

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**LOK SABHA  
STARRED QUESTION NO. \*411**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 28.03.2025**

**Representation of Judges of Weaker Communities in Courts**

**\*411 SHRI CHARANJIT SINGH CHANNI :  
SHRI ROBERT BRUCE C:**

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

- (a) the total number of Judges appointed to Supreme Court (SC) and High Courts (HCs) of the country, State-wise since 2014;
- (b) the number of judges belonging to SC, ST, OBC and minority communities appointed in SC and HCs in the country since 2014, category-wise;
- (c) whether it is fact that from 2018 to 19 December, 2022, a total of 537 judges were appointed to the High Courts of which 1.3% belonged to STs, 2.8% to SCs, 11% to OBC categories and 2.6% to minority communities;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and reasons for inadequate representation of Judges of the said communities in the said courts;
- (e) the steps being taken by the Government to provide adequate representation to the said communities in the said courts; and
- (f) the details of judicial posts vacant in the courts in the country?

**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 (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. \*411 FOR ANSWER ON 28.03.2025 REGARDING “REPRESENTATION OF JUDGES OF WEAKER COMMUNITIES IN COURTS”.**

(a) to (f): Details regarding appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts since 2014 are at **Annexure-I**. Details regarding sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancy of Judges in the Supreme Court and High Court 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, category-wise data pertaining to representation of any caste or class of persons among the Judges of Supreme Court and the High Courts is not centrally available. 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. As per the information provided by the recommendees, out of 540 Judges appointed from 2018 till 31.12.2022, 15 belong to SC category, 7 belong to ST category, 57 belong to OBC category and 27 belong to minority category.

As per the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP), the responsibility for initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India, while the responsibility for initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. However, the Government is committed to enhancing social diversity in judiciary and 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. Only those persons who are recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium, are appointed as Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts.

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**Annexure-I****Appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts since 2014.**

S.No.	Name of the Court	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
A.	Supreme Court	09	01	03	06	08	10	-	09	03	14	04	02
B.	High Courts												
1	Allahabad	13	7	20	31	28	10	4	17	13	9	0	1
2	Andhra Pradesh	0	0	0	0	0	2	7	2	14	6	3	2
3	Bombay	14	0	6	14	4	11	4	6	19	9	5	1
4	Calcutta	1	8	1	6	11	6	1	8	16	0	0	4
5	Chhattisgarh	2	0	3	3	4	0	0	3	3	2	3	0
6	Delhi	4	0	5	4	5	4	0	2	17	5	0	5
7	Gauhati	0	5	5	2	2	4	0	6	2	5	0	1
8	Gujarat	1	0	5	0	4	3	7	7	0	8	4	0
9	Himachal Pradesh	3	0	4	0	0	2	0	1	2	3	0	0
10	J & K and Ladakh	0	0	0	3	2	0	5	2	4	0	1	0
11	Jharkhand	3	1	4	2	3	2	0	4	1	0	1	0
12	Karnataka	5	0	5	2	12	10	10	6	6	5	0	1
13	Kerala	6	7	5	3	4	1	6	12	1	3	12	0
14	Madhya Pradesh	7	0	18	0	8	2	0	8	6	14	0	1
15	Madras	0	0	25	12	8	1	10	5	4	13	3	0
16	Manipur	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0
17	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
18	Orissa	3	3	0	0	1	1	2	4	6	2	0	0
19	Patna	4	2	6	6	0	4	0	6	11	2	2	3
20	Punjab & Haryana	14	1	1	8	7	10	1	6	21	4	0	2
21	Rajasthan	1	0	11	5	0	3	6	8	2	9	0	4
22	Sikkim	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Telangana	0	0	1	10	0	3	1	7	17	3	0	4
24	Tripura	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	0
25	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	3	3	1	0	0	0	3	0	2
	<b>Total (High Courts)</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>31</b>

**Annexure-II**

**Statement showing sanctioned strength and working strength of Judges in Supreme Court and High Courts (As on 24.03.2025)**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Name of Court</b>	<b>Sanctioned Strength</b>	<b>Working Strength</b>	<b>Vacancy</b>
<b>A.</b>	Supreme Court	34	33	01
<b>B.</b>	High Court			
1	Allahabad	160	79	81
2	Andhra Pradesh	37	30	7
3	Bombay	94	66	28
4	Calcutta	72	46	26
5	Chhattisgarh	22	16	6
6	Delhi	60	39	21
7	Gauhati	30	25	5
8	Gujarat	52	32	20
9	Himachal Pradesh	17	12	5
10	J & K and Ladakh	25	15	10
11	Jharkhand	25	15	10
12	Karnataka	62	50	12
13	Kerala	47	44	3
14	Madhya Pradesh	53	34	19
15	Madras	75	65	10
16	Manipur	5	4	1
17	Meghalaya	4	4	0
18	Orissa	33	18	15
19	Patna	53	37	16
20	Punjab & Haryana	85	53	32
21	Rajasthan	50	34	16
22	Sikkim	3	3	0
23	Telangana	42	30	12
24	Tripura	5	5	0
25	Uttarakhand	11	9	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1122</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>357</b>