

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:148

ANSWERED ON:02.12.2005

REFORMS IN JUDICIARY

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

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

- (a) whether there is any proposal to appoint a high powered commission to look into issues related to administrative reforms in the justice delivery system;
- (b) if so, the facts thereof;
- (c) the estimated cost of the plan;
- (d) the time by which the said plan is likely to be completed; and
- (e) the other steps proposed to be taken by the Government for expeditious justice to people?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

(a): No Sir.

(b),(c)&(d): Do not arise.

(e): A Statement is attached.

Statement in reply to part (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 148 to be answered on 2-12-2005.

Steps taken to reduce pendency in the courts and to make access to Justice affordable and speedy.

- The Government is committed to provide speedy and inexpensive justice system in the country and have been constantly reviewing the accumulation of arrears in Courts. The Judge strength has been reviewed from time to time. The Supreme Court and High Courts have taken various steps, viz.; grouping of cases involving common questions of law, constitution of specialised benches and organizing Lok Adalats, legal aid camps at regular intervals, etc.

- The Government have also encouraged alternative modes of dispute resolution (ADR) including mediation, negotiation and arbitration. Special tribunals like Central Administrative Tribunal, State Administrative Tribunals, Income Tax Appellate Tribunals, Family Courts, Labour Courts, Consumer Courts etc. have been set up to expedite disposal of cases. Information technology is being used in generation of cause lists, providing information to the litigants/Advocates etc. for speedy disposal of cases.

- Fast Track Courts (FTC) for the disposal of long pending cases, particularly sessions cases and cases involving under trials in jails have been set up.

- The term of 1562 Fast Track Courts which were sanctioned based on the recommendation of the Eleventh Finance Commission are being continued for a further period of 5 years upto 31-3-2010 with 100% central assistance.

- The Government is also considering the question of bringing in a legislation for the establishment of Gram Nyayalayas at the intermediate Panchayat level. The proposed Gram Nyayalayas would be holding Courts at their headquarters and also as Mobile Courts in the close proximity of the places where the parties ordinarily reside in their territorial jurisdiction. To deliberate the matter further, a Conference of Law Ministers and Law Secretaries of States is being organized in New Delhi on 18.12.2005.

- For computerisation of Courts in the country, E-Committee under the overall guidance of the Chief Justice of India has been set up. The scheme of computerisation of judiciary provides for 100% central assistance.