

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4929
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 31st MARCH 2023
FAST TRACK COURTS SCHEME

4929. SHRI. N. REDDEPPA:

DR. BEESETTI VENKATA SATYAVATHI:

Will the Minister of Law and Justice be pleased to state:

- (a) the details and features of the Fast Track Courts (FTCs) Scheme;
- (b) the total number of FTCs set up and made functional against the set target as on date, State/UT-wise;
- (c) whether there exists a shortfall of about 40 per cent in FTCs and if so, the details thereof;
- (d) the steps undertaken by the Government to expedite the establishment of remaining FTCs in the country; and
- (e) the details of proposed measures to be taken to improve implementation and functioning under the scheme?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a) to (e): Setting up of subordinate courts including Fast Track courts (FTCs) and its functioning comes within the domain of the State Governments in consultation with their respective High Courts. The 14th Finance Commission (FC) had

recommended for setting up of 1800 FTCs at a total cost of Rs. 4,144 crore during 2015-2020 by urging State Governments to utilize enhanced fiscal space available through tax devolution (32% to 42%) for this purpose. The basic aim for setting FTCs was speedy trial of specific cases of heinous nature, civil cases related to women, children, senior citizen, disabled persons, persons infected with terminal ailments etc and property related cases pending for more than 5 years. As per information made available by High Courts, 843 FTCs are functional across the country as on 31.1.2023. The States/UTs wise details of number of FTCs to be set up and made functional against the set target as on January, 2023 is given at **Annexure**. Towards the establishment of more FTCs in the country, the Union Government has repeatedly urged the State Governments since 2015-16 onwards to setup more FTCs to make good the shortfall of the targeted number of courts. The setting up of more FTCs has featured as one of the agenda items in the Chief Ministers and Chief Justices Conference repeatedly.

However, pursuant to the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2018, the Central Government, since October, 2019, is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including 389 exclusive POCSO (Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences) Courts for speedy disposal of cases related to rape and POCSO Act. The Scheme, initially, was for a period of one year which has been extended up to 31st March 2023 with a budgetary outlay of Rs.1572.86 Cr. including Rs.971.70 Cr. as Central Share. As per information

made available by High Courts, as on 31st January, 2023, 764 FTSCs including 411 exclusive POCSO courts are functional which have disposed more than 1,44,000 pending cases. Regular review meetings have been conducted by the Department of Justice to expedite the robust implementation of the scheme including establishment of remaining FTSCs. In addition, Minister of Law and Justice has addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of States/UTs and Chief Justice of High Courts for operationalisation of the remaining FTSCs.

For further extension of FTSCs beyond 31st March 2023, Third Party evaluation of the scheme has been undertaken by the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA).

ANNEXURE

**Annexure for Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 4929 for 31.03.2023
States/UTs wise Status of Allocated and Functional FTCs**

(As on 31/3/2023)

S.No	State/UTs	No. of FTCs to be established	Functional FTCs
1.	Andhra Pradesh	47	22
2.	Telangana	37	0
3.	Assam	36	18
4.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
5.	Mizoram	7	2
6.	Nagaland	3	0
7.	Bihar	147	0
8.	Chhattisgarh	28	23
9.	Gujarat	174	51
10.	Himachal Pradesh	13	3
11.	Jammu & Kashmir	21	4
12.	Jharkhand	50	34
13.	Karnataka	95	0
14.	Kerala	41	0
15.	Lakshadweep	0	0
16.	Madhya Pradesh	133	0
17.	Maharashtra	203	111
18.	D & N, Daman and Diu	1	0
19.	Goa	5	4
20.	Manipur	3	6
21.	Meghalaya	4	0
22.	Odisha	63	0
23.	Punjab	50	7
24.	Haryana	48	6
25.	Chandigarh	2	0
26.	Rajasthan	93	0
27.	Sikkim	1	2
28.	Tamil Nadu	87	73
29.	Puducherry	2	0
30.	Tripura	9	3
31.	Uttar Pradesh	212	372
32.	Uttarakhand	28	4
33.	West Bengal, A& N Islands	94	88
34.	Delhi	63	10
Total		1800	843