

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:26  
ANSWERED ON:02.07.2009  
RATIO OF JUDGES  
Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash

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

- (a) whether any estimate has been made/proposed to be made regarding the ratio of judges to the total population; and  
(b) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

(a) & (b) : The Law Commission in its 120th Report recommended that the strength of judges per one million population may be increased from 10.5 to 50 judges per million population. The present judge strength in India is 14 per million population (approx.).

The judge strength of the High Courts is reviewed every three years. The last Triennial Review of the Judge strength of the various High Courts was held in 2006. The data received from the High Courts for the triennial review of the judge strength of the High Courts had been analyzed and according to the guidelines fixed for the increase of the strength, only eight High Courts qualified for increase in their Judge strength. With regard to subordinate judiciary, the Supreme Court, in its judgment of 21 March, 2002, in All India Judges' Association & Ors Vs. Union of India & Ors, directed that an increase in the Judge strength from the existing 10.5 or 13 per 10 lakh people to 50 judges per 10 lakh people should be effected and implemented within a period of five years in a phased manner to be determined and directed by the Union Ministry of Law. The Central Government has filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court praying that the increase in judge strength in the Union Territories for which Central Government is administratively responsible be allowed based on workload and pendency of cases. The matter is sub-judice.