

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 119
ANSWERED ON 29/01/2026**

**CASES RESOLVED THROUGH ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION
MECHANISMS**

119. Smt. Sagarika Ghose:

Will the Minister of *Law and Justice* be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases resolved through Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms during the last five years;
- (b) the number of cases resolved that have exceeded the prescribed resolution period of 180 days during that period;
- (c) the number of cases concluded by Lok Adalats which subsequently resulted in the filing of a suit by an aggrieved party during that period; and
- (d) the current status of establishment of Arbitration Council of India as mandated under Part 1A of the Arbitration and Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 2019 and the reasons for the delay?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE; AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS

(SHRI ARJUN RAM MEGHWAL)

(a) Being part of ADR, under the Pre-Institution Mediation and Settlement (PIMS) mechanism under Section 12A, where a commercial dispute of specified value does not contemplate any urgent interim relief, the parties have to first exhaust the mandatory remedy of PIMS before approaching the Court. This is aimed at providing an opportunity to the parties to resolve the commercial disputes through mediation.

The details of commercial disputes settled through pre-institution mediation under the Commercial Courts Act, 2015, since the amendment in the year 2018, are as follows:

Period	No. of applications received for mediation	No. of application where mediation remains non- starter	No. of application where parties reached for settlement
July, 2018 to March, 2019	3680	1660	25
2019-20	18080	14470	167
2020-21	18364	14014	186
2021-22	32335	28441	368
2022-23	46412	41898	1449
2023-24	51019	47185	1139
2024-25	59568	52730	877
2025-26 (up to Sep 25)	47218	30353	643

However, as the ADR is party autonomy driven and the parties for ADR take recourse with ad hoc mediation and various mediation institutions, for which no formal data is available.

(b) No such data is maintained by the Government.

(c) Lok Adalats are organised across the country under the provisions of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 read with National Legal Services Authority (Lok Adalats) Regulations, 2009 for the subject matters as prescribed under the said Act and Regulations in the Courts and Tribunals as defined under Section 2 (aaa) of the said Act. In Lok Adalats, the disputes/ cases pending in the court of law or at pre-litigation stage are attempted to be settled amicably. The Lok Adalat has been given statutory status under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, recognizing its efficacy as an expeditious, less costly and speedier system of administration of justice. Under Section 21 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, the Award made by Lok Adalat is deemed to be a decree of a civil court and is final and binding on all parties to the dispute and no appeal lies to any court against the Award.

The National Legal Services Authority maintains information only with respect to cases settled/disposed of in Lok Adalats. The details of pre-litigation and pending cases settled/disposed of through Lok Adalats during the last five years are as follows:

(i) Disposal of cases in National Lok Adalats

Years	Pre-litigation	Pending Cases	Total
2021	72,06,294	55,81,743	1,27,88,037
2022	3,10,15,215	1,09,10,795	4,19,26,010
2023	7,10,32,980	1,43,09,237	8,53,42,217
2024	8,70,19,059	1,75,07,060	10,45,26,119
2025	12,65,89,535	2,18,35,515	14,84,25,050

(ii) Disposal of cases in State Lok Adalats

Years	Pre-litigation	Pending Cases	Total
2021-22	1,14,278	4,18,251	5,32,529
2022-23	94,939	7,56,370	8,51,309
2023-24	2,19,230	9,87,873	12,07,103
2024-25	8,05,731	5,39,083	13,44,814
2025-26 (up to Nov 25)	3,47,069	2,42,617	5,89,686

(iii) Permanent Lok Adalats (Public Utility Services)

Years	Disposal of PLAs
2021-22	1,18,136
2022-23	1,71,138
2023-24	2,32,763
2024-25	2,37,980
2025-26 (up to Nov. 25)	1,68,808

(d) Part IA of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 *inter-alia* provides for the establishment of the Arbitration Council of India. The Arbitration Council of India is yet to be established.
