

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.3915

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 17<sup>th</sup> JULY, 2019

Special District Courts

3915. SHRIMATI RITI PATHAK:

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

- (a) the State-wise status of setting up of special district courts to dispose of cases as per provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act;
- (b) the State-wise reasons for delay in setting up of such special courts; and
- (c) the concrete steps taken by the Government to ensure setting up of such courts in a time-bound manner?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a)-(c): Setting up of Special Courts and their functioning falls within the domain of the State and Union Territory Governments and respective High Courts who set up such courts as per their need and resources, in accordance with Section 8 of the “The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (PoA) Amendment Act, 2015”. The Act further empowers a State Government to specify for each district, a Court of Session to be a Special Court for the purpose, in those Districts where less number of cases under this Act are filed. However as per information received from High Courts, the State/UT-wise status of special district courts set up is as per **Annexure**.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Union Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which included, inter-alia, establishing 1800 Fast Track Courts at a cost of Rs. 4144 crore for cases involving vulnerable and

marginalized sections of the society. The State Governments were urged to use the additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the form of enhanced tax devolution (from 32% to 42%) to meet such requirements.

**ANNEXURE**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of the State/UT</b>	<b>No. of Special District Courts functional as per the provisions of the Prevention of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (PoA) Act (as on 31.03.2019)</b>
1.	Andhra Pradesh	13
2.	Assam	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4.	Mizoram	02
5.	Nagaland	08
6.	Bihar	37
7.	Chhattisgarh	23
8.	Delhi	11
9.	Goa	02
10.	Maharashtra	170
11.	Gujarat	63
12.	Haryana	21
13.	Punjab	22
14.	Chandigarh	01
15.	Himachal Pradesh	0
16.	Jammu & Kashmir	0
17.	Jharkhand	24
18.	Karnataka	32
19.	Kerala & Lakshadweep	14
20.	Madhya Pradesh	50
21.	Manipur	0
22.	Meghalaya	0
23.	Odisha	94
24.	Rajasthan	35
25.	Sikkim	04
26.	Tamil Nadu	06
27.	Puducherry	0
28.	Tripura	05
29.	Uttar Pradesh	40
30.	Uttarakhand	13
31.	West Bengal & Andaman and Nicobar	0
32.	Telangana	10
33.	Daman & Diu	01
34.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	01
<b>Total</b>		<b>702</b>