GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1069

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 22.07.2022

Vacancy of Judgues in Telangana High Court

1069. DR. G. RANJITH REDDY:

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

- (a) whether several posts of Judges/Additional Judges out of sanctioned strength in the High Court of Telangana are lying vacant;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken/ being taken to fill them up for proper functioning of High Court and clearing pending cases;
- (c) whether the Supreme Court has sent any names for appointment as Judges in High Courts which are pending with the Government; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the Government is going to clear them?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) to (d): There are 27 Judges working in the Telangana High Court against the sanctioned strength of 42, leaving 15 vacancies as on 19.07.2022.

The Judge Strength of the High Court for the State of Telangana was enhanced from 24 to 42 in 2021. 17 Judges have been appointed in the Telangana High Court since 2021.

Filling up of vacancies in High Courts is a continuous, integrated and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities both at the State and Centre level. At regular intervals, Government receives names

recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium for appointment as Judges in various High Courts, which are processed for necessary approval as per the provisions of Memorandum of Procedure. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies of Judges in High Courts do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and also due to increase in the strength of Judges.

As per the existing Memorandum of Procedure for appointment of Judges of High Courts, the Chief Justice of the High Court is required to initiate the proposal for filling up of vacancies of a Judge in a High Court six months prior to the occurrence of vacancies. Government appoints only those persons as Judges of High Courts who are recommended by Supreme Court Collegium (SCC).
