GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 603 ANSWRED ON THURSDAY, THE 07th DECEMBER 2023

FAST TRACK COURTS

603. Shri Narayana Koragappa:

Will the Minister of Law and Justice be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of Fast Track Courts in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the details of vacancies in Fast Track Courts, court-wise and State-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by State and Central Governments to fill in the vacancies in Fast Track Courts, with a particular reference to Karnataka?

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): Establishment of subordinate courts including Fast Track Courts (FTCs) for providing speedy justice in the country lies within the domain of the State Governments who set up such courts as per their need and resources, in consultation with the respective High Courts. The 14th Finance Commission (FC) had recommended for setting up of 1800 Fast Track Courts (FTCs) during 2015-2020 for speedy trial of specific cases of heinous nature, civil cases related to women, children, senior citizen, disabled persons, persons infected with terminal ailments etc. and property related cases pending for more than 5 years. The FC had

further urged State Governments to utilize enhanced fiscal space available through tax devolution (32% to 42%) for this purpose. The Union Government has also urged the State Governments to allocate funds for the setting up of FTCs, from the financial year 2015-16 onward. As per information made available by High Courts, 848 FTCs are functional in the country as on 31.10.2023. State-wise details are given in **Annexure**.

Pursuant to the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Central Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including exclusive Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences (e-POCSO) Courts for speedy disposal of cases related to rape and POCSO Act since October 2019. As per information made available by High Courts, as on 31.10.2023, 758 FTSCs including 412 exclusive POCSO Courts are functional in 30 States/UTs which have disposed of more than 2,00,000 cases.

(b) & (c) As per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in District and Subordinate courts is the responsibility of High Court and State Government concerned. Further, establishment of Fast Track Courts/Fast Track Special Courts lies entirely within the domain of the State Govts. who set up such courts and deploys Presiding Officers (Judges) and supporting staff as per their requirements and resources in consultation with their respective High Courts. The details of vacancies of judges and other categories of officials in the FTCs are not centrally maintained.

Annexure given in Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 603 to be replied on 07.12.2023

(As on October, 2023)

S.NO.	NAME OF STATE/UTs	No. of Functional Fast Track Court as on 31.10.2023		
1	Andhra Pradesh	23		
2	Andaman & Nicobar Island	0		
3	Arunachal Pradesh *	8		
4	Assam	16		
5	Bihar	0		
6	Chandigarh	0		
7	Chhattisgarh	23		
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0		
9	Delhi	18		
10	Diu & Daman	0		
11	Goa	2		
12	Gujarat	54		
13	Haryana	6		
14	Himachal Pradesh	3		
15	Jammu & Kashmir	8		
16	Jharkhand ***	34		
17	Karnataka	0		
18	Kerala	0		
19	Ladakh	0		
20	Lakshadweep	0		
21	Madhya Pradesh	0		
22	Maharashtra	97		
23	Manipur ***	6		
24	Meghalaya	0		
25	Mizoram	2		
26	Nagaland	0		
27	Odisha	0		
28	Puducherry	0		
29	Punjab	7		
30	Rajasthan	0		
31	Sikkim**	2		
32	Tamil Nadu ***	72		
33	Telangana	0		
34	Tripura	3		
35	Uttar Pradesh	372		
36	Uttarakhand	4		
37	West Bengal ***	88		
	TOTAL	848		

^{*} data upto 31.05.2023

^{**}data upto 31.07.2023

^{***} data upto 30.09.2023