

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 595**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 06.02.2019**

**Vacancy in Judiciary**

595. SHRI VIRENDER KASHYAP:  
SHRI OM BIRLA:

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

- (a) the details of total number of posts of Judges sanctioned and lying vacant in High Courts/Supreme Court and the lower judiciary, Court/State-wise and the steps being taken to fill these vacancies along with the reasons for these vacancies;
- (b) the posts of Judges which have been filled by the Government during 2015-2018; and
- (c) whether the Government is going to introduce Indian Judicial Services (IJS) at all India level and if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

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

(a): A statement indicating sanctioned strength, working strength and vacant posts of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts is at Annexure-I. A statement indicating the vacancies of Judges/Judicial officers in the District and Subordinate Courts is at Annexure-II.

Filling up of vacancies in the Supreme Court and the High Courts is a continuous and collaborative process, between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various

Constitutional Authorities. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies in High Courts do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and increase in Judge Strength which has been increased from 906 in May, 2014 to 1079 at present.

(b): During the year 2015 to 2018 , 18 Judges have been appointed in the Supreme Court of India and 384 Judges have been appointed in various High Courts. However, as per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in subordinate courts is the responsibility of the High Courts and State Governments concerned.

(c): A comprehensive proposal was formulated for the constitution of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) and the same was approved by the Committee of Secretaries in November, 2012. The proposal was deliberated upon in the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices of the High Courts held in April, 2013 and it was decided that issue needs further deliberation and consideration. The views of the State Governments and High Courts were sought on the proposal. However, there was divergence of opinion among the State Governments and High Courts on constitution of All India Judicial Service. Keeping in view the divergence of opinion among the stakeholders on constitution of All India Judicial Service, the Government is presently making efforts to arrive at a practicable solution.

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**Annexure-I**

Statement referred to in reply to Part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 595 for 06.02.2019 regarding Vacancy in Judiciary.  
(As on 31.01.2019)

Sl. No.	Name of the High Courts	Sanctioned Strength of Judges	Working Strength of Judges	Vacancies
A.	Supreme Court of India	31	28	03
B.	High Courts			
1	Allahabad	160	108	52
2	Andhra Pradesh	37	13	24
3	Bombay	94	70	24
4	Calcutta	72	36	36
5	Chhattisgarh	22	15	07
6	Delhi	60	38	22
7	Gauhati	24	20	04
8	Gujarat	52	28	24
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	08	05
10	Jammu & Kashmir	17	09	08
11	Jharkhand	25	18	07
12	Karnataka	62	31	31
13	Kerala	47	37	10
14	Madhya Pradesh	53	34	19
15	Madras	75	60	15
16	Manipur	05	03	02
17	Meghalaya	04	03	01
18	Orissa	27	15	12
19	Patna	53	27	26
20	Punjab & Haryana	85	53	32
21	Rajasthan	50	25	25
22	Sikkim	03	03	0
23	Telangana	24	13	11
24	Tripura	04	03	01
25	Uttarakhand	11	09	02
<b>Total</b>		<b>1079</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>400</b>

**Annexure-II**

Statement referred to in reply to Part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 595 for 06.02.2019 regarding Vacancy in Judiciary.

Sl. No.	Name of State / UT	Total Sanctioned Strength	Total Working Strength	Total Vacancy	Sanctioned and Working Strength as on
1	<b>Andaman &amp; Nicobar Islands</b>	11	11	0	30.09.2018
2	Andhra Pradesh and Telangana	987	902	85	31.12.2018
3	Arunachal Pradesh	30	25	5	20.09.2018
4	Assam	430	356	74	05.01.2019
5	<b>Bihar</b>	1845	1223	622	30.09.2018
6	Chandigarh	30	30	0	05.01.2019
7	Chhattisgarh	452	394	58	11.01.2019
8	<b>Dadra and Nagar Haveli</b>	3	3	0	30.09.2018
9	Daman and Diu	3	3	0	14.01.2019
10	Delhi	758	542	216	28.11.2018
11	Goa	50	47	3	14.01.2019
12	Gujarat	1506	1146	360	31.12.2018
13	Haryana	658	486	172	05.01.2019
14	Himachal Pradesh	164	149	15	05.01.2019
15	<b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>	310	224	86	30.09.2018
16	Jharkhand	676	458	218	05.01.2019
17	Karnataka	1307	1105	202	04.01.2019
18	Kerala	535	467	68	08.01.2019
19	<b>Lakshadweep</b>	3	3	0	30.09.2018
20	Madhya Pradesh	1872	1430	442	31.12.2018
21	Maharashtra	2141	1965	176	14.01.2019
22	Manipur	55	40	15	15.01.2019
23	Meghalaya	97	39	58	02.01.2019
24	Mizoram	64	46	18	07.12.2018
25	<b>Nagaland</b>	33	26	7	30.09.2018
26	Orissa	912	748	164	05.01.2019
27	Puducherry	26	12	14	03.01.2019
28	Punjab	675	527	148	05.01.2019
29	Rajasthan	1372	1101	271	04.01.2019
30	Sikkim	23	19	4	31.12.2018
31	Tamilnadu	1159	896	263	03.01.2019
32	Tripura	115	75	40	27.11.2018
33	Uttar Pradesh	3225	2017	1208	10.01.2019
34	Uttarakhand	293	230	63	05.01.2019
35	West Bengal	1013	956	57	31.12.2018
	<b>Total</b>	22833	17701	5132	

