

(in ₹ crore)

State	Funds released during				Amount of Utilization (as on 09.3.2020) Certificate(s) furnished for the funds released since 2016-17.
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	
Gujarat	50.00	50.00	15.02	16.49	115.02

(d) The primary responsibility of development of Infrastructure facilities for judiciary rests with the State Government. To augment the resources of the State Governments, funds are released under the Scheme by the Central Government for construction of court buildings and residential accommodations for Judicial Officers of District and Subordinate Judiciary. As per information available, the number of court halls in Gujarat has increased from 1354 in 2017 to 1509 as on 09.03.2020. Similarly, the number of residential units for Judicial Officers in Gujarat has increased from 1224 in 2017 to 1323 as on 09.03.2020. In addition, presently 158 court halls and 51 residential units are under construction in the State of Gujarat.

Establishment of National Courts of Appeals

2179. SHRI P. WILSON: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state whether any steps have been taken to establish National Courts of Appeal region-wise or Regional Benches of Supreme Court by Constitutional amendment to reduce the pending cases in Supreme Court and to make the justice easily accessible at affordable cost?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD): According to Article 130 of the Constitution, the Supreme Court shall sit in Delhi or in such other place or places as the Chief Justice of India may, with the approval of the President, from time to time, appoint.

Representations have been received from time to time from various quarters for establishment of Benches of Supreme Court in various parts of the country. The Law Commission in its 229th Report had also suggested that a Constitutional Bench be set up at Delhi and four cassation Benches be set up in the Northern region at Delhi, the Southern region at Chennai/Hyderabad, the Eastern region at Kolkata and the Western region at Mumbai.

The matter was referred to the Chief Justice of India, who has informed that after consideration of the matter, the Full Court in its meeting held on 18th February, 2010, found no justification for setting up of benches of the Supreme Court outside Delhi.

In Writ Petition WP(C) No. 36/2016 on establishment of National Court of Appeal, the Supreme Court vide its judgment dated 13.07.2016 deemed it proper to refer the aforementioned issue to Constitutional Bench for authoritative pronouncement.

Reservation in appointment on compassionate ground

†2180. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of vacant posts to be filled up in Government on compassionate ground;
- (b) the steps being taken by Government to fill up these vacancies;
- (c) whether there is a provision of reservation for the appointments being made on compassionate ground; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b) As per extant instructions, upto a maximum of 5% of direct recruitment vacancies arising in a year in Group 'C' posts can be filled up by compassionate appointment. There is no fixed quota of posts to be filled up annually on compassionate grounds, as compassionate appointments are to be made by the administrative Ministries/Departments as per the general policy guidelines laid by the Department of Personnel and Training subject to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.