

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1071

ANSWERED ON 13/02/2025

SHORTFALL OF JUDGES IN KARNATAKA HIGH COURT

1071 SHRI NARAYANA KORAGAPPA:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that the sanctioned strength of Karnataka High Court Judges is 62;
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the working strength of Karnataka High Court is 50, indicating there are 12 vacancies;
- (c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to fill the vacancies; and
- (d) the details of recommendations in respect of SCs, STs and OBCs under process to fill the above vacancies?

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): As on 07.02.2025, against the sanctioned strength of 62 Judges, 49 Judges are working in the Karnataka High Court.

Appointment of the Judges of the Constitutional 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 central level. As per the Memorandum of Procedure for appointment of judges of the High Courts, the responsibility for initiation of proposal for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court. The Chief Justice of the High Court is required to initiate the proposal for filling up of vacancy of a Judge in a High Court six months prior to the occurrence of the vacancy. However, this timeline is hardly adhered to by the High Courts. Only those persons are appointed as Judges of High Courts who are recommended by

the Supreme Court Collegium. Under this collaborative effort between the Government and the Judiciary, 61 Judges have been appointed in the Karnataka High Court since 2014.

As on 07.02.2025, only one proposal for appointment as Judge of Karnataka High Court, is under consideration. No other proposal for appointment of Judges has been received from the Karnataka High Court Collegium.
