

A	B	C	D	E	F=Ex20000
9.	Himachal Pradesh	135	43	92	18.4
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	218	86	132	26.4
11.	Jharkhand	417	28	389	77.8
12.	Karnataka	1029	200	829	165.8
13.	Kerala	508	159	349	69.8
14.	Madhya Pradesh	1274	203	1071	214.2
15.	Madras	1169	267	902	180.4
16.	Manipur	38	37	1	0.2
17.	Meghalaya	36	64	0	0
18.	Odisha	688	141	547	109.4
19.	Patna	1046	76	970	194
20.	Punjab and Haryana	972	118	854	170.8
21.	Rajasthan	1239	238	1001	200.2
22.	Sikkim	21	17	4	0.8
23.	Telangana	440	129	311	62.2
24.	Tripura	78	66	12	2.4
25.	Uttarakhand	184	52	132	26.4
TOTAL		17892	3477	14443	2888.6

Note: Every Court to be equipped with—

- (i) LED display unit (50" or more as per the room requirements) to connect laptop output (Optional).
- (ii) USB PTZ Camera.
- (iii) External USB Speaker cum mike Estimated Cost per Court ₹20,000/-.

### Appointment of panel lawyers

585. SHRI DEREK O'BRIEN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) the system adopted by Government in appointing its panel lawyers; and

(b) what is the objective criterion for a lawyer to be appointed as a panel lawyer for Government in different forums?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):  
(a) and (b) Suitable advocates are engaged as Panel Counsel by the President to represent Union of India before various Courts/Tribunals in the country on the basis of their experience, professional competence, interest, reputation & standing at Bar. However, certain Ministries/Departments viz. CBDT, CBEC, ED of Ministry of Finance, NCB, NIA of MHA, Ministry of Railways and CBI have been authorized to have their separate panels to file or defend their cases. They assess the competency etc. of the advocates at their end and send the proposals for approval of this Ministry before appointment.

The required qualifications for a person for his inclusion in the panel of Central Government Standing Counsel includes:-

- (i) he must be enrolled as an advocate;
- (ii) he should have sufficient standing at the Bar and professional competence.
- (iii) he should be a person of integrity and honesty.

#### **Strength of the Supreme Court and High Court Judges**

586. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is considering to increase the strength of the Supreme Court and High Court Judges in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the sanctioned and actual strength at present for the Judges of the Supreme Court; and
- (d) what is the sanctioned and actual strength of Judges at present for the High Courts of Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand and Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):  
(a) to (d) The Judge strength of the Supreme Court has been increased from 31 to 34 Judges (including Chief Justice of India) w.e.f. 09.08.2019. At present, the working strength of Supreme Court is 30.