

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1710

ANSWERED ON 03/08/2023

**DEVELOPMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE RELATING TO
JUDICIARY**

1710. SHRI KANAKAMEDALA RAVINDRA KUMAR:

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

- (a) the present status of work done under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the Judiciary since its inception in Andhra Pradesh;
- (b) the details of court buildings, digital computer rooms, lawyers' halls, toilet complexes and residential accommodation for judicial officers constructed under the scheme so far in the State of Andhra Pradesh; and
- (c) the fresh steps taken by Government for time bound implementation of the scheme across the country?

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) & (b): The primary responsibility for development of infrastructure facilities for judiciary rests with the State Governments. However, to supplement the resources of the State Governments/UTs, the Union Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the Judiciary since 1993-94 by providing financial assistance to them in the prescribed fund-sharing pattern between the Centre and States. The scheme covers the construction of court buildings and

residential accommodations for judicial officers of district and subordinate judiciary. From the year 2021, besides court halls and residential units, new components of digital computer room, lawyers' halls and toilet complexes have also been added under the ambit of the above CSS. A sum of Rs. 10035 crores has been released under the Scheme so far since its inception, out of which Rs. 6591 crore (66%) has been released since 2014-15. There are 21,365 number of court halls and 18,846 number of residential units available in the district and subordinate courts against the working strength of 19,876 Judges/Judicial Officers as on 30.06.2023. Moreover, as per Nyaya Vikas Portal, 2,811 Court Halls and 1640 residential units are under construction. The scheme has been extended from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a budgetary outlay of Rs. 9000 crores including central share of Rs. 5307.00 crore for this scheme.

As far as the releases to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh is concerned, a sum of Rs. 222.42 crore has been released till 28.07.2023 under the Scheme. As per information made available by the Andhra Pradesh High Court, there are 647 Court Halls and 574 Residential Units as on 30.06.2023 available in the State of Andhra Pradesh. In addition, 99 court halls and 16 residential units are under construction. The digital computer rooms, lawyers' halls and toilets are essentially the part of a court complex and funds are not released project-wise/component-wise under the scheme. However, States have been sensitized about the new elements of Lawyers' Halls, Toilet Complexes and Digital Computer Rooms, introduced under the scheme since 2021-22.

(c): The Government is sensitive to the needs of building better infrastructure for the judicial officers of the lower and subordinate judiciary. For time bound and proper implementation of the scheme, there are monitoring mechanisms in place as per the guidelines of the scheme.

There is a High Court Level Monitoring Committee in the State, chaired by the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts and this also has other stake holders such as, Registrar General of the High Court, portfolio judges, Law/Home Secretary of the State and Secretary of the State PWD as members. This committee meets every six months to review the physical and financial progress of the projects running under the scheme.

Apart from this, there is a Central Level Monitoring Committee in the Department of Justice, chaired by Secretary (Department of Justice, Government of India) to review the progress of the projects and iron out any issues that hinder the smooth implementation of the scheme.

Besides, there are regular visits by the officials of the Department of Justice to the States for getting firsthand information on the ground. Regular meetings through video conferencing to sort out the problems of the States/UTs also takes place.

Trainings are also organized (both online and offline) for the State officials on the technical issues relating to Public Financial Management (PFMS) through which funds gets released and utilization is monitored.

The States/UTs are required to geo-tag the on-going projects in real time and reflect it on the Nyaya Vikas Portal, which is an online monitoring system developed with the technical assistance of National Remote Sensing Centre of ISRO for collection of data on progress and time bound completion of judicial infrastructure projects.

Above all, the scheme has enough flexibility by way of its norms and specifications, for the States to take care of their local needs and geo-spatial peculiarities.
