

Fast Track Special Court (FTSC)

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Union Cabinet approves extension of **fast-track special courts scheme for 3 years**.



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About Fast Track Special Court (FTSC):

- Fast-track courts, initially **introduced in 2000**, gained renewed government support following the **2012 Nirbhaya gang rape case**.
- The Central Government enacted the **The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act. 2018**, which included stringent punishment, including the **death penalty for rape offenders**, leading to the **creation of the FTSCs**.
- FTSCs, designed as dedicated courts, are expected to ensure **swift dispensation of justice**, **offering quick** relief to victims while strengthening the **deterrence framework for sexual offenders**.
- The government formulated a **Centrally Sponsored Scheme** to establish FTSCs for the **timely disposal of cases** related to rape and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO Act) in 2019.
- The government established **1,023 FTSCs**, including 389 across **31 states and union territories**.
- The scheme is **Implemented by the Department of Justice**, Ministry of Law and Justice.
- Each court comprises of **1 Judicial Officer and 7 Staff Members**.

Expected outcomes of the scheme:

- Reflect the nation's commitment to ending **sexual and gender-based violence**.
- Substantially **reduce pending cases of Rape & POCSO Act**, relieving the burden on the judicial system.
- **Ensure swift access to justice** for victims of sexual crimes through improved facilities and expedited trials.
- **Lessen the burden of cases** to a manageable number.