

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5851  
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2010  
LEGAL CELL IN DDA/NDMC  
Ray Shri Rudramadhab

**Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Delhi Development Authority (DDA)/New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) have their own legal cells to contest their cases in courts;
- (b) if so, the reasons for hiring the lawyers from outside;
- (c) whether there are any laid down norms for hiring the lawyers and regulating their fees;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the expenditure incurred by these agencies on hiring these lawyers during each of the last three years and the current year?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA ROY)

(a): Delhi Development Authority (DDA) has reported that it has its own legal cell. However, the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) has reported that it does not have its own legal cell.

(b): DDA has reported that it has about 17,000 cases pending in various courts all over Delhi. Since the work load is very heavy, it is not possible for the officers of legal cell of DDA to attend to all the cases and, therefore, services of private lawyers have been utilised. In certain important cases, Senior Advocates are engaged, especially in the High Court and the Supreme Court.

In the case of NDMC, since it has no legal cell, advocates are engaged to contest cases in the courts.

(c) & (d): DDA has laid down guidelines for payment of fees and other charges payable for different items of work to its panel lawyers in various Courts, High Court and Supreme Court. NDMC has also fixed monthly retainership charges payable to its advocates for appearance in various courts. In Supreme Court, NDMC has Advocate on record and is being paid Rs.5,500/- per hearing. Senior Advocates are also engaged and fee is paid as agreed to in respect of cases involving important issues.

(e): The expenditure reported by DDA and NDMC on hiring of lawyers during the last three years and the current year is as under:-

Year	DDA	NDMC
2006-07	Rs. 1,26,39,085/-	Rs. 28,18,226/-
2007-08	Rs. 1,20,98,788/-	Rs. 28,78,380/-
2008-09	Rs. 1,47,90,255/-	Rs. 52,12,576/-
2009-10	Rs. 1,68,66,961/-	Rs. 52,65,857/-

(Upto February 2010)