

HIGH COURT CIRCULAR IN ROC  
NO 1164 - A/98/F1 DATED : 28-4-1998

CIRCULAR

Lok Adalat - Procedures to be followed  
in respect of holding of Lok Adalat -  
Instructions Issued.

Under the Legal Services Authorities Act 39 of 1987, the Lok Adalats have become a statutory scheme and in Chapter VI of the Legal Services Authorities Act, provisions have been made to regulate the procedure.

The question of issuance of a circular prescribing the procedures to be followed by the courts while holding Lok Adalats, is considered by the High Court, in the light of provisions contained in Chapter VI of the Act and as directed, the following instructions are issued to the Subordinate courts for strict observance in the matter :

1. The record of settlements before the Lok Adalat should be full and complete, covering all points in dispute, and conforming to the requirement of procedure and in proper legal terms and shall be signed by the parties and their counsel;
2. There would be no need for a separate decretal order.
3. The record of settlement in cases pending in courts and drawn from them shall be returned to the respective court to be dealt with, in the further stages, and to be maintained and dealt with, according to the rules.
4. It is not necessary to maintain a separate register, for cases detailed in clause (3) and that it would be adequate if the Adalat settlement is recorded in the respective registers.

5. The records of Adalat settlements in cases not brought before the court, also shall together with the records presented and considered by the Adalat, be received in the court, which would have had the jurisdiction to entertain the matter and in which the Lok Adalat was convened, to be registered and dealt with, in the further stages and to be maintained and dealt with according to the rules.
6. For the cases received under clause (5) it would not be necessary for the court to maintain a separate register for such category, but only two registers shall be maintained, one for criminal cases and another for civil cases.
7. The award of a Lok Adalat shall bear the seal of the respective court in respect of :
- (i) any case pending before; or
  - (ii) any matter which is falling within the jurisdiction and is not brought before any court, for which the Lok Adalat is organised.

All the Principal District and Sessions Judges, the Principal Judge, City Civil Court, the Chief Judge, Court of Small Causes and the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Egmore, Chennai, are required to communicate these circular instructions to all the Subordinate Courts, under their control, for compliance.

The receipt of the Official Memorandum is required to be acknowledged at once.

HIGH COURT, MADRAS.  
DATED : 28.4.1998

SD/-MALAI SUBRAMANIAN,  
REGISTRAR.