

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:25
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2014
GRAM NYAYALAYAS
Roy Prof. Saugata

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

- (a) the number of Gram Nyayalayas constituted in the country as per 'The Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008', State and year-wise;
- (b) the reasons behind the long delay in constitution of the Gram Nyayalayas all over the country; and
- (c) the time by which the Gram Nyayalayas are likely to be set up in each State of the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a): 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, 180 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified so far by nine State Governments. Year-wise and State-wise details of the Gram Nyayalayas notified are given in Statement annexed.

(b) : Besides the fact that a number of States have set up regular courts at Taluka level the other causes for slow progress of Gram Nyayalayas are overlapping jurisdiction of Gram Nyayalayas with regular courts and shortage of First Class Judicial Magistrates to man the positions of Nyayadhikaris in Gram Nyayalayas. Lukewarm response of Bar, reluctance of police officials and other State functionaries to invoke jurisdiction of Gram Nyayalayas and non-availability of notaries, stamp vendors etc. are other factors affecting the progress.

(c) : The issues affecting the implementation of the Gram Nyayalayas scheme 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 decided 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. The focus is on covering those Taluka under the Gram Nyayalayas scheme where regular courts have not been set up.