

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1231
ANSWERED ON – 09/02/2024

FUNCTIONAL FAST TRACK COURTS

1231. SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL:
SHRI SANJAY KAKA PATIL:

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 measures proposed to be taken to improve implementation and functioning under the scheme?

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 (e): Setting up of subordinate courts including Fast Track Courts (FTCs) and their functioning falls within the domain of the State/UT Governments in consultation with their respective High Courts. The 14th Finance Commission (FC) had recommended for setting up of 1800 Fast Track Courts (FTCs) at a total cost of Rs.4,144 cr. during 2015-2020 by urging the State/UT 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 the High Courts, 851 FTCs are functional across the country as on 31.12.2023. The State/UT-wise details of number of FTCs to be set up and made functional as of December, 2023 is given at **Annexure**. The Union Government has urged the State/UT

Governments since 2015-16 onwards to set up more FTCs to achieve the target. The setting up of more FTCs has featured as one of the agenda items in the Joint Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices.

Pursuant to the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018, the Central Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) since October, 2019 for expeditious trial and disposal of pending cases pertaining to Rape and Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act in a time-bound manner. The scheme was initially for one year, which was extended up to March, 2023. The Union Cabinet has further extended the Scheme for another three years, from 01.04.2023 to 31.03.2026, at a total outlay of Rs.1952.23 cr. including Rs.1207.24 cr. as Central Share to be incurred from Nirbhaya Fund. As per the data submitted by the High Courts, 757 FTSCs including 411 exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) courts are functional in 30 States/UTs, as on 31.12.2023. These courts have disposed of more than 2,14,000 cases since the inception of the Scheme while more than 2,02,000 cases are pending.

For efficient implementation of the Scheme, the Department of Justice is conducting regular review meetings through Video Conferencing with the nodal officers of the State/UT Governments and their respective High Courts. Communications have been sent at the level of Hon'ble Minister of Law & Justice to the Hon'ble Chief Ministers of the States/UTs and Hon'ble Chief Justices of High Courts to ensure adherence to timelines for disposal of cases as prescribed by the amendment to CrPC in 2018. To ensure effective monitoring, a dashboard has been created by the Department to gather detailed information and track the performance of the FTSCs, through the High Courts. The performance of FTSCs is also a permanent item on the agenda of Inter-State Zonal Council meetings.

**Annexure as referred to in Reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 1231
for 9th February, 2024**

State/UT-wise status of allocated and functional FTCs as of December, 2023

Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of FTCs to be established	No. of Functional FTCs
1	Andhra Pradesh	47	22
2	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0
3	Assam	36	15
4	Bihar	147	0
5	Chandigarh	2	0
6	Chhattisgarh	28	23
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Diu & Daman	1	0
8	Delhi	63	27
9	Goa	5	6
10	Gujarat	174	54
11	Haryana	48	6
12	Himachal Pradesh	13	3
13	Jammu & Kashmir	21	8
14	Jharkhand	50	36
15	Karnataka	95	0
16	Kerala	41	0
17	Ladakh	0	0
18	Lakshadweep	0	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	133	0
20	Maharashtra	203	95
21	Manipur *	3	6
22	Meghalaya	4	0
23	Mizoram	7	2
24	Nagaland	3	0
25	Odisha	63	0
26	Puducherry	2	0
27	Punjab	50	7
28	Rajasthan	93	0
29	Sikkim	1	2
30	Tamil Nadu	87	72
31	Telangana	37	0
32	Tripura	9	3
33	Uttar Pradesh	212	372
34	Uttarakhand	28	4
35	West Bengal and Andaman & Nicobar Island	94	88
	TOTAL	1800	851

*data upto 31.11.2023