

Can't we work on Saturdays, says CJI

Chief Justice Dipak Misra

Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra has written to the Chief Justices of the High Courts to explore the possibility of constituting special Benches on Saturdays to hear criminal and jail appeals in which legal aid has been provided.

"This will go a long way in ensuring speedy disposal of criminal appeals/jail appeals," the Chief Justice of India said in the letter.

He pointed out that some of the Chief Justices of the High Courts had already agreed to go ahead with the project from September 9. The High Courts of Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Patna, Jharkhand and Karnataka had constituted special Benches to hear these appeals on Saturdays, the Supreme Court's public relations officer, Rakesh Sharma, said. "I am sure you will also join them," Chief Justice Misra told the Chief Justices of the remaining High Courts.

Huge pendency

In the letter, Chief Justice Misra reminded them that a "large number of criminal and jail appeals are pending".

"Delay in disposal of these appeals raises questions about the efficacy of the administration of justice as a whole and the criminal justice system in particular," he wrote.

He said the top judiciary had taken several steps to fast-track the justice delivery system, including judges working during vacations.

"May I therefore impress upon you to explore the possibility of hearing such criminal appeals/jail appeals, in which legal aid counsel has been provided on Saturdays by specially constituted Bench after obtaining the consent of the legal aid counsel and State counsel concerned," Chief Justice Misra said.

This will go a long way in ensuring speedy disposal of criminal appeals and jail appeals

END

Downloaded from crackIAS.com

© **Zuccess App** by crackIAS.com