

(b) to (e) Based on the recommendation of the Election Commission a proposal is under examination of the Government to introduce proxy voting, postal ballot including e-postal ballot system for overseas electors. e-Postal ballot envisages transmission of blank postal ballot paper electronically and thereafter return of the same by the registered post. At present, a Committee of Ministers is examining this matter.

Funds for e-Courts project of High Courts

636. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

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

(a) the total funds allocated to various States in the Budget for e-Courts project of their respective High Courts in the last three years;

(b) the number of States which have released funds to their respective High Courts for buying new hardware and also for adequate technical manpower;

(c) the progress made in respect of modernization of various High Courts;

(d) the total amount that remained unspent so far due to non-implementation of the project; and

(e) the details of the States in which the project has not made any progress?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (e) During Phase I of the e-Courts project, National Informatics Centre (NIC) was the implementing agency to whom funds were provided for procurement of new hardware, technical manpower etc. for district and subordinate courts of the country. Funds released to NIC during the last three years under Phase I are given below:

Financial Year	Amount (₹ in crore)
2013-14	56
2014-15	9.70
2015-16	2

Under phase II of the project which began in August, 2015, procurement of hardware has been decentralised to the High Courts. High Courts-wise break up of funds released under this phase in 2015-16 is given in the Statement (*See* below). Since the project is to be completed by 2019, the amount remaining unspent due to non-implementation does not arise.

As a result of the hardware and software provided under the project, 13,672 district and subordinate courts have been computerised and case data and cause lists are now available online for the litigants and lawyers.

Statement

High Courts-wise break up of funds released under Phase-II

(₹ in crore)

Name of High Court	Amount
Allahabad	31.14
Bombay	30.39
Calcutta	12.14
Chhattisgarh	3.82
Delhi	5.87
Guahati (Arunachal Pradesh)	0.59
Guahati (Assam)	5.19
Guahati (Mizoram)	0.71
Guahati (Nagaland)	0.77
Gujarat	11.23
Himachal Pradesh	1.79
Jammu and Kashmir	1.84
Jharkhand	3.2
Karnataka	11.86
Kerala	5.53
Manipur	0.53
Madhya Pradesh	9.73
Meghalaya	0.19
Madras	10.24
Odisha	7.57
Patna	8.04
Punjab and Haryana	11.63
Rajasthan	9.97
Sikkim	0.18

Name of High Court	Amount
Telangana and Andhra Pradesh	13.9
Tripura	1.2
Uttarakhand	2.98
TOTAL	202.23*

*The above amount is only for hardware and no amount has been given as yet for technical manpower.

Uniform Civil Code

†637. SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Ministry to adopt Uniform Civil Code in the country in the last two years; and

(b) whether suggestions have been invited from the members of various communities and organisations in order to consider all aspects of the action being taken to adopt Uniform Civil Code, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Article 44 of the Directive Principles of the Constitution sets implementation of uniform civil code as duty of the State. The matter had been examined in this Department and having regard to the importance of the subject matter and sensitivity involved, and requiring in-depth study of the provisions of various personal laws governing different communities, the same has been referred to the Law Commission of India for detailed examination of various issues relating to uniform civil code and to make recommendations thereof.

Demand for constitution of AIJS

638. SHRI N. GOKULAKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than 1000 universities/colleges are imparting legal education;

(b) if so, the number of graduates/postgraduates coming out of these colleges;

(c) the percentage of students joining the profession of advocacy;

(d) whether there is a demand for constitution of an All India Judicial Service (AIJS) to attract more and more people towards legal profession;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.