

- (v) Judicial Service Centres (JSC) have also been established at all computerized subordinate courts to serve as a single window for filing petitions and applications by litigants/ lawyers, and for obtaining information on ongoing cases and copies of orders and judgments etc.
- (vi) E-Courts mobile app with the facility of QR Code was launched on 22.07.2017 for use of litigants and lawyers. Services under different captions viz. Search by CNR, Case Status, Cause List and My Cases are available on this application, which is available on both Google Play and Apple Store.
- (vii) Furthermore, the facility of providing case information services through SMS has also been implemented and the process of disseminating system-generated SMSs is operational.
- (viii) An e-Filing application to enable the advocates, petitioners-in-person, etc., to file their cases on-line (at any time) has also been launched in December, 2017 and has also been deployed at Delhi district court and successfully tested at City Civil Court, Mumbai.

During the Phase II, till date, about 109.56 crore electronic transactions have been recorded for e-Courts through e-Taal portal.

Setting up of more FTCs

2516. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is aware that there is a massive backlog of pending cases in Fast Track Courts (FTCs);
- (b) whether Government is taking any measures to increase the number of FTCs;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (d) Setting up of subordinate courts, which includes Fast Track Courts (FTCs) and their functioning, lies within the domain of the State Governments who set up such Courts, as per their need and resources, in consultation with the concerned High Courts.

The Union Government has adopted a coordinated approach to assist the judiciary for reduction in pendency of court cases. This involves upgradation of infrastructure for courts including computerization, increase in strength of judicial officers/judges etc. and emphasis on human resource development.

The Government of India had proposed setting up of 1800 FTCs with a cost of ₹4144 crore in the Memorandum submitted to the Fourteenth Finance Commission (14th FC) in order to dispose off cases pertaining to heinous crimes involving marginalized and vulnerable persons including women, senior citizens and children etc. The Fourteenth Finance Commission endorsed the proposal of the Union Government and accordingly the State Governments were provided additional fiscal space in the Fourteenth Finance Commission award with the expectation to set up Fast Track Courts in the States.

Disposal of backlog of pending cases by FTCs

2517. SHRI SANJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Fast Track Courts (FTCs), established for speedy trial of cases related to crimes against women, have a backlog of more than 2000 pending cases till now;

(b) if so, the details of pending cases for the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the measures Government would take to counter the inefficiencies of FTCs to conduct speedy trials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) Setting up of subordinate courts, which includes Fast Track Courts (FTCs) and their functioning/monitoring, lies within the domain of the State Governments who set up such Courts as per their need and resources, in consultation with the concerned High Courts. Therefore the data regarding pendency in these courts is maintained by the respective High Courts. As per information received from High Courts a total of 5.7 lakh cases are pending in the FTCs as on 31.12.17. These cases pertain to heinous crimes involving marginalized sections of the society including women, senior citizens and children etc.

(c) The Eleventh Finance Commission had recommended a scheme for creation of 1734 FTCs in the country for disposal of long pending cases. The scheme was started in 2000-01 and continued till 2010-11 and then it was continued in a different form. However, central funding for the Scheme continued till 31.03.2015 for meeting the