1993-94. Out of this, ₹ 3,542 crores (50.70%) have been sanctioned to the States and UTs since April, 2014. 19,179 court halls and 16,852 residential accommodations have been made available for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts under this scheme as on date against the working strength of 17,970 Judicial Officers in District and Subordinate Courts of the country. In addition, 2,818 court halls and 1,856 residential units are under construction.

Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary is being monitored by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Malik Mazhar Sultan Case.

(c) The Central Government had approved continuation of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for Judiciary beyond the 12th Five Year Plan period *i.e.* from 01.04.2017 to 31.03.2020 with an outlay is ₹3,320 crore for completion of on-going projects for construction of 3,000 court halls and 1,800 residential units for judicial officers of District and Subordinate Courts. The Central Government also approved setting up of an on-line monitoring system with geo-tagging enabling data collection on progress, completion of court halls and residential units under construction, including for future projects as well as better asset management and formulation of norms and specification of court halls to be constructed under scheme for implementation throughout the country for future.

Accordingly, the guidelines of the scheme have been revised from 2018-19 for smooth and effective implementation of the scheme. An on-line monitoring system has been developed with the technical assistance of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). For the purpose, a web portal and mobile app named "Nyaya Vikas" has been developed for monitoring of construction projects with facility of geo-tagging. Norms and specifications for construction of court halls have also been developed and circulated to all State Governments and Union Territory Administrations.

Policy for affordable justice to poor and backwards

† 3750. SHRIMATI KANTA KARDAM: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to formulate any effective policy to provide affordable and accessible justice to dalits, backwards and poor people and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government has received any requests from various social organization or State Governments in this regard; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) Yes Sir. Article 39 A of the Constitution of India provides for free legal aid to the poor and weaker sections of the society and ensures justice for all. In the year 1987, the Legal Services Authorities Act was enacted by the Parliament which came into force on 9 November, 1995 to establish a nationwide uniform network for providing free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society on the basis of equal opportunity. The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to monitor and evaluate implementation of legal aid programmes. Legal services institutions have been set up at all level from Taluk Courts to the Supreme Court. Apart from these legal services institutions, High Court Legal Services Committees have been constituted at all High Courts and the Supreme Courts Legal Services Committee at the Supreme Court level to provide free legal services to the persons eligible under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act. The free Legal Aid Services include:–

(i) Payment of court fee, process fees and all other charges payable or incurred in connection with any legal proceedings;

(ii) Providing service of lawyers in legal proceedings;

(iii) Obtaining and supply of certified copies of orders and another documents in legal proceedings; and

(iv) Preparation of appeal paper book including printing and translation of document in legal proceedings.

(b) and (c) Receipts of requests in this regard is a continuous process. These are received very often and the same are forwarded to NALSA for taking up the matter with the concerned State Legal Services Institutions for appropriate action. NALSA closely monitors the action on such requests. Social organizations are also involved in various awareness and out reach programmes conducted by the State Authorities.

Modernisation of District Courts

3751. SHRIMATI SHANTA CHHETRI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the pathetic conditions, in which the courts functions for administering justice, such as lack of adequate facilities like toilets and