

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

RAJYA SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO. 1

TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 02.02.2023

APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES IN HIGH COURTS AND SUPREME COURTS

***1. DR. JOHN BRITTAS:**

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

- (a) the number of proposals for appointments recommended by High Court Collegiums which are pending with Supreme Court Collegium;
- (b) the number of proposals for appointments in High Courts which are pending with Government;
- (c) the vacancies in High Courts which are yet to be recommended by High Courts to Supreme Court Collegium, in breach of six months' advance timeline of anticipated vacancies;
- (d) the vacancies in Supreme Court which are yet to be recommended by the Collegium to Government;
- (e) the number of proposals for appointment of Judges to Supreme Court which are pending with the Government; and
- (f) the vacancies in High Courts and Supreme Court as on date?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE

(SHRI KIREN RIJU)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement referred to in reply to parts (a) to (f) of Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. *1 due for answer on 02.02.2023 regarding “Appointment of Judges in High Courts and Supreme Court”.

(a) to (f): As on 30.01.2023, against the sanctioned strength of 34 Judges, 27 Judges are working in the Supreme Court leaving 07 vacancies. Supreme Court Collegium (SCC) has recently made 07 recommendations to fill up all the vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court.

As on 30.01.2023, against the sanctioned strength of 1108 judges in various High Courts, 775 judges are working and 333 post of Judges are vacant in the High Courts. 142 proposals recommended by the High Court Collegiums are at various stages of processing. Out of these 142, 4 proposals are pending with the Supreme Court Collegium and 138 are under various stages of processing in the Government.

As on 30.01.2023, recommendations in respect of 236 vacancies (191 existing and 45 anticipated vacancies during next 06 months) are yet to be received from High Court Collegiums, which are in breach of six months’ advance timeline for making recommendation for anticipated vacancies.
