Government has increased the central share by revising the funding pattern from 50:50 to 75:25 (for States other than North Eastern States) under modified Centrally Sponsored Scheme for development of infrastructure facilities for the judiciary from the year 2011-12 onwards. The funding pattern for North-Eastern States has been kept as 90:10 w.e.f 2010-11. The modified Centrally Sponsored Scheme covers subordinate courts only.

Prior to revision of funding under the scheme, Rs. 1245 crore was released to States/UTs from 1993-94 to 2010-11. After revision, Rs. 1303 crore has been released during last two years (Rs. 595 crore in 2011-12 and Rs. 708 crore in 2012-13).

Since the inception of CSS for infrastructure facilities for judiciary from 1993-94, Central Government has released Rs. 171 crore to the State. Government of Karnataka. As per the information available, State Government has constructed 247 Court buildings and 343 residential buildings for judicial officers/staff from Central and State funds.

For computerisation of courts and making them ICT enabled, Government is implementing e-Court Mission Mode Project for the district/subordinate Courts in the country and for up gradation of ICT infrastructure in superior courts. Under the Scherhe, funds are given to National Informatics Centre (NIC) which is the implementing agency for Project. Rs. 571 crore has so far been released to NIC for the Project.

Setting up of special courts

3634. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court, while delivering a judgment, took serious objections that Government has not taken any substantial steps despite a letter written in 2007 by the then Chief Justice of India to the Prime Minister for establishing special courts;

(b) if so, the action Government has taken, so far, in accordance with the Supreme Court ruling, during this period;

(c) whether the Supreme Court had further state there is a need to set-up at least 210 more special courts/CBI courts to deal with more than 1,000 cases pending in different parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the details of action taken so far by the Prime Minister?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Disposal of cases of crime against women

3635. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases of crime against women pending in courts across the country;

(b) the average time taken in judgment and punishment in these cases;

(c) whether Government has taken any step to expedite these cases and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Government has taken any steps to provide legal and other aid to women victims in such cases and, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) to (d) As per information received from National Crime Records Bureau, information regarding number of cases of crime against women pending in various courts across the country is given in the Statement *(See* below).

In the aftermath of the Delhi gang rape case, Government has requested the Chief Justices of the High Courts and the Chief Ministers of the States to constitute Fast Track Courts for speedy trial of pending rape cases in District/ Subordinate Courts having a high pendency and to monitor the progress of the cases to ensure their timely disposal. The States have responded by designating special courts from the existing strength of judges, for fast tracking such cases.

The Central Government has also decided to provide funds on a matching basis upto 31.03.2015 from the 13th Finance Commission Award for 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 that they may utilise these positions for creation of Fast Track Courts also.

Legal and other aid to women victims is provided by the trial courts under Section 357 of the Criminal Procedure Code. The assistance of State Legal Services Authorities is also sought, if required.