

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †5031
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 31ST MARCH, 2023**

REVIEW OF JUDGES STRENGTH

**†5031. DR. ARVIND KUMAR SHARMA:
SHRI ARVIND GANPAT SAWANT:
SHRI GUMAN SINGH DAMOR:
SHRIMATI SANGEETA AZAD:
SHRI NABA KUMAR SARANIA:
SHRI SANJAY JADHAV:**

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

- (a) the total number of different types of courts running in the country, State, district and type-wise;**
- (b) whether the strength of judges is reviewed in these courts from time to time and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has received any proposal to increase the strength of judges in various courts including Supreme Court and if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto;**
- (d) whether there is a shortage of judges in various courts;**
- (e) if so, the details of sanctioned and actual strength of judges and vacancies in the said courts in the country, court and State-wise;**
- (f) the total number of registered lawyers in various courts in the country, court and State-wise; and**
- (g) whether the Government has any proposal to strengthen the system of appointment of judges, if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)

(a): As laid down by the Constitution of India, the Supreme Court of India is the apex court in the country that has been vested with original, appellate and advisory

jurisdiction. Further, there are High Courts that stand at the head of a State's judicial administration. According to Article 227 of the Constitution, every High Court shall have superintendence over all courts and tribunals throughout the territories in relation to which it exercises jurisdiction. A detailed statement showing the total number of High Courts and Subordinate Courts complexes running in the country, State /District-wise is at ***Annexure-I***.

(b): During the Joint Conference of Chief Justices and Chief Ministers held on 07.04.2013, a decision was taken to increase the number of Judges of the High Courts by 25%. Accordingly, during the period from 01.07.2014 to 21.03.2023 with the approval of the respective State Governments, concerned High Courts and the Chief Justice of India, Government has increased the Judge strength of the High Courts from 906 to 1114 i.e. by 208 posts.

The review of judges' strength in District and Subordinate courts is the responsibility of High Court and State Government concerned. The appointment, selection and recruitment of judicial officers is done by the High Courts in certain States, whereas, the High Courts do it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions in other States. The Central Government has no direct role in the matter.

(c): At present, there is a proposal to increase the judge strength of High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh from 17 to 25 judges which is under consideration.No proposal for increase in strength of the Supreme Court is pending with the Government.

(d) & (e): The detailed statement of State-wise sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancy position in Supreme Court of India, High Courts and District & Subordinate Courts is at ***Annexure-II & III*** respectively.

(f): As per the information provided by Department of Legal Affairs, the present status of total Advocates registered with different State Bar Council in the country, State-wise, is at *Annexure-IV*.

(g): Appointment of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124, 217 and 224 of the Constitution of India and as per the procedure laid down in the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP) prepared in 1998 pursuant to the Supreme Court Judgment of October 6, 1993 (Second Judges case) read with their Advisory Opinion of October 28, 1998 (Third Judges case). Appointment of the Judges of the Constitutional Courts is a continuous, integrated and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various constitutional authorities both at state and central level. Government appoints only those persons as Judges of High Courts who are recommended by Supreme Court Collegium (SCC).

In case of District and Subordinate judiciary, as per constitutional provisions the respective State Governments, in consultation with their High Courts, frame the rules and regulations regarding the issue of appointment of Judicial Officers in the State Judicial Service. The Central Government has no role in the selection and appointment of judicial officers in District and Subordinate judiciary.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †5031 FOR ANSWER ON 31.03.2023 REGARDING 'REVIEW OF JUDGES STRENGTH'.

Detailed statement showing the total number of High Courts and Subordinate Courts complexes running in the country, State /District-wise.

S.No	High Court	State/Jurisdiction	Total Districts	Total Court Complexes
1	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	74	183
2	Andhra Pradesh	Andhra Pradesh	13	189
3	Bombay	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	1	2
		Daman and Diu	2	2
		Goa	2	16
		Maharashtra	40	487
4	Calcutta	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	4
		West Bengal	22	90
5	Chhattisgarh	Chhattisgarh	23	89
6	Delhi	Delhi	11	12
7	Gauhati	Arunachal Pradesh	4	4
		Assam	33	79
		Mizoram	3	12
		Nagaland	9	5
8	Gujarat	Gujarat	32	338
9	Himachal Pradesh	Himachal Pradesh	11	50
10	Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh	Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and	20	82
		Union Territory of Ladakh	2	4
11	Jharkhand	Jharkhand	24	24
12	Karnataka	Karnataka	31	206
13	Kerala	Kerala	15	174
		Lakshadweep		
14	Madhya Pradesh	Madhya Pradesh	50	230
15	Madras	Puducherry	4	4
		Tamil Nadu	32	271
16	Manipur	Manipur	9	21
17	Meghalaya	Meghalaya	11	13
18	Orissa	Odisha	30	124
19	Patna	Bihar	37	80
20	Punjab & Haryana	Chandigarh	1	1
		Haryana	21	58
		Punjab	22	69
21	Rajasthan	Rajasthan	36	330
22	Sikkim	Sikkim	6	9
23	Telangana	Telangana	33	115
24	Tripura	Tripura	8	20
25	Uttarakhand	Uttarakhand	13	69
		Total	686	3466

Source : NJDG

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (D) & (E) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †5031 FOR ANSWER ON 31.03.2023 REGARDING 'REVIEW OF JUDGES STRENGTH'.

Statement showing Sanctioned strength, Working Strength and Vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts (As on 27.03.2023)

		Sanctioned strength			Working strength			Vacancies		
A.	Supreme Court	34			34			0		
B.	High Court	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total
1	Allahabad	119	41	160	81	21	102	38	20	58
2	Andhra Pradesh	28	9	37	26	5	31	2	4	6
3	Bombay	71	23	94	42	23	65	29	0	29
4	Calcutta	54	18	72	34	19	53	20	-1	19
5	Chhattisgarh	17	5	22	9	4	13	8	1	9
6	Delhi	46	14	60	45	0	45	1	14	15
7	Gauhati	22	8	30	14	9	23	8	-1	7
8	Gujarat	39	13	52	29	0	29	10	13	23
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	4	17	9	0	9	4	4	8
10	J & K and Ladakh	13	4	17	11	4	15	2	0	2
11	Jharkhand	20	5	25	20	1	21	0	4	4
12	Karnataka	47	15	62	40	13	53	7	2	9
13	Kerala	35	12	47	31	6	37	4	6	10
14	Madhya Pradesh	39	14	53	31	0	31	8	14	22
15	Madras	56	19	75	47	11	58	9	8	17
16	Manipur	4	1	5	3	0	3	1	1	2
17	Meghalaya	3	1	4	3	0	3	0	1	1
18	Orissa	24	9	33	21	0	21	3	9	12
19	Patna	40	13	53	32	0	32	8	13	21
20	Punjab & Haryana	64	21	85	38	27	65	26	-6	20
21	Rajasthan	38	12	50	33	0	33	5	12	17
22	Sikkim	3	0	3	3	0	3	0	0	0
23	Telangana	32	10	42	30	2	32	2	8	10
24	Tripura	4	1	5	2	0	2	2	1	3
25	Uttarakhand	9	2	11	5	0	5	4	2	6
	Total	840	274	1114	639	145	784	201	129	330

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (D) & (E) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †5031 FOR ANSWER ON 31.03.2023 REGARDING 'REVIEW OF JUDGES STRENGTH'.

Statement showing Sanctioned strength, Working Strength and Vacancies position of Judicial officer in District & Subordinate Courts (As on 27.03.2023).

S.no.	State/UT	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancy
1	Andaman and Nicobar	0	13	-13
2	Andhra Pradesh	618	548	70
3	Arunachal Pradesh	41	33	8
4	Assam	485	425	60
5	Bihar	2016	1350	666
6	Chandigarh	30	30	0
7	Chhattisgarh	552	436	116
8	D & N Haveli	3	2	1
9	Daman & Diu	4	4	0
10	Delhi	887	709	178
11	Goa	50	40	10
12	Gujarat	1582	1151	431
13	Haryana	772	574	198
14	Himachal Pradesh	179	163	16
15	Jammu and Kashmir	314	222	92
16	Jharkhand	694	505	189
17	Karnataka	1375	1134	241
18	Kerala	601	471	130
19	Ladakh	17	9	8
20	Lakshadweep	4	4	0
21	Madhya Pradesh	2028	1642	386
22	Maharashtra	2190	1940	250
23	Manipur	59	42	17
24	Meghalaya	99	57	42
25	Mizoram	74	41	33
26	Nagaland	34	24	10
27	Odisha	1001	814	187
28	Puducherry	28	11	17
29	Punjab	797	589	208
30	Rajasthan	1587	1249	338
31	Sikkim	30	23	7
32	Tamil Nadu	1343	1061	282
33	Telangana	560	419	141
34	Tripura	128	108	20
35	Uttar Pradesh	3694	2494	1200
36	Uttarakhand	299	267	32
37	West Bengal	1014	918	96
TOTAL		25189	19522	5667

Source:- MIS Portal of Department of Justice.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (F) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †5031 FOR ANSWER ON 31.03.2023 REGARDING 'REVIEW OF JUDGES STRENGTH'.

Statement showing the present status of total Advocates enrolled with different State Bar Council.

S. NO	State Bar Council	As on Date	Total Number of Advocate
1.	Assam	--	37326
2.	Andhra Pradesh	14.03.2023	74522
3.	Telangana	03.03.2023	46555
4.	Bihar	17.03.2023	136721
5.	Chhattisgarh	04.08.2022	31429
6.	Delhi	17.03.2023	149655
7.	Gujarat	29.07.2022	108181
8.	Himachal Pradesh	16.03.2023	12578
9.	Jharkhand	18.03.2023	31248
10.	Karnataka	03.07.2022	111162
11.	Kerala	30.07.2022	58770
12.	Madhya Pradesh	23.08.2022	112390
13.	Maharashtra & Goa	02.04.2021	191394
14.	Orissa	10.08.2022	58697
15.	Punjab & Haryana	20.07.2021	117423
16.	Rajasthan	03.03.2023	99597
17.	Tamil Nadu	30.07.2022	114584
18.	Uttar Pradesh	01.04.2021	400016
19.	Uttarakhand	16.03.2023	18804
20.	West Bengal	01.04.2021	86555
21.	Jammu & Kashmir	--	10589
22.	Tripura	06.08.2022	1489
23.	Manipur	02.03.2023	1974
24.	Meghalaya	16.03.2023	1422
	Total		2013081

Source: - Department of Legal Affairs