

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.†265
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 3rd FEBRUARY, 2023**

Lok Adalat in Karnal Region

†265.SHRI SANJAY BHATIA:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to organize Lok Adalat which works as an important alternative dispute resolution mechanism available to the common people at block and district level in Karnal region;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether such initiatives are likely to be undertaken there in order to resolve and settle disputes/ cases lying pending in the court of law amicably at the pre-litigation state;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to set up e-seva Kendra in the district court in coordination with the State Government with the main objective to facilitate litigants as well as lawyers in their services that are useful for functioning of the courts of the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE
(SHRI KIREN RIJJU)**

- (a) and (b) Yes sir, LokAdalat is an important alternate dispute redressal system for the common people of the country including Karnal region of Haryana state. Haryana State Legal Services Authority (HSLSA) has leveraged the mechanism of ‘LokAdalat’ as an effective alternative dispute resolution method for ensuring quick and final consensual disposal of cases binding on the parties/common people, without incurring any extra cost or fees.

HSLSA is regularly organizing following LokAdalats in all the 22 Districts Courts and 33 Sub Divisions of Haryana including Karnal region from time to time.

- Daily LokAdalat: Every court of the Sessions Division, after court hours, gets converted into Daily LokAdalat and judicial officers hold sittings for this, depending upon the workload of cases coming for settlement every day in each court, which also includes Karnal region.
- Jail LokAdalats are conducted on 1st and 3rd Wednesday in all the Jail premises of Haryana including Karnal region.
- National LokAdalats as per schedule circulated by NALSA are being held on regular basis.

In addition to the above, on the initiative of HSLSA, the Haryana Government sanctioned 15 Permanent LokAdalats pertaining to public utility services including Karnal region having jurisdiction for 21 Districts of Haryana except District Charkhi Dadri. In these Permanent LokAdalats, cases relating to Public Utility Services, in which disputes up to the value of Rs. one crore are taken up at the Pre-litigative stage and settled without any expenditure at the earliest, on the basis of conciliation. In case, conciliation fails, the PLA has the power to decide special category of cases on merits on the basis of equity, justice and good conscience, without going into legal technicalities.

The details regarding total number of category-wise cases taken up and settled in Daily LokAdalats, Jail LokAdalats and National LokAdalats as well as Permanent LokAdalat for Public Utility Services in District Karnal up to 31.12.2022 are at Annexure– A.

- (c) Cases/ disputes are being resolved or compromised on both stages i.e. at pre-litigation or at adjudicating stage in harmonious manner in the LokAdalats. The matter under section 138 of Negotiable Instrument Act, matrimonial and all civil matters are being taken up at initial stage for amicable settlement. Whereas compoundable matters are taken up at adjudication stage in LokAdalat for compromise/ settlement. If the matter is

compromised, the same is disposed of and in case no settlement is arrived, then the parties can approach regular court for remedy of their grievances.

(d) and (e) eSewa Kendras have been rolled out to bridge the digital divide by providing eFiling services to lawyers and litigants. Covering all High Courts and one District Court as pilot project, it is being expanded to cover all court complexes. In Phase-II of e-Courts Mission Mode Project, Government has released Rs. 12.54 crore for setting up of eSewa Kendras. The eSewa Kendras are being set up at the entry point of the court complexes with the intention of facilitating the lawyer or litigant who needs any kind of assistance ranging from information to facilitation and e-filing. For setting up the eSewa Kendras in North-East region, all the Court Complexes have been taken for calculation purpose. All High Court, Benches and one District Court Complex has been taken for the rest of India. As on 31.12.2022, 689 eSewa Kendras have been made functional under 25 High Courts.

Annexure – A

Statement as referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. †265 for answering on 03.02.2023 raised by Shri Sanjay Bhatia, MP - LokAdalat in Karnal Region

Statement containing details of category-wise cases taken up and settled in Daily LokAdalats, Jail LokAdalats and National LokAdalats as well as Permanent LokAdalats for Public Utility Services in District Karnal upto 31.12.2022		
	DAILY LOK ADALAT	NATIONAL LOK ADALAT
Total No. of LokAdalats	29,873	365
Total No. of cases taken up	3,75,457	2,02,221
Total No. of cases settled	2,04,679	84,784
Criminal Cases	16,552	7,508
Section 138 of Negotiable Instrument Act	14,565	4,618
Bank Cases	1,072	1,253
MACT Cases	3,234	790
HM Cases	3,038	621
Labour Cases	373	80
Land Cases	37	0
Civil Cases	20,539	3,017
Revenue Cases	2,303	4,455
Others Cases	1,39,951	5,509
Pre-litigation cases	1,997	7,352

JAIL LOK ADALAT

No. of Jail LokAdalats held	No. of cases taken up	No. of cases disposed of
128	1,025	505

PERMANENT LOK ADALAT (PUBLIC UTILITY SERVICES)

No. of LokAdalats/Sittings	No. of cases instituted	No. of cases settled
1,813	9,090	8,530

Public Utility Cases	No. of cases settled
Transport Cases	300
Postal/ Telephone Cases	2,272
Supply of Power Cases	266
Public Conservancy Cases	39
Hospital Cases	14
Insurance Cases	470
Banking Cases	4,908
Housing and Financial Cases	261
Total	8,530