

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3449

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 25.03.2021

Recruitment of judges

3449. SHRI PRABHAKAR REDDY VEMIREDDY:

Will the Minister of **LAW AND JUSTICE** be pleased to state:

- (a) whether out of the sanctioned strength of 1080 judges in various High Courts of the country, there are just 660 Judges working thereby leaving 40 per cent vacancies;
- (b) If so, the efforts being made by the Ministry to recruit judges as early as possible; and
- (c) the details of proposals from various High Courts pending with the Ministry and the SC Collegium?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (c): A Statement showing sanctioned strength, working strength and vacancies of Judges in the High Courts as on 18.03.2021 is at Annexure.

As per Memorandum of Procedure for appointment of High Court Judges, the proposal for appointment is initiated by the Chief Justice of the High Court

concerned. Government appoints only those persons as Judges of High Courts who are recommended by Supreme Court Collegium (SCC). At present, High Court Collegiums (HCC) have made 209 recommendations against 420 vacancies. Out of these 209 recommendations, 75 proposals are pending with SCC while 05 proposals which have not been recommended by SCC are to be remitted by the Government to the High Court and the remaining 129 proposals recommended by HCC and SCC which have been received are under various stages of processing with the Government. There are 211 vacancies in various High Courts for which recommendations are yet to be received from respective High Court Collegiums.

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 State and Centre level. While every effort is made to fill up the existing vacancies expeditiously, vacancies of Judges in High Courts do keep on arising on account of retirement, resignation or elevation of Judges and also due to increase in the strength of Judges.

Annexure

**Statement showing to in reply to part (a) of Rajya Sabha Unstarred
Question No. 3449 for 25.03.2021 regarding “Recruitment of judges”.
(As on 18.03.2021)**

Sl. No.	Name of the High Court	Sanctioned Strength	Working Strength	Vacancies
1	Allahabad	160	96	64
2	Andhra Pradesh	37	19	18
3	Bombay	94	62	32
4	Calcutta	72	32	40
5	Chhattisgarh	22	14	08
6	Delhi	60	31	29
7	Gauhati	24	20	04
8	Gujarat	52	30	22
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	10	03
10	High Court for UTs of J & K and Ladakh	17	11	06
11	Jharkhand	25	17	08
12	Karnataka	62	47	15
13	Kerala	47	40	07
14	Madhya Pradesh	53	26	27
15	Madras	75	62	13
16	Manipur	05	05	0
17	Meghalaya	04	04	0
18	Orissa	27	15	12
19	Patna	53	21	32
20	Punjab & Haryana	85	47	38
21	Rajasthan	50	23	27
22	Sikkim	03	03	0
23	High Court for the State of Telangana	24	14	10
24	Tripura	05	04	01
25	Uttarakhand	11	07	04
Total		1080	660	420