

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1364
ANSWERED ON – 09/02/2024

ADDITIONAL FAST TRACK SPECIAL COURTS

1364. MS. S. JOTHIMANI:

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

- (a) whether the Government has any plans to establish additional fast-track courts to address the rising number of cases related to sexual offences;
- (b) the current status of fast-track courts dedicated to handling cases of crimes such as rapes in the country;
- (c) the number of operational fast-track courts specifically focusing on sexual offences, State-wise;
- (d) the number of pending cases related to sexual crimes in these fast-track courts and the measures being taken to expedite the resolution of pending cases; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of fast-track courts in delivering justice for victims of crimes like rape?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS;
AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE
(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (e): The establishment of subordinate courts including Fast Track Courts (FTCs) for providing speedy justice in the country lies within the domain of the State Governments who set up such courts as per their need and resources, in consultation with the respective High Courts. The 14th Finance Commission (FC) 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 citizen, disabled persons, persons infected with terminal ailments etc. and property related cases pending for more than 5 years. The FC had further urged State Governments to utilize enhanced fiscal space available through tax devolution (32% to 42%) for this purpose. The Union Government has also urged 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 High Courts, 851 FTCs are functional in the country as on 31.12.2023. State-wise details are given in **Annexure-I**.

Additionally, pursuant to the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018, 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 Prevention of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act in a time-bound manner. As per the data submitted by High Courts, 757 FTSCs including 411 exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) courts are functional in 30 States/UTs, as on 31.12.2023. These courts have disposed of more than 2,14,000 cases as on 31.12.2023. State-wise functional Fast Track Special Courts including exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) Courts along with cumulative disposal and pendency as on 31.12.2023 are given at **Annexure-II**.

For efficient implementation of the scheme, the Department of Justice is conducting regular review meetings through Video Conferencing with the State Governments and High Court officials. Communications have been sent at the level of Hon'ble Minister of Law & Justice to the Hon'ble Chief Ministers of the States/UTs and Hon'ble Chief Justices of High Courts to ensure adherence to timelines for disposal of cases as prescribed by the amendment to CrPC in 2018. To ensure effective monitoring and data collection, a dashboard has been created to gather detailed information and track the performance of the FTSCs. The performance of FTSCs is also a permanent item on the agenda of Inter-State Zonal Council meetings.

**Annexure as referred to in Reply to the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question
No.1364 for 9th February 2024**

State/UT-wise functional FTCs as on 31.12.2023

Sl.No.	Name of State/UTs	No. of Functional Fast Track Court
1	Andhra Pradesh	22
2	Andaman & Nicobar Island	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4	Assam	15
5	Bihar	0
6	Chandigarh	0
7	Chhattisgarh	23
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0
9	Delhi	27
10	Diu & Daman	0
11	Goa	6
12	Gujarat	54
13	Haryana	6
14	Himachal Pradesh	3
15	Jammu & Kashmir	8
16	Jharkhand	36
17	Karnataka	0
18	Kerala	0
19	Ladakh	0
20	Lakshadweep	0
21	Madhya Pradesh	0
22	Maharashtra	95
23	Manipur *	6
24	Meghalaya	0
25	Mizoram	2
26	Nagaland	0
27	Odisha	0
28	Puducherry	0
29	Punjab	7
30	Rajasthan	0
31	Sikkim	2
32	Tamil Nadu	72
33	Telangana	0
34	Tripura	3
35	Uttar Pradesh	372
36	Uttarakhand	4
37	West Bengal	88
	TOTAL	851

* data upto 30.11.2023

Annexure-II**State/UT-wise functional FTSCs including e-POCSO courts along with cumulative disposal and pendency of FTSCs as on 31.12.2023**

Sl.No.	State/UT	Functional Courts		Cumulative Disposal since the inception of the Scheme	Cumulative Pendency
		FTSCs including e-POCSO	e-POCSO		
1	Andhra Pradesh	16	16	4083	7231
2	Assam	17	17	4979	5207
3	Bihar	46	46	9939	17716
4	Chandigarh	1	0	244	203
5	Chhattisgarh	15	11	4377	2264
6	Delhi	16	11	1503	3810
7	Goa	1	0	44	156
8	Gujarat	35	24	10295	6338
9	Haryana	16	12	5342	4199
10	Himachal Pradesh	6	3	1282	834
11	J&K	4	2	151	453
12	Jharkhand	22	16	5822	4486
13	Karnataka	31	17	8897	5414
14	Kerala	54	14	16878	7401
15	Madhya Pradesh	67	57	23613	10193
16	Maharashtra	19	10	16907	4355
17	Manipur	2	0	127	94
18	Meghalaya	5	5	382	1061
19	Mizoram	3	1	169	89
20	Nagaland	1	0	57	51
21	Odisha	44	23	11960	11060
22	Puducherry	1	1	44	221
23	Punjab	12	3	3565	1438
24	Rajasthan	45	30	13003	6122
25	Tamil Nadu	14	14	6228	4440
26	Telangana	36	0	7799	8463
27	Tripura	3	1	349	242
28	Uttarakhand	4	0	1355	908
29	Uttar Pradesh	218	74	55021	84778
30	West Bengal	3	3	48	2948
	TOTAL	757	411	214463	202175