

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 370

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 03RD FEBRUARY, 2023

Study on Accessibility of Court Complexes to Litigants

370. SHRI PINAKI MISRA:

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

- (a) whether the Government has undertaken any study to assess the accessibility of court complexes for litigants in terms of approachability through public transport, availability of waiting areas, toilets etc.;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure that court complexes are accessible to persons with disabilities; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) & (b): The Registry of the Supreme Court of India compiled data on the status of judicial infrastructure and court amenities, as per which 74% of court complexes have separate ladies' toilets and 84% have gents' toilets. The responsibility for the development of infrastructure facilities including accessibility through public transport, provision for waiting areas, toilets etc. rests primarily with the respective State

Governments. The Central Government only supplements the resources of the States in this regard through the CSS for judicial infrastructure.

(c) & (d): The Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the development of infrastructure facilities for the Judiciary provides for construction of court buildings, residential units, lawyers hall, toilet complexes and digital computer rooms for the convenience of lawyers and litigants. Funds are released to the States/UTs only when their project proposals mandatorily comply with disable friendly norms/accessibility standards as laid down by CPWD/Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. A certificate to this effect is also asked for from the States as part of the CSS guidelines.

Under the scheme the States have enough liberty to provide for additional facilities including those that could facilitate easy accessibility to the courts.
