

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 749
ANSWERED ON 08/02/2024

FUNDS ALLOTTED UNDER VARIOUS SCHEMES OF THE MINISTRY

749. SHRI BRIJ LAL:
DR. ANIL AGRAWAL:

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

- (a) whether the funds allotted to the State of Kerala under various schemes of the Ministry during the period 2019-20 to 2023-24 is higher as compared to the recent past;
- (b) if so, the allotment of funds thereof annually from 2019-20 to 2023-24;
- (c) whether the Central Government approved any special projects in the field of Law and Justice for the State of Kerala from 2019 to 2024; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, annually?

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 Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India, has been administering the following schemes under which funds are released to State Governments/High Courts.

1. Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary (including sub-scheme of Gram Nyayalayas): The Central Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for

Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary by providing financial assistance to State Governments / UTs in the prescribed fund sharing pattern between Centre and States. The Scheme is being implemented since 1993-94. It covers the construction of Court Halls and Residential Units of subordinate judiciary. The scheme has been extended from 2021-22 to 2025-26 covering 3 new components, lawyers' halls, toilet complexes and digital computer room, in addition to the Court Halls and Residential Units, with a budgetary outlay of Rs. 9000 crores including central share of Rs. 5307.00 crore and Rs.50 cr for Gram Nyayalayas. The status of release of funds under the Scheme to the State of Kerala is as under:

(In Rs. crore)

Scheme \ Period	2014-15 to 2018-19 (5 years)	(2019-20 to 2023-24) 5 Years					
		2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24 (as on 06/02/2024)	Total 19-20 to 23-24
Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary	55.82	15.82	13.00	50.00	0.00*	0.00*	78.82

*Owing to the fact that the state was having unspent balance of funds with it, no funds under the scheme could be released either in the FY 2022-23 or in the current financial year 2023-24 till date. As on date, the State of Kerala is having unspent balance of funds amounting to around Rs.12 crore. For release of funds to a state, one of the main conditions is utilization of funds released to the states

previously.

Thus, as per table above, the funds allocated during 2019-20 to 2023-24 are more as compared to the funds released to the State during the period 2014-15 to 2018-19. As far as funds released under the scheme of Gram Nyayalayas is concerned, the admissible amount of central assistance of Rs. 8.28 crore was released to the state upto 2019-20, for operationalizing 30 Gram Nyayalayas.

2. Scheme of Fast Track Special Courts: In pursuance to the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Government of India finalized a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in August, 2019 for setting up Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) for expeditious trial and disposal of cases pertaining to rape and Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 in a time-bound manner. As per data submitted by various High Courts, upto December, 2023, 757 FTSCs including 411 exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) courts are functional in 30 States/UTs across the country which have disposed of more than 2,14,000 cases. As per data submitted by Kerala High Court, upto December 2023, 54 FTSCs are functional including 14 e-POCSO courts, contributing to the disposal of over 16,878 cases related to rape and the POCSO Act while 7,401 cases are pending. This status of fund release under the scheme is as under:

(In Rs. crore)

Period Scheme	2014-15 to 2018- 19	2019- 20	2020- 21	2021- 22	2022- 23	2023- 24	Total (2019- 20 to 2023- 24)
Scheme of Fast Track Special Courts	Nil** **The scheme came into effect from Oct 2019 only.	8.40	0.00***	0.00***	7.40	21.80	37.60

***For release of funds to a state, one of the main conditions is utilization of funds released to the state previously. Owing to the fact that the state was having unspent balance of funds with it, no funds under the scheme could be released either in the FY 2020-21 or in the financial year 2021-22.

(c) & (d): No special projects in the field of Law and Justice for the State of Kerala have been approved since 2019.
