

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5841

ANSWERED ON:02.05.2013

GRAM NYAYALAYAS

Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Dharmshi Shri Babar Gajanan;Patle Kamla Devi ;Pradhan Shri Nityananda;Yadav Shri Dharmendra;Yaskhi Shri Madhu Goud

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

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to set up Gram Nyayalayas to deliver speedy, effective and affordable justice at the doorsteps of the people and to reduce the pendency of cases;

(b) if so, the details and present status thereof;

(c) whether the Union Government had requested the States for speedy implementation of the Gram Nyayalaya Act;

(d) if so, the details of the demands of States for implementation of the Gram Nyayalaya Act, State/UT-wise and the action taken by the Union Government thereon;

(e) the Central assistance provided to each State and UT for setting up of Gram Nyayalaya, during the last three years and the current year; and

(f) the time by which the Gram Nyayalayas` are likely to be made functional in all the States?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (DR. ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) to (f) : The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008 provides for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas at intermediate Panchayat level to improve access to justice for the common man. The Act has come into force with effect from 2nd October, 2009.

In terms of Section 3(1) of the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, it is for the State Governments to establish Gram Nyayalayas in consultation with the respective High Courts. As per information available, 172 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified by nine State Governments of which 152 Gram Nyayalayas have become operational. State-wise progress of setting up of Gram Nyayalayas and amounts provided during the last three years to the States for meeting non-recurring as well as recurring expenditure is as under:

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	State	Gram Nyayalayas notified	Gram Nyayalayas operational	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
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1	Madhya Pradesh	89	89	745.40	156.80	0.0
2	Rajasthan	45	45	0.0	144.00	243.0

3	Orissa	14	8	0.0	110.60	0.0
4	Karnataka	2	0	0.0	25.20	0.0

5	Maharashtra	10	10	0.0	9.6	15.8
6	Jharkhand	6	0	0.0	0.0	75.60
7	Goa	2	0	0.0	0.0	25.20
8	Punjab	2	0	0.0	0.0	25.20
9	Haryana	2	0	0.0	0.0	25.20

Total	172	152		745.4	0446.20	410.0
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No amount has been released so far under Gram Nyayalayas Scheme during the current financial year (2013-14).

Central Government has been making regular requests to the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas in the respective States. The issues affecting the implementation of the Gram Nyayalayas Act were recently discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of the High Courts and Chief Ministers of the States on 7th April, 2013.

While the States of Karnataka, Kerala, Odisha, Maharashtra, West Bengal and

Uttar Pradesh supported establishment of Gram Nyayalayas, States of Gujarat, Assam, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir were of the view that the Scheme would not make much impact in their States. The States of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh were of the view that the jurisdiction of the Gram Nyayalayas overlap the jurisdiction of the regular Courts. It has inter-alia been decided by the Conference that the State Governments and High Courts should decide the question of establishment of Gram Nyayalayas, wherever feasible, taking into account their local problems. In the context of the decision to double the number of courts in the country at the subordinate level, regular Courts be set up at each Taluka, if not already set up, and in which case establishment or continuation of Gram Nyayalaya will have to be factored in, on a need basis.