

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 111
ANSWERED ON 20/07/2023

STEPS TO FILL VACANT POSTS OF JUDGES IN LOWER COURTS

111 # MS. SAROJ PANDEY:

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

- (a) the vacancy of Judges in the lower courts of the country, at present; and**
- (b) the steps taken by Government to make prompt appointments at these vacant posts so that the pending cases can be settled at the earliest and the general public can get speedy justice?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a): As per information available with the Department, as on 14.07.2023, against the sanctioned strength of 25,246 judicial officers in the District and Subordinate Courts, there are 19,858 judicial officers working and thus there is a total vacancy of 5,388 judicial officers in the country.

(b): The Central Government has no direct role in the filling up of vacant posts in the lower courts of the country. As per the provisions of the Constitution of India, 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 their respective High Courts, frame the rules and regulations regarding the issues of appointment and recruitment of Judicial Officers in the State Judicial Service. Thus, the selection and appointment of judges in the District Courts is the ultimate responsibility of the High Courts and State Governments concerned. In some states, the respective High Courts undertake the recruitment process, whereas in other states, the High Courts does it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions. Further, 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 High Courts.
