

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1708
ANSWERED ON 13/03/2025

PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT OF COURTS

1708. DR. SASMIT PATRA:

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

- (a) whether Judiciary or Government undertakes the assessment of the performance of the Courts in the country;
- (b) the authority that recommend changes and carry out reforms in case the performance is not upto the mark; and
- (c) the role of the Judiciary and Government in this regard;
- (d) whether there is a fine line that draws a demarcation between both in this regard?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) to (d): The performance assessment of courts in India is within the domain of the Judiciary. The evaluation of judges in the Supreme Court and High Courts falls within the exclusive domain of their respective courts, while the administrative control over the District and Subordinate Judiciary is vested in the concerned High Courts, as per Article 235 of the Constitution of India. To enhance judicial efficiency and establish measurable performance standards, the Supreme Court has constituted the National Court Management System (NCMS) Committee. A Sub-Committee under the NCMS Committee has worked on developing the National Framework of Court Excellence (NFCE), which aims to set objective performance benchmarks and establish a monitoring

mechanism for courts. These reports and recommendations serve as guidelines for High Courts to consider and implement, as required.

The Government, particularly through the Department of Justice, plays a supporting role by providing financial assistance towards infrastructural development and technological advancements to strengthen the judicial system. However, the core responsibility of monitoring and improving court performance remains with the Judiciary. While there is collaboration between the Judiciary and the Government in areas of judicial reforms and modernization, the Judiciary retains autonomy in assessing and enhancing court performance, ensuring its independence, while enabling continuous institutional improvements in efficiency, quality and responsiveness.
