

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2685

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 03RD JANUARY, 2018.

Judge to Population Ratio

2685. SHRI RAHUL SHEWALE:
SHRI SANJAY DHOTRE:
SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the judge to population ratio has deteriorated in the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether there is a huge gap between sanctioned and actual strength of judges in Supreme Court, High Courts and Subordinate Courts in the country;
- (d) if so, the details thereof, State/ UT-wise and the reasons therefor along with its impact on the functioning of the judiciary in the country; and
- (e) the number of judges appointed in the said courts during the last three years, State/UT-wise?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS
(SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): Based on the population as per Census 2011 and as per available information regarding sanctioned strength of Judges in Supreme Court, High Courts and District & Subordinate Courts in the year 2017, the judge - population ratio in the country works out to be 19.66 Judges per million population in comparison to 17.48 Judges per million population in the year 2014. The sanctioned strength of Judges of High Courts has increased from 906 judges in June 2014 to 1079 judges in December, 2017 and the sanctioned strength of Judges of District / Subordinate Courts has increased from 20,214 in the year 2014 to 22,677 in the year 2017. The sanctioned strength of Judges in Supreme Court is 31.

(c) & (d): The High Court – wise details of sanctioned / working strength and vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts are given in a Statement at *Annexure – I*. The State / UT-wise details of sanctioned / working strength and vacancies of Judges in District and Subordinate Courts are given in a Statement at *Annexure – II*.

(e) : As per the Constitution, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of State Governments and the High Courts concerned. As per information made available by the High Courts and respective State Governments, sanctioned strength of Judges of District / Subordinate Courts has increased from 20,214 in the year 2014 to 22,677 in the year 2017. The working strength of Judges of District and Subordinate Courts is increased from 15,634 in the year 2014 to 16,693 in the year 2017. The State / UT-wise details of sanctioned / working strength of Judges of District / Subordinate Courts in the years 2014 and 2017 are given in a Statement at *Annexure-III*.

Statement referred to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.2685 for reply on 03.01.2018

Statement showing the approved strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts as on 26.12.2017.

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Approved Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies as per Approved Strength
A.	Supreme Court of India	31	25	06
B.	High Court			
1	Allahabad	160	109	51
2	Telangana & Andhra Pradesh	61	31	30
3	Bombay	94	70	24
4	Calcutta	72	33	39
5	Chhattisgarh	22	12	10
6	Delhi	60	37	23
7	Gauhati	24	18	06
8	Gujarat	52	31	21
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	08	05
10	Jammu & Kashmir	17	11	06
11	Jharkhand	25	14	11
12	Karnataka	62	25	37
13	Kerala	47	37	10
14	Madhya Pradesh	53	34	19
15	Madras	75	60	15
16	Manipur	05	02	03
17	Meghalaya	04	02	02
18	Orissa	27	17	10
19	Patna	53	33	20
20	Punjab & Haryana	85	50	35
21	Rajasthan	50	35	15
22	Sikkim	03	03	0
23	Tripura	04	02	02
24	Uttarakhand	11	10	01
Total		1079	684	395

Annexure – II

Statement referred to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.2685 for reply on 03.01.2018

Sanctioned Strength, Working Strength and Vacancies of Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts as on 30.11.2017.

Sl. No	States	Sanctioned Strength as on 30.11.2017	Working Strength as on 30.11.2017	Vacancies as on 30.11.2017
1	Andhra Pradesh & Telangana**	987	873	114
2	Arunachal Pradesh	28	17	11
3	Assam	428	352	76
4	Bihar**	1826	1001	825
5	Chhattisgarh	398	335	63
6	Goa	55	43	12
7	Gujarat**	1511	1126	385
8	Haryana	644	497	147
9	Himachal Pradesh**	159	149	10
10	Jammu & Kashmir	253	214	39
11	Jharkhand**	672	421	251
12	Karnataka**	1303	978	325
13	Kerala**	534	461	73
14	Madhya Pradesh	2021	1273	748
15	Maharashtra	2096	1947	149
16	Manipur	49	31	18
17	Meghalaya	97	39	58
18	Mizoram	63	30	33
19	Nagaland	34	23	11
20	Orissa	862	658	204
21	Punjab	674	538	136
22	Rajasthan**	1223	1127	96
23	Sikkim**	23	15	8
24	Tamil Nadu*	1257	916	341
25	Tripura	107	76	31
26	Uttar Pradesh	3204	1860	1344
27	Uttarakhand**	291	230	61
28	West Bengal and A & N Island**	1013	929	84
29	Chandigarh	30	30	0
30	D & N Haveli AND Daman & Diu**	7	7	0
31	Delhi**	799	483	316
32	Lakshadweep**	3	2	1
33	Pondicherry*	26	12	14
Total		22,677	16,693	5,984

* as on 7.11.2017

**as on 31.10.2017

Statement referred to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.2685 for reply
on 03.01.2018

State-UT wise comparative Statement of Sanctioned / Working Strength
of Judges in District and Subordinate Courts in the years 2014 and 2017.

Sl. No	States	Sanctioned Strength as on 31.12.2014	Sanctioned Strength as on 30.11.2017	Working Strength as on 31.12.2014	Working Strength as on 30.11.2017
1	Andhra Pradesh & Telangana	1034	987**	884	873**
2	Arunachal Pradesh	16	28	15	17
3	Assam	403	428	312	352
4	Bihar	1670	1826**	1027	1001**
5	Chhattisgarh	354	398	302	335
6	Goa	52	55	40	43
7	Gujarat	1963	1511**	1216	1126**
8	Haryana	644	644	485	497
9	Himachal Pradesh	146	159**	128	149**
10	Jammu & Kashmir	244	253	221	214
11	Jharkhand	578	672**	382	421**
12	Karnataka	1085	1303**	832	978**
13	Kerala & Lakshadweep	447	537**	431	463**
14	Madhya Pradesh	1460	2021	1243	1273
15	Maharashtra	2072	2096	1784	1947
16	Manipur	40	49	30	31
17	Meghalaya	55	97	30	39
18	Mizoram	67	63	31	30
19	Nagaland	27	34	25	23
20	Orissa	690	862	569	658
21	Punjab	672	674	505	538
22	Rajasthan	1145	1223**	831	1127**
23	Sikkim	18	23**	15	15**
24	Tamil Nadu	997	1257*	876	916*
25	Tripura	104	107	78	76
26	Uttar Pradesh	2097	3204	1761	1860
27	Uttarakhand	289	291**	191	230**
28	West Bengal and A & N Island	994	1013**	868	929**
29	Chandigarh	30	30	30	30
30	D & N Haveli AND Daman & Diu	7	7**	6	7**
31	Delhi	793	799**	476	483**
32	Pondicherry	21	26*	10	12*
Total		20,214	22,677	15,634	16,693

* as on 7.11.2017

**as on 31.10.2017
