

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1663  
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2014  
REVIEW OF CONSUMER COURTS  
Laguri Smt. Sakuntala;Maragatham Smt. K.

**Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:**

- (a) the number and the details of consumer courts functioning in the country as on date, State/UT-wise;
- (b) whether the Government has reviewed the working of these courts;
- (c) if so, the details and the outcome thereof along with the number of cases filed and pending in these courts during each of the last three years, year and State/UT-wise; and
- (d) the action taken by the Government for early disposal of pending cases?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI RAOSAHEB PATIL DANVE)

- (a): There are 35 State Commissions and 620 District Fora functioning in various States/UTs in the country. The details are at Annexure.
- (b) to (d) : The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC) which is the apex body headed by a Retired Supreme Court Judge reviews the working of these fora periodically. The following measures are being taken to clear pendency of cases of consumer fora.
- (1) The State Governments have been requested from time to time to take action well in advance for filling up of vacancies of President and Members and to maintain a panel of candidates for filling up of future vacancies also to avoid delay in appointments.
  - (2) Circuit Benches from National Commission have been frequently visiting States.
  - (3) Some State Commission have constituted Additional Benches mainly to dispose off backlog of pending cases.
  - (4) The National Commission and some of the State Commissions as well as District Fora are adopting the process of holding Lok Adalats for speedy disposal of the cases.
  - (5) Financial assistance is provided by the Central Government to the States/UTs for strengthening of infrastructure of Consumer Fora including computerization and networking.