

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:147
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2000
EMPOWERMENT OF LOK ADALATS
CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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

- (a) whether the Government propose to accord more powers to Lok Adalats so that they could deal with a wide spectrum of issues;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of cases settled by the Lok Adalats during 1999;
- (d) whether the Government propose to accord legal status to the Lok Adalat;
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore;
- (f) the number of Lok Adalats held from 1.10.1990 till date in Gujarat, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Mumbai and Maharashtra alongwith the details thereof; and
- (g) the number of cases brought before these Adalats and disposed of during the said period ?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI)

- (a) & (b) No. Sir, There is no proposal at present to accord more powers to Lok Adalats. The Lok Adalats have already been conferred statutory status by the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.
- (c) As per information provided by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) 10,30,828 cases have been settled throughout the country.
- (d) & (e) Lok Adalats, which heretofore were voluntary efforts for Resolution of Disputes through persuasive and conciliatory methods, have been placed on a statutory footing with the enforcement of Legal Services Authorities Act in the Country with effect from 9th November, 1995.
- (f) & (g) The requisite information is being obtained from the concerned State Legal Services Authorities and will be laid on the table.