

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3439

ANSWERED ON:13.12.2012

LOK ADALATS

Antony Shri Anto;Punia Shri P.L. ;Sainuji Shri Kowase Marotrao

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

- (a) the number of Lok Adalats organised during the current year particularly in rural areas and the number of cases settled therein, State-wise;
- (b) whether the Union Government proposes to make these Lok Adalats more effective;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) A statement showing the number of Lok Adalats organised in various States/Union Territories (including rural areas) during the current calendar year (from January, 2012 to August, 2012), is given in the 'Annexure'.

(b),(c) &(d) National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) through the State Legal Services Authorities, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee, High Court Legal Services Committees, District Legal Services Authorities and Taluk Legal Services Committees, has been organizing Lok Adalats in the courts all over the country since the year 1995. The main aim of organizing Lok Adalats is to provide an opportunity to settle disputes within a short period. The State Legal Services Authorities have been issued guidelines/directions by the NALSA vide NALSA (Lok Adalat) Regulations, 2009 to organize Lok Adalats more effectively and for speedy disposal of cases. National Plan of Action for the years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 of NALSA has been circulated to all State Legal Services Authorities directing them to widen the network of the Lok Adalats also. To make people aware about Lok Adalats, advertisements are made through cable network, publishing of pamphlets and posters etc. Special Lok Adalats for target groups like senior citizens, women, workers/labourers etc. are organised. The Thirteenth Finance Commission has granted a sum of Rs.100 crores for organizing Mega Lok Adalats with a target of disposal of 15 lakh cases every year for the 5 years (2010-15).