

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2237

ANSWERED ON:18.12.2013

MOBILE COURTS

Naranbhai Shri Kachhadia;Rathwa Shri Ramsinhbhai Patalbhai;Yadav Shri M. Anjan Kumar

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

- (a) whether the Government has been encouraging States to hold mobile courts under the provisions of Gram Nyayalaya Act to make judicial system accessible to remote and backward regions;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the modalities evolved in setting up mobile courts;
- (c) the number of Gram Nyayalayas notified and operationalised in the country, State-wise as on date and details of mobile courts held by them till date;
- (d) whether a large number of States are yet to set up Gram Nyayalayas / hold mobile courts and if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and
- (e) the financial assistance released to States in this regard during the last three years and the current year?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) to (e): In terms of section 3 (1) of the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, the State Governments may establish Gram Nyayalayas at intermediate Panchayat level in consultation with the respective High Courts with a view to provide access to justice to citizens at their doorsteps. Further, in terms of Section 9 of the Act, the Nyayadhikari shall periodically visit the villages falling under his jurisdiction and conduct trial or proceedings at any place which he considers is in close proximity to the place where the parties ordinarily reside or where the whole or part of the cause of action had arisen provided that where the Gram Nyayalaya decides to hold mobile court outside its headquarters, it shall give wide publicity as to the date and place where it proposes to hold mobile court. The State Government shall extend all facilities to the Gram Nyayalaya including the provision of vehicles for holding mobile court by the Nyayadhikari while conducting trial or proceedings outside its headquarters.

The Central Government has been encouraging the States to set up Gram Nyayalaya by providing financial assistance within the prescribed norms. As per the information available, 172 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified by nine State Governments of which 152 Gram Nyayalayas have become operational. Since the commencement of the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, an amount of Rs. 3425 lakh have been provided to the State Governments as financial assistance under the Scheme till 30.11.2013. The details are as under:

Sl. No	State	Notified	Functional	Amount released (Rs. in Lakhs)				
		2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	Total	
1	M.P.	89	89	632.00	745.40	156.80	0.00	284.80 1819.00
2	Rajasthan	45		45	567.00	0.00	144.00	243.00 1146.00
3	Karnataka	2	0	0.00	0.00	25.20	0.00	0.00 25.20
4	Orissa	14	8	15.80	0.00	110.60	0.00	0.00 126.40
5	Maharashtra	10	10	132.60	0.00	9.60	15.80	0.00 158.00
6	Jharkhand	6	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	75.60	0.00 75.60
7	Goa	2	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.20	0.00 25.20
8	Punjab	2	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.20	0.00 25.20
9	Haryana	2	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.20	0.00 25.20
Total	172	152	1347.40	745.40	446.20	410.00	476.80	3425.80

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 issue affecting the implementation of Gram Nyayalayas Act were discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of the High Courts and Chief Ministers of the States on 7th April, 2013. It has, inter - alia, been resolved in 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.