

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2752

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2014

MOBILE COURTS

Gandhi Shri Feroze Varun;Hansdak Shri Vijay 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 at present and details of mobile courts held by them till date. State-wise:

(d) whether a large number of States are yet to set up Gram Nyayalayas / hold mobile courts and if so, the State-wise 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. State-wise and year-wise?

Answer

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

(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 information available, 180 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified by 9 State Governments of which 152 Gram Nyayalayas have become operational. Since the commencement of the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, an amount of Rs. 3449 lakh have been provided to the State Governments as financial assistance till 2013-14. No assistance has been released so far during current financial year. The details are as under:

Sl. No	State	Grant Nyayalayas	Gram Nyayalayas	Amount released (Rs. in Lakhs)					Total
		Notified	Operational	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	
1	M.P.	89	89	632.00	746.40	156.80	000	284.80	1819.00
2	Rajasthan	45	45	567.00	0.00	144.00	243.00	215.20	1169.20
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	18	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	25.20	0.00	0.00	25.20
8	Punjab	2	0	0.00	0.00	000	25.20	0.00	25.20
9	Haryana	2	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	25.20	0.00	25.20
Total		180	152	1347.40	745.40	446.20	410.00	500.00	3449.00

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 Gram Nyayalayas Act were discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of the High Courts and Chief Ministers of the States on 07 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.