

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

**RAJYA SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2353**  
ANSWERED ON – 12/03/2026

**FREE ACCESS TO JUSTICE**

**2353 SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA:**

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

- (a) the achievements of strengthening access to justice through Legal Services Authorities during the last three years;
- (b) the impact of legal awareness camps and programmes conducted across the country; and
- (c) the scope and outcome of the Legal Aid Defense Counsel System (LADCS) in providing free criminal defence to the eligible beneficiaries?

**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 National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) was constituted under the Legal Services Authorities (LSA) Act, 1987 to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society including the beneficiaries covered under Section 12 of the LSA Act, 1987, which aims to ensure that the opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities. In addition, NALSA has also formulated various schemes for the implementation of preventive and strategic legal service programmes, which are implemented by the Legal Services Authorities at various levels i.e. State, District and Taluka level. Details of persons benefitted through Legal aid and advice under various activities/programmes undertaken by Legal Services Authorities during the last three years are as follows:-

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries</b>
2023-24	15,50,164
2024-25	16,57,527
2025-26 (upto January 2026)	16,60,249
Total	48,67,940

The details of cases/issues settled through Lok Adalats are as under:

<b>Year</b>	<b>State Lok Adalat</b>	<b>Permanent Lok Adalat</b>	<b>National Lok Adalat*</b>
2023-24	12,07,103	2,32,763	8,53,42,217
2024-25	13,44,814	2,37,980	10,45,26,119
2025-26 (upto January, 2026)	7,24,681	2,32,940	14,84,25,050
<b>Total</b>	<b>32,76,598</b>	<b>7,03,683</b>	<b>33,82,93,386</b>

\*Data in respect of National Lok Adalat pertains to the calendar year of 2023, 2024 and 2025.

(b): The legal awareness camps/programs are held across the country by Legal Service Authorities in regard to various laws and schemes relating to children, labourers, victims of disaster, SC and ST, persons suffering from disability, etc. The Legal Services Authorities also prepare booklets and pamphlets in simple language on various laws, for distribution amongst the people. The details of legal awareness camps/programs organized by Legal Service Authorities across the country during the last three years are as under:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of Legal Awareness Camps / Programs organised</b>	<b>No. of Persons attended</b>
2023-24	4,30,306	4,49,22,092
2024-25	4,62,988	3,72,32,850
2025-26 (upto January 2026)	4,91,990	4,04,59,246
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,85,284</b>	<b>12,26,14,188</b>

(c): The Government of India is implementing a Central Sector Scheme namely; Legal Aid Defense Counsel System (LADCS) Scheme through NALSA since FY 2023-24, which aims to provide legal aid with regard to criminal cases to the beneficiaries eligible under Section 12 of the LSA Act, 1987. As on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2025, LADC offices are functional in 680 districts across the country. Details of cases assigned and disposed of by the Legal Aid Defense Counsels (LADCs) since inception (FY 2023-24) are as follows:-

<b>Year</b>	<b>Cases Assigned</b>	<b>Cases Disposed</b>
2023-24	3,36,830	2,12,505
2024-25	5,32,413	3,72,750
2025-26 (upto December 2026)	3,93,614	2,86,326
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,62,857</b>	<b>8,71,581</b>

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