

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5219

TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 5TH APRIL, 2017

Free Legal Aid

†5219 DR. VIRENDRA KUMAR :

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether free legal aid is being provided to all the juveniles facing trial in Juvenile courts across the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the extent to which the same is likely to help in resettlement of children who have strayed from social life?

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI P.P.CHAUDHARY)**

- (a) and (b) Under Section 12 of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, juveniles, who are covered under a separate category “children” are entitled to free legal services. Free legal aid includes payment of court fees, providing advocates for preparation of paper books, appearance in courts etc. Legal Services Institutions have appointed panel lawyers at all levels including juvenile courts for providing above mentioned legal services.
- (c) Juveniles are kept in reformatory homes on need basis and monitored by the Juvenile Justice Board (JJB). The Ministry of Women and Child Development, the state governments, civil societies, NGOs, international multilateral organizations etc. have been working towards resettlement of such children who have strayed from social life.