GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 809

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 26.07.2024

APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES IN JUDICIARY

809. SMT. KANIMOZHI KARUNANIDHI SHRI BHAUSAHEB RAJARAM WAKCHAURE: DR. RANI SRIKUMAR:

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

- (a) the details of the Chief Justice and Judges in the Supreme Court (SC) and the Chief Justices and Judges in High Courts (HCs) in the country, State/UT-wise as on date;
- (b) the number of Chief Justices/Judges belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe category in the said courts;
- (c) the steps being taken by the Government to maintain adequate number of SC/ST Judges in the Supreme Court and other High Courts of the country during the last three years and the current year; and
- (d) the extent to which the Government has been successful in the said endeavour?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (d): The details of Chief Justice of India and Chief Justices of High Courts are at **Annexure-I** and those of Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts are at **Annexure-II**.

Appointment of Judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124, 217 and 224 of the Constitution of India, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. Therefore, categorywise data pertaining to representation of OBCs, SCs, STs and Minorities among the Judges of High Courts are not centrally maintained.

However, since 2018, the recommendees for the post of High Court Judges are required to provide details regarding their social background in the prescribed format (prepared in consultation with the Supreme Court). Hence, since 2018 the data on appointees to that extent is available. Out of 661 High Court Judges appointed since 2018, 21 belong to SC category, 12 belong to ST category, 78 belong to OBC category and 499 belong to General category (till 22.07.2024).

The Government has been requesting the Chief Justices of High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women to ensure social diversity in the appointment of Judges in High Courts.

<u>DETAILS OF CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA AND CHIEF JUSTICES OF THE HIGH COURTS (As on 22.07.2024)</u>

| SL. | NAME OF THECOURT | NAME OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE (S/SHRI JUSTICE) | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | | | | |
| 1 | SUPREME COURT | DR. D.Y. CHANDRACHUD | | | | | |
| | (CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA) | | | | | | |
| 2 | ALLAHABAD | ARUN BHANSALI | | | | | |
| 3 | ANDHRA PRADESH | DHIRAJ SINGH THAKUR | | | | | |
| 4 | BOMBAY | DEVENDRA KUMAR UPADHYAYA | | | | | |
| 5 | CALCUTTA | T.S. SIVAGNANAM | | | | | |
| 6 | CHHATTISGARH | RAMESH SINHA | | | | | |
| 7 | DELHI* | MANMOHAN | | | | | |
| 8 | GAUHATI | VIJAY BISHNOI | | | | | |
| 9 | GUJARAT | SMT. SUNITA AGARWAL | | | | | |
| 10 | HIMACHAL PRADESH | M.S.SRI RAMACHANDRA RAO | | | | | |
| 11 | J&K AND LADAKH* | TASHI RABSTAN | | | | | |
| 12 | JHARKHAND* | SUJIT NARAYAN PRASAD | | | | | |
| 13 | KARNATAKA | NILAY VIPINCHANDRA ANJARIA | | | | | |
| 14 | KERALA* | MUHAMED MUSTAQUE | | | | | |
| | | AYUMANTAKATH | | | | | |
| 15 | MADHYA PRADESH* | SANJEEV SACHDEVA | | | | | |
| 16 | MADRAS* | D. KRISHNAKUMAR | | | | | |
| 17 | MANIPUR | SIDDHARTH MRIDUL | | | | | |
| 18 | MEGHALAYA | S. VAIDYANATHAN | | | | | |
| 19 | ORISSA | CHAKRADHARI SHARAN SINGH | | | | | |
| 20 | PATNA | KRISHNAN VINOD CHANDRAN | | | | | |
| 21 | PUNJAB & HARYANA | SHEEL NAGU | | | | | |
| 22 | RAJASTHAN | MANINDRA MOHAN SHRIVASTAVA | | | | | |
| 23 | SIKKIM | BISWANATH SOMADDER | | | | | |
| 24 | TELANGANA | ALOK ARADHE | | | | | |
| 25 | TRIPURA | APARESH KUMAR SINGH | | | | | |
| 26 | UTTARAKHAND | KUMARI RITU BAHRI | | | | | |

^{*} Acting Chief Justice

Statement showing Sanctioned strength, Working Strength and Vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court of India (Including Chief Justice of India) and the High Courts (Including Chief Justices of High Courts) (As on 22.07.2024)

| | | Sanctioned strength | | | Working strength | | | Vacancies | | |
|----|----------------------|---------------------|------|-------|------------------|------|-------|-----------|------|-------|
| Α. | Supreme Court | 34 | | | 34 | | | 0 | | |
| В. | High Court | Pmt. | Addl | Total | Pmt. | Addl | Total | Pmt. | Addl | Total |
| 1 | Allahabad | 119 | 41 | 160 | 75 | 9 | 84 | 44 | 32 | 76 |
| 2 | Andhra Pradesh | 28 | 9 | 37 | 22 | 6 | 28 | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| 3 | Bombay | 71 | 23 | 94 | 56 | 10 | 66 | 15 | 13 | 28 |
| 4 | Calcutta | 54 | 18 | 72 | 34 | 10 | 44 | 20 | 8 | 28 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 17 | 5 | 22 | 10 | 5 | 15 | 7 | 0 | 7 |
| 6 | Delhi | 45 | 15 | 60 | 34 | 5 | 39 | 11 | 10 | 21 |
| 7 | Gauhati | 22 | 8 | 30 | 19 | 5 | 24 | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| 8 | Gujarat | 39 | 13 | 52 | 29 | 0 | 29 | 10 | 13 | 23 |
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 13 | 4 | 17 | 12 | 0 | 12 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| 10 | J & K and Ladakh | 13 | 4 | 17 | 12 | 3 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 20 | 5 | 25 | 18 | 0 | 18 | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| 12 | Karnataka | 47 | 15 | 62 | 43 | 7 | 50 | 4 | 8 | 12 |
| 13 | Kerala | 35 | 12 | 47 | 29 | 10 | 39 | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 40 | 13 | 53 | 36 | 0 | 36 | 4 | 13 | 17 |
| 15 | Madras | 56 | 19 | 75 | 50 | 13 | 63 | 6 | 6 | 12 |
| 16 | Manipur | 4 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 3 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 18 | Orissa | 24 | 9 | 33 | 20 | 0 | 20 | 4 | 9 | 13 |
| 19 | Patna | 40 | 13 | 53 | 34 | 0 | 34 | 6 | 13 | 19 |
| 20 | Punjab & Haryana | 64 | 21 | 85 | 51 | 4 | 55 | 13 | 17 | 30 |
| 21 | Rajasthan | 38 | 12 | 50 | 33 | 0 | 33 | 5 | 12 | 17 |
| 22 | Sikkim | 3 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 23 | Telangana | 32 | 10 | 42 | 25 | 3 | 28 | 7 | 7 | 14 |
| 24 | Tripura | 4 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 25 | Uttarakhand | 9 | 2 | 11 | 7 | 0 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| | Total | 840 | 274 | 1114 | 663 | 92 | 755 | 177 | 182 | 359 |