

In terms of section 3(1) of the Gram Nyayalayas Act, 2008, it is for the State Governments to establish Gram Nyayalayas in consultation with the respective High Courts. The issues affecting the implementation of the Gram Nyayalayas scheme were discussed in the Conference of Chief Justices of High Courts and Chief Ministers of the States on 7th April, 2013. It has, *inter-alia*, been decided in the Conference that the State Governments and High Courts should decide the question of establishment of Gram Nyayalayas wherever feasible, taking into account their local problems. The focus is on covering those Talukas under the Gram Nyayalayas scheme where regular courts have not been set up.

Keeping courts open round the year

1932. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of any proposal mooted recently to keep the courts open round the year and doing away with the traditions practiced from colonial era to go for a summer break;

(b) whether India has a work schedule of 193 days of work a year in Supreme Court, 210 days in High Courts and 245 days in trial courts, while in US and France courts are never closed for summer vacation; and

(c) whether the Bar Associations across the country have expressed reservations on the practicality of the no-summer vacation proposal?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) to (c) From the media reports, it has come to the notice of the Government that the Chief Justice of India has suggested to keep the Supreme Court, High Courts and trial courts open 365 days in a year by preparing a calendar for arranging the benches in the Supreme Court and High Courts to ensure that judiciary functions throughout the year. The media has also reported reservations expressed by the Bar Associations in this regard.

The practice of vacation in Courts is continuing since pre-independence in India. The duration of vacations is governed by the Rules/Regulations framed by the concerned High Courts and the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court has notified the Supreme Court Rules, 2013 on 27th May, 2014 wherein, *inter-alia*, it is provided that the period of summer vacation shall not exceed seven weeks. It is further provided that the length of the summer vacation and the number of holidays for the Court and the offices of the Court

shall be such as may be fixed by the Chief Justice and notified in the official Gazette so as not to exceed one hundred and three days, excluding Sundays not falling in the vacation and during Court holidays. The Supreme Court Rules, 2013 will come into force with effect from 19th August, 2014.

Disposal of rape cases

1933. SHRIMATI JHARNA DAS BAIDYA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of number of rape cases pending in various High Courts and Supreme court till date, State-wise; and

(b) the details of number of such cases disposed till date during last five years?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD):
(a) and (b) The data on pendency of cases is maintained by Supreme Court and High Courts. As per information available, details of pendency and disposal of rape cases in Supreme Court and High Courts are given in Statement.

Statement

I. Pending Rape Cases in Supreme Court and Rape Cases

disposed of by Supreme Court

Number of Cases relating to sexual harassment, kidnapping and abduction including rape pending as on 17.07.2014.	Number of Cases relating to sexual harassment, kidnapping and abduction including rape disposed of during 01.01.2009 to 17.07.2014.
310	1,455

II. Pending Rape Cases in High Courts and Cases disposed of by High

Courts during last three years.

(As on 31.01.2014)

Sl. No.	Name of High Court	Number of pending Rape Cases as on as on 31.01.2014	Number of Rape Cases disposed during last three years
1	2	3	4
1.	Allahabad	10,740	298
2.	Madhya Pradesh	4,602	1,304