

2 Chief Secretary of all the States and Union Territories.

Copy to:

1. Sh. G. S. Yadav, Joint Secretary and Arbitrator-PMA, DPE.
2. Chief Executive of all CPSEs for information and necessary compliance.

Copy forwarded for kind information to:

- (i) The Prime Minister's Office, South Block, New Delhi.
- (ii) The Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (iii) PS to the Minister (HI&PE), Udyog Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (iv) Secretary (DPE), CGO Complex, New Delhi
- (v) Secretary (Law), D/o Legal Affairs, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

Sd/-

(J. N. Prasad)

Director

Tel. 24360736

Sanctioned post of Judges in High Courts

2018. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of vacancies of Judges in various High Courts filled up during last three years and the current year so far, year-wise and High Court-wise;
- (b) whether 40 per cent sanctioned post of High Court Judges are lying vacant at present;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, High Court-wise;
- (d) the reasons for the same; and
- (e) the details of steps Government would take to ensure speedy and fair justice to common people?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): (a) to (e) The details of sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges and Total number of Judges appointed during 2016 to 2019 (till 27.11.2019) in the High Courts are given in the Statement (*See below*).

As per the Memorandum of Procedure for appointment and transfer of Chief Justices and Judges of High Court, the Chief Justice of the High Court is required to initiate the proposals for filling up of vacancies of Judges in the High Court six months prior to the occurrence of vacancies. However, this timelines is rarely adhered to.

Filling up of vacancies in the High Courts is a continuous, integrated and collaborative process between the Executive and the Judiciary. It requires consultation and approval from various Constitutional Authorities both at the State and Centre level. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and increase in Judge strength.

The disposals of cases in Courts is within the domain of judiciary. However, the Union Government is committed to speedy disposal of cases and reduction in pendency of cases to improve access to justice in line with the % mandate under Article 39A of the Constitution. The National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms, established by the Union Government in 2011, has adopted many strategic initiatives, including improving infrastructure (court halls and residential units) for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Courts, leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for better justice delivery, reduction in pendency through follow up by Arrears Committees at District, High Court and Supreme Court emphasis on Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) and initiatives to fast track special type of cases.

Statement

Details of sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges and Total number of Judges appointed during 2016 to 2019 in the High Courts

(Position as on 27.11.2019)

Sl. No.	Name of the Court	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies	Total number of Judges appointed during			
					2016	2017	2018	2019 (27.11.2019)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Allahabad	160	100	60	20	31	28	01
2	Andhra Pradesh	37	15	22	01	10	-	02
3	Bombay	94	65	29	06	14	04	05

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4	Calcutta	72	40	32	01	06	11	06
5	Chhattisgarh	22	15	07	03	03	4	-
6	Delhi	60	37	23	05	04	5	04
7	Gauhati	24	21	03	05	02	2	04
8	Gujarat	52	28	24	05	-	4	03
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	10	03	04	-	-	02
10	High Court for Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh	17	08	09	-	03	2	-
11	Jharkhand	25	19	06	04	02	3	02
12	Karnataka	62	40	22	05	02	12	10
13	Kerala	47	32	15	05	03	4	01
14	Madhya Pradesh	53	31	22	18	-	8	02
15	Madras	75	54	21	25	12	8	01
16	Manipur	05	04	01	01	-	-	-
17	Meghalaya	04	03	01	-	-	1	01
18	Odisha	27	14	13	-	-	1	-
19	Patna	53	27	26	06	06	-	05
20	Punjab and Haryana	85	56	29	01	08	7	10
21	Rajasthan	50	21	29	11	05	-	03
22	Sikkim	03	03	0	-	01	-	-
23	Telangana	24	13	11	-	-	1	03
24	Tripura	04	03	01	-	03	3	-
25	Uttarakhand	11	10	01	01	-	-	-
TOTAL		1079	669	410	126	115	108	66