

Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 S. 22-C, (1), Proviso – Jurisdiction – Dispute – Genuineness of the claim itself is in dispute – Nature of dispute – Relating to an offence – Insurance – Burglary –

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Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 S. 22-C, (1), Proviso - jurisdiction - Dispute - Genuineness of the claim itself is in dispute - Nature of dispute - Relating to an offence - insurance - Burglary -In this case, the genuineness of the claim itself is in dispute - Where the parties have taken extreme positions, the same prima facie may not be the subject matter of conciliation which provides for a non binding settlement - For the said purpose, the dispute under the criminal procedure and/or the nature thereof would also play an important role - Whereas Respondent states that the burglary has taken place, the appellant denies and disputes the same - In a criminal case, the accused shall be entitled to raise a contention that no offence has taken place. If the criminal court form an opinion that an offence had taken place, which otherwise is a non-compoundable one, the term "relating to an offence" should be given wider meaning - The terms "relating to" an "offence" appearing in Proviso 1 must be interpreted broadly, and as the determination before the Permanent Lok Adalat will involve the question as to whether or not an offence, which is noncompoundable in nature, has indeed been committed, this case falls outside the jurisdiction of the Permanent Lok Adalat.

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