

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

**LOK SABHA**

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2072**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2021**

**Justice System at Village Level**

**†2072. SHRI SANJAY BHATIA:**

**SHRI SATYADEV PACHAURI:**

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

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any plan to set up courts at the village level, so that an accessible justice system can be evolved for the rural people and strengthen village Panchayats;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the number of rural courts set up and functional across the country during each of the last two years and the current year, State/UT-wise including Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttarakhand; and
- (c) whether the Government has conducted any assessment to evaluate the viability of these rural courts, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

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

(a) & (b): To provide access to justice to the citizens 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, though as per the Act it is not mandatory to set up the Gram Nyayalayas. The Central

Government has been encouraging the States to set up Gram Nyayalayas by providing financial assistance. 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. Further, Registrars General of High Courts and Law / Home / Finance Secretaries of State Governments have been requested through video conference meetings held periodically to set up Gram Nyayalayas and seek financial assistance as per the scheme guidelines.

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. While the State of Uttarakhand has not set up any Gram Nyayalaya, the number of Gram Nyayalayas set up and functional in the country during the last three years, including the State of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, is attached at **Annexure**.

(c): The Gram Nyayalayas scheme has been evaluated from time to time. The third party evaluation of the Scheme was done through NITI Aayog recently, which recommended continuance of the scheme. The Government has extended the above scheme for a further period of five years from 01.04.2021 to 31.03.2026, with a budgetary outlay of Rs.50 crores.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ANNEXURE**

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) & (B) OF LOK  
SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †2072 ANSWER ON 10<sup>TH</sup>  
DECEMBER 2021 REGARDING JUSTICE SYSTEM AT VILLAGE  
LEVEL.**

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Number of Gram Nyayalayas functional in 2019</b>	<b>Number of Gram Nyayalayas functional in 2020</b>	<b>Number of Gram Nyayalayas functional in 2021</b>
<b>1</b>	Madhya Pradesh	89	87	89
<b>2</b>	Rajasthan	45	45	45
<b>3</b>	Kerala	30	30	30
<b>4</b>	Maharashtra	24	24	23
<b>5</b>	Odisha	14	16	19
<b>6</b>	Uttar Pradesh	4	14	43
<b>7</b>	Karnataka	-	-	2
<b>8</b>	Haryana	2	2	2
<b>9</b>	Punjab	1	2	2
<b>10</b>	Jharkhand	1	1	1
		<b>210</b>	<b>221</b>	<b>256</b>

\*\*\*\*\*