

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2025**

ANSWERED ON 12/12/2024

**REPRESENTATION OF ALL SECTION OF SOCIETY IN THE JUDICIARY**

2025. SHRI ANIL KUMAR YADAV MANDADI:

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

- (a) whether Government has taken any steps to ensure that there is adequate representation of persons for judgeship in the higher judiciary representing the different strata of the society;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (c): Appointment of Judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124, 217 and 224 of the Constitution of India and according to the procedure laid down in the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) prepared in 1998 pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 (Second Judges case) read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998 (Third Judges case), which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons.

However, since 2018, the recommendees for the post of High Court Judges are required to provide details regarding their social background in the prescribed format (prepared in consultation with the Supreme Court). Based on the information provided by the recommendees, out of 684 High Court Judges appointed since 2018, 21 belong to SC category, 14 belong to ST category, 82 belong to OBC category and 37 belong to Minorities. As on 06.12.2024, 02 women Judges are working in the Supreme Court and 106 women Judges in various High Courts.

As per the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP), the responsibility for initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India, while the responsibility for initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court, in consultation with two senior-most puisne Judges of the High Court. However, 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 the appointment of Judges in High Courts.

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