

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1717**

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 11th FEBRUARY, 2022

Fast Track Special Courts for Rape and POCSO cases

1717. SHRI MARGANI BHARAT:

DR. T.R. PAARIVENDHAR:

Will the Minister of Law and Justice be pleased to state:

- (a) whether as per Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1025 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSC) for expeditious trial and disposal of cases related to rape and POCSO were to be set up, if so, the details thereof along with the reasons for failure to set up even fifty percent of recommended FTSCs indicating the number of FTSCs set up in various States;
- (b) whether these FTSCs are functional with full judicial and non-judicial strength, if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has directed ten States to set up FTSC to hear exclusively the sex abuse cases, if so, the details thereof along with the names of such States; and
- (d) the details of response received from these States in this regard along with the status of setting up of such courts?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

(a) to (d): In pursuance to the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2018, the Department of Justice is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up of 1023 Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including 389 exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) Courts for expeditious trial and disposal of cases related to rape and POCSO Act. The Scheme was initially started for 1 year in October 2019 in 31 States/UTs across the country. Government has further approved

continuation of the Scheme up to March 2023. 28 States/UTs have joined the Scheme so far. West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh and A&N Island are yet to join. As per information made available by the High Courts, 700 FTSCs including 383 exclusive POCSO Courts are operational which disposed of more than 73,600 pending cases (December, 2021). The details of earmarked and functional FTSCs is given at **Annexure**.

As per guidelines issued for the Scheme of FTSCs, one Presiding Officer and seven support staff for each functional FTSC are to be deputed by the respective State/UT and High Courts for trial of exclusively rape and POCSO Act cases. However, data on vacancies of staff strength in FTSCs is not maintained centrally. As per data furnished by the High Courts, in 19 States/UTs, the earmarked FTSCs are fully functional, in 08 States/UTs FTSCs are partially functional, in 1 State (Goa) the earmarked FTSC is yet to be operationalized and 3 States/UT have still not joined the Scheme.

The issue of setting up of FTSCs and their early operationalization has been taken up with concerned States/UTs at various level from time to time. Minister of Law & Justice has addressed letters to Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts in this regard. In addition, regular review meetings with officials of the States/UTs and High Court functionaries are being held from time to time for operationalization of remaining FTSCs so as to further reduce the burden on judiciary.

**Annexure as referred to in Reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Q.NO- 1717 for
11th February 2022**

Status of Earmarked and Functional FTSCs (as on 31.12.2021)

S.No.	State/UT	Earmarked FTSCs		Functional FTSCs	
		FTSCs including ePOCSO	ePOCSO (Out of Col- 3)	FTSCs including ePOCSO	ePOCSO (Out of Col-5)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	18	8	10	10
2.	Assam	27	15	15	15
3.	Bihar	54	30	45	45
4.	Chandigarh	1	0	1	0
5.	Chhattisgarh	15	11	15	11
6.	Delhi	16	11	16	11
7.	Goa	2	0	0	0
8.	Gujrat	35	24	35	24
9.	Haryana	16	12	16	12
10.	Himachal Pradesh	6	3	6	3
11.	J&K	4	0	4	2
12.	Jharkhand	22	8	22	8
13.	Karnataka	31	17	18	16
14.	Kerala	56	14	28	0
15.	Madhya Pradesh	67	26	67	56
16.	Maharashtra	138	30	34	22
17.	Manipur	2	0	2	0
18.	Meghalaya	5	5	5	5
19.	Mizoram	3	1	3	1
20.	Nagaland	1	0	1	1
21.	Odisha	45	22	36	15
22.	Punjab	12	2	12	3
23.	Rajasthan	45	26	45	30
24.	Tamil Nadu	14	14	14	14
25.	Telangana	36	10	25	4
26.	Tripura	3	1	3	1
27.	Uttar Pradesh	218	74	218	74
28.	Uttarakhand	4	4	4	0
Consent Not Given					
29.	Arunachal Pradesh	3	0	0	0
30.	A&N	1	1	0	0
31.	WB	123	20	0	0
	TOTAL	1023	389	700	383