

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2828
ANSWERED ON - 19/12/2024

**FREE LEGAL AID SERVICES UNDER
THE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES ACT**

2828 SHRI ABDUL WAHAB:

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

- (a) whether Government has compiled data on the total number of individuals who have accessed free legal aid services under the Legal Services Authorities Act in the last five years ;
- (b) whether awareness campaigns are being implemented to inform marginalized communities about these services;
- (c) if so, the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) whether Government has outlined specific budget allocations for legal aid programmes in the current fiscal year; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

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): The details of persons who have accessed free legal aid services under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 during the last five years are as under;

Years	Persons benefited
2019-20	12,12,137
2020-21	6,31,758
2021-22	63,69,643
2022-23	12,14,769
2023-24	15,50,164
2024-25 (upto September, 2024)	7,59,778

(b) and (c): Legal awareness programmes are held across the country by Legal Service Authorities on various laws and schemes relating to children, labourers, victims of disaster, SC and ST, persons suffering from disability, etc. Legal Services Authorities also prepare booklets and pamphlets in simple language on various laws and are distributed amongst the people. 4,30,306 and 1,90,231 legal awareness camps/programs organized by Legal Service Authorities during the year 2023-24 and 2024-25 (upto September) were attended by around 4.49 crore and 1.61 crore persons respectively.

(d) and (e): National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been provided Rs. 200 crore under grants-in-aid during the current financial year 2024-25 for implementation of the Schemes/Legal Aid Services under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. In addition, Rs 200 crore have been earmarked in Budget Estimate 2024-25 for implementation of the Central Sector Scheme namely; “Legal Aid Defense Counsel System (LADCS) Scheme” during the current financial year. These funds are further allocated to the State Legal Service Authorities by NALSA for implementation of various legal aid schemes and programmes.
