

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**LOK SABHA**  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4273  
ANSWERED ON – 20/12/2024

**FTSCs FOR ATROCITIES AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

**†4273. SMT. DHANORKAR PRATIBHA SURESH:**

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

- (a) whether the Government is contemplating to increase the number of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) launched by the Government in 2019 for cases of atrocities against women and children;
- (b) if not, the details of the scheme developed by the Government for quick disposal of cases of atrocities against women and children;
- (c) whether a number of cases are still pending even after the launch of FTSC Scheme in 2019; and
- (d) the time frame for FTSC to complete the trial?

**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) & (b): A Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including exclusive POCSO Courts for expeditious trial and disposal of Rape and POCSO Act cases came to be introduced, following the enactment of the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018 and the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court [Suo Motu Writ (Criminal) No. 1/2019]. The Scheme has been extended twice, with the latest extension up to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026, targeting the establishment of 790 courts, after securing the approval of the Union Cabinet. As per the inputs received from the High Courts, as on 31.10.2024, 750 FTSCs including 408 exclusive POCSO Courts are functional in 30 States/UTs. These courts have disposed more than 2,87,000 cases as of 31.10.2024. The Central Government is coordinating with State Governments and respective High Courts through regular review meetings and correspondences to achieve the target of establishing 790 FTSCs.

(c) The disposal of pending cases is within the exclusive domain of the judiciary, wherein the Government has no direct role as such. There are several reasons that lead to delay in disposal of cases in courts which, inter-alia, include availability of physical infrastructure, complexity of facts involved, nature of evidence, co-operation of stake holders viz. bar, investigation agencies, witnesses and litigants and proper application of rules and procedures. Other factors that lead to delay in disposal of cases include frequent adjournments and lack of adequate arrangement to monitor, track and bunch cases for hearing. Moreover, the Criminal Justice System functions on assistance by various agencies viz. Police, Prosecution, Forensic Labs, Handwriting Experts and Medico-Legal Experts.

As per the information received from the High Courts, there is an overall pendency of 2,03,786 cases in FTSCs including exclusive POCSO Courts despite a disposal of more than 2,87,000 cases since the inception of the Scheme. State/UT-wise details of pendency across FTSCs including exclusive POCSO Courts are given at **Annexure**.

(d) The Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, establishes a prescribed timeline for the trial of rape cases. In accordance with the proviso to Section 346(1), the trial pertaining to rape cases must be concluded within a period of two months from the date of filing the chargesheet. Furthermore, Section 35 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, requires that trials under its purview be completed within one year from the date of taking cognizance of the offence.

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**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (C) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4273 FOR ANSWER ON 20.12.2024 REGARDING 'FAST TRACK SPECIAL COURTS FOR ATROCITIES AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN'**

**State/UT wise details of Pendency across Fast Track Special Courts including exclusive POCSO Courts (As on 31.10.2024)**

Sl. No.	State/UT	No. of Pending cases			Exclusive POCSO	Cumulative Pendency
		Combined FTSCs				
		Rape	POCSO	Total		
1	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	6594	6594
2	Assam	0	0	0	6030	6030
3	Bihar	0	0	0	19172	19172
4	Chandigarh	67	161	228	0	228
5	Chhattisgarh	101	224	325	1626	1951
6	Delhi	1060	0	1060	2626	3686
7	Goa	87	59	146	0	146
8	Gujarat	912	662	1574	4375	5949
9	Haryana	385	961	1346	3147	4493
10	Himachal Pradesh	95	244	339	290	629
11	J&K	179	0	179	312	491
12	Jharkhand	641	555	1196	3099	4295
13	Karnataka	211	1726	1937	3651	5588
14	Kerala	1097	3822	4919	1716	6635
15	Madhya Pradesh	2527	327	2854	7212	10066
16	Maharashtra	62	788	850	901	1751
17	Manipur	2	67	69	0	69
18	Meghalaya	0	0	0	1046	1046
19	Mizoram	4	39	43	34	77
20	Nagaland	4	44	48	0	48
21	Odisha	1052	2572	3624	6199	9823
22	Puducherry	0	0	0	209	209
23	Punjab	356	705	1061	567	1628
24	Rajasthan	201	921	1122	4612	5734
25	Tamil Nadu	0	0	0	4400	4400
26	Telangana	216	8308	8524	0	8524
27	Tripura	102	29	131	87	218
28	Uttarakhand	341	648	989	0	989
29	Uttar Pradesh	7285	22813	30098	59174	89272
30	West Bengal	0	0	0	4045	4045
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16987</b>	<b>45675</b>	<b>62662</b>	<b>141124</b>	<b>203786</b>

**Note:** At the inception of the Scheme, the allocation of FTSCs across the country was based on a criterion of 65 to 165 pending cases per court, meaning one FTSC would be established for every 65 to 165 pending cases. Based on that, only 31 States/UTs were eligible to join the Scheme.

\* Puducherry specially requested to join the Scheme and has since operationalized one exclusive POCSO Court in May 2023.

\*\* A&N islands has consented to join the Scheme, but is yet to operationalise any court.

\*\*\* Arunachal Pradesh has opted out of the Scheme citing a very low number of pending cases of Rape and POCSO Act.