

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1483
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2013
SLOW JUDICIAL PROCESS
Patil Shri A.T. Nana

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

- (a) whether the Government is aware that the 'Rule of Law Index Scores and Rankings' prepared by the World Justice Project has maintained that the judicial process in India is very slow;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the report ranks India at 78th place in the list of 97 countries in the matter of dispensing justice;
- (d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and
- (e) the steps taken to usher in reforms in the judicial process and ensure speedy delivery of justice in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL) (a) to (e) World Justice Project (WJP), an independent non-profit organization based in United States of America, has published Rule of Law Index 2012 Report in which countries of the World including India, have been differently ranked based on a set of indicators. Since the basis for selection of the indicators as well as the details in respect of them, are not given, it is difficult to verify the veracity or justification of the rankings and make any comment.

The Indian Judicial System has great resilience and strength in promoting Rule of Law even in the face of challenge posed by continuing high pendency in the subordinate courts. In order to assist the judiciary, the Government has set up a National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms to achieve the twin goals of (i) increasing access to justice by reducing delays and arrears; and (ii) enhancing accountability through structural changes and by setting performance standards and improving capacities. The Mission has adopted a coordinated approach for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial administration by providing support for better court infrastructure including computerisation, encouraging increase in the strength of subordinate judiciary and recommending policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation and suggesting re-engineering of court procedures for quick disposal of cases.

The Chief Justice of India, after consulting the Minister of Law and Justice established National Court Management Systems (NCMS) in May 2012. The 'Policy and Action Plan' document to implement NCMS was released by the Chief Justice of India on 27.09.2012. NCMS is responsible for preparing policy guidelines for developing a national Framework of Court Excellence (NFCE) to set measurable performance standards for Indian courts to address issues of quality, responsiveness and timeliness to facilitate timely delivery of justice.