



D.O. No. 15011/14/2018-Justice-II

02 SEP 2022

September, 2022

Respected Chief Justice,

The status of functioning of existing Fast Track Courts (FTCs) setup by the State Governments for trial of cases related to heinous crimes, crimes against women, children, senior citizen etc. and Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) setup under Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for expeditious trial of Rape and POCSO Act cases has been reviewed.

The 14th FC with the increased share of devolution of funds recommended for setting up of 1800 FTCs by the State Governments. As on 31st July 2022, total 896 FTCs are operational in 24 States/UTs in which 13,18,427 cases are pending. State wise details are given at **Annexure-I**. On analysis, it reveals that while 88,000 (approx.) monthly new cases are registered, case disposal is approximately 35,000, leading to ever increasing pendency of cases

Department of Justice started a Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) in October, 2019 in pursuance to Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2018, for the expeditious disposal of cases related to Rape and POCSO Act for setting up of 1023 FTSCs including 389 exclusive POCSO Courts based on the then pendency of cases (1.67 lakh as on 31st March, 2018). As on 31st July, 2022, 731 FTSCs with 412 exclusive POCSO Courts are operational in 28 States/UTs which have disposed cumulative 1,08,702 cases. On analysis it reveals that monthly 10,000 (approx.) new cases are registered while disposal is 6,000 (approx.) and hence pendency is continuously increasing. State wise details are given at **Annexure-II**. As on July, 2022, total pendency of Rape and POCSO Act cases is more than 3,28,000 which is an alarming situation. Details are given at **Annexure-III**.

Government of India has been allocating sufficient funds in every year's budget for the FTSC scheme and Department of Justice has been repeatedly following up with the State Governments and High Courts for availing the allocated funds and its timely utilization. However, in many States the pre-requisite compliances for the release of CSS funds under the Public Financial Management System (PFMS) are not fully complete or are partially complete leading to under utilization of the allocated budget.

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As the safety and security of our women, children as well as other marginalized categories are of paramount concern, the need for robust functioning of the earmarked FTCs and FTSCs becomes highly imperative. In this connection, I would request your personal intervention on the following issues:

1. In view of the huge pendency of cases, the balance number of FTCs in your respective jurisdiction may be set up with due consultation of the State Government as envisaged in the 14th FC through increased share of fund devolution to States and as urged by the Union Government.
2. As per the centrally sponsored scheme of FTSCs the remaining number of courts in your respective jurisdiction may be setup and operationalized on priority basis.
3. To ensure the speedy disposal of cases and prevent creation of backlog, necessary instructions and support may be given to the courts concerned and a strict monitoring mechanism may be set up for the timebound disposal of cases by the FTCs/FTSCs.
4. Necessary compliances as mandated under PFMS may kindly be ensured for timely availing of the allocated GoI funds for FTSCs.

Needless to say, I assure you of the full support of the Department of Justice, Government of India for the fulfillment of our common goals for speedy justice delivery to all citizens.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,



(Kiren Rijju)

Shri Justice P.K. Mishra,
Hon'ble Chief Justice,
High Court of Andhra Pradesh,
Andhra Pradesh.