

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2879

ANSWERED ON:14.03.2013

JUDICIAL REFORM

Agarwal Shri Jai Prakash;Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao;Roy Shri Arjun;Singh Smt. Meena;Tandon Shri Lal Ji

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

- (a) whether the Government has provided special assistance to the States for carrying out judicial reforms and modernisation and infrastructural development of Lower Courts/High Courts during the last three years;
- (b) if so, the details thereof, State/UT- wise;
- (c) the details of works proposed to be done out of the said assistance;
- (d) whether the Union Government proposes to increase the financial assistance during the current Five Year Plan; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) to (c) Government has been providing assistance to States through several schemes/ programmes for modernisation, infrastructural development and for carrying out judicial reforms. The details of this, are as under:

(i) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme (CSS) for Development of Infrastructure Facilities for the Judiciary has been under implementation since 1993-1994. Under the Scheme, Central Government augments the resources of State Governments for improving the physical infrastructure of the Courts as well as for meeting the housing needs of judicial officers. The ratio of Central assistance under the scheme has been altered from 50:50 to 75:25 and the Scheme has been modified to cover only district and subordinate courts, from 2011-12 onwards. For North-Eastern States, it is 90:10 and has been in force w.e.f. 2010-11. The State/UT-wise details of funds released under CSS during the last three years is at Annex A.

The modified Centrally Sponsored Scheme does not cover High Court buildings for which Central assistance is provided to States directly by Planning Commission as one time Additional Central Assistance (ACA) in the ratio of 30:70 (Centre/State). Under this, Government has approved Additional Central Assistance (ACA) of Rs. 41.50 crore for construction of High Court Judicature building at Jodhpur during 2010-2011 and Rs. 231.31 crore for construction of building of Lucknow Bench of Allahabad High Court during the current financial year.

(ii) The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 has been enacted for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas at the grass root level for providing access to justice to citizens at their doorstep. The Act has come into force w.e.f. 2nd October, 2009. The Central Government is providing assistance to States towards non-recurring expenses for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas subject to a ceiling of Rs. 18.00 lakhs per Gram Nyayalaya. The Central Government also provides assistance towards recurring expenses for running these Gram Nyayalayas subject to a ceiling of Rs. 3.20 lakhs per Gram Nyayalaya per year for the first three years. 172 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified already. Out of these, 152 Gram Nyayalayas have started functioning. State-wise details of funds released under Gram Nyayalayas in the last three years is at Annex B.

(iii) On the recommendations of 13th Finance Commission, Government has sanctioned Rs.5000 crore as grants to the States for 5 years between 2010-15 for undertaking various initiatives such as increasing the number of court working hours using the existing infrastructure by holding morning/evening/shift courts; support to Lok Adalats to reduce the pressure on regular courts; additional funds to State Legal Services Authorities to enable them to provide legal aid to the marginalized and empower them to access justice; promoting the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism to resolve disputes outside the court system. Rs. 1425.23 crore has been released to the States on this account between 2010-11 and February, 2013.

(iv) Central Government has been fully funding the computerization of courts both at the subordinate level as well as higher levels under the eCourts Projects. The estimated cost of computerization is Rs. 935 crores. Already, Rs. 571.806 crore have been spent under the Project.

(d) & (e) Government has increased allocation under various schemes/ programmes of Department of Justice in the 12th Five Year Plan to Rs. 5802 crore compared to Rs. 1470 crore in the 11th Five Year Plan. Scheme/programme-wise fund allocated for the 12th Plan are as under:

Sl.No. Scheme 12th Plan Allocation
(Rs. in crore)

1 Gram Nyayalayas 100.00

2 National Mission for Justice Delivery
and Legal Reforms:

I. National Mission-Action 25.00
Plan Implementation

II. Mission Mode programme 4867.00
for development of infrastructure
facilities for subordinate judiciary.

III. Setting up of Model Courts 130.00

IV. Action Research and Studies 25.00
on Judicial Reforms.

3 Computerization of District & 600.00
Subordinate

4 Access to Justice- Govt. of India 30.00

5 Access to Justice Externally Aided (UNDP) 25.00

Total 5802.00

Annex-A

Assistance provided to the State Governments under Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Infrastructure Facilities for Subordinate Judiciary in the last three years.

States 2009-10 2010-11 2011-12 Total

Andhra Pradesh 1276.00 0.00 1888.00 3164.00

Arunachal Pradesh 0.00 0.00 972.00 972.00

Assam 1440.0 500.00 2890.00 4830.00

Bihar 0.00 0.0 0.00 0.00

Chhattisgarh 905.00 400.00 2097.00 3402.00

Goa 0.00 0.00 172.00 172.00

Gujarat 881.00 0.00 0.00 881.00

Haryana 554.00 1320.00 2138.00 4012.00

Himachal Pradesh 425.00 547.00 0.00 972.00

Jammu & Kashmir 708.00 140.00 1035.00 1883.00

Jharkhand 692.00 0.00 0.00 692.00

Karnataka 1714.00 500.00 2961.00 5175.00

Kerala 217.00 606.00 1169.00 1992.00

Madhya Pradesh 112.00 1738.20 4403.00 6253.20

Maharashtra 1890.00 1458.52 12915.00 16263.52

Manipur	0.00	209.71	0.00	209.71
Meghalaya	40.00	200.00	0.00	240.00
Mizoram	128.00	155.00	0.00	283.00
Nagaland	845.00	415.29	169.00	1429.29
Orissa	800.00	723.00	2416.00	3939.00
Punjab	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Rajasthan	0.00	70.00	1172.00	1242.00
Sikki	0.00	220.00	0.00	220.00
Tamil Nadu	356.00	0.00	0.00	356.00
Tripura	147.00	100.00	0.00	247.00
Uttarakhand	451.00	688.20	0.00	1139.20
UttarPradesh	2008.62	2858.00	15659.00	20525.62
West Bengal	0.00	425.35	2518.00	2943.35
Total	15589.62	13274.27	54574.00	83437.89

A&N Islands	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
Chandigarh	1480.00	400.00	500.00	2380.00
Dadra & Nagar Haveili	0.00	0.00	500.00	500.00
Daman & Diu	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Delhi	0.00	0.00	2250.00	2250.00
Lakshadweep	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pondicherry	500.00	600.00	1250.00	2350.00
Total	1980.00	1000.00	5000.00	7980.00

Grand Total 17569.62 14274.27 59574.00 91417.89

Annex-B

Central Grants released to States for under Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 from 2009-10 to 2011-12

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl.No	Name of the state	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Grand Total
-------	-------------------	---------	---------	---------	-------------

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

1	Madhya Pradesh	632.00	745.40	156.80	1534.20
---	----------------	--------	--------	--------	---------

2	Rajasthan	567.00	0.00	144.00	711.00
---	-----------	--------	------	--------	--------

3 Orissa 15.80 0.00 110.60 126.40

4 Maharashtra 132.60 0.00 9.60 142.20

5 Karnataka 0.00 0.00 25.20 25.20

Total 1347.40 745.40 446.20 2539.00