

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2387

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 01st AUGUST, 2018.

Gram Nyayalayas

**2387. SHRI RAMSINH RATHWA:
SHRI NISHIKANT DUBEY:
SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has set up Gram Nyayalayas across the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise and the present status thereof;**
- (b) whether the villagers are facing difficulties in getting justice from Subordinate / High Courts as they are far away from their places of residence and if so, the steps taken by the Government to set up Gram Nyayalayas in villages;**
- (c) whether cases pending in lower courts would be considered in these Nyayalayas and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the details of funds allocated and released to the States for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas in the country; and**
- (e) the other steps being taken to provide speedy justice in rural areas?**

ANSWER

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

(a) to (e) : To provide access to justice to the citizen at their door steps, the Central Government has enacted the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008. It provides for establishment of Gram Nyayalayas at intermediate panchayat level. The State Governments are responsible for establishing Gram Nyayalayas in consultation with the respective High Courts. As per information made available by State Governments / High Courts, 343 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified so far by 11 States. Out of these, 210 are

operational in 9 States at present. State-wise details of the Gram Nyayalayas notified and operationalised by the State Governments are as under:

Sl. No.	State	Gram Nyayalayas Notified	Gram Nyayalayas Functional
1	M P	89	89
2	Rajasthan	45	45
3	Karnataka	2	0
4	Odisha	22	14
5	Maharashtra	39	24
6	Jharkhand	6	1
7	Goa	2	0
8	Punjab	2	1
9	Haryana	2	2
10	UP	104	4
11	Kerala	30	30
Total		343	210

Civil and criminal cases pending before District / Session Courts or courts subordinate to them falling within the jurisdiction of the Gram Nyayalayas can be transferred to Gram Nyayalayas.

The Central Government has been encouraging the States to set up Gram Nyayalayas by providing financial assistance. As per the scheme for assistance to State Governments for establishing and operating Gram Nyayalayas, the Central Government provides one-time assistance to States towards non-recurring expenses for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas subject to a ceiling of Rs. 18.00 lakhs per Gram Nyayalaya. The Central Government also provides assistance towards recurring expenses for operating these Gram Nyayalayas subject to a ceiling of Rs. 3.20 lakhs per Gram Nyayalaya per year for the first three years. The State-wise details of financial assistance provided so far to State Governments for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas are as under:-

(Rs. in lakhs)

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Financial Assistance sanctioned
1	Madhya Pradesh	1,819.00
2	Rajasthan	1,240.98
3	Karnataka	25.20
4	Odisha	337.40
5	Maharashtra	337.8
6	Jharkhand	75.60
7	Goa	25.20
8	Punjab	25.20
9	Haryana	25.20
10	Uttar Pradesh	1323.2
11	Kerala	474
Total		5,708.78

The issues affecting operationalization of the Gram Nyayalayas were discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers of the States on 7th April, 2013. It was decided in the Conference that the State Governments and High Courts should decide the question of setting up of Gram Nyayalayas wherever feasible, taking into account the local issues and situation.

The Central Government has requested the Chief Ministers of States and Chief Justices of High Courts for setting up of Gram Nyayalayas in the respective States. Recently, the Registrars General of High Courts and Law / Home / Finance Secretaries of States were requested through video conferences held in January, 2018 and July, 2018, to set up Gram Nyayalayas and seek financial assistance for operationalising them under the Scheme mentioned above.
