

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2570
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2010
FAST TRACK COURTS
Kanubhai Patel Jayshreeben

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that though the scheme Fast Track Courts was extended up till 2010, the amount of Central assistance has been reduced substantially;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the States have borne the extra burden for the period of extension of the scheme i.e. upto 2010;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government is considering reimbursing the amount of States; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) & (b): The term of scheme of the Fast Track Courts recommended by the Eleventh Finance Commission ended on 31st March, 2005. The Supreme Court, which is monitoring the functioning of Fast Track Courts through the case of Brij Mohan Lai Vs UOI & Ors., directed the Union of India to continue the Fast Track Courts. The Government accorded its approval for the continuation of 1562 Fast Track Courts that were operational as on 31.3.2005 for a further period of 5 years i.e. up to 31st March, 2010. For the extended period, the norm for central assistance to the States included an additional amount of Rs.8.6 lakh (Non-Recurring) to be provided to the States in the first two years towards the cost of construction for additional space in the court room. Central assistance for meeting recurring expenditure was kept at the prevailing rate of Rs.4.8 lakh per court per year. There has been no reduction in the rate of central assistance per Fast Track Court during the extended period. This scheme has been extended for a further period of one year i.e. upto 31.03.2011.

(c) to (f): The grant has been released as per the norms of the existing scheme and there is no proposal to reimburse any amount that may have been incurred by the States over and above the central assistance.