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Mediation, an effective strategy to responsive justice

JAMMU: Mediation process is the cheap and the best alternative for settlement of disputes among the parties as also lessening the burden of courts in the country, said Advocate Firdos Qasim Karachiwala, Master Trainer Bombay Mediation Centre. Advocate Firdos Qasim Karachiwala, in a press conference held in the Court Chamber of Principal District and Session Judge Jang Bahadur Singh on Thursday said that the courts in the country have been over burdened with the litigation cases. He indicated that there are over 3.5 crore pending cases in the country and some of those are 20 – 25 years old.

He said that mediation is the correct way to come out of the problem. He said that 67 per cent of these cases can be referred to the mediation process and get settled quicker than their settlement in the courts of law. There are four parties who have to decide for this option which include Government, Judiciary, Advocates and litigants, he added. In reply to a query he said that if the litigants are interested, the cases in progress in the courts can be referred to the mediation under Section 89 CPC. Advocating for the new option he said that mediation is an effective strategy to responsive justice and added that resolving disputes through it is the best alternative which will prove relation-binding between the parties as against the relation breaking in the court decisions.

He said he has visited almost all the states and their districts for popularising the system of mediation and have trained number of mediators whom the Bombay Centre issues certificates after a few days training. He also said that for such mediators training there is no age bar, no compulsory qualification and no degree of law. The mediator has to have the listening skill, a common sense and a communication skill. He also informed that a Regional Conference of North Zone States on Mediation is being held at 10:30 AM on 17th March, 2012 at Police Auditorium, Gulshan Ground

Jammu on the theme of 'Mediation : an effective strategy to responsive justice' which will be inaugurated by Governor of Jammu and Kashmir N.N Vohra. Besides lectures on the theme by Justices from Supreme Court of India and High Courts, a documentary Drama on mediation 'Raahein Aur Bhi Hein' will be displayed in the conference.