

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
(DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE)

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1626

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 13<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019

POCSO Act

1626. SHRIMATI KIRRON KHER:

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

- (a) the status of establishment of child friendly courts across the country as per the guidelines under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO Act);
- (b) the steps taken to ensure that court processes and procedures during pre-trial and trial are child and victim friendly; and
- (c) the details of resources being allocated to enable conclusion of child sexual offences cases within a year?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW & JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS  
(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): As per Section 28 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 (POCSO Act), for the purpose of speedy trial, the State Government shall in consultation with the Chief Justice of the High Court designate for each district a Court of Session to be a Special Court to try the offences under the Act. Further, as per Sections 19, 24, 25 and 26 of the Act, provisions have been made for child friendly procedure for reporting of cases, recording of statement of child and trial of cases in a child friendly manner. The Act also provides that evidence of the child shall be recorded within a period of thirty days of the Special Court taking cognizance of the offence and reasons for delay, if any, shall be recorded by the Special Court. The Special Court shall complete the trial, as far as possible, within a period of one year from the date of taking cognizance of the offence. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its judgement dated 01.05.2018 in Writ Petition (Civil) 473/2005 had urged High Courts to consider establishing of child

friendly courts and vulnerable witness courts in each district. As informed by National Commission for Protection of Child rights (NCPCR), the data on Special Courts established in the country under POCSO Act, 2012 is given in Annexure.

(c): Providing the resources to facilitate quick disposal of cases is the mandate of State /UT Governments. However the 14<sup>th</sup> Finance Commission had endorsed the proposal of the Union of India for setting up of Fast Track Courts for women, children, senior citizens etc., for dealing with crimes that are heinous in nature etc. at a cost of Rs.4144 crore during the period 2015-20 and urged the State Governments to incur the expenditure from the enhanced tax devolution (from 32% to 42%) to meet such requirements.

**ANNEXURE**

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1626 TO BE ANSWERED ON 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2019 REGARDING POCSO ACT

**State/UT-wise details of Special Courts designated under the POCSO Act, 2012**

<b>Sr. No.</b>	<b>Name of the State/UTs</b>	<b>No. of Special Courts</b>
1	Andhra Pradesh	14
2	Assam	24
3	A & N Islands	1
4	Arunachal Pradesh	5
5	Bihar	38
6	Chhattisgarh	51
7	Chandigarh UT	1
8	Delhi	16
9	Daman & Diu	2
10	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1
11	Goa	1
12	Gujarat	33
13	Himachal Pradesh	11
14	Haryana	22
15	Jharkhand	24
16	Kerala	3
17	Karnataka	30
18	Lakshadweep	Nil
19	Manipur	9
20	Mizoram	5
21	Madhya Pradesh	51
22	Meghalaya	6
23	Maharashtra	36
24	Nagaland	8
25	Odisha	30
26	Punjab	22
27	Pondicherry	1
28	Rajasthan	55
29	Sikkim	4
30	Tamil Nadu	32
31	Telangana	10
32	Tripura	7
33	Uttar Pradesh	75
34	Uttrakhand	13
35	West Bengal	23
<b>Total</b>		<b>664</b>

