

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1994**

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 6TH AUGUST, 2025/ SRAVANA 15, 1947 (SAKA)

TIMELINES FOR VARIOUS STAGES IN THE NEW CRIMINAL LAWS

**1994 # SMT. SANGEETA YADAV:
 SHRI NEERAJ SHEKHAR:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether time limits have been prescribed for various stages under the new criminal laws;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) provides for community service as an alternative to punishment; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI BANDI SANJAY KUMAR)**

(a) & (b): Details of time limits prescribed for various stages under the new criminal laws are given in Annexure.

(c) & (d): For the first time, Community Service has been introduced as one of the punishments for minor offences in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. The offenders get the chance to positively contribute to society, learn from their mistakes and build stronger community bonds.

DETAILS OF TIME LIMITS PRESCRIBED FOR VARIOUS STAGES UNDER THE
NEW CRIMINAL LAWS

- i. Faster and Fair Resolution:** The new laws promise a faster and fair resolution of cases, instilling confidence in the legal system. Crucial stages of investigation and trial like - preliminary enquiry (to be completed in 14 days), further investigation (to be completed in 90 days), supply of document to the victim and accused (within 14 days), commitment of a case for trial (within 90 days), filing of discharge applications (within 60 days), framing of charges (within 60 days), pronouncement of judgment (within 45 days) and filing of mercypetitions (30 days before Governor and 60 days before President) - have been streamlined and to be completed within stipulated time period.
- ii. Fast-Track Investigations:** The new laws prioritize the investigations for offences against women and children, ensuring timely completion within two months of recording information.
- iii. Limited Adjournments:** Courts can grant a maximum of two adjournments to avoid unnecessary delays in case hearings, ensuring timely justice delivery.
