

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
LAW AND JUSTICE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:534  
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2010  
LOK ADALATS  
Maadam Shri Vikrambhai Arjanbhai

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

- (a) whether the Government is considering to introduce more Lok Adalats in various courts to meet the challenge of pending cases;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the number of cases which have been disposed off during the last year by these Adalats: and
- (d) the other strategy to be adopted by the Government to clear, the pending cases within time period?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. M. VEERAPPA MOILY)

Part (a) & (b): The Lok Adalats are organized by the various legal services institutions like National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), Supreme Court Legal Services Committee, 35 State Legal Services Authorities (for UT Territories also there are State Legal Services Authorities), 21 High Courts Legal Services Committees, 596 District Legal Services Authorities and 2037 Taluk Legal Services Committees. NALSA is encouraging people to settle their disputes through Lok Adalats even before the disputes reach the Court. Such Lok Adalats are known as pre-litigation Lok Adalats.

Part (c): Number of cases disposed off during the last financial year 2008-09 by the Lok Adalats is 29,59,555.

Part (d): The following steps have been taken to facilitate speedy disposal of cases in courts:

1. Increasing the strength of Judges in Supreme Court and the High Courts.
2. Introduction of some legislative measures for improvement in judicial procedure and for expediting disposal of civil and criminal cases in courts. The Civil Procedure Code and Criminal Procedure Code have been amended and the concept of 'MPlea~Bargaining' has been introduced.
3. Alternative modes of disposal including mediation, conciliation and arbitration have been encouraged.
4. Other measures like grouping of cases involving common questions of law, constitution of specialized benches, setting up of special courts and organizing Lok Adalats at regular intervals have also been taken.
5. Steps have also been taken for modernization of the judicial infrastructure through computerization of courts.

Separately, the Government has decided, in principle, to set up a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms which proposes to undertake several strategic initiatives to (i) outline policy changes (ii) re-engineer procedures (iii) focus of Human Resource Development and (iv) leverage Information and Communication Technology tools for better justice delivery.