

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3513
ANSWERED ON:12.02.2014
SHORTAGE OF PUBLIC PROSECUTORS
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

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

- (a) whether there is shortage of public prosecutors in the country causing delay in trials;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Union Government has issued any directions to the States to speed up the appointment of public prosecutors;
- (d) if so, the action taken by the States thereon; and
- (e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) & (b) The Public Prosecutors are appointed by the respective State Governments to conduct criminal cases and appeals in criminal matters in Subordinate Courts and High Courts. Apart from that, certain Central Government Ministries/ Departments viz., Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Home Affairs, Department of Personnel & Training also have their own panels of Public Prosecutors. There is no centralized data maintained by the Central Government as to the number of Public Prosecutors in various courts of the country State-wise. The Central Government has not made any study to ascertain as to whether there is any shortage of public prosecutors and the reasons behind delay in trials.

(c) to (e) So far as this Ministry is concerned, no such directions have been issued so far.