

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW AND JUSTICE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3681  
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2002  
VACANCIES IN HIGH COURTS  
GADDE RAMAMOCHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI

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

(a) whether the Union Government have sought proposal from the Chief Justices of the High Courts, Chief Ministers and the Governors for filling of vacancies of Judges in High Courts as reported in daily The Hindu dated November, 19, 2000; and

(b) if so, the response of States/Chief Justice and Governors thereto?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. JANA KRISHNAMURTHI):

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have been requesting the Chief Justices of High Courts, the Chief Ministers and the Governors of States, from time to time, to initiate proposals for filling up of existing and anticipated vacancies during the next six months. They have last been reminded on October, 28, 2002. Against the approved strength of 647 Judges in 21 High Courts, 504 Judges were in position leaving 143 vacancies to be filled up as on 9th December, 2002. Government have received recommendations for filling up 70 vacancies from the Chief Justices of some High Courts.