

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1760  
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2004  
ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION  
Ramadass Prof. M

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

- (a) the features of Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanism proposed/implemented by the Government of India;
- (b) the number of States in which this mechanism has been set up; and
- (c) the measures proposed to expedite the setting up of this mechanism in all States or at least in States where the presence of corporate sector is substantial?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SKRI H.R. BEARDWAJ)

(a) Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanism comprises arbitration, conciliation/mediation, Lok Adalats etc. With a view to promote Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanism in the country, the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 has been amended by the Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 1999 to provide for settlement of disputes outside the courts through arbitration Conciliation, judicial settlement including settlement through Lok Adalats or mediation.

A new Chapter VI (a) on (Pre-litigation Conciliation and Settlement<sup>1</sup> has been inserted in the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 by the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2002. The chapter provides for establishment of permanent Lok Adalats as a pre-litigative mechanism for conciliation and settlement of cases in certain specified public utility services. These permanent Lok Adalats are an alternative forum to ligigants for resolution of disputes with certain public utility services.

(b) The Lok Adalat Mechanisia has been set-up in all the States. Permanent Lok Adalats for public utility services hav been set-up in 4 States/U.Ts., namely, Rajasthan, Haryana, U.T. of Chandigarh and Jharkhand.

(c) With a view to setting up Permanent Lok Adalats for public utility services, the State Legal Services Authorities have approached the `` respective State Governments for provision of necessary funds and infrastructure. The Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms provided by the 1999 Amendment of the Civil 1 : Procedure Code cover all types of litigation including cases relating to the corporate sector and as such litigants can take advantage of the provisions of the new Section 89 of the Code for settlement of their disputes by Alternative Dispute Resolution methods.