

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1146

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 08TH DECEMBER, 2023

Rural Courts

1146. SHRI JUAL ORAM:

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

- (a) the total number of rural courts set up across the country during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (b) the number of them set up in Odisha;
- (c) whether Government proposes to set up more such courts; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof, location-wise?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF
STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE**

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) & (b): To provide access to justice to the citizen at their door steps, the Central Government has enacted the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008. In terms of Section 3 (1) of the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, the State Governments are responsible for establishing Gram Nyayalayas in consultation with the respective High Courts. However, the Act does not make setting up of Gram

Nyayalayas mandatory. During last three years the number of Gram Nyayalayas set up across the country including Odisha is as under:

Year	In entire country		Odisha	
	Notified	Operational	Notified	Operational
Up to 2019	353	221	22	16
2020	42	04	0	0
2021	07	0	0	0
2022	74	32	1	3
2023 (As on 05.12.2023)	03	27	1	1
Total	479	284	24	20

(c)& (d): The State Governments, after consultation with the respective High Courts may, by notification establish one or more Gram Nyayalayas for every Panchayat at intermediate level or a group of contiguous Panchayats at intermediate level in a district or where there is no Panchayat at intermediate level in any State, for a group of contiguous Gram Panchayats. Thus, it is up to the State Governments to set-up more such courts as per their requirements in consultation with their respective High Courts.
