GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 275

ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 08.12.2022

FACILITIES FOR WOMEN IN COURT COMPLEXES

275. SHRI S NIRANJAN REDDY

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

- (a) whether Government is aware that the data published by National Institute Ranking Framework shows an increase in female lawyers enrolling in LL.B and LL.M courses but most of the court complexes especially at the subordinate level are not equipped with safe private places and washrooms available to women lawyers and women litigants;
- (b) whether Government intends to bring out any policy for creating such facilities; and
- (c) whether Government intends to make any amendment to the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the judiciary to specifically make provisions for woman lawyers and litigants?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (c): No such data published by the National Institute of Ranking Framework has been made available to the Department of Justice. However, the Registry of the Supreme Court of India has compiled data on the status of judicial infrastructure and court amenities according to which 74% of court complexes have separate ladies' toilets while 26% of court complexes do not have separate ladies' toilet. The primary responsibility of the development of infrastructure facilities for the 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 the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary by providing financial assistance to state governments / UTs in the prescribed fund-sharing pattern between the Centre and states. The scheme is being implemented since 1993-94, and it has been extended from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a budgetary outlay of Rs. 9000 crores including the central share of Rs. 5307.00 crores. 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.
