

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1276**

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 06th FEBRUARY, 2026

WOMEN JUDGES IN JUDICIARY

1276. Km. Sudha R:

Will the Minister of **Law and Justice** be pleased to state:

- (a) the data on the number of women judges in High Courts and the Supreme Court;
- (b) whether the Government is aware of the persistent gender gap in country's higher judiciary, where women judges constitute very minimal;
- (c) the reasons for this disparity, including systemic issues, if any;
- (d) the details of variations across States and whether this reflects inadequate pools of qualified women candidates or structural barriers, particularly that could benefit from diverse judicial perspectives in cases involving women's rights and social justice; and
- (e) the steps being taken to accelerate gender parity, including timelines for increasing women's representation in the higher judiciary, support for women lawyers?

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 (e): The information is at **Annexure**.

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.

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. Since 2014, 170 Women Judges have been appointed in the High Courts, including 96 in the last five years and 06 in the Supreme Court. Only those persons who are recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium, are appointed as Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts.

ANNEXURE**Details of Women Judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts
(As on 02.02.2026)**

Sl. No.	Court(s)	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	No. of Women Judges
A.	Supreme Court	34	33	1
B.	High Court			
1	Allahabad	160	110	7
2	Andhra Pradesh	37	32	5
3	Bombay	94	80	12
4	Calcutta	72	43	8
5	Chhattisgarh	22	15	1
6	Delhi	60	44	10
7	Gauhati	30	25	5
8	Gujarat	52	35	7
9	Himachal Pradesh	17	12	1
10	J & K and Ladakh	25	14	2
11	Jharkhand	25	14	1
12	Karnataka	62	46	9
13	Kerala	47	40	3
14	Madhya Pradesh	53	42	1
15	Madras	75	53	10
16	Manipur	5	3	0
17	Meghalaya	4	4	1
18	Orissa	33	19	1
19	Patna	53	38	2
20	Punjab & Haryana	85	61	18
21	Rajasthan	50	39	4
22	Sikkim	3	3	1
23	Telangana	42	28	7
24	Tripura	5	4	0
25	Uttarakhand	11	10	0
Total		1122	814	116