

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY) : (a) The Ministry of Law and Justice have no information in this regard.

(b) and (c) Section 89 of the Code of Civil Procedure 1908 enjoins upon the courts a duty to try settlement of cases through alternative dispute resolution modes like arbitration, mediation/conciliation, lok adalats etc. Various High Courts have setup Mediation Centers for the purpose and a large number of Court Cases are being settled in these centers. The Government has accepted the recommendations of the Thirteenth Finance Commission to provide a grant of Rs.5000 crore to the State for improving the justice delivery system in the country. The first instalment of Rs.500 crores has already been released to the States. With the help of these grants, the States can, inter-alia, setup morning/evening/ shift/special magistrates' courts, also organize more Lok Adalats and strengthen alternate dispute resolution mechanisms such as mediation and conciliation with a view to reducing court pendencies. The Ministry of Law and Justice has released a Consultation Paper proposing certain amendments to the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996. The amendments proposed therein would reduce the time taken in the disposal of arbitration cases.

Revision of court fee structure

787. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission, which was entrusted to examine the issue of revision of court fee structure, has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Commission; and

(c) what action Ministry has taken on those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI M. VEERAPPA MOILY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Introduction of comprehensive High Courts Act

788. SHRI P. RAJEEV: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the pendency of cases in High Courts has increased during the last three years;