

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:512
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2014
FUNDS FOR FAST TRACK COURTS
Biju Shri Parayamparanbil Kuttappan;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to Increase the number of Fast Track Courts in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) the total funds allocated and expenditure incurred for setting up of these courts during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (e) whether the Government has issued any directions to various States to allocate more funds for establishment of these courts and to recruit more judges; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a)to(d): Setting up of subordinate courts is the responsibility of the State Governments under the Constitution of India. Central funding to States for Fast Track Courts (FTCs), established under the 11th Finance Commission Award, has been discontinued with effect from 1st April, 2011. However, the Central Government has decided to provide funds upto a maximum of Rs. 80 crore per annum on a matching basis upto 31.03.2015 from the 13th Finance Commission Award for meeting expenditure on salaries of the 10% additional positions of Judges being created in the subordinate Judiciary following the direction of Supreme Court in the case of Brij Mohan Lai Vs. Union of India. The State Governments and Chief Justices of High Courts have been requested to utilise these positions for creation of FTCs also. Some States have continued FTCs beyond 31.03.2011 with their own resources.

(e)&(f): In the Conference of Chief Ministers and Chief Justices held in New Delhi on 7th April, 2013, It has been resolved that the State Governments shall, in consultation with the Chief Justices of the respective High Courts, take necessary steps to establish suitable number of FTCs relating to offences against women, children, differently abled persons, senior citizens and marginalized sections of the society, and provide adequate funds for the purpose of creating and continuing them. Government has requested the State Governments and the Chief Justices of the High Courts-to implement this decision.