rajasthan,

Odisha & Maharashtra States. No Nyaya Mitra could be engaged during the year 2020-2021 due to closure of courts and social distancing protocols caused by Covid pandemic. No Nyaya Mitra has been engaged in Tamil Nadu so far including the current year.

Appointment

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

RAJYA SABHA

AS (ARA)

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2503

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 24.03.2022

Steps to separate judiciary from executive

2503. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR GUPTA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the Constitution emphasises that the State shall take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive;
- (b) the measures taken in this regard during the last five years; and
- (c) steps being taken by Government to ensure the credibility of the esteemed institutions like judiciary?

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

(a) to (c): Article 50 of the Constitution of India which forms part of the Directive Principles of State Policy provides that the State shall take steps to separate the judiciary from the executive in the public services of the State. Our Constitution is also predicated on the principle of separation of powers and accordingly the Government is fully committed to ensuring the independence of judiciary and does not intervene in its functioning.

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No 2504

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 24TH MARCH, 2022

Centrally Sponsored Schemes for judicial infrastructure

2504. SHRI K.C. RAMAMURTHY:

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

- (a) details of Centrally Sponsored Schemes being implemented by Government for judicial infrastructure;
- (b) details of allocations made and utilized during the last five years and the current year for judicial infrastructure, year-wise;
- (c) whether it is a fact that States are not utilizing the allocated amount;
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor and efforts being made by Government to persuade States to utilize the amount and develop infrastructure in lower courts; and
- (e) to what extent the proposed National Judicial Infrastructure Authority of India helps to address this issue?

ANSWER

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

(a): 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 for Judiciary by providing financial assistance to State Governments / UTs in the prescribed fund sharing pattern between Centre and States. The Scheme is being implemented since 1993-94. It covers the construction of court buildings and residential

accommodations for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Judiciary. As on date a sum of Rs. 8758.71 crore has been released under the Scheme so far since its inception, out of which Rs. 5314.40 crore (60.68 %) has been released since 2014-15. The Scheme has been extended from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a budgetary outlay of Rs. 9000 crore including Central share of Rs. 5307.00 crore. Besides the construction of Court Halls and Residential Quarters, the Scheme now also covers the construction of Lawyers' Halls, Digital Computer Rooms and Toilet Complexes in the District and Subordinate Courts. The scheme guidelines have also been revised accordingly on 19.08.2021.

For monitoring the status of the projects under the scheme, three broad monitoring mechanisms have been provided viz. High Court Level Monitoring Committee at State level, Central Level Monitoring Committee in the Department of Justice which are required to meet every six months and Nyaya Vikas Online monitoring system.

For online monitoring of construction projects, a web portal and mobile app named "Nyaya Vikas" was launched in 2018. Geotagging of projects using Nyaya Vikas mobile application has helped better monitoring of the judicial infrastructure projects. The new version of the Mobile App was launched in April 2020 is more user friendly and runs on iOS phones as well as Android systems.

(b): The details of funds allocated and utilized during the last five years and the current year under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary is as follow:

(Rs. in crore)

| Year | Funds Allocated (Revised Estimate) | Funds utilized/ Expenditure |
|----------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2016-17 | 538.74 | 538.74 |
| 2017-18 | 620.21 | 620.21 |
| 2018-19 | 650.00 | 650.00 |
| 2019-20 | 982.00 | 982.00 |
| 2020-21 | 593.00 | 593.00 |
| 2021-22* | 770.44 | 433.4576* |

*Expenditure as on 21.03.2022.

(c) & (d): Some States have not been able to utilise the allocated funds on account of slump in construction activities due to covid pandemic and time taken for compliance with revised Public Financial Management System (PFMS) procedure for release of funds under Centrally Sponsored Scheme. The Central Government has been vigorously pursuing the matter with the State Governments/UT Administrations to speed up expenditure. Besides imparting a number of trainings on PFMS and Nyaya Vikas Geotagging to all the States, six meetings of Central Level Monitoring Committee have also been held during this year besides other review meetings.

(e): The Registry of Supreme Court of India has compiled data on the status of judicial infrastructure and court amenities. 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 Governments/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.

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

SS(GRR)

NM

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2507
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 24TH MARCH, 2022**

LAND DISPUTE CASES IN RURAL AREAS OF KARNATAKA

2507. SHRI IRANNA KADADI:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken note that the maximum cases in rural areas pertain to land disputes in Karnataka;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the steps taken by Government for speedy disposal of such cases?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): Record of various cases in High Courts, District & Subordinate Courts is maintained on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG). NJDG, however, does not maintain any separate category of land dispute cases in the rural areas. Moreover, land and its management is the responsibility of the respective State Governments and figures in List II – State List under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution of India. As per information provided by the High Court of Karnataka, the total number of land dispute cases in District Judiciary in the State of Karnataka as on 28.02.2022 is 376622.

Department of Land Resources, under the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India is, however, implementing the “Digital India Land Records

Modernization Programme” that, *inter alia*, provides for digitization of Records of Right, cadastral maps, computerization of registration and integration of registration with the revenue offices, ultimately resulting in minimization of land disputes, to some extent. Further, State Governments and High Courts have been requested to enable linking of land records with eCourts project. The Department of Land Resources has also taken up a project on pilot basis in the States of Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra to integrate land records information with Case Information System (CIS) of eCourts project.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

A25/LAP

JS(NK9)

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2508
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 24th MARCH, 2022

Proposal to set up more e-Lok Adalats in the country

2508 Shri Naresh Bansal:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up more "e-Lok Adalats" across India to clear pending cases in High Courts and district-level courts;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including the timeline for implementation of the same and the desired outcome including the State of Uttarakhand;
- (c) the extent to which e-Lok Adalats have been efficient in reducing the number of pending cases in High Courts and Lower Courts; and
- (d) the number of cases and the rate of pendency in High Courts and district-level courts during the period of lockdown in the last two years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

- (a) and (b) 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 in all States including Uttarakhand, benches are constituted on the basis of volume of cases referred by various courts or tribunals and institutions for pre-litigation cases.

(c) and (d) The Lok Adalats have proved to be an effective Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism particularly in arresting the mounting arrears of cases before all Courts including High Courts. The first e-Lok Adalat was held in Madhya Pradesh on 27.06.2020. A total of 15.31 lakh pre-litigation cases and 8.18 lakh pending cases in Courts have been disposed of by e-Lok Adalats during June, 2020 to January, 2022. The details of cases disposed through e-Lok Adalats and pending cases reported by High courts and district courts are at **Annexure – A**.

Annexure-A

Statement as referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2508 for answering on 24.03.2022 raised by Shri Naresh Bansal, MP - Proposal to set up more e-Lok Adalats in the country

Statement showing details of e- Lok Adalats organized from June, 2020 to January, 2022

| 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 |
| 63 | 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, 2021 | 0 | 0 | 24 | 24 | 24 | 24 |
| 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, 2021 | 196 | 8 | 348 | 339 | 544 | 347 |
| 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 |
| 139 | Delhi | January, 2022 | 1787 | 1751 | 0 | 0 | 1787 | 1751 |
| 140 | Uttar Pradesh | January, 2022 | 0 | 0 | 158 | 36 | 158 | 36 |
| 141 | Andhra Pradesh | January, 2022 | 15 | 9 | 216 | 202 | 231 | 211 |
| 142 | West Bengal | January, 2022 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 7 |
| 143 | Telangana | January, 2022 | 1 | 1 | 50 | 46 | 51 | 47 |
| | Grand Total | | 4232118 | 1531287 | 2464070 | 818080 | 6696188 | 2349367 |

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

AS(A&A)

Appointment

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2509

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 24.03.2022

Vacancies in High Courts

2509. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that there are 216 permanent judges' vacancies in High Courts across the country besides 186 vacancies of Additional Judges;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has put in place any mechanism to fill up these vacancies in a time bound manner;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (e): As on 16.03.2022, against the sanctioned strength of 1104 Judges in the various High Courts, 699 Judges are in position, leaving 405 vacancies of Judges to be filled. A statement showing the sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in the High Courts is placed as **Annexure**.

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.

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). Against the vacancy of 405 Judges, at present, 175 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 230 vacancies in High Courts.

Annexure**Statement showing Sanctioned strength, Working Strength and Vacancies of Judges in the High Courts.****(As on 16.03.2022)**

| | High Court | Sanctioned strength | | | Working strength | | | Vacancies | | |
|----|------------------|---------------------|------------|-------------|------------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | | Pmt. | Addl | Total | Pmt. | Addl | Total | Pmt. | Addl | Total |
| 1 | Allahabad | 120 | 40 | 160 | 74 | 19 | 93 | 46 | 21 | 67 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 28 | 9 | 37 | 26 | 0 | 26 | 2 | 9 | 11 |
| 3 | Bombay | 71 | 23 | 94 | 51 | 7 | 58 | 20 | 16 | 36 |
| 4 | Calcutta | 54 | 18 | 72 | 31 | 8 | 39 | 23 | 10 | 33 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 17 | 5 | 22 | 10 | 3 | 13 | 7 | 2 | 9 |
| 6 | Delhi | 45 | 15 | 60 | 33 | 0 | 33 | 12 | 15 | 27 |
| 7 | Gauhati | 18 | 6 | 24 | 17 | 6 | 23 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 8 | Gujarat | 39 | 13 | 52 | 32 | 0 | 32 | 7 | 13 | 20 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 10 | 3 | 13 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| 10 | J & K and Ladakh | 13 | 4 | 17 | 13 | 0 | 13 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 19 | 6 | 25 | 19 | 1 | 20 | 0 | 5 | 5 |
| 12 | Karnataka | 47 | 15 | 62 | 39 | 6 | 45 | 8 | 9 | 17 |
| 13 | Kerala | 35 | 12 | 47 | 27 | 12 | 39 | 8 | 0 | 8 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 40 | 13 | 53 | 35 | 0 | 35 | 5 | 13 | 18 |
| 15 | Madras | 56 | 19 | 75 | 44 | 15 | 59 | 12 | 4 | 16 |
| 16 | Manipur | 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 18 | Orissa | 24 | 9 | 33 | 21 | 0 | 21 | 3 | 9 | 12 |
| 19 | Patna | 40 | 13 | 53 | 25 | 0 | 25 | 15 | 13 | 28 |
| 20 | Punjab & Haryana | 64 | 21 | 85 | 43 | 6 | 49 | 21 | 15 | 36 |
| 21 | Rajasthan | 38 | 12 | 50 | 26 | 0 | 26 | 12 | 12 | 24 |
| 22 | Sikkim | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 23 | Telangana | 32 | 10 | 42 | 19 | 0 | 19 | 13 | 10 | 23 |
| 24 | Tripura | 4 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 0 | 5 | -1 | 1 | 0 |
| 25 | Uttarakhand | 9 | 2 | 11 | 7 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| | Total | 833 | 271 | 1104 | 614 | 85 | 699 | 219 | 186 | 405 |

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

Appointment

AS(A&A)

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2522

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 24.03.2022

States without High Courts

2522. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that even after becoming full-fledged State, some of the States in the country do not have their own High Courts within their States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether Government has any proposal to set up High Courts in all those States where High Courts does not exist;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (e): The details of the High Courts in the country along with their State/UT wise jurisdiction is placed as **Annexure**. Article 214 of the Constitution of India provides that there shall be a High Court for each State. However, such proposals require consultation with concerned State Government as the States are required to create and provide necessary infrastructure facilities and to meet the expenditure for setting up and running of the High Court. These proposals also need consultation with the concerned High Courts having territorial jurisdiction currently. At present, there is no complete proposal regarding setting up of a new High Court pending with the Government.

NAME OF HIGH COURTS AND THEIR JURISDICTION

| Sl. No. | Name of High Court | Jurisdiction | |
|---------|--------------------|--|---|
| | | States | Union Territories |
| 1 | Allahabad | 1.Uttar Pradesh | - |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 2. Andhra Pradesh | - |
| 3 | Bombay | 3.Maharashtra 4.Goa | 1. Dadra & Nagar Haveli 2. Daman & Diu |
| 4 | Calcutta | 5.West Bengal | 3. Andaman & Nicobar Islands |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 6. Chhattisgarh | |
| 6 | Delhi | - | 4. NCT of Delhi |
| 7 | Gauhati | 7. Assam 8. Nagaland 9. Mizoram 10. Arunachal Pradesh | - |
| 8 | Gujarat | 11. Gujarat | - |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 12. Himachal Pradesh | - |
| 10 | J & K and Ladakh | - | 5. Jammu & Kashmir 6. Ladakh |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 13. Jharkhand | - |
| 12 | Karnataka | 14. Karnataka | - |
| 13 | Kerala | 15. Kerala | 7. Lakshadweep Islands |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 16. Madhya Pradesh | - |
| 15 | Madras | 17. Tamil Nadu | 8. Puducherry |
| 16 | Manipur | 18. Manipur | - |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 19. Meghalaya | - |
| 18 | Orissa | 20. Odisha | - |
| 19 | Patna | 21. Bihar | - |
| 20 | Punjab & Haryana | 22. Punjab 23. Haryana | 9.Chandigarh |
| 21 | Rajasthan | 24. Rajasthan | - |
| 22 | Sikkim | 25. Sikkim | - |
| 23 | Telangana | 26. Telangana | - |
| 24 | Tripura | 27. Tripura | - |
| 25 | Uttarakhand | 28. Uttarakhand | - |

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

JS(CORP)

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No 2556

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 24TH MARCH, 2022

Funds for upgradation of judicial infrastructure

2556. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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

- (a) the details of funds allocated, released and utilized for upgradation/provision of judicial infrastructure in the country during 2020-21 and 2021-22 till date along with heads under which funds have been utilized, year and State-wise;
- (b) whether judicial infrastructure in the country is at par with developed countries;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) whether lack of judicial infrastructure in the country is main reason for huge pending cases in Indian courts?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): 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 for Judiciary by providing financial assistance to State Governments / UTs in the prescribed fund sharing pattern between Centre and States. The Scheme is being implemented

since 1993-94. It covers the construction of court buildings and residential accommodations for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Judiciary. As on date a sum of Rs. 8758.71 crore has been released under the Scheme so far since its inception, out of which Rs. 5314.40 crore (60.68 %) has been released since 2014-15. The Scheme has been extended from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a budgetary outlay of Rs. 9000 crore including Central share of Rs. 5307.00 crore. Besides the construction of Court Halls and Residential Quarters, the Scheme now also covers the construction of Lawyers' Halls, Digital Computer Rooms and Toilet Complexes in the District and Subordinate Courts. The State-wise detail of funds allocated during 2020-21 and 2021-22 is at *Annexure-I*. The detail of funds released and utilized during 2020-21 and 2021-22 under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary is at *Annexure-II*. Comparative assessment of judicial infrastructure with developed countries is subjective and evolving since constant efforts are being made to improve and upgrade the existing facilities in the court complexes.

(e): 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. 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.

Statement referred to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No.2556 for reply on 24.03.2022

| Sl. No. | Name of State | Tentative Allocation with reference to BE 2020-21 (in Rs. crore) | Modified allocation for 2020-21 on pro-rata basis with respect to the budget provided at RE stage | Tentative Allocation with reference to BE 2021-22 (in Rs. crore) | Modified allocation for 2021-22 on pro-rata basis with respect to the budget provided at RE stage |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|--|---|--|---|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 12.85 | 9.87 | 16.60 | 16.45 |
| 2 | Telangana | 16.40 | 12.59 | 15.51 | 15.37 |
| 3 | Bihar | 67.15 | 51.56 | 51.74 | 51.28 |
| 4 | Chhattisgarh | 7.84 | 6.02 | 11.58 | 11.48 |
| 5 | Goa | 3.80 | 2.92 | 3.75 | 3.72 |
| 6 | Gujarat | 15.49 | 11.89 | 13.96 | 13.84 |
| 7 | Haryana | 25.03 | 19.22 | 24.27 | 24.06 |
| 8 | Himachal Pradesh | 5.50 | 4.22 | 6.07 | 6.02 |
| 9 | Jharkhand | 9.66 | 7.42 | 7.84 | 7.77 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 35.38 | 27.17 | 31.69 | 31.41 |
| 11 | Kerala | 17.11 | 13.14 | 19.22 | 19.05 |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 56.23 | 43.18 | 64.51 | 63.94 |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 28.29 | 21.72 | 21.20 | 21.01 |
| 14 | Odisha | 32.65 | 25.07 | 27.93 | 27.68 |
| 15 | Punjab | 18.46 | 14.17 | 19.18 | 19.01 |
| 16 | Rajasthan | 39.30 | 30.18 | 49.04 | 48.61 |
| 17 | Tamilnadu | 34.80 | 26.72 | 35.66 | 35.35 |
| 18 | Uttar Pradesh | 146.20 | 112.26 | 139.90 | 138.67 |
| 19 | Uttarakhand | 9.39 | 7.21 | 41.44 | 41.08 |
| 20 | West Bengal | 40.47 | 31.07 | 30.63 | 30.36 |
| Total | | 622.00 | 477.60 | 631.72 | 626.16 |
| North Eastern States | | | | | |
| 1 | Arunachal Pradesh | 5.66 | 4.49 | 5.97 | 5.97 |
| 2 | Assam | 30.20 | 23.93 | 32.02 | 32.02 |
| 3 | Manipur | 7.12 | 5.64 | 8.12 | 8.12 |
| 4 | Meghalaya | 12.85 | 10.18 | 13.07 | 13.07 |
| 5 | Mizoram | 5.32 | 4.22 | 5.25 | 5.25 |
| 6 | Nagaland | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 7 | Sikkim | 5.94 | 4.71 | 3.52 | 3.52 |
| 8 | Tripura | 12.91 | 10.23 | 14.33 | 14.33 |
| Total | | 80.00 | 63.40 | 82.28 | 82.28 |

| UTs without Legislature | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1 | Andaman & Nicobar Islands | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 |
| 2 | Chandigarh | | | | |
| 3 | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | | | | |
| 4 | Daman and Diu | | | | |
| 5 | Lakshadweep | | | | |
| 6 | Ladakh | | | | |
| UTs with Legislature | | | | | |
| 1 | Delhi | 50.00 | 50.00 | 60.00 | 60.00 |
| 2 | Puducherry | | | | |
| 3 | Jammu and Kashmir | | | | |
| Grand Total | | 754.00 | 593.00 | 776.00 | 770.44 |

Note: The above allocation is tentative and based on Budget Estimate provided before the beginning of the Financial Year. Actual release is with respect to final allocation at RE stage and fulfillment of other requirements as per the guidelines of the Scheme.

Annexure-II

Statement referred to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No.2556 for reply on 24.03.2022

(Rs. in lakh)

| Sl. No. | State | Fund released 2020-21 | Fund utilized 2020-21 | Fund released 2021-22 (as on date) | Fund utilized 2021-22 (as on date) |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 1028.00 | 746.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2 | Bihar | 6572.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | Chhattisgarh | 784.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | Goa | 380.00 | 380.00 | 320.00 | 320.00 |
| 5 | Gujarat | 1350.40 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 6 | Haryana | 2200.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 7 | Himachal Pradesh | 550.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 8 | Jharkhand | 905.00 | 905.00 | 600.00 | 0.00 |
| 9 | Karnataka | 2972.00 | 0.00 | 2700.00 | 0.00 |
| 10 | Kerala | 1300.00 | 1300.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 11 | Madhya Pradesh | 4560.00 | 0.00 | 5500.00 | 0.00 |
| 12 | Maharashtra | 2311.00 | 2311.00 | 1800.00 | 1557.50 |
| 13 | Odisha | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 14 | Punjab | 1647.60 | 1647.60 | 1650.00 | 1650.00 |
| 15 | Rajasthan | 2990.00 | 1320.64 | 4150.00 | 0.00 |
| 16 | Tamil Nadu | 1817.00 | 1817.00 | 3566.00 | 0.00 |
| 17 | Telangana | 1600.00 | 1400.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 18 | Uttarakhand | 586.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 19 | Uttar Pradesh | 11100.00 | 11100.00 | 11900.00 | 11850.00 |
| 20 | West Bengal | 3107.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| North Eastern States | | | | | |
| 1 | Arunachal Pradesh | 500.00 | 377.58 | 409.00 | 93.14 |
| 2 | Assam | 2500.00 | 2500.00 | 2740.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | Manipur | 500.00 | 268.09 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | Meghalaya | 771.00 | 771.00 | 1150.00 | 1150.00 |
| 5 | Mizoram | 500.00 | 500.00 | 450.00 | 0.00 |
| 6 | Nagaland | 500.00 | 500.00 | 1327.00 | 0.00 |
| 7 | Sikkim | 295.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 8 | Tripura | 774.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Union Territories | | | | | |
| 1 | A & N Islands | 35.36 | 35.36 | 83.76 | 0.00 |
| 2 | Chandigarh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | D & N Haveli | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | Daman & Diu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5 | Delhi | 4500.00 | 4500.00 | 3000.00 | 1464.00 |
| 6 | Lakshadweep | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 7 | Puducherry | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 8 | Jammu & Kashmir | 664.64 | 487.49 | 2000.00 | 0.00 |
| 9 | Ladakh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |

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

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3281
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 31ST MARCH, 2022**

PENDING CASES IN RAJASTHAN

3281. # SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:

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

- (a) whether the shortage of judges is the main reason behind the pending cases in the country, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether Government has issued any guidelines under the new policy for quick disposal of the pending cases in the country;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the details of the pending cases in the State of Rajasthan during the last two years and the current year?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): 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. 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. 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.

(d): The details of the pending cases in the State of Rajasthan during the last two years and the current year is as under:-

| Sl. No. | Year | High Court of Rajasthan | District & Subordinate Courts in Rajasthan |
|---------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1 | 2020 (as on 31.12.2020) | 523600 | 1830462 |
| 2 | 2021 (as on 31.12.2021) | 574064 | 2029814 |
| 3 | 2022 (as on 25.03.2022) | 586310 | 2086703 |

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3315

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 31.03.2022

Judges belonging to SC, ST and OBC communities

3315. DR. V. SIVADASAN:

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

- (a) the number of judges appointed in High Courts and the Supreme Court belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Caste, year-wise data since 2017;
- (b) the total number of judges appointed in the High Courts and the Supreme Court since 2017, year-wise;
- (c) whether the representation of marginalised communities in judiciary is below their demographic proportion; and
- (d) if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (d): 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 reservation for any caste or class of persons. Hence no caste/category wise data is maintained centrally.

A statement showing total number of judges appointed each year in the High Courts and the Supreme Court since 2017 may be seen at **Annexure.**

In the present system of appointment of Judges to the constitutional courts through the Collegium system, the onus to provide social diversity and representation to all sections of the society including SC/ST/OBC/Women/Minorities primarily falls on the Judiciary. Government cannot appoint any person as a High Court Judge who is not recommended by the High Court Collegium/Supreme Court Collegium.

However, the Government remains committed to social diversity in the appointment of Judges in the Higher Judiciary and 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.

ANNEXURE

(As on 25.03.2022)

| Supreme Court | | Years | | | | | | Total |
|---------------|------------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| | | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | |
| | | 05 | 08 | 10 | - | 09 | - | 32 |
| Sl. No. | High Courts | | | | | | | |
| 1 | Allahabad | 31 | 28 | 10 | 04 | 17 | 1 | 91 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 10 | - | 02 | 07 | 02 | 07 | 28 |
| 3 | Bombay | 14 | 04 | 11 | 04 | 06 | - | 39 |
| 4 | Calcutta | 06 | 11 | 06 | 01 | 08 | - | 32 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 03 | 04 | - | - | 03 | - | 10 |
| 6 | Delhi | 04 | 05 | 04 | - | 02 | 06 | 21 |
| 7 | Gauhati | 02 | 02 | 04 | - | 06 | - | 14 |
| 8 | Gujarat | - | 04 | 03 | 07 | 07 | - | 21 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | - | - | 02 | - | 01 | - | 03 |
| 10 | J & K and Ladakh | 03 | 02 | - | 05 | 02 | 2 | 14 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 02 | 03 | 02 | - | 04 | - | 11 |
| 12 | Karnataka | 02 | 12 | 10 | 10 | 06 | - | 40 |
| 13 | Kerala | 03 | 04 | 01 | 06 | 12 | - | 26 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | - | 08 | 02 | - | 08 | 06 | 24 |
| 15 | Madras | 12 | 08 | 01 | 10 | 05 | 2 | 38 |
| 16 | Manipur | - | - | - | 01 | - | - | 01 |
| 17 | Meghalaya | - | 01 | 01 | - | - | - | 02 |
| 18 | Orissa | - | 01 | 01 | 02 | 04 | 03 | 11 |
| 19 | Patna | 06 | - | 04 | - | 06 | 2 | 18 |
| 20 | Punjab & Haryana | 08 | 07 | 10 | 01 | 06 | - | 32 |
| 21 | Rajasthan | 05 | - | 03 | 06 | 08 | - | 22 |
| 22 | Sikkim | 01 | - | - | - | - | - | 01 |
| 23 | Telangana | - | - | 03 | 01 | 07 | 10 | 21 |
| 24 | Tripura | - | 01 | - | 01 | - | - | 02 |
| 25 | Uttarakhand | 03 | 03 | 01 | - | - | - | 07 |
| | Total | 115 | 108 | 81 | 66 | 120 | 39 | 529 |

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3316

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 31.03.2022

Complaints against judges

3316. DR. V. SIVADASAN:

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

- (a) the number of corruption and criminal complaints received against judges of High Courts and the Supreme Court during the last five years, year-wise data;
- (b) the number of cases which were enquired and by whom they were enquired; and
- (c) the number of cases in which there is conviction till date, year-wise data?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): Accountability in higher judiciary is maintained through "in-house mechanism". The Supreme Court of India, in its full Court meeting on 7 May, 1997, the Supreme Court of India adopted two Resolutions namely (i) 'The Restatement of Values of Judicial Life' which lays down certain judicial standards and principles to be observed and followed by the Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts (ii) "in-house procedure' for taking suitable remedial action against judges who do not follow universally accepted values of Judicial life including those included in the Restatement of Values of Judicial life.

As per the established “in-house mechanism for the higher judiciary, the Chief Justice of India is competent to receive complaints against the conduct of Judges of the Supreme Court and the Chief Justices of the High Courts. Similarly, the Chief Justices of the High Courts are competent to receive complaints against the conduct of High Court Judges. The complaints/representations received are forwarded to the Chief Justice of India or to the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court, as the case may be, for appropriate action.

In the last five years, only in one case, Department of Justice, with the approval of Hon’ble President of India, conveyed sanction for prosecution under section 19 of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended by the Prevention of Corruption Act, 2018) and section 197 of Cr.PC to CBI against a retired High Court Judge in 2021.

1631 number of complaints (from 01.01.2017 to 31.12.2021) in the Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) on the functioning of the judiciary including judicial corruption have been received during the last 05 years and forwarded to the CJI/Chief Justice of High Courts respectively as per the established “in-house mechanism”.

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No 3321

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 31ST MARCH, 2022

Lack of judicial infrastructure

3321. SHRI NARAIN DASS GUPTA:

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

- (a) whether an assessment of the lack of judicial infrastructure in the country as pointed out by the Chief Justice of India (CJI) recently has been done, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether there is a need to appoint statutory authorities, as pointed out by the CJI, to properly utilise the funds allocated for creating better judicial infrastructure;
- (c) whether the lack of infrastructure led to increase in pending cases in the Indian judiciary, if so, the current figure of backlog in Indian judiciary; and
- (d) whether there is a need to increase the number of judges in the High Courts as pointed out by the CJI, if so, the current data on sanctioned and vacant positions of judges in the High Courts?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): A proposal has been received from the 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 in 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.

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 for Judiciary by providing financial assistance to State Governments / UTs in the prescribed fund sharing pattern between Centre and States. The Scheme is being implemented since 1993-94. It covers the construction of court buildings and residential accommodations for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Judiciary. A sum of Rs. 8758.71 crore has been released under the Scheme so far since its inception, out of which Rs. 5314.40 crore (60.68 %) has been released since 2014-15. The Scheme has been extended from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a budgetary outlay of Rs. 9000 crore including Central share of Rs. 5307.00 crore. Besides the construction of Court Halls and Residential Quarters, the Scheme now also covers the construction of Lawyers' Halls, Digital Computer Rooms and Toilet Complexes in the District and Subordinate Courts.

As per the information available, details of number of cases pending in various courts are given below:-

(As on 25.03.2022)

| Court | Number of Cases pending |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Supreme Court* | 70,154 |
| High Courts | 58,90,812 |
| District and Subordinate Courts | 4,11,09,709 |

*As on 02.03.2022

The status of sanctioned strength and working strength of judges in High Courts is as under:

(As on 25.03.2022)

| High Courts | Sanctioned Strength | Working Strength | Vacancy |
|--------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| | 1104 | 717 | 387 |

Subsequent to the deliberations held in the Conference of the Chief Ministers and Chief Justices in 2013 it was inter-alia resolved that the total sanctioned strength of each High Court could be increased. Subsequently the Judge strength of various High Courts was increased. At present, the sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has increased from 906 in 2014 to 1104 in 2022.

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

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3322
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 31st MARCH, 2022**

VIRTUAL HEARING POLICY IN THE COURTS

3322. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI:

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

- (a) the details of Government policy to deal with the increasing backlog of cases in the courts and its success;**
- (b) whether Government is aware that virtual hearing of the cases by the High Courts and the Supreme Court helped the under privileged litigants of distant places;**
- (c) whether the facilities for virtual hearing are available in the Supreme Court and the High Courts of the country; and**
- (d) the details of the policy and the efforts of Government, if any, for continuation of the virtual hearing in the courts as a permanent feature for easy access of justice at the option of a litigant?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

- (a) 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.

(b) to (d): Facilities for virtual hearing are available in the Supreme Court as well as in High Courts of the country. Since Covid lockdown started, the District courts heard 1,11,40,223 cases while the High Court heard 60,21,688 cases (totalling 1.71 crore) till 31.01.2022 using video conferencing. The Supreme Court held 2,18,891 hearings till 14.03.2022 since the beginning of lockdown period. To bring about uniformity and standardization in the conduct of Video Conferencing (VC), an overarching order was passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on 6th April 2020 which gave legal sanctity and validity to the court hearings done through VC. Further, VC rules were framed by a 5-judge committee which was circulated to all the High Courts for adoption after local contextualization. A total of 23 High Courts have implemented Video Conferencing rules. 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 hearing of the cases by the High Courts and the Supreme Court has helped the litigants including the under privileged litigants as it helps litigants to appear before the court from any location of their choice thus leading to considerable saving of time and money. It also helped the entire legal ecosystem including vulnerable litigants to have recourse to justice delivery system particularly during the Covid pandemic when congregational mode of court hearing could not be held due to lockdown and social distancing protocols. However, whether open physical courts will operate alongwith virtual hearing is an administrative matter which falls within the purview and domain of judiciary for taking a decision.

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

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3323
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 31st MARCH, 2022**

PENDENCY IN THE HIGH COURT OF UTTAR PRADESH

3323. SHRI SYED ZAFAR ISLAM:

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

- (a) the details of number of cases pending in the High Court of Uttar Pradesh at present;**
- (b) whether the pendency of legal cases has prevented people from getting justice on time in Uttar Pradesh;**
- (c) if so, the reaction of the Central Government in this regard;**
- (d) the number of judges working in the High Court of Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years;**
- (e) whether the need for increase in number of courts has been felt; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken in this regard so far?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): As per the information/data available on the web portal of National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), the number of cases pending in Allahabad High Court, Uttar Pradesh is 10,31,282 as on 25 March, 2022. 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.

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.

(d): The number of judges working in Allahabad High Court, Uttar Pradesh during each of the last three years is as under:-

| Sl. No. | Year | Sanctioned Strength | Working Strength |
|---------|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 1 | 2019 (as on 01.01.2019) | 160 | 109 |
| 2 | 2020 (as on 01.01.2020) | 160 | 107 |
| 3 | 2021 (as on 01.01.2021) | 160 | 96 |
| 4 | 2022 (as on 01.01.2022) | 160 | 93 |

(e) & (f): New courts at District and below District / Subordinate (Tehsil / Taluka) level are established by the respective State Governments in consultation with the concerned High Courts, as per their need and resources. Central Government has no role in the establishment of District and Subordinate Courts. The Central Government however provides financial assistance to State Governments / UTs under a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of infrastructure of district and subordinate courts. It has

approved continuation of the Scheme from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with financial outlay of Rs. 9,000 crore which includes Central Share of Rs. 5307 crore. Besides the construction of Court Halls and Residential Units of District and Subordinate Courts, the current form of the scheme also includes construction of Toilet Complexes, Lawyers' Halls and Digital Computer Rooms in the Subordinate Judiciary. Since inception of this scheme, funds to the tune of Rs. 1379.33 crores have been provided to Uttar Pradesh.

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

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. *379

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

Infrastructure in lower courts

***379. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:**

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Chief Justice of India has written a letter to Government about the lack of infrastructure in lower courts;
- (b) if so, the response of Government thereto;
- (c) the measures taken by Government and the funds allocated for infrastructure improvement in lower courts during the last five years, State-wise details thereof;
- (d) whether Government has made any study about the vacancies pending in lower courts, if so, the State-wise data thereof; and
- (e) whether Government proposes to increase the number of judges in the lower courts?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) of RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *379 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH APRIL 2022.

(a) to (c): 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 are important stakeholders, for their views on the contours of the proposal to enable taking a considered view on the matter.

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. 9,009 crore under the scheme to States/UTs, out of which Rs. 5,565 crore has been released since 2014-15

which is around 61.77% of the total release under the scheme. Under this scheme, funds are released by the Central Government for construction of court buildings and residential accommodations for judicial officers of district and subordinate judiciary. The status of funds released to the States under the scheme during 5 years is at *Annexure I*.

The scheme has been extended from time to time. The scheme was earlier extended in 2017 for 3 years from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020 with budgetary outlay of Rs.3,320 crore. The scheme was again extended for one year i.e. upto 31.03.2021. This scheme was evaluated by NITI Aayog which recommended its continuance. The Government has now 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.9,000 crore, including Central share of Rs.5,307 crore. The scheme components have been expanded, to also cover the construction of toilets (Rs.47 crore), digital computer rooms (Rs.60 crore) and lawyers' hall (Rs.700 crore), in addition to the court halls & residential units (Rs.4,500 crore) in the district and subordinate courts.

As per information made available by the High Courts, against sanctioned strength of 24,521 and working strength of 19,341 judges, presently 20,812 court halls (including 578 rented ones) and 18,338 residential units are available in the district and subordinate courts as on 31.03.2022. Moreover, 2,767 court halls and 1,651 residential units are under construction. It may therefore be seen that number of court halls available presently are more than the present working strength, but less than the sanctioned strength of the judicial officers.

(d) & (e): Under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of district and subordinate judiciary in the States vests 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. The new courts at district and below district / subordinate (tehsil / taluka) level are established by the respective State Governments in consultation with the concerned High Courts, as per their need and resources. Central Government has no role in the matter.

The cadre strength of judges in district and subordinate courts has increased from 19,518 in 2014 to 24,521 in April, 2022. The vacancy position of judicial officers in various States and UTs is at *Annexure - II*.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO REPLY TO PARTS (A) to (C) OF RAJYA
SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO *379 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH APRIL,
2022.**

| FUNDS RELEASED UNDER CSS SCHEME FOR INFRASTRUCTURAL FACILITIES FOR JUDICIARY DURING LAST 5 YEARS | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| (Rs. in lakhs) | | | | | | | |
| S. No. | State | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | Total |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 0.00 | 1000.00 | 2000.00 | 1028.00 | | 4028.00 |
| 2 | Bihar | 4290.00 | 6204.00 | 8762.00 | 6572.00 | | 25828.00 |
| 3 | Chhattisgarh | 0.00 | 1968.00 | 1983.00 | 784.00 | | 4735.00 |
| 4 | Goa | 0.00 | 315.00 | 406.00 | 380.00 | 320.00 | 1421.00 |
| 5 | Gujarat | 5000.00 | 1502.00 | 1649.00 | 1350.40 | | 9501.40 |
| 6 | Haryana | 1500.00 | 1191.00 | 1406.00 | 2200.00 | | 6297.00 |
| 7 | Himachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 408.00 | 572.00 | 550.00 | | 1530.00 |
| 8 | Jammu & Kashmir | 1000.00 | 1901.00 | 1000.00 | 0.00 | | 3901.00 |
| 9 | Jkhand | 5000.00 | 959.00 | 1374.00 | 905.00 | 600.00 | 8838.00 |
| 10 | K'taka | 5000.00 | 3812.00 | 4404.00 | 2972.00 | 2700.00 | 18888.00 |
| 11 | Kerala | 2500.00 | 3082.00 | 1582.00 | 1300.00 | 5000.00 | 13464.00 |
| 12 | MP | 5000.00 | 7942.00 | 6690.00 | 4560.00 | 5500.00 | 29692.00 |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 5000.00 | 1058.00 | 6109.00 | 2311.00 | 1800.00 | 16278.00 |
| 14 | Odisha | 0.00 | 2250.00 | 3569.00 | 0.00 | | 5819.00 |
| 15 | Punjab | 5000.00 | 2647.00 | 3978.00 | 1647.60 | 1650.00 | 14922.60 |
| 16 | R'than | 1734.00 | 1741.00 | 6421.00 | 2990.00 | 4150.00 | 17036.00 |
| 17 | TN | 0.00 | 609.00 | 3871.00 | 1817.00 | 3566.00 | 9863.00 |
| 18 | T'gana | 0.00 | 1000.00 | 565.00 | 1600.00 | | 3165.00 |
| 19 | UK | 2500.00 | 2202.00 | 2850.00 | 586.00 | 8000.00 | 16138.00 |
| 20 | UP | 7500.00 | 12806.00 | 16966.00 | 11100.00 | 21900.00 | 70272.00 |
| 21 | WB | 1734.00 | 3522.00 | 6143.00 | 3107.00 | | 14506.00 |
| | Total (A) | 52758.00 | 58119.00 | 82300.00 | 47760.00 | 55186.00 | 240937.00 |
| | NER | | | | | | |
| 1 | Aru.P | 0.00 | 0.00 | 269.00 | 500.00 | 409.00 | 1178.00 |
| 2 | Assam | 2000.00 | 3209.00 | 3654.00 | 2500.00 | 2740.00 | 14103.00 |
| 3 | Manipur | 0.00 | 887.00 | 966.00 | 500.00 | | 2353.00 |
| 4 | Megh.. | 863.00 | 1482.00 | 2285.00 | 771.00 | 2802.00 | 8203.00 |
| 5 | Mizoram | 2000.00 | 594.00 | 524.00 | 500.00 | 950.00 | 4568.00 |
| 6 | Nagaland | 2000.00 | 321.00 | 342.00 | 500.00 | 1327.00 | 4490.00 |
| 7 | Sikkim | 0.00 | 257.00 | 278.00 | 295.00 | | 830.00 |
| 8 | Tripura | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1882.00 | 774.00 | | 2656.00 |
| | Total (B) | 6863.00 | 6750.00 | 10200.00 | 6340.00 | 8228.00 | 30153.00 |
| | UTs | | | | | | |
| 1 | A&N | 0.00 | 131.00 | 16.79 | 35.36 | 0.00 | 183.15 |
| 2 | Chdgrh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| 3 | DNHaveli | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| 4 | Daman & Diu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| 5 | Delhi | 2500.00 | | 4852.21 | 4500.00 | 3000.00 | 14852.21 |
| 6 | Lakshadweep | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| 7 | Puducherry | 0.00 | 0.00 | 331.00 | 0.00 | | 331.00 |
| 8 | J&K | 0.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 | 664.64 | 2000.00 | 3164.64 |
| 9 | Ladakh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| | Total (C) | 2500.00 | 131.00 | 5700.00 | 5200.00 | 5000.00 | 13531.00 |
| | Grand Total (A+B+C) | 62121.00 | 65000.00 | 98200.00 | 59300.00 | 68414.00 | 353035.00 |

Annexure-II**STATEMENT REFERRED TO REPLY TO PARTS (D) & (E) OF RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO *379 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH APRIL, 2022**

| Sl. No. | States & UTS | Total Sanctioned Strength | Total Working Strength | Total Vacancy |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | Andaman and Nicobar | 0 | 13 | -13 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 607 | 487 | 120 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 41 | 32 | 9 |
| 4 | Assam | 467 | 436 | 31 |
| 5 | Bihar | 1954 | 1385 | 569 |
| 6 | Chandigarh | 30 | 30 | 0 |
| 7 | Chhattisgarh | 482 | 407 | 75 |
| 8 | D & N Haveli | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 9 | Daman & Diu | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| 10 | Delhi | 884 | 686 | 198 |
| 11 | Goa | 50 | 40 | 10 |
| 12 | Gujarat | 1523 | 1176 | 347 |
| 13 | Haryana | 772 | 477 | 295 |
| 14 | Himachal Pradesh | 175 | 161 | 14 |
| 15 | Jammu and Kashmir | 300 | 240 | 60 |
| 16 | Jharkhand | 675 | 517 | 158 |
| 17 | Karnataka | 1363 | 1082 | 281 |
| 18 | Kerala | 569 | 487 | 82 |
| 19 | Ladakh | 17 | 9 | 8 |
| 20 | Lakshadweep | 3 | 3 | 0 |
| 21 | Madhya Pradesh | 2021 | 1545 | 476 |
| 22 | Maharashtra | 2190 | 1940 | 250 |
| 23 | Manipur | 59 | 46 | 13 |
| 24 | Meghalaya | 99 | 51 | 48 |
| 25 | Mizoram | 65 | 41 | 24 |
| 26 | Nagaland | 34 | 24 | 10 |
| 27 | Odisha | 977 | 781 | 196 |
| 28 | Puducherry | 26 | 11 | 15 |
| 29 | Punjab | 692 | 606 | 86 |
| 30 | Rajasthan | 1549 | 1272 | 277 |
| 31 | Sikkim | 28 | 20 | 8 |
| 32 | Tamil Nadu | 1319 | 1080 | 239 |
| 33 | Telangana | 474 | 424 | 50 |
| 34 | Tripura | 122 | 108 | 14 |
| 35 | Uttar Pradesh | 3634 | 2528 | 1106 |
| 36 | Uttarakhand | 299 | 272 | 27 |
| 37 | West Bengal | 1014 | 918 | 96 |
| TOTAL | | 24521 | 19341 | 5180 |

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SS(CRR)

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4038
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 07TH APRIL, 2022

CASE CLEARANCE RATE IN HIGH COURTS

4038. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

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

- (a) whether the Case Clearance Rate (CCR) calculated on the basis of the number of cases disposed of in a year compared to the number of cases filed in that year, has been impressive in some of the High Courts and the Trial Courts in the States, if so, the details thereof during pre and post Covid-19 situation till date; and
- (b) the number of cases disposed of in each court from lower courts to higher court online and offline since 2017 onwards to till date?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): The information related to the Case Clearance Rate (CCR) is not maintained centrally. However, on the basis of the information available with the Department of Justice, CCR of various High Courts and district and subordinate courts for the pre-Covid-19 (year 2019) and post-Covid 19 (year 2020 and 2021) has been calculated by comparing the number of cases disposed of in a year to the number of cases filed in that year and is annexed at *Annexure I* and *Annexure II* respectively.

(b): The information related to the number of cases disposed of in High Court and district & subordinate courts, online and offline is not maintained centrally. However, the

number of cases disposed of by the High Courts and district & subordinate courts from 2017 onwards till 2021 is annexed at *Annexure-III* and *Annexure-IV* respectively.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4038 FOR ANSWER ON 07.04.2022 REGARDING CASE
CLEARANCE RATE IN HIGH COURTS**

| S. No. | Name of High Court | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|--------|--------------------------|---------|---------------|---------|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 49.48% | 68.62% | 63.61% |
| 2 | Gauhati (Principal Seat) | 83.88% | 80.54% | 83.54% |
| | Kohima Bench | 94.66% | 63.33% | 73.29% |
| | Aizawl Bench | 80.56% | 88.04% | 96.88% |
| | Itanagar Bench | 110.15% | 87.36% | 98.26% |
| 3 | Allahabad | 98.40% | 77.76% | 86.33% |
| 4 | Patna | 86.29% | 88.00% | 56.61% |
| 5 | Calcutta | 105.89% | Not Available | 104.91% |
| 6 | Chhattisgarh | 87.30% | 78.41% | 85.64% |
| 7 | Delhi | 86.48% | 65.46% | 72.54% |
| 8 | Gujarat | 81.75% | 75.18% | 83.15% |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 60.30% | 52.98% | 78.57% |
| 10 | Jammu & Kashmir | 57.19% | 231.79% | 184.90% |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 108.79% | 89.96% | 99.30% |
| 12 | Karnataka | 158.94% | 115.97% | 103.83% |
| 13 | Kerala | 95.28% | 76.33% | 80.31% |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 80.65% | 74.87% | 80.69% |
| 15 | Bombay | 83.37% | 64.12% | 67.52% |
| 16 | Madras | 112.77% | 103.23% | 109.33% |
| 17 | Manipur | 135.50% | 65.30% | 84.50% |
| 18 | Meghalaya | 102.54% | 59.87% | 82.57% |
| 19 | Orissa* | 115.00% | 73.00% | 93.26% |
| 20 | Punjab & Haryana | 88.49% | 74.06% | 73.21% |
| 21 | Rajasthan | 85.82% | 58.96% | 75.04% |
| 22 | Sikkim | 108.70% | 96.45% | 138.22% |
| 23 | Telangana | 65.08% | 57.69% | 70.04% |
| 24 | Tripura | 111.99% | 111.09% | 127.67% |
| 25 | Uttarakhand | 94.68% | 84.45% | 82.87% |

*Note: For the State of Odisha, the Case Clearance Rate for the year 2021 is based on data of institution and disposal information available till Jan-June, 2021.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED
QUESTION NO. 4038 FOR ANSWER ON 07.04.2022 REGARDING CASE CLEARANCE RATE
IN HIGH COURTS**

| S. No. | Name of State | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 |
|--------|----------------------------------|---|---------------|---------|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 92.62% | 67.07% | 64.18% |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh(Assam HC) | 89.71% | 72.14% | 83.03% |
| 3 | Assam | 96.71% | 61.19% | 76.83% |
| 4 | Bihar | 67.73% | 36.58% | 57.66% |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 92.42% | 62.57% | 79.57% |
| 6 | Goa (Bombay HC) | 84.00% | 59.00% | 99.00% |
| 7 | Gujarat | 105.36% | 55.20% | 97.71% |
| 8 | Haryana | 81.63% | 44.02% | 59.06% |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 92.88% | 59.52% | 89.74% |
| 10 | Jharkhand | 89.27% | 65.03% | 69.41% |
| 11 | Karnataka | 97.22% | 84.37% | 96.24% |
| 12 | Kerala | 103.95% | 43.52% | 100.02% |
| 13 | Madhya Pradesh | 92.29% | 71.48% | 85.31% |
| 14 | Maharashtra | 87.00% | 52.00% | 82.00% |
| 15 | Manipur | 92.50% | 79.80% | 50.00% |
| 16 | Meghalaya | 98.88% | 59.45% | 96.67% |
| 17 | Mizoram(Assam HC) | 96.69% | 102.08% | 100.30% |
| 18 | Nagaland (Assam HC) | 139.84% | 74.64% | 91.53% |
| 19 | Odisha* | 72.00% | 44.00% | 45.45% |
| 20 | Punjab | 100.35% | 57.00% | 80.36% |
| 21 | Rajasthan | 97.55% | 81.56% | 84.72% |
| 22 | Sikkim | 104.15% | 76.88% | 91.82% |
| 23 | Tamil Nadu | 93.73% | 76.91% | 90.59% |
| 24 | Telangana | 87.00% | 54.30% | 78.85% |
| 25 | Tripura | 151.26% | 60.32% | 108.72% |
| 26 | Uttarakhand | 112.17% | 72.69% | 85.02% |
| 27 | Uttar Pradesh | 80.81% | 69.97% | 76.91% |
| 28 | West Bengal | 87.61% | Not Available | 69.10% |
| 29 | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | Not Available | Not Available | 105.39% |
| 30 | Chandigarh | 96.18% | 82.13% | 108.16% |
| 31 | Delhi | 94.45% | 64.18% | 62.44% |
| 32 | Daman & Diu (Bombay HC) | 92.00% | 74.00% | 97.00% |
| 33 | Dadra & Nagar Haveli (Bombay HC) | 116.00% | 66.00% | 91.00% |
| 34 | Ladakh | | | |
| 35 | Jammu & Srinagar | 89.54% | 70.10% | 80.54% |
| 36 | Lakshadweep | (Same as for the District and Subordinate Courts, Kerala) | | |
| 37 | Puducherry | (Same as for the District and Subordinate Courts, Tamilnadu) | | |

*Note: For the State of Odisha, the Case Clearance Rate for the year 2021 is based on data of institution and disposal information available till Jan-June, 2021.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4038 FOR ANSWER ON 07.04.2022 REGARDING CASE
CLEARANCE RATE IN HIGH COURTS**

| Sl. No. | Name of High Court | Disposed of Cases Whole Year 2017 | Disposed of Cases Whole Year 2018 | Disposed of Cases Whole Year 2019 | Disposed of Cases Whole Year 2020 | Disposed of Cases Whole Year 2021 |
|--------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Allahabad | 3,01,259 | 2,98,035 | 3,19,573 | 1,69,158 | 2,43,392 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 62,047 | 66,513 | 21,516 | 26,572 | 31,860 |
| 3 | Telangana | | | 35,514 | 22,701 | 40,334 |
| 4 | Bombay | 93,917 | 91,690 | 90,757 | 34,615 | 57,835 |
| 5 | Calcutta | 62,209 | 50,979 | 63,148 | 24,785 | 52,466 |
| 6 | Chhattisgarh | 31,493 | 37,215 | 39,488 | 23,678 | 30,809 |
| 7 | Delhi | 39,779 | 44,096 | 41,013 | 19,578 | 27,490 |
| 8 | Gujarat | 87,164 | 58,765 | 65,424 | 43,394 | 58,537 |
| 9 | Gauhati | 16,097 | 14,552 | 14,154 | 6,755 | 9,359 |
| 10 | Meghalaya | 673 | 737 | 1008 | 458 | 649 |
| 11 | Manipur | 1,325 | 2,527 | 2,265 | 717 | 1,151 |
| 12 | Tripura | 3,128 | 2,401 | 3,650 | 2,434 | 2,800 |
| 13 | Himachal Pradesh | 21,233 | 23,116 | 27,752 | 22,203 | 30,054 |
| 14 | Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh | 14,386 | 14,875 | 10,223 | 19,431 | 23,617 |
| 15 | Jharkhand | 32,632 | 39,822 | 45,298 | 28,337 | 40,588 |
| 16 | Karnataka | 1,00,279 | 1,02,451 | 2,31,024 | 1,61,110 | 89,988 |
| 17 | Kerala | 80,255 | 86,341 | 82,070 | 50,590 | 57,003 |
| 18 | Madhya Pradesh | 1,20,310 | 1,09,766 | 1,10,626 | 77,032 | 1,03,415 |
| 19 | Madras | 1,42,084 | 1,62,081 | 1,79,144 | 1,05,586 | 1,46,244 |
| 20 | Orissa | 74,798 | 63,236 | 93,224 | 61,335 | 1,05,525 |
| 21 | Patna | 98,191 | 1,17,984 | 1,17,707 | 51,637 | 60,822 |
| 22 | Punjab & Haryana | 1,05,966 | 1,22,972 | 1,28,085 | 71,835 | 87,310 |
| 23 | Rajasthan | 1,12,573 | 1,02,529 | 1,72,329 | 84,300 | 1,24,930 |
| 24 | Sikkim | 190 | 150 | 223 | 136 | 217 |
| 25 | Uttarakhand | 22,541 | 18,993 | 21,834 | 13,496 | 14,703 |
| Total | | 16,24,529 | 16,31,826 | 19,17,049 | 11,21,873 | 14,41,098 |

Source:- Supreme Court of India

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (B) OF RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4038 FOR ANSWER ON 07.04.2022 REGARDING CASE
CLEARANCE RATE IN HIGH COURTS**

| Sl. No. | Name of High Court | Disposed of Cases Whole Year 2017 | Disposed of Cases Whole Year 2018 | Disposed of Cases Whole Year 2019 | Disposed of Cases Whole Year 2020 | Disposed of Cases Whole Year 2021 |
|---------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | Uttar Pradesh | 32,88,866 | 32,82,885 | 34,26,942 | 22,74,687 | 39,55,646 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | | | 3,64,947 | 1,66,918 | 2,44,105 |
| 3 | Telangana | 7,60,582 | 7,41,390 | 3,31,963 | 1,33,518 | 3,68,092 |
| 4 | Maharashtra | 23,78,096 | 21,96,271 | 18,77,895 | 7,52,986 | 13,88,604 |
| 5 | Goa | 34,814 | 36,235 | 32,634 | 14,130 | 32,953 |
| 6 | Diu and Daman & Silvassa | 3,302 | 4,001 | 4,081 | 2,225 | 3,875 |
| 7 | West Bengal | 16,94,427 | 10,16,319 | 6,83,238 | 3,07,850 | 4,76,809 |
| 8 | Andaman & Nicobar | 7,776 | 7,284 | 8,563 | 4,054 | 10,124 |
| 9 | Chhattisgarh | 2,08,498 | 2,29,548 | 2,14,399 | 78,278 | 1,95,240 |
| 10 | Delhi | 7,40,779 | 8,08,156 | 8,14,555 | 2,45,879 | 3,53,683 |
| 11 | Gujarat | 13,86,529 | 14,18,688 | 11,42,383 | 3,94,455 | 14,48,516 |
| 12 | Assam | 3,13,617 | 3,11,150 | 2,54,823 | 94,574 | 1,82,346 |
| 13 | Nagaland | 2,957 | 3,514 | 5,728 | 2,488 | 3,921 |
| 14 | Meghalaya | 12,316 | 8,517 | 7,890 | 3,163 | 5,232 |
| 15 | Manipur | 5,256 | 4,379 | 3,717 | 1,747 | 1,411 |
| 16 | Tripura | 1,69,763 | 1,39,931 | 90,786 | 26,095 | 55,417 |
| 17 | Mizoram | 12,497 | 12,563 | 15,107 | 11,524 | 11,236 |
| 18 | Arunachal Pradesh | 12,165 | 7,499 | 7,735 | 4,144 | 8,156 |
| 19 | Himachal Pradesh | 3,17,251 | 3,43,667 | 4,83,869 | 1,87,035 | 3,84,726 |
| 20 | Jammu & Kashmir | 1,10,825 | 1,46,194 | 81,520 | 62,465 | 1,09,071 |
| 21 | Jharkhand | 1,57,765 | 1,94,200 | 1,87,370 | 1,08,247 | 1,43,805 |
| 22 | Karnataka | 11,44,693 | 11,20,397 | 12,72,673 | 9,61,619 | 18,48,768 |
| 23 | Kerala | 9,83,409 | 9,61,840 | 10,05,350 | 3,65,958 | 8,16,047 |
| 24 | U.T. of Lakshadweep | 191 | 237 | 201 | 238 | 284 |
| 25 | Madhya Pradesh | 12,18,909 | 13,86,280 | 12,07,541 | 6,81,333 | 11,22,497 |
| 26 | Tamil Nadu | 10,15,322 | 9,06,184 | 8,49,240 | 4,29,767 | 6,46,592 |
| 27 | Puducherry | 16,770 | 14,052 | 12,137 | 6,533 | 14,628 |
| 28 | Orissa | 3,65,602 | 2,55,005 | 2,96,535 | 1,26,077 | 2,28,609 |
| 29 | Bihar | 3,44,981 | 3,61,063 | 4,05,347 | 1,74,478 | 3,54,099 |
| 30 | Punjab | 7,18,292 | 7,12,529 | 6,70,175 | 3,33,826 | 5,82,027 |
| 31 | Haryana | 5,79,631 | 6,28,939 | 6,14,384 | 2,81,734 | 5,58,068 |
| 32 | Chandigarh | 1,01,617 | 1,39,172 | 1,46,256 | 35,294 | 55,242 |
| 33 | Rajasthan | 15,14,181 | 14,68,290 | 15,08,232 | 7,86,604 | 11,92,950 |
| 34 | Sikkim | 2,583 | 2,440 | 1,906 | 987 | 1,807 |
| 35 | Uttarakhand | 2,37,197 | 2,88,999 | 3,41,452 | 1,43,974 | 2,14,860 |
| | Total | 1,98,61,459 | 1,91,57,818 | 1,83,71,574 | 92,04,884 | 1,70,19,446 |

Source:- Supreme Court of India

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No 4101

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

Facilities in court complexes

4101. Shri Abir Ranjan Biswas:

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

- (a) The number of court complexes that have no separate ladies and gents toilets, drinking water facilities and basic medical facilities, the details thereof;
- (b) the funds allocated and utilized in providing these facilities in court complexes since 2017, year-wise and State-wise;
- (c) the number of court complexes that have been provided with these facilities since 2017, year-wise and state-wise;
- (d) the number of court halls that are functioning on the rented halls, State-wise; and
- (e) the number of new court halls created since 2017, year-wise?

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, as per which 26% of court complexes do not have separate toilet for ladies and 16% do not have toilets for gents, 54% court complexes have drinking water with purifiers and 5% are equipped with basic medical facilities.

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. Under this scheme, funds are released by the Central Government for construction of court buildings and residential accommodations for judicial officers of district and subordinate judiciary. The scheme is being implemented since 1993-94. Till date, the Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 9,009 crore under the Scheme to States/UTs, out of which Rs. 5,565 crore has been released since 2014-15 which is around 61.77% of the total release under the scheme. The scheme has been extended from time to time. The scheme was earlier extended in 2017 for 3 years from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020 with budgetary outlay of Rs.3,320 crore. The scheme was again extended for one year i.e. upto 31.03.2021. This scheme was evaluated by NITI Aayog which recommended its continuance. The Government has now 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. 9,000 crore, including central share of Rs.5,307 crore. 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. The funds allocated to the States and utilized by them since 2017 are **at Annexure I and Annexure II respectively.**

As per information made available by the High Courts, against sanctioned strength of 24,521 and working strength of 19,341 judges, presently 20,812 court halls (including 578 rented ones) and 18,338 residential units are available in the district and subordinate courts as on 31.03.2022. Moreover, 2,767 court halls and 1,651 residential

units are under construction. It may therefore be seen that number of court halls available presently are more than the present working strength, but less than the sanctioned strength of the judicial officers. The State-wise detail of courts functioning from the rented halls is at **Annexure-III** and State-wise detail of court halls completed since 2017 is at **Annexure IV**.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) OF RAJYA
SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4101 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH APRIL
2022.**

| S. No. | State | Funds released during the Year | | | | | Total |
|--------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 0.00 | 1000.00 | 2000.00 | 1028.00 | | 4028.00 |
| 2 | Bihar | 4290.00 | 6204.00 | 8762.00 | 6572.00 | | 25828.00 |
| 3 | Chhattisgarh | 0.00 | 1968.00 | 1983.00 | 784.00 | | 4735.00 |
| 4 | Goa | 0.00 | 315.00 | 406.00 | 380.00 | 320.00 | 1421.00 |
| 5 | Gujarat | 5000.00 | 1502.00 | 1649.00 | 1350.40 | | 9501.40 |
| 6 | Haryana | 1500.00 | 1191.00 | 1406.00 | 2200.00 | | 6297.00 |
| 7 | Himachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 408.00 | 572.00 | 550.00 | | 1530.00 |
| 8 | Jammu & Kashmir | 1000.00 | 1901.00 | 1000.00 | 0.00 | | 3901.00 |
| 9 | Jharkhand | 5000.00 | 959.00 | 1374.00 | 905.00 | 600.00 | 8838.00 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 5000.00 | 3812.00 | 4404.00 | 2972.00 | 2700.00 | 18888.00 |
| 11 | Kerala | 2500.00 | 3082.00 | 1582.00 | 1300.00 | 5000.00 | 13464.00 |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 5000.00 | 7942.00 | 6690.00 | 4560.00 | 5500.00 | 29692.00 |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 5000.00 | 1058.00 | 6109.00 | 2311.00 | 1800.00 | 16278.00 |
| 14 | Odisha | 0.00 | 2250.00 | 3569.00 | 0.00 | | 5819.00 |
| 15 | Punjab | 5000.00 | 2647.00 | 3978.00 | 1647.60 | 1650.00 | 14922.60 |
| 16 | Rajasthan | 1734.00 | 1741.00 | 6421.00 | 2990.00 | 4150.00 | 17036.00 |
| 17 | Tamilnadu | 0.00 | 609.00 | 3871.00 | 1817.00 | 3566.00 | 9863.00 |
| 18 | Telangana | 0.00 | 1000.00 | 565.00 | 1600.00 | | 3165.00 |
| 19 | Uttarakhand | 2500.00 | 2202.00 | 2850.00 | 586.00 | 8000.00 | 16138.00 |
| 20 | Uttar Pradesh | 7500.00 | 12806.00 | 16966.00 | 11100.00 | 21900.00 | 70272.00 |
| 21 | West Bengal | 1734.00 | 3522.00 | 6143.00 | 3107.00 | | 14506.00 |
| | Total (A) | 52758.00 | 58119.00 | 82300.00 | 47760.00 | 55186.00 | 240937.00 |
| | NER | | | | | | |
| 1 | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 269.00 | 500.00 | 409.00 | 1178.00 |
| 2 | Assam | 2000.00 | 3209.00 | 3654.00 | 2500.00 | 2740.00 | 14103.00 |
| 3 | Manipur | 0.00 | 887.00 | 966.00 | 500.00 | | 2353.00 |
| 4 | Meghalaya | 863.00 | 1482.00 | 2285.00 | 771.00 | 2802.00 | 8203.00 |
| 5 | Mizoram | 2000.00 | 594.00 | 524.00 | 500.00 | 950.00 | 4568.00 |
| 6 | Nagaland | 2000.00 | 321.00 | 342.00 | 500.00 | 1327.00 | 4490.00 |
| 7 | Sikkim | 0.00 | 257.00 | 278.00 | 295.00 | | 830.00 |
| 8 | Tripura | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1882.00 | 774.00 | | 2656.00 |
| | Total (B) | 6863.00 | 6750.00 | 10200.00 | 6340.00 | 8228.00 | 30153.00 |
| | UTs | | | | | | |
| 1 | A&N Islands | 0.00 | 131.00 | 16.79 | 35.36 | 0.00 | 183.15 |
| 2 | Candigarh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| 3 | DN Haveli | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| 4 | Daman & Diu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| 5 | Delhi | 2500.00 | | 4852.21 | 4500.00 | 3000.00 | 14852.21 |
| 6 | Lakshadweep | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| 7 | Puducherry | 0.00 | 0.00 | 331.00 | 0.00 | | 331.00 |
| 8 | J&K | 0.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 | 664.64 | 2000.00 | 3164.64 |
| 9 | Ladakh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | 0.00 |
| | Total (C) | 2500.00 | 131.00 | 5700.00 | 5200.00 | 5000.00 | 13531.00 |
| | Grand Total (A+B+C) | 62121.00 | 65000.00 | 98200.00 | 59300.00 | 68414.00 | 353035.00 |

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) of RAJYA
SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4101 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH APRIL
2022.**

| S. No. | State | Funds utilized for funds released during the Year | | | | | Total |
|--------|----------------------------|---|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| | | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 | |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 0.00 | 1000.00 | 2000.00 | 746.00 | 0.00 | 3746.00 |
| 2 | Bihar | 4290.00 | 6204.00 | 4758.19 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 15252.19 |
| 3 | Chhattisgarh | 0.00 | 1968.00 | 1983.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3951.00 |
| 4 | Goa | 0.00 | 315.00 | 406.00 | 380.00 | 320.00 | 1421.00 |
| 5 | Gujarat | 5000.00 | 1502.00 | 1649.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 8151.00 |
| 6 | Haryana | 1500.00 | 1191.00 | 1406.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 4097.00 |
| 7 | Himachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 408.00 | 145.24 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 553.24 |
| 8 | Jammu & Kashmir | 1000.00 | 1901.00 | 1000.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3901.00 |
| 9 | Jharkhand | 5000.00 | 959.00 | 1374.00 | 905.00 | 0.00 | 8238.00 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 5000.00 | 3812.00 | 4404.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 13216.00 |
| 11 | Kerala | 2500.00 | 3082.00 | 1582.00 | 1300.00 | 0.00 | 8464.00 |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 5000.00 | 7942.00 | 6690.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 19632.00 |
| 13 | Maharashtra | 5000.00 | 1058.00 | 6109.00 | 2311.00 | 1557.50 | 16035.50 |
| 14 | Odisha | 0.00 | 2250.00 | 1241.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 3491.00 |
| 15 | Punjab | 5000.00 | 2647.00 | 3978.00 | 1647.60 | 1650.00 | 14922.60 |
| 16 | Rajasthan | 1734.00 | 1741.00 | 6421.00 | 1320.64 | 0.00 | 11216.64 |
| 17 | Tamilnadu | 0.00 | 609.00 | 3871.00 | 1817.00 | 0.00 | 6297.00 |
| 18 | Telangana | 0.00 | 1000.00 | 565.00 | 1400.00 | 0.00 | 2965.00 |
| 19 | Uttarakhand | 2500.00 | 2154.86 | 2841.11 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 7495.97 |
| 20 | Uttar Pradesh | 7500.00 | 12806.00 | 16966.00 | 11100.00 | 11850.00 | 60222.00 |
| 21 | West Bengal | 1734.00 | 3522.00 | 5476.57 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 10732.57 |
| | Total (A) | 52758.00 | 58071.86 | 74866.11 | 22927.24 | 15377.50 | 224000.71 |
| | NER | | | | | | |
| 1 | Arunachal Pradesh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 269.00 | 500.00 | 93.14 | 862.14 |
| 2 | Assam | 2000.00 | 3209.00 | 3654.00 | 2500.00 | 0.00 | 11363.00 |
| 3 | Manipur | 0.00 | 887.00 | 400.01 | 268.09 | 0.00 | 1555.10 |
| 4 | Meghalaya | 863.00 | 1482.00 | 2285.00 | 771.00 | 1150.00 | 6551.00 |
| 5 | Mizoram | 2000.00 | 594.00 | 524.00 | 500.00 | 450.00 | 4068.00 |
| 6 | Nagaland | 2000.00 | 321.00 | 342.00 | 500.00 | 0.00 | 3163.00 |
| 7 | Sikkim | 0.00 | 257.00 | 77.92 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 334.92 |
| 8 | Tripura | 0.00 | 0.00 | 885.39 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 885.39 |
| | Total (B) | 6863.00 | 6750.00 | 8437.32 | 5039.09 | 1693.14 | 28782.55 |
| | UTs | | | | | | |
| 1 | A&N Islands | 0.00 | 131.00 | 16.79 | 35.36 | 0.00 | 183.15 |
| 2 | Candigarh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 3 | DN Haveli | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 4 | Daman & Diu | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 5 | Delhi | 2500.00 | | 4852.21 | 4500.00 | 1464.00 | 10816.21 |
| 6 | Lakshadweep | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 7 | Puducherry | 0.00 | 0.00 | 292.01 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 292.01 |
| 8 | J&K | 0.00 | 0.00 | 500.00 | 487.49 | 0.00 | 987.49 |
| 9 | Ladakh | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| | Total (C) | 2500.00 | 131.00 | 5661.01 | 5022.85 | 1464.00 | 12278.86 |
| | Grand Total (A+B+C) | 62121.00 | 64952.86 | 88964.44 | 32989.18 | 18534.64 | 267562.12 |

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) of RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4101 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH APRIL 2022.

| Sl.No. | States & UTs | No. of Court Halls in rented building |
|--------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | Andaman and Nicobar | 0 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 71 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 2 |
| 4 | Assam | 15 |
| 5 | Bihar | 0 |
| 6 | Chandigarh | 0 |
| 7 | Chhattisgarh | 8 |
| 8 | D & N Haveli | 0 |
| 9 | Daman & Diu | 0 |
| 10 | Delhi | 0 |
| 11 | Goa | 8 |
| 12 | Gujarat | 33 |
| 13 | Haryana | 2 |
| 14 | Himachal Pradesh | 0 |
| 15 | Jammu and Kashmir | 7 |
| 16 | Jharkhand | 0 |
| 17 | Karnataka | 18 |
| 18 | Kerala | 46 |
| 19 | Ladakh | 1 |
| 20 | Lakshadweep | 0 |
| 21 | Madhya Pradesh | 2 |
| 22 | Maharashtra | 87 |
| 23 | Manipur | 0 |
| 24 | Meghalaya | 3 |
| 25 | Mizoram | 0 |
| 26 | Nagaland | 0 |
| 27 | Odisha | 1 |
| 28 | Puducherry | 0 |
| 29 | Punjab | 2 |
| 30 | Rajasthan | 40 |
| 31 | Sikkim | 1 |
| 32 | Tamil Nadu | 86 |
| 33 | Telangana | 76 |
| 34 | Tripura | 0 |
| 35 | Uttar Pradesh | 35 |
| 36 | Uttarakhand | 3 |
| 37 | West Bengal | 31 |
| | Total | 578 |

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) of RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4101 FOR ANSWER ON 7TH APRIL 2022.

| Sl. No. | States & Uts | No. of Court Halls completed in District and Subordinate courts from 1.04.2017 to 31.03.2022 | No. of Residential Units completed in District and Subordinate courts from 1.04.2017 to 31.03.2022 |
|---------|---------------------|--|--|
| 1 | Andaman and Nicobar | 2 | 0 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 11 | 4 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 0 | 1 |
| 4 | Assam | 72 | 114 |
| 5 | Bihar | 171 | 113 |
| 6 | Chandigarh | 0 | 0 |
| 7 | Chhattisgarh | 55 | 33 |
| 8 | D & N Haveli | 1 | 0 |
| 9 | Daman & Diu | 0 | 0 |
| 10 | Delhi | 162 | 70 |
| 11 | Goa | 42 | 23 |
| 12 | Gujarat | 86 | 40 |
| 13 | Haryana | 296 | 328 |
| 14 | Himachal Pradesh | 3 | 0 |
| 15 | Jammu and Kashmir | 6 | 6 |
| 16 | Jharkhand | 40 | 1 |
| 17 | Karnataka | 389 | 136 |
| 18 | Kerala | 76 | 0 |
| 19 | Ladakh | 0 | 0 |
| 20 | Lakshadweep | 0 | 0 |
| 21 | Madhya Pradesh | 263 | 285 |
| 22 | Maharashtra | 747 | 864 |
| 23 | Manipur | 0 | 1 |
| 24 | Meghalaya | 17 | 0 |
| 25 | Mizoram | 0 | 4 |
| 26 | Nagaland | 14 | 3 |
| 27 | Odisha | 312 | 336 |
| 28 | Puducherry | 16 | 6 |
| 29 | Punjab | 314 | 507 |
| 30 | Rajasthan | 178 | 53 |
| 31 | Sikkim | 9 | 6 |
| 32 | Tamil Nadu | 181 | 115 |
| 33 | Telangana | 40 | 3 |
| 34 | Tripura | 10 | 0 |
| 35 | Uttar Pradesh | 197 | 106 |
| 36 | Uttarakhand | 11 | 9 |
| 37 | West Bengal | 132 | 115 |
| | TOTAL | 3853 | 3282 |

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No 4102

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

Infrastructure development for judiciary in Bihar

4102. SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR MODI:

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

- (a) details of the fund which was released by the Central Government to State Government of Bihar under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary during the last 3 years;
- (b) details of the unspent balance under the scheme (Central and State share), as on date;
- (c) the progress in construction of lawyers hall near district court at Patna and approved estimate for the same; and
- (d) whether Government of Bihar has submitted any proposal for construction of lawyers hall, toilet complexes and digital computer room, if so, details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (d): 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. It covers the construction of court buildings and residential accommodation for judicial officers of district and subordinate judiciary. A sum of Rs. 9,009.38 crore has been released under the scheme so far since its inception, out of which Rs. 5,565.08 crore (61.77 %) has been released since 2014-15. The scheme has been extended from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a budgetary outlay of Rs. 9,000 crore including central share of Rs. 5,307crore. Besides the construction of court halls and residential quarters, the scheme now also covers the construction of lawyers' halls, digital computer rooms and toilet complexes in the district and subordinate courts.

An amount of Rs. 412.98 crore has been released to the State Government of Bihar under the scheme so far, out of which a sum of Rs. 153.34 crore has been released during the last 3 years i.e. from 2019-20 to 2021-22, the details of which are as below:

| Year | <i>(Figures in Rs.crore)</i> | | |
|---|------------------------------|---------|---------|
| | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |
| Funds released to State Government of Bihar | 87.62 | 65.72 | 0 |

A sum of Rs. 857.42 crore towards central share and Rs. 476.72 crore towards State share is yet to be utilized by the States/UTs, which includes Rs. 105.76 crore towards the central share and Rs. 96.13 crore towards state share by the State of Bihar.

The State Government of Bihar had proposed construction of lawyers' hall near district court, Patna with an administrative approval of Rs. 21.64 crore under the provisions of flexi-funds of Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary, which was also concurred in by the department. The State Government is required to seek NOC from Urban Development and Housing Department, Government of Bihar for the project and complete it.

During the financial year 2021-22, the State Government had furnished a requirement of central share of Rs. 229.53 crore, only for the construction of court halls and residential units of district and subordinate courts. The State, however, did not fulfil the mandatory requirements like submission of utilization certificate and compliance with revised Public Financial Management System (PFMS) for release of funds under the scheme.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4103

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 07.04.2022

Setting up of High Court Bench at Meerut

Appointment

AS (ASA)

4103. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

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

- (a) whether Government proposes to set up a High Court Bench in Western Uttar Pradesh particularly at Meerut;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

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 Allahabad High Court in Western Uttar Pradesh, particularly at Meerut, is pending with the Government.

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION No 4104

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

Infrastructure at court complexes

4104. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

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

- (a) whether 26 per cent of court complexes do not have separate toilets for ladies and 16 per cent do not have toilets for gents;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that only 68 per cent of courts rooms have separate record rooms and 50 per cent do not have library;
- (c) whether only 5 per cent court complexes have medical facilities and just 27 per cent court rooms have computer placed on Judge's dais for video conferencing;
- (d) details of planning to address these problems;
- (e) whether Government is considering giving financial autonomy to judiciary to address these and other issues; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (f): The Registry of Supreme Court of India has compiled data on the status of judicial infrastructure and court amenities, as per which 26% of court complexes do not have separate toilet for ladies and 16% do not have toilets for gents, 32% court rooms have separate record rooms and 49% do not have library and only 5% court complexes have medical facilities and 27% court rooms have computer placed

on judge's dais for video conferencing. 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 are important stakeholders, for their views on the contours of the proposal to enable taking a considered view on the matter.

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. 9,009 crore under the scheme to States/UTs, out of which Rs. 5,565 crore has been released since 2014-15 which is around 61.77% of the total release under the scheme. Under this scheme, funds are released by the Central Government for construction of court buildings and residential accommodations for judicial officers of District and Subordinate Judiciary. The scheme has been extended from time to time. The

scheme was earlier extended in 2017 for 3 years from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020 with budgetary outlay of Rs.3,320 crore. The scheme was again extended for one year i.e. upto 31.03.2021. This scheme was evaluated by NITI Aayog which recommended its continuance. The Government has now 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.9,000 crore, including central share of Rs.5,307 crore. 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.

The above scheme only caters to the civil infrastructure of the district and subordinate courts. As regards information technology needs, the Government of India implemented the eCourts Mission Mode Project throughout the country for information and communication enablement of district and subordinate courts. In the phase I of the project, out of total outlay of Rs.935 crore, the Government incurred an expenditure of Rs.639.41 crore. 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 2,506 VC Cabins have been made available. Additional 1,500 VC licences have been acquired. VC facilities are already enabled between 3,240 court complexes and corresponding 1,272 jails. A sum of Rs.7.6 crore has been released for procurement of 1,732 document visualizers.

As per information made available by the High Courts, against sanctioned strength of 24,521 and working strength of 19,341 judges, presently 20,812 court halls (including 578 rented ones) and 18,338 residential units are available in the District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.03.2022. Moreover, 2,767 court halls and 1,651 residential units are under construction. It may therefore be seen that number of court halls available presently are more than the present working strength , but less than the sanctioned strength of the judicial officers.

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4105

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 07.04.2022

Need to increase judges in High Courts

4105. SHRI T.G. VENKATESH:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that there is a need to both increase the number of judges in High Courts and urgently fill existing vacancies of judges, if so, the details thereof and steps being taken thereon;
- (b) whether Judicial infrastructure does not even meet the basic minimum standards, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (c) whether there is a need for the setting up of statutory authorities, both at the Centre and at the States, if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken thereon?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): Subsequent to the deliberations held in the Conference of the Chief Ministers and Chief Justices in 2013 it was inter-alia resolved that the total sanctioned strength of each High Court could be increased. Subsequently, the Judge strength of various High Courts was increased. At present, the sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has increased from 906 in 2014 to 1104 in 2022.

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. 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 fill up vacancies expeditiously in a time-bound manner. As on 31.03.2022, against the sanctioned strength of 1,104 Judges in the High Courts, 717 Judges are in position, leaving 387 vacancies of Judges to be filled. Against 387 vacancies, 168 proposals are at various stages of processing between the Government and the Supreme Court Collegium. Recommendations from High Court Collegiums are yet to be received in respect of 219 vacancies in High Courts.

(b) & (c): 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 since 1993-94. The scheme covers construction of court buildings and residential accommodation of judicial officers of district and subordinate courts. The scheme has been extended from time to time and has been last extended from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a total financial outlay of

Rs. 9,000 crores including Central Share of Rs. 5,307.00 crore. Besides the construction of court halls and residential quarters the scheme now also covers the construction of lawyers' halls, digital computer rooms and toilet complexes in the District and Subordinate Courts. Till date the Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 8,758.70 crore under the scheme to States/UTs.

The Registry of Supreme Court of India has compiled data on the status of judicial infrastructure and court amenities. 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, as received from the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, has been sent to the various State Government/UTs, as they are important stakeholder, for their views on the contours of the proposal to enable taking a considered view on the matter.

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO- 4106
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 7th APRIL, 2022**

Legal Aid to the Disabled

4106 Dr. Amar Patnaik:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken appropriate measures to ensure that persons with disabilities have access to justice on an equal basis with others;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government has taken any measures/steps in pursuance of its Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real with Persons of Disabilities";
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the number of specially abled people who have benefitted from such initiatives, if taken?

ANSWER

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

- (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government has undertaken several measures to make available affordable, quality and speedy justice to the common man, including persons with disabilities. 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. Further to enable equitable access to justice, National Legal Services

Authorities (NALSA) has also launched Legal Services Mobile App on Android and iOS version to enable easy access to legal aid to common citizens including persons with disabilities.

- (c) to (e) India is party to Incheon Strategy to "Make the Right Real" for persons with disabilities (PwDs) in Asia and the Pacific. It sets out 10 goals such as reduction in poverty and enhancing work and employment prospects, promoting participation in political process and decision making, creation of barrier free environment, strengthening social protection, promoting early intervention and education of children with disabilities, ensuring gender equality and women's empowerment, promoting disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction and management, improving the reliability and comparability of disability data, accelerating ratification and implementation of UNCRPD and harmonise National Laws and promoting sub regional, regional and inter-regional cooperation.

In addition, the Government has also enacted the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act (RPWD Act), 2016 which came into force on 19.04.2017. The Act inter-alia provides for reservation for PwDs in Government employment, creation of accessible feature for them, participation of PwDs in decision making process through Central and State Advisory Board on Disability, inclusive education etc. Section 12 of the said Act particularly deals with access to justice, which inter alia mandates the appropriate Government to provide for recording of testimonies, arguments or opinion given by person with disabilities in their preferred language and means of communication.

29,050 persons with disabilities have been provided legal services under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 during April, 2018 to January, 2022.

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

JS (PPP)

e-Court

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION No. 4107
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 7th APRIL, 2022**

Use of advance technology at Courts

**4107 Shri K.C. Venugopal:
Shri Sanjay Singh:**

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

- (a) the details of advance technologies, particularly Blockchain technology and Artificial Intelligence used in judicial process and digital record management;
- (b) whether it is a fact that Government is exploring the possibility of introduction and integration of these technologies with justice delivery system under the e-Court project;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether it will be helpful in early disposal of cases?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): With its objective of universal computerisation and Information and Communication Technology enablement 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. To explore the use of artificial intelligence (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. However, in the eCourts Phase II, which is under implementation since 2015, AI and Blockchain Technology have not been used.

(b) &(c): As Phase II of the eCourts project is coming to an end, a draft Vision Document has been formulated by the eCommittee of the Supreme Court for eCourts Project Phase III. Based on this document, a Detailed Project Report (DPR) is being prepared by the eCommittee of Supreme Court of India. In the draft DPR, the eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India mentions about use of AI and Blockchain technology.

(d): Disposal of 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. However, as per the draft DPR, AI might be used for Prediction and Forecast, Improving Administrative Efficiency, Automated Filing, Smart Scheduling of Cases, Enhancing the Case Information System & Communicate with litigants through chatbots which may assist in early disposal of cases.

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4109

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 7th APRIL, 2022.

Permitted Language for the functioning of State High Courts

4109. SHRI VIVEK K. TANKHA:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that counsels/litigants are not allowed to present their case in the language of State in that particular State High Court;
- (b) whether Government agrees with the fact that Regional language is a necessary component in the functioning of its respective High Court; and
- (c) if not, the details of the proposed solution to address such problems?

ANSWER

MINISTER FOR LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (c): Article 348(2) of the Constitution of India states that 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 purpose of the State, in proceedings in the High Court having its principal seat in that State.

Section 7 of the Official Languages Act, 1963 states that the Governor of a State may, with the previous consent of the President, authorize the use of Hindi or the official language of the State, in addition to the English language, for the purposes of any judgment, decree or order passed or made by the High Court for that State and where any judgment, decree or order is passed or made in any such language (other than the English language), it shall be accompanied by a translation of the same in the English language issued under the authority of the High Court.

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 Courts.

The use of Hindi in proceedings in the High Court of Rajasthan was authorized under Article 348(2) of the Constitution in 1950. After the Cabinet Committee's decision dated 21.05.1965 as mentioned above, the use of Hindi was authorized in the High Courts of Uttar Pradesh (1969), Madhya Pradesh (1971) and Bihar (1972) in consultation with the Chief Justice of India.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 4111

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

JS(NKG)

725

Pro Bono Legal Aid

4111 Dr. Santanu Sen:

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

- (a) the total number of cases where pro bono legal aid was provided by the States since 2017, the details thereof, State-wise;
- (b) the total amount utilised by each State in providing the legal aid;
- (c) the detailed break up of legal aid fund spending by each State, State-wise; and
- (d) the number of lawyers who are registered on the Nyaya Bandhu Mobile app, State-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

- (a) The Legal Services Authorities are constituted to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections and all eligible persons. The details regarding number of persons benefited through legal aid services from 2017-18 to 2021-22 (upto January), State/UT wise is at **Annexure - A**.
- (b) and (c) Allocation of funds to State/UT State Legal Services Authorities is made for all activities including expenses to be incurred in providing legal aid services. Separate fund is not allocated for providing legal aid services. The statement showing the State/UT wise allotment of funds during 2020-21 and 2021-22 (upto 29th March, 2022) is at **Annexure - B**.
- (d) The details of advocates registered on the Nyaya Bandhu Mobile app, State Bar Council wise, as on 31.03.2022 is at **Annexure - C**.

Statement as referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4111 for answering on 07.04.2022 raised by Dr. Santanu Sen, MP - Pro Bono Legal Aid

Statement showing the number of persons benefited through legal services under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 from 2017-18 to 2021-22 (upto January, 2022)

| S. No. | SLSAs | 2017-18 | 2018-19 | 2019-20 | 2020-21 | 2021-22 (upto Jan.22) |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 119 | 51 | 43 | 65 | 55 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 7,896 | 4,545 | 4,396 | 4,474 | 4,924 |
| 3 | Arunachal Pradesh | 3,760 | 3,752 | 3,932 | 1,984 | 1,833 |
| 4 | Assam | 7,033 | 8,850 | 8,002 | 10,027 | 1,05,889 |
| 5 | Bihar | 36,567 | 78,273 | 60,139 | 38,653 | 16,76,852 |
| 6 | Chhattisgarh | 43,165 | 67,318 | 81,713 | 26,814 | 34,745 |
| 7 | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 15 | 28 | 28 | 10 | 25 |
| 8 | Daman and Diu | 16 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 12 |
| 9 | Delhi | 42,683 | 53,015 | 79,458 | 82,131 | 62,881 |
| 10 | Goa | 1,426 | 1,612 | 3,006 | 875 | 876 |
| 11 | Gujarat | 19,885 | 21,541 | 26,887 | 8,302 | 17,815 |
| 12 | Haryana | 18,415 | 20,326 | 19,019 | 11,059 | 18,527 |
| 13 | Himachal Pradesh | 3,634 | 4,842 | 4,368 | 2,083 | 3,921 |
| 14 | Jammu and Kashmir | 1,402 | 4,022 | 4,961 | 7,675 | 7,732 |
| 15 | Jharkhand | 79,604 | 80,640 | 30,530 | 1,31,691 | 6,42,680 |
| 16 | Karnataka | 53,535 | 72,621 | 1,45,015 | 23,211 | 25,977 |
| 17 | Kerala | 97,249 | 5,33,259 | 71,058 | 11,242 | 12,844 |
| 18 | Lakshadweep | 112 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 19 | Madhya Pradesh | 1,40,081 | 1,99,129 | 2,68,351 | 87,843 | 33,13,941 |
| 20 | Maharashtra | 14,219 | 21,265 | 24,060 | 12,278 | 16,872 |
| 21 | Manipur | 10,208 | 19,620 | 18,257 | 56,635 | 19,417 |
| 22 | Meghalaya | 3,802 | 3,238 | 2,914 | 2,131 | 1,930 |
| 23 | Mizoram | 8,536 | 12,716 | 9,473 | 1,670 | 2,040 |
| 24 | Nagaland | 10,749 | 38,358 | 3,691 | 4,231 | 6,259 |
| 25 | Odisha | 7,011 | 9,695 | 8,025 | 6,029 | 7,236 |
| 26 | Puducherry | 1,176 | 1,299 | 1,295 | 309 | 751 |
| 27 | Punjab | 31,991 | 36,131 | 1,27,829 | 27,096 | 29,123 |
| 28 | Rajasthan | 22,002 | 14,232 | 32,413 | 12,274 | 12,047 |
| 29 | Sikkim | 982 | 960 | 928 | 702 | 771 |
| 30 | Tamil Nadu | 59,668 | 40,835 | 35,552 | 26,491 | 31,434 |
| 31 | Telangana | 9,051 | 18,396 | 15,145 | 3,488 | 4,700 |
| 32 | Tripura | 9,315 | 15,089 | 13,595 | 2,156 | 2,029 |
| 33 | Chandigarh | 2,521 | 3,768 | 2,261 | 1,242 | 1,384 |
| 34 | Uttar Pradesh | 46,371 | 76,852 | 60,819 | 3,545 | 1,27,210 |
| 35 | Uttarakhand | 2,756 | 2,703 | 3,018 | 2,343 | 3,164 |
| 36 | West Bengal | 25,901 | 36,235 | 41,956 | 20,906 | 22,152 |
| 37 | Ladakh | 0 | 0 | 0 | 93 | 1,903 |
| | Total | 8,22,856 | 15,05,216 | 12,12,137 | 6,31,758 | 62,21,951 |

Note: Ladakh Legal Services Authority was constituted in the month of February, 2021.

Annexure - B

Statement as referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4111 for answering on 07.04.2022 raised by Dr. Santanu Sen, MP - Pro Bono Legal Aid

Statement showing the amount of funds allocated to the State Legal Services Authorities including Supreme Court Legal Services Committee during the financial year 2020-21 and 2021-22 (upto 29th March, 2022)

| (In Rupees) | | | |
|-------------|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| S.No. | Name of SLSA | 2020-21 | 2021-22 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 3,40,00,000 | 5,00,00,000 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 1,00,00,000 | 1,40,00,000 |
| 3 | Assam | 3,70,00,000 | 6,40,00,000 |
| 4 | Bihar | 3,70,00,000 | 7,60,00,000 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 3,95,00,000 | 5,25,00,000 |
| 6 | Goa | 50,00,000 | 15,00,000 |
| 7 | Gujarat | 3,45,00,000 | 5,75,00,000 |
| 8 | Haryana | 4,50,00,000 | 6,50,00,000 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 1,85,00,000 | 2,45,00,000 |
| 10 | Jammu and Kashmir | 3,50,00,000 | 4,65,00,000 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 4,00,00,000 | 7,35,00,000 |
| 12 | Karnataka | 6,25,00,000 | 7,50,00,000 |
| 13 | Kerala | 5,25,00,000 | 9,90,00,000 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 3,00,00,000 | 5,00,00,000 |
| 15 | Maharashtra | 6,25,00,000 | 8,25,00,000 |
| 16 | Manipur | 1,00,00,000 | 1,05,00,000 |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 50,00,000 | 50,00,000 |
| 18 | Mizoram | 50,00,000 | 1,15,00,000 |
| 19 | Nagaland | 50,00,000 | 1,15,00,000 |
| 20 | Odisha | 3,25,00,000 | 4,25,00,000 |
| 21 | Punjab | 3,25,00,000 | 6,40,00,000 |
| 22 | Rajasthan | 4,55,00,000 | 7,00,00,000 |
| 23 | Sikkim | 50,00,000 | 65,00,000 |
| 24 | Tamil Nadu | 4,20,00,000 | 6,00,00,000 |
| 25 | Telangana | 3,50,00,000 | 4,10,00,000 |
| 26 | Tripura | 2,80,00,000 | 2,65,00,000 |
| 27 | Uttar Pradesh | 6,50,00,000 | 6,00,00,000 |
| 28 | Uttarakhand | 2,50,00,000 | 2,55,00,000 |
| 29 | West Bengal | 5,20,00,000 | 7,00,00,000 |
| 30 | Andaman and Nicobar Islands | 0 | 0 |
| 31 | Chandigarh | 80,00,000 | 55,00,000 |
| 32 | Dadra and Nagar Haveli | 2,50,000 | 0 |
| 33 | Daman and Diu | 2,50,000 | 0 |
| 34 | Delhi | 5,00,00,000 | 9,30,00,000 |
| 35 | Lakshadweep | 0 | 0 |
| 36 | Puducherry | 10,00,000 | 20,00,000 |
| 37 | Ladakh | 0 | 65,00,000 |
| 38 | Supreme Court Legal Services Committee | 1,00,00,000 | 1,00,00,000 |
| | TOTAL | 1,00,00,00,000 | 1,45,30,00,000 |

Statement as referred to in reply to Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4111 for answering on 07.04.2022 raised by Dr. Santanu Sen, MP - Pro Bono Legal Aid

Statement regarding Advocates registered on the Nyaya Bandhu Mobile app, State Bar Council wise, as on 31.03.2022

| S. No. | State Bar Council | No. of advocates |
|---------------|---|-------------------------|
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | 377 |
| 2 | Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim | 49 |
| 3 | Bihar | 160 |
| 4 | Chhattisgarh | 133 |
| 5 | Delhi | 576 |
| 6 | Gujarat | 163 |
| 7 | Himachal Pradesh | 46 |
| 8 | Jammu and Kashmir | 54 |
| 9 | Jharkhand | 108 |
| 10 | Karnataka | 107 |
| 11 | Kerala | 107 |
| 12 | Madhya Pradesh | 392 |
| 13 | Maharashtra and Goa | 272 |
| 14 | Manipur | 15 |
| 15 | Meghalaya | 02 |
| 16 | Odisha | 207 |
| 17 | Punjab and Haryana | 317 |
| 18 | Rajasthan | 129 |
| 19 | Tamil Nadu | 233 |
| 20 | Telangana | 65 |
| 21 | Tripura | 01 |
| 22 | Uttar Pradesh | 405 |
| 23 | Uttarakhand | 56 |
| 24 | West Bengal | 88 |
| | Total | 4062 |

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

RAJYA SABHA

JS(CORR)

JP

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.

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

RAJYA SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4117
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 07TH APRIL, 2022**

PENDING COURT CASES

4117. DR. KIRODI LAL MEENA:

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

- (a) whether Government is having data of all pending cases in the subordinate courts of the State of Rajasthan;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons for such huge pendency;**
- (c) whether poor infrastructure is one of the main reasons and if so, the details thereof along with the efforts made by Government so far to improve the infrastructure of subordinate courts in Rajasthan; and**
- (d) the details of the other measures proposed to be initiated by Government to speed up disposal of cases in subordinate courts in the country?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (d): As per the information/data available on the web portal of National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG), the number of all pending cases in the subordinate courts of the State of Rajasthan is 20,94,829 as on 01st April, 2022.

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 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 for Judiciary by providing financial assistance to State Governments / UTs in the prescribed fund sharing pattern between Centre and States. The scheme is being implemented since 1993-94. It covers the construction of court buildings and residential accommodations for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Judiciary. A sum of Rs. 9,009.38 crore has been released under the scheme so far since its inception, out of which Rs. 5,565.08 crore (61.77 %) has been released since 2014-15. The scheme has been extended from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a budgetary outlay of Rs. 9,000 crore including the central share of Rs. 5,307.00 crore. In addition to the construction of court halls and residential quarters, the scheme now also covers the construction of lawyers' halls, digital computer rooms and toilet complexes in the District and Subordinate Courts. As far as State Government of Rajasthan is concerned, a sum of Rs. 328.12 crore has been released so far.

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 seven years under various initiatives are as follows:

(i) **Improving infrastructure for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts:** As on date, Rs. 9,009.38 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 20,812 as on 17.03.2022 and number of residential units has increased from 10,211 as on 30.06.2014 to 18,338 as on 17.03.2022 under this scheme. In addition, 2,767 court halls and 1,651 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. 9,000 crore, out of which central share will be Rs. 5,307 crore. 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 98.9% 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 02.03.2022, litigants can access case status of over 19.92 crore cases and 16.81 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 3,240 court complexes and 1,272 corresponding jails. With a view to handle the COVID- 19 challenges better and to make the transition to virtual hearings smoother, 475 e-Sewa 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 e-filing facilities. Rs. 5.01 crore has been allocated for providing equipment in video conferencing cabins in various court complexes to facilitate virtual hearings. Rs. 12.12 crore has been allocated for 1,732 Help desk counters for e-filing 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 03.03.2022, these courts have handled more than 1.32 crore cases and realized more than Rs. 229.22 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 1,11,40,223 cases while the High Court heard 60,21,688 cases (totalling 1.71 crore) till 30.01.2022 using video conferencing. The Supreme Court had 2,18,891 hearings since the lockdown period upto 14.03.2022.

(iii) **Filling up of vacant positions in Supreme Court, High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts:** From 01.05.2014 to 17.03.2022, 44 judges were appointed in Supreme Court. 710 new judges were appointed and 588 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 1,104 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 |
| 01.04.2022 | 24,521 | 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 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 31.01.2022, 915 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 1,023 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 crore has been released during the financial year 2020-21 and Rs. 62.23 crore has been released during the FY 2021-22 upto 15.03.2022 for the scheme. 712 FTSCs are presently functional including 399 exclusive POCSO Courts, which disposed 81,462 cases as on 28.02.2022. The continuation of the scheme of FTSC has been approved for another two years (2021-23) at a total outlay of Rs. 1,572.86 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.

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SS (CRR)

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4118
TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 07TH APRIL, 2022

PENDENCY OF CASES IN COURTS

4118. DR. ASHOK BAJPAI:

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

- (a) details of filing of cases, pendency and disposal of matters/cases during the last five years in the Supreme Court, year-wise and sub-category-wise;
- (b) whether Government is aware that delays in disposal of matters by the Supreme Court and High Courts are often on account of non-filing of affidavits/responses on behalf of the Central Government; and
- (c) details of the monitoring system, if any, to ensure that responses/affidavits are timely filed on behalf of Government?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): As per information provided by Supreme Court of India, the details of cases filed, pending and disposed of during the last five years is as under:-

| S. No. | Year | Cases Instituted | Cases Disposed of | Cases Pendency |
|--------|------|------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 | 2017 | 56,104 | 63,053 | 55,588 |
| 2 | 2018 | 39,228 | 37,470 | 57,346 |
| 3 | 2019 | 43,613 | 41,100 | 59,859 |
| 4 | 2020 | 25,897 | 20,670 | 65,086 |
| 5 | 2021 | 29,739 | 24,586 | 70,239 |

Further, the information related to category wise details of the number of cases filed, pendency and disposed of cases in Supreme Court of India during the last five years is not maintained in the manner as sought for. However, the information related to category wise pendency of cases as available with the Supreme Court, as on 30.03.2022 is at *Annexure*.

(b) to (c): Department of Legal Affairs, has issued communications dated 27.08.2015 and 09.06.2016 to all Government Ministries/Departments for timely filing of reply/counter-affidavits in courts to avoid inconvenience and delay in proceedings. The Department has also been issuing instructions from time to time that the Nodal Officers of the Ministry/Department should stay in touch with the Government Counsel for proper handling of the matter. The Department is making serious efforts to manage the Union of India (UoI) litigations *inter alia* stressing the importance of urgent handling and prompt action in court cases involving Union of India and a request has been made by Law Secretary on 22nd June, 2020 to the Secretaries of various Ministries/Departments of Government of India to nominate a Nodal Officer of the level of Additional Secretary/Joint Secretary in their Ministry/Department to coordinate with the Ld. Law Officers *inter alia* for providing ready assistance to them. This letter was followed by two more letters dated 22nd October, 2021 and 6th January, 2022. So far 45 Ministries/Departments have nominated dedicated Nodal Officers. Department of Legal Affairs has also launched the 'Legal Information Management and Briefing System' (LIMBS), a web based application for uploading information and monitoring of court cases by the user Ministries/Departments for cases where Union of India is one of the parties. This will help Ministries/Departments to monitor the court cases relating to them.

Annexure

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) OF RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4118 FOR ANSWER ON 07.04.2022
REGARDING PENDENCY OF CASES IN COURTS.**

Category wise pendency of cases in supreme court of India as on 30.03.2022

| S. No. | Category | Cases Pendency |
|--------|---|----------------|
| 1. | Labour Matters (100) | 1,847 |
| 2. | Rent Act Matters(200) | 420 |
| 3. | Direct Tax Matters(300) | 4,182 |
| 4. | Indirect Tax Matters (400) | 5,651 |
| 5. | Land Acquisition & Requisition Matters (500) | 4,477 |
| 6. | Service Matters (600) | 6,954 |
| 7. | Academic Matters (700) | 160 |
| 8. | Letter Petition & PIL Matters (800) | 2,884 |
| 9. | Election Matters (900) | 447 |
| 10. | Company Law, MRTP, TRAI, SEBI, IDRAI & RBI(1000) | 2,220 |
| 11. | Arbitration Matters(1100) | 1,491 |
| 12. | Compensation Matters(1200) | 1,558 |
| 13. | Habeas Corpus Matters (1300) | 59 |
| 14. | Criminal Matters (1400) | 14,052 |
| 15. | Appeal Against Orders of Statutory Bodies (1500) | 954 |
| 16. | Family Law Matters (1600) | 687 |
| 17. | Contempt of Court Matters (1700) | 471 |
| 18. | Ordinary Civil Matters (1800) | 12,125 |
| 19. | Three Judges Bench Matters (1900) | 521 |
| 20. | Five Judges Bench Matters (2000) | 202 |
| 21. | Seven Judges Bench Matters (2200) | 15 |
| 22. | Nine Judges Bench Matters (2300) | 134 |
| 23. | Appointments Etc., of Constitutional Functionaries (2400) | 29 |
| 24. | Statutory Appointments and Appointments of Other Law Officers (2500) | 82 |
| 25. | Personal Law Matters (2600) | 1,261 |
| 26. | Religious & Charitable Endowments (2700) | 449 |
| 27. | Mercantile Laws, Commercial Transactions Including Banking (2800) | 690 |
| 28. | Simple Money & Mortgage Matters Etc. (2900) | 184 |
| 29. | Matters Relating to Judiciary (3000) | 288 |
| 30. | Admission To Educational Institutions Other Than Medical & Engineering (3100) | 31 |
| 31. | Establishment and Recognition of Educational Institutions (3200) | 135 |
| 32. | Eviction Under The Public Premises (Eviction) Act (3300) | 89 |
| 33. | Mines, Minerals And Mining Leases (3400) | 587 |
| 34. | Land Laws And Agricultural Tenancies (3500) | 1,611 |
| 35. | Admiralty And Maritime Laws (3600) | 18 |

| | | |
|-----|---|---------------|
| 36. | Matters Relating To Commissions of Enquiry (3700) | 3 |
| 37. | Matters Relating to Consumer Protection (3800) | 1,560 |
| 38. | Matters Relating To Armed Forces & Paramilitary Forces (3900) | 599 |
| 39. | Admission/Transfer to Engineering and Medical Colleges (4000) | 498 |
| 40. | Allocation of 15% All India Quota In Admission/Transfer To Medical Colleges (4100) | 2 |
| 41. | Matters Relating To Leases, Govt. Contracts & Contracts by Local Bodies (4200) | 323 |
| 42. | State Excise- Trading in Liquor-Privileges, Licenses- distilleries Breweries (4300) | 360 |
| 43. | Reference Under Article 317(1) of The Constitution of India (4500) | 3 |
| 44. | Reference under Section 14 Of the Right to Information Act, 2005, (4700) | 1 |
| 45. | For Orders (14700) | 13 |
| 46. | Without Category | 149 |
| | Total | 70,476 |