

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.2563  
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 4<sup>th</sup> AUGUST, 2023**

**Vacancy in Fast Track Courts**

**2563 SHRIMATI SARMISTHA SETHI:**

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

- (a) the total number of fast track courts in the country at present;
- (b) the details of vacancies of judges and other categories of officials in the said fast track courts at present;
- (c) whether the Government has taken any measures to fill up the vacancies in the said courts; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE  
(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)**

**(a to d):** Establishment of subordinate courts including Fast Track Courts (FTC) for providing speedy justice in the country lies within the domain of the State Governments who set up such courts as per their need and resources, in consultation with the respective High Courts. The 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission (FC) had recommended for setting up of 1800 Fast Track Courts (FTCs) during 2015-2020 for 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. The FC had further urged State Governments to utilize enhanced fiscal space available through tax devolution (32% to 42%) for this purpose. The Union Government has also urged the State Governments to allocate funds for the setting up of FTCs, from the financial year 2015-16 onward. As per information made available by High Courts, 832 FTCs are functional in the country as on 31.5.2023.

Pursuant to the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Central Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including 389 exclusive Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences (e-POCSO) Courts for speedy disposal of cases related to rape and POCSO Act since October 2019. As per information made available by High Courts, 758 FTSCs including 412 exclusive POCSO Courts are functional in 29 States/UTs which have disposed of more than 1,69,000 cases while 1,95,797 cases are pending in these courts as on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2023. Among these, exclusive POCSO Courts have disposed of more than 1,08,000 cases while more than 1,30,000 cases remain pending.

As per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in District and Subordinate courts is the responsibility of High Court and State Government concerned. The details of vacancies of judges and other categories of officials in the FTCs/FTSCs are not centrally maintained.

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