

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3145
ANSWERED ON – 27/03/2025

SHORTAGE OF MANPOWER AND INFRASTRUCTURE IN PUNE'S COURTS

3145. DR. MEDHA VISHRAM KULKARNI:

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

- (a) whether Government is aware of the shortage of judicial manpower and inadequate infrastructure in Pune's courts;
- (b) if so, the details of vacancies in judges and staff and the status of infrastructure development;
- (c) the steps being taken to improve court infrastructure and fill vacancies to ensure timely justice;
- (d) whether any proposals for new court buildings or modernization have been received, if so, the status thereof; and
- (e) the timeline for implementation of these measures?

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 (e): The primary responsibility for the development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary in the States rests with the State governments. The Government has been implementing the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary since 1993-94, to augment the resources of the State Governments

for the construction of judicial infrastructure in the district and the subordinate courts. There are five components covered under the scheme, viz., court hall, residential units, lawyers' halls, toilet complexes and digital computer rooms for the convenience of lawyers and litigants. As on 28.02.2025, Rs. 11886.29crores have been released since the inception of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the Judiciary. The Central Government has released a sum of Rs 1076.64 Crore till date to the State of Maharashtra including Rs 95.16 Crore released this F.Y 2024-25.

Appointments in District and Subordinate Courts fall under the jurisdiction of State Governments and High Courts, as per Articles 233 and 234 of the Constitution of India. The recruitment process is governed by the rules framed by State Governments in consultation with High Courts, following timelines set by the Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its January 2007 order in the Malik Mazhar Sultan case. As per information received from the Bombay High Court, the current status of judicial infrastructure and manpower in Pune District is as follows:

(i) Availability of Court Halls in Pune District:

| District/Taluka | Self-Owned | Government-Owned | Rented | Total |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| District Place | 72 | 0 | 0 | 72 |
| Taluka Places | 69 | 0 | 24 | 93 |
| Total | 141 | 0 | 24 | 165 |

(ii) Availability of Residential Quarters in Pune District:

| District/Taluka | Self-Owned (Assigned) | Government Pool (Common Pool) | Rented | Total |
|------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| District Place | 33 | 35 | 4 | 72 |
| Taluka Places | 41 | 17 | 31 | 89 |
| Total | 74 | 52 | 35 | 161 |

(iii) Vacancies of Judicial Officers in the State of Maharashtra (as on 11.03.2025):

As per information provided by the Bombay High Court, sanction is accorded by the State Government to Cadre wise posts and it is not limited to a District. Sanctioned Strength, Working Strength and Vacancy position of Judicial Officers in the State of Maharashtra as on 11.03.2025 is as follows:

| Cadre | Sanctioned Strength | Working Strength (incl. ex-cadre) | Vacancies |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--|------------------|
| District Judges | 1195 | 453 | 742 |
| Ad-hoc District Judges | 100 | 84 | 16 |
| Senior Civil Judges | 1274 | 639 | 635 |
| Civil Judges (Jr. Division) | 2835 | 1066 | 1769 |

(iv) Steps Taken to Improve Infrastructure and Fill Vacancies:

To enhance judicial infrastructure, the Bombay High Court has directed Principal District Judges to prepare plans for new court buildings wherever land is available and to coordinate with district collectors to acquire land where it is not. Emphasis has also been placed on constructing residential quarters for judicial officers and transferring/acquiring land where courts or quarters are functioning in rented spaces. The instructions have also been issued for forming site supervision committees, ensuring physical accessibility in all court premises, and maintaining infrastructure through standard procedures and circulars. These actions aim to provide suitable working and residential conditions for judicial staff and improve access to justice

As intimated by the Bombay High Court, a comprehensive recruitment and promotion process has been undertaken to fill up the judicial vacancies in Maharashtra, Goa, and Union Territories under its jurisdiction. Several notifications have been issued, written examinations conducted, and appointments made during the year 2023, 2024 and also in 2025.

(v) Proposals for New Court Buildings:

| Particulars | Status |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Vadgaon Maval (20 court halls) | Administrative approval is in process. |
| Baramati (20 court halls) | Administrative approval is in process. |

(As per information submitted by Bombay High Court)

(vi) Ongoing Construction of Court Buildings in Pune District:

| Location | No. of Court Halls | Tentative Completion Date |
|--|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Ghodnadi-Shirur (Stilt +2 floors) (6+1 for POC SO) | 7 | 30.06.2025 |
| Construction of additional two floors (3 rd and 4 th) | 5 | 10.10.2026 |
| Pune (Annex + Parking) | 14 | 30.06.2025 |
| Khed Rajgurunagar | 10 | 31.05.2025 |
| Paud | 2 | 30.06.2025 |
| Yerwada | 24 | 12.03.2026 |
| Pimpri Chinchwad | 26 | 08.02.2026 |
| Pune HQ (POC SO Court Bldg) | 6 | July 2025 |
| Total | 94 | — |

(As per information submitted by Bombay High Court)

(vii) Ongoing Construction of Residential Quarters:

| Location | No. of Units | Tentative Completion Date |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Ghodnadi-Shirur (CJJD) | 4 | 30.06.2025 |
| Paud (CJJD) | 2 | 30.06.2025 |
| Ghodnadi-Shirur (DJ, CJSD) | 8 | 10.11.2025 |
| Junnar | 6 | — |
| Total | 20 | — |

(As per information submitted by Bombay High Court)
