

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

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. †3781

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 25TH MARCH, 2022

Gram Nyayalayas

**†3781. SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH :
SHRI JUAL ORAM :**

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

- (a) whether the Government has opened Gram Nyayalayas to settle petty disputes at the village level;
- (b) if so, the number of courts opened, State-wise including Haryana in this regard;
- (c) the total number of pending cases in the country that are under trial for more than five years, State/UT-wise;
- (d) whether the Government proposes to open new Gram Nyayalayas; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof ?

ANSWER

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

(a) & (b): 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, 476 Gram Nyayalayas have been notified so far by 15

States/UT. Out of these, 257 are operational in 10 States at present. The State-wise detail including Haryana is as below:

Sl. No.	State	Gram Nyayalayas Notified	Gram Nyayalayas Functional
1	Madhya Pradesh	89	89
2	Rajasthan	45	45
3	Karnataka	2	2
4	Odisha	23	19
5	Maharashtra	36	23
6	Jharkhand	6	1
7	Goa	2	0
8	Punjab	9	2
9	Haryana	2	2
10	Uttar Pradesh	113	44
11	Kerala	30	30
12	Andhra Pradesh	42	0
13	Telangana	55	0
14	Jammu & Kashmir	20	0
15	Ladakh	2	0
Total		476	257

Gram Nyayalayas are deemed to be a Court of Judicial Magistrate of First Class with both civil and criminal jurisdiction to settle petty disputes at the village level.

(c): The State-wise number of pending cases in the Subordinate Judiciary for more than 5 years, as available on the National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) Portal is *annexed*.

(d) & (e): 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. 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. For opening of Gram Nyayalayas, the Central Government has been encouraging the States by way of providing financial assistance.

Annexure

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (C) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED
QUESTION NO. 3781 FOR REPLY ON 25.03.2022**

(As on 22.03.2022)

Sl. No	Name of States/UTs	More than five year Pending Cases (Civil)	More than five year Pending Cases (Criminal)	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	62812	28634	91446
2.	Telangana	54729	51935	106664
3.	Assam	12999	48075	61074
4.	Bihar	196498	1223051	1419549
5.	Chandigarh	1568	1616	3184
6.	Chhattisgarh	7335	27131	34466
7.	D & N Haveli	582	256	838
8.	Daman & Diu	254	200	454
9.	Delhi	38182	112349	150531
10.	Goa	7881	3812	11693
11.	Gujarat	123622	255061	378683
12.	Haryana	28539	33641	62180
13.	Himachal Pradesh	26959	29526	56485
14.	Jammu & Kashmir	19771	34212	53983
15.	Jharkhand	23077	112335	135412
16.	Karnataka	169793	145534	315327
17.	Kerala	53323	221264	274587
18.	Ladakh	51	26	77
19.	Madhya Pradesh	59156	233964	293120
20.	Maharashtra	430376	825950	1256326
21.	Manipur	1424	768	2192
22.	Meghalaya	1483	4106	5589
23.	Mizoram	297	365	662
24.	Nagaland	58	566	624
25.	Odisha	117273	481033	598306
26.	Punjab	21252	20319	41571
27.	Rajasthan	135767	372466	508233
28.	Sikkim	4	4	8
29.	Tamil Nadu	139087	133855	272942
30.	Puducherry	2470	6183	8653
31.	Tripura	802	3513	4315
32.	Uttar Pradesh	745534	2892783	3638317
33.	Uttarakhand	5816	33061	38877
34.	West Bengal	226046	930855	1156901
Total		2714820	8268449	10983269

Data Source:- National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG)

Note: Data on District and Subordinate Courts in the State of Arunachal Pradesh and Union Territories of Lakshadweep and Andaman & Nicobar Islands are not available on the web-portal of NJDG.