

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO.209

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 26<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2018

Special District Courts

\*209. DR. UDIT RAJ:

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

- (a) the status of constitution of special District Courts to try cases as per the provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, State-wise;
- (b) the reasons for delay in constitution of such special courts, State-wise; and
- (c) the details of concrete proposal made by the Government to ensure constitution of such designated courts in a time-bound manner?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND  
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

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

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 209 FOR 26<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2018 REGARDING 'SPECIAL DISTRICT COURTS'

(a) to (c): The constitution of Special Courts and their functioning fall within the domain of the State and Union Territory Governments, who set up such courts as per their need and resources, in consultation with the High Courts in accordance with Section 14 of the 'The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) (PoA) Amendment Act, 2015'. The Act further empowers a State Government to specify for each district, a Court of Session to be a Special Court for the purpose, in those Districts where less number of cases under this Act are filed. Therefore, State-wise status of constitution of such Courts is not maintained centrally.

The 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Union Government to strengthen the judicial system in States which included, inter-alia, establishing 1800 Fast Track Courts at a cost of Rs.4144 crore for cases involving vulnerable and marginalised sections of the society. The State Governments were urged to use the additional fiscal space provided by the Commission in the form of enhanced tax devolution (from 32% to 42%) to meet such requirements.

