

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2468
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2003
LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES ACT, 1987
VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

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

- (a) whether there has been a proposal to hold a meeting amongst the Bar, the Bench and the Union Government over the recent amendments to the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 in the matter of establishment of alternative forums to settle disputes;
- (b) whether the alternative forums being set up in the nature of parallel courts with overlapping jurisdiction are alleged to erode the credibility and fracture the existing judicial structure;
- (c) whether any such meeting has been held or proposed to be held to come to an agreed formula so as to provide quick and easy justice to the people; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY)

- (a) There is no proposal to hold any meeting over the recent amendment to the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.
- (b) No, Sir. The Permanent Lok Adalats under the Act are in addition and not in derogation of different forums provided in the Statutes. They are intended to provide an affordable, speedy and efficient mechanism for weaker sections of society to secure justice.
- (c) No, Sir.
- (d) Does not arise.