

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

LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1406
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 10th FEBRUARY, 2021**

SHORTAGE OF JUDGES IN SUBORDINATE JUDICIARY

1406. SHRIMATI SUMALATHA AMBAREESH:

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

- (a) whether there is shortage of judges in subordinate Judiciary and if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government is taking any steps to expedite the appointment in subordinate Judiciary; and**
- (c) if so, the details in this regard?**

**ANSWER
MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) to (c): A statement showing the sanctioned strength and working strength of Subordinate Judiciary is at Annexure-I.

As per the Constitutional framework, the selection and appointment of judges in Subordinate Courts is the responsibility of the High Courts and State Governments concerned. In so far as recruitment of judicial officers in the States is concerned, respective High Courts do it in certain States, whereas the High Courts do it in consultation with the State Public Service Commissions in other States.

The Supreme Court, through a judicial order in Malik Mazhar case, has devised a process and time frame to be followed for the filling up of vacancies in subordinate judiciary. This order of January 2007 by the Supreme Court stipulates that the process for recruitment of judges in the subordinate courts would commence on 31st March of a calendar year and end by 31st October of the same year. The Supreme Court has permitted State Governments / High Courts for variations in the time schedule in case of any difficulty based on the peculiar geographical and climatic conditions in the State or other relevant conditions.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1406 FOR ANSWER ON 10.02.2021 REGARDING SHORTAGE OF JUDGES IN SUBORDINATE JUDICIARY**Statement showing the sanctioned strength and working strength of Subordinate Judiciary as on 03.02.2021**

Sl. No.	States & UTs	Total Sanctioned Strength	Total Working Strength	Total Vacancy
1	Andhra Pradesh	607	510	97
2	Arunachal Pradesh	41	32	9
3	Assam	466	412	54
4	Bihar	1936	1424	512
5	Chandigarh	30	26	4
6	Chhattisgarh	480	387	93
7	D & N Haveli	3	2	1
8	Daman & Diu	4	4	0
9	Delhi	799	648	151
10	Goa	50	40	10
11	Gujarat	1522	1152	370
12	Haryana	772	493	279
13	Himachal Pradesh	175	161	14
14	Jammu and Kashmir	296	255	41
15	Jharkhand	675	541	134
16	Karnataka	1357	1071	286
17	Kerala	538	470	68
18	Ladakh	16	8	8
19	Lakshadweep	3	3	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	2021	1610	411
21	Maharashtra	2190	1940	250
22	Manipur	54	36	18
23	Meghalaya	97	49	48
24	Mizoram	64	43	21
25	Nagaland	33	26	7
26	Odisha	950	756	194
27	Puducherry	26	11	15
28	Punjab	692	593	99
29	Rajasthan	1489	1292	197
30	Sikkim	25	20	5
31	Tamil Nadu	1298	1049	249
32	Telangana	474	378	96
33	Tripura	120	97	23
34	Uttar Pradesh	3634	2581	1053
35	Uttarakhand	297	255	42
36	Andaman and Nicobar	0	13	-13
37	West Bengal	1014	918	96
TOTAL		24248	19306	4942

