

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:150

ANSWERED ON:05.03.2015

VACANCIES OF JUDGES

Shewale Shri Rahul Ramesh;Tripathi Shri Sharad

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

(a) the number of Judges appointed in the Supreme Court, High Courts and Subordinate Courts in the country during the last three years along with the vacancies of Judges currently existing in these courts, court-wise;

(b) the number of court rooms and other infrastructural facilities developed during 12th Five Year Plan period against targets, State-wise, along with funds allocated and utilised for the purpose; and

(c) whether the Government proposes to extend financial assistance to States for setting up of new Benches of High Courts and appointment/recruitment of Judges and other employees and if so, the details thereof, State-wise?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI D.V. SADANANDA GOWDA)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 150 to be answered on 05.03.2015 regarding 'Vacancies of Judges'.

(a) to (c) : The number of Judges appointed in the Supreme Court and High Courts in the country during the last three years along with the vacancies of Judges in these courts as on 1.3.2015 is given in the Statement at Annexure-I.

The appointment of judicial officers / judges in the District / Subordinate Courts is in the domain of the State Governments and High Courts concerned. The data on sanctioned strength and working strength of judicial officers / judges in District and Subordinate Courts as on 31-12-2014 has been collected from the High Courts and is given in the statement at Annexure-II.

Development of infrastructure facilities for Judiciary is the primary responsibility of the State Governments. However, in order to augment the resources of the State Governments, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary is being implemented under which central assistance is provided to the State Governments for the construction of court buildings for district and subordinate courts and residential units for judicial officers. On receipt of the complete proposals from the State Governments including utilisation certificates for the funds released earlier, necessary financial assistance is sanctioned to the State Governments in terms of the guidelines of the scheme.

The funds sanctioned to various State Governments and Union Territories under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for infrastructural facilities for Judiciary during the last three years (2011-12, 2012-13 and 2013-14) and current financial year (2014-15) is given in statement at Annexure-III.

The construction of court rooms and other infrastructure facilities for the subordinate courts is time consuming and continuous process. Information made available by the High Courts about the availability of the court rooms and the court rooms under construction in various states for district and subordinate courts as on 30th June, 2014 is at Annexure-IV.

As per the recommendations made by the Jaswant Singh Commission and Judgment pronounced by the Apex Court in WP(C) No.379 of 2000, Benches of High Court are established after due consideration of a complete proposal from the State Government which is to provide infrastructure and meet expenditure. The proposal should have the consent of the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court and the Governor of the State.