

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 703**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2017.**

**Speedy Resolution of Disputes involving Government Bodies**

**703. SHRI P.R. SUNDARAM:**

**SHRI MOHITE PATIL VIJAYSINH SHANKARRAO:**

**DR. J. JAYAVARDHAN:**

**SHRI DHANANJAY MAHADIK:**

**SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:**

**DR. HEENA VIJAYKUMAR GAVIT:**

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

- (a) whether 46 per cent of the three crore cases pending in various courts of the country involve Government departments or Government bodies;**
- (b) if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has asked its departments / bodies / Ministries to go for online arbitration to fast track dispute resolutions;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof;**
- (e) whether the Government has identified arbitration agencies working in India and has asked all the Ministries and associated departments to avail the facility of online arbitration for out-of-court settlement and quick resolution of disputes; and**
- (f) if so, the details thereof along with the other steps taken by the Government for speedy resolution of disputes?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS  
(SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY)**

(a) & (b): The 100<sup>th</sup> report of the Law Commission of India observed that bulk of litigation in the courts, including, in particular, writ petitions in the Supreme Court and the High Courts, consists of cases in which the Government is a party.

(c) to (e) : The Government is keen to explore options for Government Departments and Organisations and other related bodies for settlement of their disputes through alternate methods, *like* mediation, arbitration, conciliation, online or otherwise, *etc*, so that the Government litigation is reduced. For the purpose, the Government has gathered information about some Agencies / Institutions / Organisations working in the field of such

alternate methods of dispute resolution and made their links available on the website of the Department of Justice to provide information about them to the users.

(f): The relevant Government Ministries were requested in April, 2017 to take necessary action for reducing number of court cases in which Government is a party. It was followed by a series of meetings held with various Ministries and Departments in the months of June and August 2017 requesting them to review their pending cases with a view to reduce number of litigation and to consider contempt cases in *particular* so as to weed out vexatious and unnecessary litigation pending in courts.

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