

availability of Legal Services. Lawyers carried out similar activity in courts. All the SLSAs and DLSAs hold programmes to create awareness about the schemes and facilitate the people in getting various benefits under different laws and Government Schemes.

Steps to reduce backlog of pending court cases

3465. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the fact that our judicial system is facing extensive workload;

(b) if so, the reforms Government is planning to put forth; and

(c) the Government's plan to reduce backlog of decade old pending cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) to (c) Disposal of cases pending in courts is within the domain of judiciary. The Government has adopted a co-ordinated approach to assist judiciary for phased liquidation of arrears and pendency in judicial systems, which, *inter alia*, involves better infrastructure for courts including computerisation, increase in strength of judicial officers/judges, policy and legislative measures in the areas prone to excessive litigation and emphasis on human resource development.

In pursuance of resolution passed in the Chief Justices' Conference held in April, 2015, all High Courts, except Sikkim, have set up Arrears Committees to clear the backlog of cases pending for more than five years.

Appointment of Notaries

3466. DR. V. MAITREYAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to appoint any Notary Public in the country; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the total number of Notary Advocates in the country, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): (a) Appointment of Notary Public is a continuous process and such appointments are made to fill vacancies arising out of expiry of tenures of previously appointed Notaries or due to demands of State Governments. Central Government has recently notified dates for conducting interviews for appointment of Notaries for the State of Uttar Pradesh.