

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4596

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 29.03.2017

Increase in Judges in High Courts

4596. SHRI P. NAGARAJAN:

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

- (a) whether Government has decided to increase the number of judges in High Courts during the year 2017;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) if not, the reasons for not increasing the strength of High Court judges across the country?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (c): After receiving the approval from the State Governments and the High Courts and with the approval of the Chief Justice of India, the Judge strength of the High Courts has been increased from 906 in 01.06.2014 to 1079 as on date.

As per the direction of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its Order dated 2.1.2017 in the matter of of Imtiyaz Ahmed case, the Department of Justice has forwarded a copy of the interim report of the National Court Management System (NCMS) Committee to all State Governments and High Courts to enable them to take follow up action to determine the required Judges Strength of the district judiciary based on the NCMS report. It has inter-alia, observed that in the long term, the judge strength of the Subordinate Courts will have to be assessed by a scientific method to determine the total number of "Judicial Hours" required for disposing of the case load of each court. In the interim, this Committee has proposed a "weighted" disposal approach i.e. disposal weighted by the nature and complexity of cases in local conditions.

Further, the Supreme Court in its Order dated 20.3.2017 in W.P. (C) Nos. 295 and 624 of 2016 has stated that there are number of unfilled posts of Judges at various levels and therefore increasing the number of posts of Judges will arise only after filling up of these existing vacancies.

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LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.4598

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 29.03.2017

Vacancies in High Court

4598. SHRI RAMEN DEKA:

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

- (a) the sanctioned strength of judges in Guwahati High Court; and
- (b) whether vacancies exist in the said court and if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken to fill by these vacancies at the earliest?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)**

(a) & (b) : There are 24 sanctioned posts of Judges in Gauhati High Court. Out of this, as on 24.03.2017, 7 posts of Judges are lying vacant.

Filling up of vacancies in High Courts is a continuous and collaborative process of the Judiciary and the Executive. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and increase in the Judge strength of High Courts. Hence, the time frame for filling up of the vacancies cannot be indicated. However, during the calendar year 2016, 5 judges have been appointed in the Gauhati High Court so far.
