

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1074
ANSWERED ON – 13/02/2025

FAST TRACK COURTS

1074. SHRI NARHARI AMIN:

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

- (a) the planned improvements for the scheme until 2026 particularly with increased funding and the efforts to set up more courts across the country;
- (b) the specific measures being taken to meet the remaining target of 1800 Fast Track Courts;
- (c) the steps being taken to improve public awareness and accessibility to the Fast Track Courts, particularly in rural and underserved areas; and
- (d) the details of the impact of Fast Track Special Courts on the speedy disposal of POCSO Act cases and other heinous crime cases?

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): Establishment of subordinate courts including Fast Track Courts (FTCs) for providing speedy justice in the country lies within the domain of the State/UT Governments who set up such courts as per their need and resources, in consultation with their respective High Courts. The 14th Finance Commission had recommended for setting up of 1800 Fast Track Courts (FTCs) during 2015-2020 for speedy trial of specific cases of heinous nature, civil cases related to women, children, senior citizens, disabled persons, persons infected with terminal ailments etc. and property related cases pending for more than 5 years. The Finance Commission had further urged the State Governments to utilize enhanced fiscal space available through tax devolution for this purpose. The Union Government has requested the State/UT Governments to allocate funds for the setting up of FTCs, from the financial year 2015-16 onward. As per information made available by the High Courts, **863 FTCs are functional** across the country as on 31.12.2024. State-wise details of functional Fast Track Courts (FTCs) are at **Annexure-I**. These courts are spread across the country, including rural and underserved areas.

Further, pursuant to the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018 and the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court [Suo Motu Writ (Criminal) No. 1/2019], the Central Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for setting up Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) including exclusive POCSO (e-POCSO) since October, 2019 for expeditious trial and disposal of pending cases pertaining to Rape and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act in a time-bound manner. The Scheme has been extended twice, with the latest extension up to 31st March 2026, targeting the establishment of 790 courts. The **financial outlay of the scheme is Rs. 1952.23 cr. with Rs. 1207.24 cr. as Central Share** to be incurred from Nirbhaya Fund on the CSS pattern. As per the inputs received from the High Courts, as on 31.12.2024, **747 FTSCs including 406 exclusive POCSO Courts** are functional in 30 States/UTs. These courts have disposed around 3,00,000 cases as of 31.12.2024. The State/UT-wise details of functional Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) along with the cumulative disposal, are at **Annexure-II**.

As per the inputs received from the High Courts, the disposal rate of Rape and POCSO Act cases in Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) is significantly higher than in regular courts. While the average disposal rate of Rape and POCSO Act cases in regular courts is estimated at 3.2 cases per court per month, FTSCs achieve an average of 9.5 cases per month.

The establishment of Fast Track Special Courts demonstrates the unwavering commitment of the Government towards women security, combating sexual and gender-based violence, reducing the backlog of pending cases related to Rape & POCSO Act, and providing enhanced access to justice for survivors of sexual crimes. With professional and experienced judges and support staff specialized in handling sensitive sexual offense cases, these courts ensure consistent and expert-guided legal proceedings offering victims of sexual offences swift resolution in mitigating the trauma and distress, and enabling them to move forward.

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State/UT-wise details of functional Fast Track Courts (As on 31.12.2024)

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	Number of Functional FTCs
1	Andhra Pradesh	21
2	Andaman & Nicobar Island	0
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0
4	Assam	15
5	Bihar	0
6	Chandigarh	0
7	Chhattisgarh	27
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Diu & Daman	0
9	Delhi	26
10	Goa	4
11	Gujarat	54
12	Haryana	6
13	Himachal Pradesh	3
14	Jammu & Kashmir	8
15	Jharkhand	40
16	Karnataka	0
17	Kerala	0
18	Ladakh	0
19	Lakshadweep	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	0
21	Maharashtra	101
22	Manipur	6
23	Meghalaya	0
24	Mizoram	2
25	Nagaland	0
26	Odisha	0
27	Puducherry	1
28	Punjab	7
29	Rajasthan	0
30	Sikkim	2
31	Tamil Nadu	72
32	Telangana	0
33	Tripura	3
34	Uttar Pradesh	373
35	Uttarakhand	4
36	West Bengal	88
	TOTAL	863

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**State/UT-wise details of functional Fast Track Special Courts including exclusive POCSO Courts
(As on 31.12.2024)**

Sl. No.	Name of States/UTs	Functional Courts		Cumulative Disposal since the inception of the Scheme		
		FTSCs including exclusive POCSO	Exclusive POCSO	FTSCs	Exclusive POCSO	Total
1	Andhra Pradesh	16	16	0	6221	6221
2	Assam	17	17	0	7664	7664
3	Bihar	46	46	0	14495	14495
4	Chandigarh	1	0	317	0	317
5	Chhattisgarh	15	11	1131	4611	5742
6	Delhi	16	11	676	1660	2336
7	Goa	1	0	61	34	95
8	Gujarat	35	24	2852	11671	14523
9	Haryana	16	12	1815	5438	7253
10	Himachal Pradesh	6	3	531	749	1280
11	Jammu & Kashmir	4	2	112	151	263
12	Jharkhand	22	16	2550	5585	8135
13	Karnataka	30	17	4721	7729	12450
14	Kerala	55	14	15987	7215	23202
15	Madhya Pradesh	67	57	4432	25333	29765
16	Maharashtra	6	2	8635	11988	20623
17	Manipur	2	0	172	0	172
18	Meghalaya	5	5	0	647	647
19	Mizoram	3	1	176	66	242
20	Nagaland	1	0	65	3	68
21	Odisha	44	23	6237	11470	17707
22	Puducherry*	1	1	0	122	122
23	Punjab	12	3	2424	2268	4692
24	Rajasthan	45	30	5251	12040	17291
25	Tamil Nadu	14	14	0	8898	8898
26	Telangana	36	0	7567	2731	10298
27	Tripura	3	1	230	208	438
28	Uttarakhand	4	0	1792	0	1792
29	Uttar Pradesh	218	74	40257	42404	82661
30	West Bengal	6	6	0	232	232
31	A&N Islands**	0	0	0	0	0
32	Arunachal Pradesh***	0	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	747	406	107991	191633	299624

Note: At the inception of the Scheme, the allocation of FTSCs across the country was based on a criterion of 65 to 165 pending cases per court, meaning one FTSC would be established for every 65 to 165 pending cases. Based on that, only 31 States/UTs were eligible to join the Scheme.

* Puducherry specially requested to join the Scheme and has since operationalized one exclusive POCSO Court in May 2023.

** A&N islands has consented to join the Scheme, but is yet to operationalize any court.

*** Arunachal Pradesh has opted out of the Scheme citing a very low number of pending cases of Rape and POCSO Act.