

Setting up of fast track courts

2529. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:

MS. SUSHILA TIRIYA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government has failed to meet the demand of judiciary to establish sufficient fast track courts;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether Government is not able to provide sufficient funds for establishing such courts; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) and (b) Setting up of Fast Track Courts is within the domain of the State Governments. Fast Track Courts are set-up by the State Governments as per their need in consultation with the respective High Courts.

(c) and (d) The scheme of central funding for Fast Track Courts (FTCs) was started in the year 2000 for a period of five years on the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission. The central assistance to the States was provided at the rate of Rs. 5.00 lakh per court for non recurring expenditure which included Rs. 3.4 lakh for construction and Rs. 1.6 lakh for computer and library. For recurring expenditure an amount of Rs.4.8 lakh per court per year was provided.

The scheme was extended for a period of five years beyond 31.3.2005 i.e. upto 31.3.2010. For the extended period, the approved norm for assistance to the States for Fast Track Courts provided for an additional amount of Rs. 8.6 lakhs to be provided to the States in the first two years towards the cost of constructions for additional space in the court room and Rs.4.8 lakhs per court per year towards recurring expenditure. The norm of Central grant decided by the Government was, at that time, considered to be adequate for meeting expenditure on Fast Track Courts and a uniform rate of Central assistance was adopted for all the States. The Central Government has provided sufficient funds to meet the requirements of the State at the above said norm of payment.

System of appointment of judges

2530. DR. K. MALAISAMY:

SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:

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