GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 986 TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 3RD DECEMBER, 2021

National Judicial Infrastructure Authority

986. SHRI A. RAJA: SHRI M. BADRUDDIN AJMAL:

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

- (a) whether the courts in India lack infrastructure such as court rooms with adequate space and modern facilities and court complexes are not having basic facilities such as separate toilets for women, medical aid centre, water purifier and libraries making it difficult for them to perform effectively;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the percentage of lower courts not having separate toilets for women;
- (c) whether the Ministry has received any proposal from the Chief Justice of India to set up the National Judicial Infrastructure Authority for arrangement of adequate infrastructure for courts;
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the efforts being made by the Government to improve judicial infrastructure to ensure ease of doing business; and
- (e) the details of funds provided or proposed to be provided by the Government to the States in the next five years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) & (b): The Registry of Supreme Court of India has compiled data on the status of judicial infrastructure and court amenities including size of court room, basic medical facilities, drinking water with purifiers, library and toilets. As per this data, 26% court complexes do not have separate ladies toilet.

(c) to (e): Yes, Sir. A proposal has been received from the Chief Justice of India for setting up of National Judicial Infrastructure Authority of India (NJIAI) for arrangement of adequate infrastructure for courts, as per which there will be a Governing Body with Chief Justice of India as Patron-in-Chief. The other salient features in the proposal are that NJIAI will act as a Central body in laying down the road map for planning, creation, development, maintenance and management of functional infrastructure for the Indian Court System, besides, identical structures under all the High Courts.

The primary responsibility of development of Infrastructure facilities for judiciary rests with the State Governments. To augment the resources of the State Governments, the Union Government has been implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Development of Infrastructure Facilities in district and subordinate courts by providing financial assistance to State Governments / UTs in the prescribed fund sharing pattern. The Scheme is being implemented since 1993-94. Till date the Central Government has sanctioned Rs. 8709.77 crore under the Scheme to States/UTs. The scheme has been extended from time to Under this scheme funds are released by the Central Government for construction of court buildings and residential accommodations for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Judiciary. The Government has extended the above scheme for a further period of five years from 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2026, with a total budgetary outlay of Rs.9000 crores, including Central share of Rs.5307 crores. The scheme components have been expanded, to also cover the construction of toilets, digital computer rooms and Lawyers' Hall in the district and subordinate courts and Rs. 47.00 crore have been approved for the construction of Toilet complexes in the District and Subordinate Courts.

As per information made available by the High Courts, 20,565 Court Halls and 18,142 Residential Units are available in the District and Subordinate Courts as on 31.10.2021. Moreover, 2841 Court Halls and 1807 Residential Units are under construction.
