

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW , JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5652  
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2002  
JUDGES IN SUPREME COURT AND VARIOUS HIGH COURTS  
S. AJAYA KUMAR

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

- (a) whether a large number of posts of judges are lying vacant in Supreme Court, High Courts and Lower Courts in the country;
- (b) if so, the total number of judges in the Supreme Court and the various High Courts and Lower Courts in the country, State-wise;
- (c) the details of percentage of SC/STs and women judges, court-wise;
- (d) whether it is true that the judicial system is not adequately represented by the reserved section; and
- (e) if so, the steps taken by the Government thereon?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS(SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

(a) to (e) Statements I and II are enclosed. Appointments of Judges of the Supreme Court of India and the High Courts are made under articles 124 and 217 of the Constitution of India respectively which do not provide for reservation for any caste or class of persons. No statistics is, therefore, maintained for the number of Judges belonging to SC/ST in Supreme Court of India or the High Courts.

Government encourages representation of SC/ST, women and other Backward classes in the appointment of Judges and, accordingly addressed letters to the Chief Ministers of the States and the Chief Justices of the High Courts, from time to time, requesting them, inter-alia to locate suitable candidates from the Bar for appointment as High Court Judges. They were reminded last on March 15, 2002.

No statistics is maintained by the Central Government about the number of SC/ST or women Judges in Lower Courts as the appointments are made by the respective State Governments.

**Statement-I**

**Position as on 29.04.2002**

I. Supreme Court : Sanctioned Strength = 26  
Actual Strength = 26  
Vacancies = -  
Women Judge = 1

II High Courts :

Sl.No.	High Court	Approved Strength	Actual Strength	Vacancies	Women Judges
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1.	Allahabad	95	51	44	-
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2.	Andhra Pradesh	39	32	7	2
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3.	Bombay	60	53	7	5
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4.	Calcutta	50	42	8	-
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5.	Chhattisgarh	6	3	3	-
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6. Delhi	33	30	3	2
7 Gauhati	19	15	4	-
8. Gujarat	42	33	9	1
9. Himachal Pradesh	8	7	1	1
10. Jammu & Kashmir	14	8	6	-
11. Jharkhand	12	10	2	-
12. Karnataka	40	33	7	1
13. Kerala	29	24	5	1
14. Madhya Pradesh	29	26	3	1
15. Madras	42	31	11	1
16. Orissa	16	14	2	-
17. Patna	31	23	8	1
18. Punjab & Haryana	40	26	14	1
19. Rajasthan	32	27	5	1
20. Sikkim	3	1	2	-
21. Uttaranchal	7	3	4	-

Total 647 492 155 18

Statement-II

Lower Courts

Sl.No.	Name of State/UT	No.of sanctioned posts of Judicial Officers	No.of Judicial Posts	No.of Vacant Officers as on 1.6.2001
1.	Andhra Pradesh	682	661	21
2.	Assam	259	205	54
3.	Arunachal Pradesh#	293	293	0
4.	Bihar	1065	874	191
5.	Jhardkand	533	370	163
6.	Gujarat	636	581	163
7.	Goa	44	39	5
8.	Haryana+	266	233	33
9.	Himachal Pradesh	98	93	5
10.	Jammu & Kashmir	156	141	15
11.	Karnataka	665	589	76
12.	Kerala	370	369	1
13.	Madhya Pradesh	798	665	133
14.	Chhattisgarh	190	175	15
15.	Maharashtra	1280	1107	173
16.	Manipur	32	28	4
17.	Meghalaya+	7	6	1
18.	Mizoram	35	21	14
19.	Nagaland+	21	21	0
20.	Orrisa	483	404	79
21.	Punjab	301	279	22
22.	Rajasthan	790	663	127
23.	Sikkim	12	9	3
24.	Tamil Nadu#	692	688	4
25.	Tripura	74	55	19
26.	Uttar Pradesh	1929	1517	412

27. Uttaranchal			
28. West Bengal	588	507	81
29. A&N Islands	8	8	0
30. Chandigarh	19	19	0
31. Delhi	385	239	146
32. Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	2	0
33. Daman & Diu+	2	2	0
34. Lakshdweep	3	3	0
35. Pondicherry	19	14	5

Total 12,737 10,880 1,857