

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2522**

ANSWERED ON 10/08/2023

**LOW PERCENTAGE OF WOMEN JUDGES**

**2522. SHRI R. DHARMAR:**

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

- (a) the details of the number of women judges within the country;**
- (b) whether the percentage of women judges is very less as compared to men judges within the country;**
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor;**
- (d) whether Government has fixed any percentage for women judges within the country;**
- (e) if so, the details thereof;**
- (f) whether the inclusion of women as judges in the country will substantially improve the justice delivery system; and**
- (g) the steps being taken by Government in this regard?**

**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 on 04.08.2023, 03 women Judges are working in the Supreme Court, 106 women Judges are working in the High Courts and 7199 women Judges are working in District and Subordinate Courts.

**(b) to (g):** The Central Government has a limited role in the fixing of a particular percentage for women judges in the judiciary. In case of appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts, the same is made under Articles 124, 217 and 224 of the Constitution of India respectively, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons.

Further, in case of District and Subordinate Courts, in exercise of powers conferred under proviso to Article 309 read with Articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution, the respective State Government, in consultation with the concerned High Court, frames the rules and regulations regarding the issues of appointment, recruitment and reservation for particular categories like woman 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 and the Central Government has no role in the matter.

However, the Government is committed to social diversity in the appointment of Judges including women, so that decision making process becomes more responsive, inclusive and participatory at all levels. To this end, the Government has been requesting the Chief Justices of High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women to ensure social diversity in appointment of Judges in higher judiciary.

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