

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2043
ANSWERED ON 12/12/2024

JUDGES-POPULATION RATIO IN THE COUNTRY

2043. SHRI HARIS BEERAN:

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

- (a) the judges-population ratio in the country at present along with the vacancies in the Supreme Court, High Courts and subordinate courts in the country, State/ court-wise;
- (b) whether the ratio of judges in our country is very less as compared to the developed countries; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

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): For Calculating the judge-population ratio for per million population in a particular year, the Department uses the criterion of using the population as per Census 2011 and sanctioned strength of Judges in the Supreme Court, High Courts and District & Subordinate Courts in that particular year.

Based on the population as per Census 2011 which was 1210.19 million and as per available information regarding sanctioned strength of Judges in Supreme Court, High Courts and District & Subordinate Courts in the year 2024, the judge - population ratio in the country works out to be approximately 21 Judges per million population.

Further, in case of District and Subordinate courts, the need for appropriate number of judges and the consequent requirement for filling up of the vacancies lies in the domain of respective High Courts and the State Governments. However, due to consistent efforts, there has been a marked increase in the judges' strength with the sanctioned strength of Judges of Supreme Court being increased from 31 in 2014 to 34 Judges (including Chief Justice of India). In the case of High Courts, the sanctioned strength of High Court Judges has increased

from 906 in 2014 to 1122 Judges, as on 09.12.2024, with a total of 216 new posts of High Court Judges being created since 2014. The District Judiciary's sanctioned strength has increased from 19,518 judicial officers in 2014 to 25,741 judicial officers, as on 09.12.2024. The status of sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court as on 09.12.2024, are 34, 33 and 1(One) respectively. Further, the details of sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in the High Courts and District and Subordinate Courts (State/UT wise) are at ***Annexure-I*** and ***Annexure-II*** respectively.

Further, the Courts in various countries operate in varying environments on account of difference in availability of infrastructure, use of technology, docket ratio (population case filing ratio), provisions of substantive laws and procedures in courts etc. The Government of India is committed towards ensuing progressive improvement in the Justice Delivery System, through various interventions.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) TO (C) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2043 FOR ANSWER ON 12.12.2024 REGARDING 'JUDGES-POPULATION RATIO IN THE COUNTRY'.

Vacant Positions of Judges in the High Courts as on 09.12.2024

Sl No.	Name of High Court	Sanctioned strength			Working strength			Vacancies		
		Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total
1	Allahabad	119	41	160	81	0	81	38	41	79
2	Andhra Pradesh	28	9	37	22	7	29	6	2	8
3	Bombay	71	23	94	52	15	67	19	8	27
4	Calcutta	54	18	72	33	10	43	21	8	29
5	Chhattisgarh	17	5	22	9	7	16	8	-2	6
6	Delhi	45	15	60	33	2	35	12	13	25
7	Gauhati	22	8	30	19	5	24	3	3	6
8	Gujarat	39	13	52	32	0	32	7	13	20
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	4	17	11	0	11	2	4	6
10	J & K and Ladakh	19	6	25	12	3	15	7	3	10
11	Jharkhand	20	5	25	18	0	18	2	5	7
12	Karnataka	47	15	62	44	6	50	3	9	12
13	Kerala	35	12	47	30	15	45	5	-3	2
14	Madhya Pradesh	40	13	53	35	0	35	5	13	18
15	Madras	56	19	75	55	11	66	1	8	9
16	Manipur	4	1	5	4	0	4	0	1	1
17	Meghalaya	3	1	4	3	1	4	0	0	0
18	Orissa	24	9	33	19	0	19	5	9	14
19	Patna	40	13	53	35	0	35	5	13	18
20	Punjab & Haryana	64	21	85	48	4	52	16	17	33
21	Rajasthan	38	12	50	32	0	32	6	12	18
22	Sikkim	3	0	3	3	0	3	0	0	0
23	Telangana	32	10	42	24	3	27	8	7	15
24	Tripura	4	1	5	4	1	5	0	0	0
25	Uttarakhand	9	2	11	6	0	6	3	2	5
	Total	846	276	1122	664	90	754	182	186	368

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) TO (C) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2043 FOR ANSWER ON 12.12.2024 REGARDING 'JUDGES-POPULATION RATIO IN THE COUNTRY'.

Vacant Positions of Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts as on 09.12.2024

Sl No.	State/Uts	Total Sanctioned Strength	Total Working Strength	Total Vacancy
1.	Andhra Pradesh	623	564	59
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	44	33	11
3.	Assam	485	461	24
4.	Bihar	2019	1536	483
5.	Chandigarh	30	30	0
6.	Chhattisgarh	663	465	198
7.	Dadar & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	7	6	1
8.	Delhi	897	803	94
9.	Goa	50	40	10
10.	Gujarat	1720	1185	535
11.	Haryana	781	552	229
12.	Himachal Pradesh	179	160	19
13.	Jammu and Kashmir	322	276	46
14.	Jharkhand	705	506	199
15.	Karnataka	1375	1156	219
16.	Kerala	611	534	77
17.	Ladakh	17	11	6
18.	Lakshadweep	4	4	0
19.	Madhya Pradesh	2028	1691	337
20.	Maharashtra	2190	1940	250
21.	Manipur	62	49	13
22.	Meghalaya	99	56	43
23.	Mizoram	74	45	29
24.	Nagaland	34	24	10
25.	Odisha	1041	841	200
26.	Puducherry	36	26	10
27.	Punjab	804	723	81
28.	Rajasthan	1641	1313	328
29.	Sikkim	35	23	12
30.	Tamil Nadu	1369	1023	346
31.	Telangana	560	445	115
32.	Tripura	133	109	24
33.	Uttar Pradesh	3700	2704	996
34.	Uttarakhand	298	270	28
35.	Andaman and Nicobar	1105	875	230
36.	West Bengal			
TOTAL		25741	20479	5262

Source: - MIS portal of Department of Justice.

*Combined vacancy of UT Andaman & Nicobar Island and State of WB as shown against State of West Bengal

