

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1075**  
ANSWERED ON 13/02/2025

**APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES FROM THE SC/ST AND FEMALE CATEGORY**

**1075 # SHRI NEERAJ DANGI:**

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

- (a) the percentage of Judges from the SC/ST category out of total appointed Judges in courts operating in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the appropriate steps being taken by Government towards the appointment of women Judges and Judges from the SC/ST category in the High Courts of the country;
- (c) the current status of the number of vacant posts of Judges in the High Courts across the country, State-wise; and
- (d) the details regarding the number of Judges appointed per lakh people as per the Judge to population ratio in the country?

**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) & (b):** The state-wise details of the working strength of Judicial Officers from the SC/ST category in District and Subordinate Courts is at *Annexure-I*.

Appointment of Judges to the Supreme Court and High Courts is made under Articles 124, 217 and 224 of the Constitution of India, which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. Therefore, category-wise data pertaining to representation of SCs, STs and OBCs among the Judges of High Courts are not centrally maintained. However, since 2018, the recommendees for the post of High Court Judges

are required to provide details regarding their social background in the prescribed format (prepared in consultation with the Supreme Court). As per the information provided by the recommendees, out of 698 High Court Judges appointed since 2018, 108 are women judges while 22 belong to SC, 15 belong to ST, 87 belong to the OBC category and 37 come from the Minority Communities.

As per the Memorandum of Procedure (MoP), the responsibility for initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the Supreme Court vests with the Chief Justice of India, while the responsibility for initiation of proposals for appointment of Judges in the High Courts vests with the Chief Justice of the concerned High Court, in consultation with two senior-most puisne Judges of the High Court. However, the Government has been requesting the Chief Justices of High Courts that while sending proposals for appointment of Judges, due consideration be given to suitable candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Minorities and Women to ensure social diversity in the appointment of Judges in High Courts. Only those persons who are recommended by the Supreme Court Collegium, are appointed as Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts.

(c): The current status of the number of vacant posts of Judges in the High Courts across the country, State-wise is at ***Annexure-II***.

(d): Based on the population as per Census 2011 which was 1210.19 million and as per available information regarding sanctioned strength of Judges in Supreme Court, High Courts and District & Subordinate Courts as on 31.12.2024, the judge - population ratio in the country works out to be approximately 21 Judges per million population.

## Annexure-I

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (A) & (B) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1075 FOR ANSWER ON 13.02.2025 REGARDING 'APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES FROM THE SC/ST AND FEMALE CATEGORY'.**

**WORKING STRENGTH OF SC/ST JUDGES IN DISTRICT AND SUBORDINATE COURTS AS ON 07.02.2025**

Sl. No.	States & Uts	Civil Judge (Junior Division)	Civil Judge (Junior Division)	Civil Judge (Senior Division)	Civil Judge (Senior Division)	District Judge/DJ	District Judge/DJ	Total Working Strength in District & Subordinate Courts	Total working Strength of judges in District and Subordinate Courts	Percentage of SC/ST Judges of the Total working strength in the District and Subordinate Courts
		SC	ST	SC	ST	SC	ST	SC/ST		
1	Karnataka	77	19	90	20	60	9	275	1152	24%
2	Rajasthan	64	47	60	52	59	24	306	1308	23%
3	Delhi	46	21	12	1	10	1	91	803	11%
4	Puducherry	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	26	12%
5	Tamil Nadu	119	5	57	4	35	1	221	1023	22%
6	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24	0%
7	Andhra Pradesh	53	19	23	10	30	3	138	564	24%
8	D & N Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0%
9	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0%
10	Goa	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	40	5%
11	Maharashtra	140	2	43	3	44	2	234	1940	12%
12	Arunachal Pradesh	0	9	0	16	0	7	32	33	97%
13	Telangana	38	20	15	7	15	13	108	445	24%
14	Sikkim	0	1	0	2	0	5	8	23	35%
15	Uttarakhand	16	3	12	4	18	5	58	270	21%
16	Andaman and Nicobar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	0%
17	Bihar	129	9	63	5	48	3	257	1536	17%

18	Manipur	0	6	0	4	0	4	14	49	29%
19	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	863	0%
20	Chandigarh	7	0	0	0	1	0	8	30	27%
21	Haryana	31	0	42	0	21	0	94	551	17%
22	Jammu and Kashmir	13	11	6	7	9	8	54	279	19%
23	Ladakh	1	2	0	4	0	1	8	11	73%
24	Odisha	30	4	0	0	0	0	34	840	4%
25	Punjab	118	0	34	0	33	0	185	723	26%
26	Uttar Pradesh	214	17	134	15	191	7	578	2698	21%
27	Assam	16	23	12	21	6	7	85	461	18%
28	Chhattisgarh	26	57	17	45	30	26	201	465	43%
29	Himachal Pradesh	8	2	8	4	6	1	29	160	18%
30	Jharkhand	15	31	0	0	0	0	46	506	9%
31	Mizoram	0	13	0	17	0	15	45	45	100%
32	Tripura	5	9	4	7	4	6	35	109	32%
33	Gujarat	59	1	50	4	8	0	122	1185	10%
34	Kerala	20	0	11	1	10	1	43	533	8%
35	Lakshadweep	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	4	50%
36	Madhya Pradesh	122	55	79	106	66	73	501	1692	30%
37	Meghalaya	0	15	0	21	0	18	54	57	95%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1371</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>772</b>	<b>381</b>	<b>704</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>3871</b>	<b>20466</b>	<b>19%</b>

Source: MIS portal of Department of Justice.

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**Annexure-II**

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (C) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1075 FOR ANSWER ON 13.02.2025 REGARDING 'APPOINTMENT OF JUDGES FROM THE SC/ST AND FEMALE CATEGORY'.**

**The vacancy of Judges in High Courts across the country as on 07.02.2025**

Sl. No.	High Court	Sanctioned strength			Working strength			Vacancies		
		Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total	Pmt.	Addl	Total
1	Allahabad	119	41	160	79	0	79	40	41	81
2	Andhra Pradesh	28	9	37	21	9	30	7	0	7
3	Bombay	71	23	94	52	16	68	19	7	26
4	Calcutta	54	18	72	33	10	43	21	8	29
5	Chhattisgarh	17	5	22	9	7	16	8	-2	6
6	Delhi	45	15	60	38	0	38	7	15	22
7	Gauhati	22	8	30	21	3	24	1	5	6
8	Gujarat	39	13	52	32	0	32	7	13	20
9	Himachal Pradesh	13	4	17	12	0	12	1	4	5
10	J & K and Ladakh	19	6	25	12	3	15	7	3	10
11	Jharkhand	20	5	25	16	0	16	4	5	9
12	Karnataka	47	15	62	47	2	49	0	13	13
13	Kerala	35	12	47	30	15	45	5	-3	2
14	Madhya Pradesh	40	13	53	33	0	33	7	13	20
15	Madras	56	19	75	54	11	65	2	8	10
16	Manipur	4	1	5	4	0	4	0	1	1
17	Meghalaya	3	1	4	3	1	4	0	0	0
18	Orissa	24	9	33	18	0	18	6	9	15
19	Patna	40	13	53	34	0	34	6	13	19
20	Punjab & Haryana	64	21	85	48	3	51	16	18	34
21	Rajasthan	38	12	50	33	0	33	5	12	17
22	Sikkim	3	0	3	3	0	3	0	0	0
23	Telangana	32	10	42	23	7	30	9	3	12
24	Tripura	4	1	5	4	1	5	0	0	0
25	Uttarakhand	9	2	11	8	0	8	1	2	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>846</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>1122</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>755</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>367</b>