GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE (DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 6256

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 12TH APRIL, 2017

Fast Track Courts

6256. SHRI RAJESH PANDEY:

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

- (a) whether the working of Fast Track Courts dealing with rape cases are not upto the desired level;
- (b) if so, the number of cases pending in these courts in each State as on date; and
- (c) the number of courts set-up/designated for cases of crimes against women and special courts established under POCSO Act, 2012 for cases of crimes against children?

ANSWER

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

(a) to (b): Setting up of the Subordinate Courts which include Fast Track Courts (FTCs)/Special Courts lies within the domain of the State Governments which in consultation with the High Courts may set up such courts. The Government of India proposed setting up of 1800 FTCs as a component of its Memorandum to the 14th Finance Commission to dispose of cases pertaining to heinous crimes including those of rape. The 14th Finance Commission while noting that the proposal of the Government was arrived at after an extensive consultation process with the States, endorsed the proposal of the Government for incurring Rs.4144 crore and setting up of additional 1800 FTCs for a period of five years (2015-20). The 14th FC further advised the State Governments to use the additional fiscal

space provided by the Commission in the tax devolution to meet such requirements.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister vide his letter dated 23rd April, 2015 has urged the State Governments to allocate funds for the activities mentioned in the 14th FC recommendations from their State budget from 2015-16 onwards. This issue was also discussed in the Conferences of the Chief Ministers of the State Governments and Chief Justices of the High Courts held on 05th April, 2015 and 24th April, 2016 respectively wherein it was resolved to strengthen the existing coordination and monitoring mechanism between the State Government and the Judiciary for effective implementation of the recommendations of the 14th FC. The Minister of Law and Justice has further urged all the Chief Ministers of the States and Chief Justices of High Courts to implement the resolution of the Conference vide letters dated 03rd June, 2015 and 26th September, 2016.

The data in respect of number of cases pending in these FTCs in each State as on date is not maintained centrally. However, as per the information made available by the respective States, the number of cases pending in these FTCs which inter alia include cases of rape is annexed as Annexure-I.

(c): Section 28(1) of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 provides that for the purposes of providing a speedy trial, the State Government shall in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court, by notification in the Official Gazette, designate for each district, a Court of Session to be a Special Court to try the offences under the Act provided that if a Court of Session is notified as a Children's Court under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights Act, 2005 or a Special Court designated for similar purposes under any other law for the time being in force, then, such court shall be deemed to be a Special Court under this section. As per these provisions, it is for the State Government to set up/designate the Special Courts. As per information available, number of Courts so set-up/designated for cases of crimes against women/crime against children under POCSO Act, 2012 is enclosed as Annexure-II.

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6256 TO BE ANSWERED ON $12^{\rm TH}$ APRIL, 2017 REGARDING FAST TRACK COURTS.

S. No	State	Cases Pending as on		
1	Andhra Pradesh	6778 as on March 31, 2016		
2	Arunachal Pradesh	-		
3	Assam	5769 as on December, 12, 2015		
4	Bihar	-		
5	Chhattisgarh	2966 13 on June 30, 1016		
6	Delhi	658 as on July 31, 2016		
7	Goa	2521 as on August 31, 2016		
8	Gujarat	-		
9	Haryana	1553 as on December 31, 105		
10	Himachal Pradesh	-		
11	Jammu & Kashmir	-		
12	Jharkhand	2200 as on December, 31, 2015		
13	Karnataka			
14	Kerala	3692 as on December, 31, 2015		
15	Madhya Pradesh	-		
16	Maharashtra	-		
17	Manipur	-		
18	Meghalaya	202 as on January 31, 2011		
19	Mizoram	-		
20	Nagaland	-		
21	Odisha			
22	Punjab	1292 as on January 31, 2016		
23	Puducherry	-		
24	Rajasthan			
25	Sikkim	4 as on March 31, 2016		
26	Tamil Nadu	-		
27	Telangana	6602 as on March 31, 2016		
28	Tripura	1751 as on December 31, 2015		
29	Uttar Pradesh	41001 December 31, 2015		
30	Uttarakhand	161 as on May 31, 2016		
31	West Bengal	33510 as on July 31, 2016		

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.6256 TO BE ANSWERED ON $12^{\rm TH}$ APRIL, 2017 REGARDING FAST TRACK COURTS.

Special Courts set-up/designated for cases of crimes against women and for cases of crimes against children under $\,$ POCSO Act, 2012

S.No.	Name of the State/UT	Number of Courts for cases of	
		Crimes against women	Crimes against children under POCSO Act, 2012
1	Andhra Pradesh/Telangana	24	23
2	Arunachal Pradesh	*	5
3	Assam	3	27
4	Bihar	*	38
5	Chhattisgarh	16	16
6	Chandigarh	1	*
7	Goa	*	1
8	Gujarat	*	33
9	Haryana	21	21
10	Himachal Pradesh	*	12
11	Jammu & Kashmir	5	*
12	Jharkhand	11	24
13	Karnataka	10	30
14	Kerala	1	14
15	Maharashtra	27	33
16	Meghalaya	1	4
17	Manipur	*	9
18	Madhya Pradesh	50	50
19	Mizoram	*	2
20	Nagaland	*	11
21	Odisha	30	30
22	Punjab	20	22
23	Rajasthan	9	33
24	Sikkim	1	4
25	Tamil Nadu	32	32
26	Tripura	2	8
27	Uttarakhand	*	13
28	Uttar Pradesh	80	75
29	West Bengal	48	20
30	Andaman &Nicobar	*	1
31	Chandigarh	*	1
32	Daman and Diu	*	*
33	Delhi	6	11
34	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	*	1
35	Lakshadweep	*	1
36	Pondicherry	*	*
Total		398	605

^{*}Not available