

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *169
ANSWERED ON – 02/08/2024

COURTS FOR WOMEN

***169. SHRI ARUN KUMAR SAGAR:**

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

- (a) the number of women courts set up to dispose the cases related with atrocities on women till date in the country, State/location-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has any proposal to establish the said courts in several other States; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF
LAW AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF
PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS
(**SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL**)

(a) to (c) : A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *169 FOR THE 02ndAUGUST, 2024 REGARDING ‘COURTS FOR WOMEN’

(a) For disposal of cases related to atrocities on women in the country, several special courts have been established. The details of such courts are as follows:

i. As per the recommendations of the Fourteenth Finance Commission (2015-2020), Fast Track Courts (FTCs) have been established for dealing with cases of heinous crimes, cases involving senior citizens, women, children etc. The FTCs are set up by the State/UT Governments in consultation with their respective High Court, as per their needs and resources. As of 31.05.2024, 866 Fast Track Courts are functional for trial of heinous crimes, crimes against women, and children etc. The State/UT-wise list of FTCs are at *Annexure-I*.

ii. Further, to provide for stringent provisions and expeditious trial and disposal of cases involving incidents of rape and gang rape of minor girls and women, the Central Government enacted “The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018” that led to the setting up of the Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs). A Centrally Sponsored Scheme viz. Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) Scheme has been implemented by the Government since October, 2019 for the expeditious disposal of pending cases of Rape under the erstwhile Indian Penal Code (present Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023) and crimes under Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. As on 31.05.2024, a total of 755 FTSCs including 410 exclusive POCSO Courts are functional in 30 States/UTs across the country which have disposed of over 2,53,000 cases. The Scheme was initially implemented for one year, which was extended upto March, 2023. The Scheme has now been extended till 31.03.2026, at an outlay of Rs. 1952.23 cr. with Rs. 1207.24 cr. as Central Share to be incurred from Nirbhaya Fund. As per the Financial Outlay approved, the recommended total cost per FTSC per year for the FY 2024-25 is ₹ 82.31 Lakh. The funds are released on CSS pattern (Central share : State share, 60:40, 90:10) to cover the

salaries of 1 Judicial Officer along with 7 support Staff and a Flexi Grant for meeting the day-to-day expenses.

The establishment of Fast Track Special Courts demonstrates the unwavering commitment of the Government towards women security, combating sexual and gender-based violence, reducing the backlog of pending cases related to Rape & POCSO Act, and providing enhanced access to justice for survivors of sexual crimes. With professional and experienced judges and support staff specialized in handling sensitive sexual offence cases, these courts ensure consistent and expert-guided legal proceedings offering victims of sexual offences swift resolution in mitigating the trauma and distress, and enabling them to move forward in life. Fast Track Special Courts have notably adopted the approach of setting up Vulnerable Witness Deposition Centres within the courts to facilitate trial of the victims and to make the courts into Child-Friendly Courts for providing crucial support for a compassionate legal system. The State/UT-wise list of FTSCs are at *Annexure-II*.

iii. Empowerment and protection of women and children who constitute 67.7% of India's population and ensuring their wholesome development in a safe and secure environment is crucial for sustainable and equitable development of the country and for achieving transformational economic and social changes, The Government of India strives to ensure well-nourished and happy children and confident, self-reliant women by providing them with an environment which is accessible, affordable, reliable and free from all forms of discrimination and violence. To achieve the above objectives, the Government of India has approved 3 key Umbrella Schemes of the Ministry of Women and Child Development to be implemented in mission mode, viz., Mission Poshan 2.0, Mission Shakti and Mission Vatsalya.

Mission Shakti envisages a unified citizen-centric lifecycle support for women through integrated care, safety, protection, rehabilitation and empowerment to unshackle women as they progress through various stages of their life. Mission

Shakti has two sub-schemes ‘Sambal’ and ‘Samarthya’. While the “Sambal” sub-scheme is for safety and security of women, the “Samarthya” sub-scheme is for empowerment of women. One of the components included in Sambal sub-scheme is “**Nari Adalat**” which aims to provide women with an alternate Grievance Redressal Mechanism for resolving cases of petty nature (harassment, subversion, curtailment of rights or entitlements) faced by them at Gram panchayat level. The major function of the “Nari Adalat” is to raise awareness about legal rights and entitlements of women. The component of “Nari Adalat” is being implemented in a phased manner. Assam and Jammu & Kashmir have been selected to implement the new component of “Nari Adalat” on a pilot basis.

Jammu & Kashmir has chosen 2 districts, viz., Kupwara and Baramulla covering 50 Gram Panchayats with 9 members in each panchayat in the initial phase during the year 2023-24. The State Government of Assam has selected 11 districts covering 50 Gram panchayats with 7 members in each panchayat in the initial phase during the year 2023-24.

The details of districts chosen by Assam and Jammu & Kashmir are as under:

Sl. No.	Jammu & Kashmir	Assam
1	Kupwara	Nalbari
2	Baramulla	Darrang
3		Morigaon
4		Dhubri
5		Udalguri
6		South Salmara
7		Goalpara
8		Kamrup
9		Barpeta
10		Tamulpur
11		Baksa

In respect of Jammu & Kashmir, funds to the tune of Rs. 21.60 Lakhs and for Assam funds to the tune of Rs.20.80 Lakhs were released during the Financial Year 2023-24.

(b) & (c): At present, no proposal is pending with the Government of India for establishment of 'Nari Adalats' in other States/UTs.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART(A) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *169 FOR ANSWER ON 02.08.2024
REGARDING 'COURTS FOR WOMEN'.**

STATUS OF STATE/UT-WISE FAST TRACK COURTS (AS ON 31.05.2024)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of Functional Fast Track Courts (FTCs)
1	Andhra Pradesh	22
2	Andaman & Nicobar island	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4	Assam	15
5	Bihar	0
6	Chandigarh	0
7	Chhattisgarh	23
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0
9	Delhi	25
10	Diu & Daman	0
11	Goa	6
12	Gujarat	54
13	Haryana*	6
14	Himachal Pradesh	3
15	Jammu & Kashmir	8
16	Jharkhand	39
17	Karnataka	0
18	Kerala	0
19	Ladakh	0
20	Lakshadweep	0
21	Madhya Pradesh	0
22	Maharashtra	104
23	Manipur	6
24	Meghalaya	0
25	Mizoram	2
26	Nagaland	0
27	Odisha	0
28	Puducherry	0
29	Punjab	7
30	Rajasthan	0
31	Sikkim	7
32	Tamil Nadu	72
33	Telangana	0
34	Tripura	3
35	Uttar Pradesh	372
36	Uttarakhand	4
37	West Bengal	88
	Total	866
	*Data available till the month of April'2024	

Annexure-II**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART(A) OF LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *169 FOR ANSWER ON 02.08.2024
REGARDING 'COURTS FOR WOMEN'.****STATE/UT-WISE STATUS OF FAST TRACK SPECIAL COURTS (AS ON 31.05.2024)**

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of FunctionalFast Track Special Courts including exclusive POCSO Courts	Number of FunctionalExclusive POCSO Courts
1	Andhra Pradesh	16	16
2	Assam	17	17
3	Bihar	46	46
4	Chandigarh	1	0
5	Chhattisgarh	15	11
6	Delhi	16	11
7	Goa	1	0
8	Gujarat	35	24
9	Haryana	16	12
10	Himachal Pradesh	6	3
11	J&K	4	2
12	Jharkhand	22	16
13	Karnataka	31	17
14	Kerala	55	14
15	Madhya Pradesh	67	57
16	Maharashtra	14	7
17	Manipur	2	0
18	Meghalaya	5	5
19	Mizoram	3	1
20	Nagaland	1	0
21	Odisha	44	23
22	Puducherry	1	1
23	Punjab	12	3
24	Rajasthan	45	30
25	Tamil Nadu	14	14
26	Telangana	36	0
27	Tripura	3	1
28	Uttarakhand	4	0
29	Uttar Pradesh	218	74
30	West Bengal	5	5
	TOTAL	755	410