

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

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 589

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 02.12.2021

Vacancies in Supreme Court and High Courts

589. SHRI JOHN BRITTAS:

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

- (a) the number of Judges appointed in Supreme Court and various High Courts in 2021;
- (b) the number of collegium proposals pending with Government as of now;
- (c) the number of collegium proposals returned by Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (d) :In 2021,09 Judges have been appointed in Supreme Court and 118 Judges have been appointed in various High Courts upto 29.11.2021. Government appoints only those persons as Judges of High Courts who are recommended by Supreme Court Collegium. The total number of High Court Collegium proposals which are at various stages of consideration between the Government and the Supreme Court Collegium as on 29.11.2021 is 164. The number of proposals which have been remitted/returned by the Government to the High Courts on the advice of the Supreme Court Collegium is 55 during the current year.

Filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous, integrated and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various constitutional authorities both at state and 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 the strength of Judges.

BRIEF

Details/Status of High Court Collegiums' Proposals

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Total number of Proposals received from High Court Collegiums	164
Number of Proposals pending with Supreme Court Collegium	31
Number of Proposals pending with Department of Justice (DoJ) which are yet to be sent to Supreme Court Collegium (SCC)	75
Number of Proposals recommended by SCC and pending with DoJ	35
Number of Proposal submitted to PMO	03
Number of Proposal submitted to MLJ	13
Number of Proposals to be remitted to High Courts	07