

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

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.916
ANSWERED ON 09/02/2023**

VACANCIES IN LOWER COURTS AND HIGH COURTS

916. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:

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

- (a) the details of vacancies in lower judiciary under the jurisdiction of various High Courts as on 31st January, 2023 and on 1st July, 2022, High Court-wise;
- (b) the details of retirement in lower judiciary under the jurisdiction of various High Courts between July, 2022 and January, 2023, High Court-wise; and
- (c) the details of recruitment in lower judiciary under the jurisdiction of various High Courts from July, 2022 till date, High Court-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): The detailed statement showing the High Court-wise vacancies in lower judiciary of District and Subordinate Courts under jurisdiction of those respective High Courts as on 31st January, 2023 and 1st July, 2022 is at *Annexure*.

(b) & (c): As per the Constitutional framework, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to Article 309 read with Articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the respective State Governments, in consultation with the High Courts, frame the Rules and Regulations regarding the issues of appointment, recruitment and retirement etc. of

Judicial Officers in the State Judicial Service. Thus, the selection and appointment of judges in the District Courts is the responsibility of the High Courts and State Governments concerned. 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. Further, Under Article 235 of the Constitution of India, the administrative control over the members of district and subordinate judiciary in the States vest with the concerned High Court.

Therefore, the Central Government has no direct role in either recruitment or retirement in lower judiciary under the jurisdiction of the various High Courts and no data on the same is centrally maintained.

High Court-wise vacancies in lower judiciary of District and Subordinate Courts

S.no.	Name of High Court	Vacancy position in District and Subordinate Courts	
		As on 1 st July 2022	As on 31 st January 2023
1	Allahabad	1126	1173
2	Andhra Pradesh	124	76
3	Bombay	261	261
4	Chhattisgarh	43	90
5	Delhi	201	205
6	Gujarat	351	431
7	Guwahati	94	111
8	Himachal Pradesh	13	16
9	Jammu & Kashmir	78	91
	Ladakh*	8	8
10	Jharkhand	92	186
11	Karnataka	299	234
12	Kerala	92	122
13	Calcutta	83	83
14	Madhya Pradesh	482	372
15	Madras	270	288
16	Manipur	17	17
17	Meghalaya	48	48
18	Orissa	202	234
19	Patna	600	667
20	Punjab & Haryana	393	516
21	Rajasthan	317	331
22	Sikkim	7	7
23	Telangana	100	150
24	Tripura	13	20
25	Uttarakhand	28	30
TOTAL		5342	5767

Source: MIS portal, Department of Justice

*under jurisdiction of Jammu & Kashmir High Court