

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

**RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *132
ANSWERED ON 14.12.2023**

FAST TRACK SPECIAL COURTS SCHEME

***132. SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:**

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

- (a) the steps taken by Government to implement the Fast Track Special Courts Scheme;
- (b) the key achievements and outcomes of the Scheme; and
- (c) the rate of disposal in rape and POCSO Act related cases?

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) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE RAJYA SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *132 FOR THE 14th DECEMBER, 2023 REGARDING 'FAST TRACK SPECIAL COURTS SCHEME'

(a) : Pursuant to the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2018, the Central Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) Courts since October, 2019 for expeditious trial and disposal of pending cases pertaining to Rape and Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act in a time-bound manner.

The scheme was initially for one year, which was further extended up to March 2023. The Union Cabinet has now extended the Scheme for another three years i.e. from 01.04.2023 to 31.03.2026 at a total outlay of Rs. 1952.23cr. with Rs. 1207.24 cr. as Central Share to be incurred from Nirbhaya Fund.

(b) : As per the data submitted by various High Courts, 758 FTSCs including 412 exclusive POCSO Courts are functional in 30 States/UTs. Notably, the number of functional Fast Track Special Courts, including exclusive POCSO Courts, has undergone a substantial increase, rising from 366 FTSCs in the financial year 2019-2020 to 758 FTSCs as of October, 2023. Monthly Disposal in the Fast Track Special Courts has risen from 1000-1500 cases per month during FY 2021-2022 to more than 6000 cases per month by October, 2023.

Setting up Fast Track Special Courts demonstrates the unwavering commitment of the Government towards women security, combating sexual and gender-based violence, reducing the backlog of pending cases related to Rape & POCSO Act, and providing expedited access to justice for survivors of sexual crimes. Staffed with professional and experienced judges and support staff specialized in handling sensitive sexual offense cases, these courts ensure consistent and expert-guided legal proceedings. By expediting these proceedings, the FTSC Scheme has

played a pivotal role in offering victims of sexual offenses swift resolutions, mitigating the trauma and distress experienced by survivors, and enabling them to move forward. Fast Track Special Courts have notably adopted the approach of setting up Vulnerable Witness Deposition Centres within the courts to facilitate the victims and to make the courts into Child-Friendly Courts for providing crucial support for a compassionate legal system. These courts have disposed more than 2,00,000 cases as on October 31, 2023.

(c) : As per the information provided by the High Courts on the FTSCs dashboard, a total of 69,098 cases were newly instituted from January, 2023 to October, 2023 in the current year, while 64,004 cases have been disposed of, resulting in a disposal rate of 92%.

The State/UT-wise rate of Disposal of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) since the inception of the Scheme is given at **Annexure**.

**Annexure as referred to in Reply to the Rajya Sabha Starred Question No.*132
for 14th December, 2023**

State/UT-wise rate of Disposal of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) as on October 2023

Sl. No.	State/UT	Total Number of Functional Courts	Cases Instituted since the inception of the Scheme	Cumulative Disposal since the inception of the Scheme	Rate of Disposal
1	Chhattisgarh	15	6475	4144	64.00
2	Gujarat	35	16157	9913	61.35
3	Mizoram	3	252	157	62.30
4	Nagaland	1	108	53	49.07
5	Jharkhand	22	9744	5383	55.24
6	Madhya Pradesh	67	32674	22251	68.10
7	Manipur	2	212	112	52.83
8	Haryana	16	9195	4981	54.17
9	Chandigarh	1	435	223	51.26
10	Rajasthan	45	18700	12347	66.03
11	Tamilnadu	14	10444	5929	56.77
12	Tripura	3	581	334	57.49
13	Uttar Pradesh	218	135930	51920	38.20
14	Uttarakhand	4	2220	1307	58.87
15	Delhi	16	5195	1361	26.20
16	Meghalaya	5	1399	355	25.38
17	J&K	4	623	141	22.63
18	Punjab	12	4865	3320	68.24
19	Himachal Pradesh	6	2027	1165	57.47
20	Karnataka	31	13735	8270	60.21
21	Telangana	36	15892	7490	47.13
22	Puducherry*	1	249	34	13.65
23	Andhra Pradesh	16	11082	3709	33.47
24	Assam	17	9516	4587	48.20
25	Bihar	46	26714	9393	35.16
26	Goa	1	91	34	37.36
27	Kerala	54	23443	15706	67.00
28	Maharashtra	20	20853	16418	78.73
29	Odisha	44	22132	10861	49.07
30	West Bengal**	3	2885	19	0.66
	TOTAL	758	403828	201917	50.00

*Puducherry specially requested to join the Scheme and has since operationalized one exclusive POCSSO Court in May 2023.

**Data as on 31st August, 2023.