

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4359
ANSWERED ON – 20/12/2024

FAST TRACK COURTS IN KERALA

4359. **SHRI RAJMOHAN UNNITHAN:**

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

- (a) the details of Fast Track Courts scheme, including its implementation in Kerala, district-wise;
- (b) the number of cases disposed of, along with the measures, if any, taken to address challenges faced in its effective functioning; and
- (c) the steps being taken to enhance the effectiveness of Fast Track Courts, particularly in Kerala, in addressing pendency of cases related to sexual offense?

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): Establishment of subordinate courts including Fast Track Courts (FTCs) for providing speedy justice in the country lies within the domain of the State/UT Governments who set up such courts as per their need and resources, in consultation with their respective High Courts. The 14th Finance Commission had recommended for setting up of 1800 Fast Track Courts (FTCs) during 2015-2020 for speedy trial of specific cases of heinous nature, civil cases related to women, children, senior citizens, disabled persons, persons infected with terminal ailments etc. and property related cases pending for more than 5 years. The Finance Commission had further urged the State Governments to utilize enhanced fiscal space available through tax devolution for this purpose. The Union Government has requested the State Governments to allocate funds for the setting up of FTCs, from the financial year 2015-16 onward. As per information made available by the High Courts, 863 FTCs are functional in the country as on 31.10.2024. However, **no FTC is functional in the State of Kerala**. The State/UT-wise details of functional Fast Track Courts, are at **Annexure-I**.

Further, pursuant to the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018 and the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court [Suo Motu Writ (Criminal) No. 1/2019], the Central Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) since

October, 2019 for expeditious trial and disposal of pending cases pertaining to Rape and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act in a time-bound manner. The scheme was initially for one year, which was extended up to March, 2023. The Union Cabinet further approved the extension of the Scheme for another three years, from 01.04.2023 to 31.03.2026, at an outlay of Rs.1952.23 cr. including Rs.1207.24 cr. as Central Share to be incurred from Nirbhaya Fund. As per the data submitted by the High Courts, 750 FTSCs including 408 exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) courts are functional in 30 States/UTs, as on 31.10.2024. These courts have disposed of more than 2,87,000 cases since the inception of the Scheme while more than 2,03,000 cases are pending. The State/UT-wise details of functional Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) along with the cumulative disposal, are at **Annexure-II**.

In the State of Kerala, **55 FTSCs**, including **14 exclusive POCSO courts**, are functional. The district-wise list of these 55 functional FTSCs are at **Annexure-III**. These courts have disposed of over **22,000 cases** since the inception of the Scheme, while **6,635 cases** remain pending.

For efficient implementation of the Scheme, the Department of Justice conducts regular review meetings through Video Conferencing with the nodal officers of the State/UT Governments and their respective High Courts. To ensure effective monitoring, a dashboard has been created by the Department to gather detailed information and track the performance of the FTSCs, through the High Courts.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 4359 FOR ANSWER ON 20.12.2024 REGARDING 'FAST TRACK COURTS IN KERALA'

State/UT-wise details of functional Fast Track Courts (As on 31.10.2024)

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	Number of Functional FTCs
1	Andhra Pradesh	21
2	Andaman & Nicobar Island	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4	Assam	15
5	Bihar	0
6	Chandigarh	0
7	Chhattisgarh	27
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Diu & Daman	0
9	Delhi	26
10	Goa	4
11	Gujarat	54
12	Haryana	6
13	Himachal Pradesh	3
14	Jammu & Kashmir	8
15	Jharkhand	41
16	Karnataka	0
17	Kerala	0
18	Ladakh	0
19	Lakshadweep	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	0
21	Maharashtra	101
22	Manipur	6
23	Meghalaya	0
24	Mizoram	2
25	Nagaland	0
26	Odisha	0
27	Puducherry	0
28	Punjab	7
29	Rajasthan	0
30	Sikkim	2
31	Tamil Nadu	72
32	Telangana	0
33	Tripura	3
34	Uttar Pradesh	373
35	Uttarakhand	4
36	West Bengal	88
	TOTAL	863

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

Sl.No.	State/UT	Functional Courts		Cumulative Disposal since the inception of the Scheme		
		FTSCs including exclusive POCSO	Exclusive POCSO	FTSCs	Exclusive POCSO	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	16	16	0	5839	5839
2	Assam	17	17	0	7076	7076
3	Bihar	46	46	0	13762	13762
4	Chandigarh	1	0	300	0	300
5	Chhattisgarh	15	11	1070	4455	5525
6	Delhi	16	11	634	1563	2197
7	Goa	1	0	49	34	83
8	Gujarat	35	24	2706	11153	13859
9	Haryana	16	12	1743	5189	6932
10	Himachal Pradesh	6	3	519	745	1264
11	J&K	4	2	108	134	242
12	Jharkhand	22	16	2483	5293	7776
13	Karnataka	31	17	4466	7406	11872
14	Kerala	55	14	15292	6916	22208
15	Madhya Pradesh	67	57	4260	24388	28648
16	Maharashtra	8	4	8604	11957	20561
17	Manipur	2	0	167	0	167
18	Meghalaya	5	5	0	623	623
19	Mizoram	3	1	171	66	237
20	Nagaland	1	0	64	3	67
21	Odisha	44	23	5897	10905	16802
22	Puducherry*	1	1	0	107	107
23	Punjab	12	3	2298	2191	4489
24	Rajasthan	45	30	5014	11497	16511
25	Tamil Nadu	14	14	0	8534	8534
26	Telangana	36	0	7118	2731	9849
27	Tripura	3	1	223	196	419
28	Uttarakhand	4	0	1747	0	1747
29	Uttar Pradesh	218	74	38428	40813	79241
30	West Bengal	6	6	0	193	193
31	A&N**	-	-	-	-	-
32	Arunachal Pradesh***	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL	750	408	103361	183769	287130

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.

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District wise list of Fast Track Special Courts including exclusive POCSO (ePOCSO) Courts

in the State of Kerala(As on31.10.2024)

SI.No.	Judicial District	Name of the Court
1.	Thiruvananthapuram	Fast Track Special Court, Thiruvananthapuram**
2.		Fast Track Special Court, Neyyattinkara
3.		Fast Track Special Court, Nedumangad
4.		Fast Track Special Court, Attingal
5.		Fast Track Special Court, Varkala
6.		Fast Track Special Court, Kattakkada
7.		Fast Track Special Court-II, Neyyattinkara
8.	Kollam	Fast Track Special Court, Punalur**
9.		Fast Track Special Court, Karunagappally
10.		Fast Track Special Court, Kollam
11.		Fast Track Special Court, Kottarakkara
12.	Pathanamthitta	Fast Track Special Court, Pathanamthitta**
13.		Fast Track Special Court, Adoor
14.	Alappuzha	Fast Track Special Court, Haripad**
15.		Fast Track Special Court, Cherthala
16.		Fast Track Special Court, Chengannur
17.	Kottayam	Fast Track Special Court, Kottayam**
18.		Fast Track Special Court, Changanacherry
19.		Fast Track Special Court, Erattupetta
20.	Thodupuzha	Fast Track Special Court, Idukki at Painavu
21.		Fast Track Special Court, Kattappana**
22.		Fast Track Special Court, Devikulam
23.	Ernakulam	Fast Track Special Court, Perumbavoor**
24.		Fast Track Special Court, Aluva
25.		Fast Track Special Court, North Paravur
26.	Thrissur	Fast Track Special Court, Kunnankulam
27.		Fast Track Special Court, Thrissur**
28.		Fast Track Special Court, Irinjalakuda
29.		Fast Track Special Court-II, Thrissur
30.		Fast Track Special Court, Chalakudy
31.		Fast Track Special Court, Chavakkad
32.		Fast Track Special Court, Kodungallur
33.		Fast Track Special Court, Wadakkanchery
34.	Palakkad	Fast Track Special Court, Palakkad**
35.		Fast Track Special Court, Pattambi
36.		Fast Track Special Court, Alathur
37.	Manjeri	Fast Track Special Court, Perinthalmanna
38.		Fast Track Special Court, Tirur
39.		Fast Track Special Court, Manjeri**
40.		Fast Track Special Court-II, Manjeri
41.		Fast Track Special Court-II, Perinthalmanna
42.		Fast Track Special Court, Ponnani
43.		Fast Track Special Court, Parappanangadi

Sl.No.	Judicial District	Name of the Court
44.		Fast Track Special Court, Nilambur
45.	Kozhikode	Fast Track Special Court, Kozhikode**
46.		Fast Track Special Court, Koyilandy
47.		Fast Track Special Court, Nadapuram
48.		Fast Track Special Court, Kalpetta**
49.	Kalpetta	Fast Track Special Court, Sulthan Bathery
50.	Thalassery	Fast Track Special Court, Thalassery**
51.		Fast Track Special Court, Taliparamba
52.		Fast Track Special Court, Kannur
53.		Fast Track Special Court, Mattanur
54.	Kasaragod	Fast Track Special Court, Hosdurg**
55.		Fast Track Special Court, Kasaragod

** Notified as ePOCSO Court by Govt. of Kerala vide G.O.(Ms.) No. 203/2021/Home, dated 22.11.2021.