

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1614**

**TO BE ANSWERED ON THE 06<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2018 /PHALGUNA 15, 1939 (SAKA)**

**LEGAL AID**

**1614. SHRI KONDA VISHWESHWAR REDDY:  
SHRI A.P. JITHENDER REDDY:**

**Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:**

**(a) whether the Government has taken steps to provide legal aid to persons at police stations in furtherance of Article 39A of the Constitution;**

**(b) if so, the names of the schemes/ regulations formulated to provide legal aid and the number of persons given legal assistance at police stations during the last one year, State-wise; and**

**(c) if not, the steps taken by the Government to develop such schemes in this regard?**

**ANSWER**

**MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
(SHRI HANSRAJ GANGARAM AHIR)**

**(a) to (c): Article 39A of the Constitution of India provides that State shall secure that the operation of the legal system promotes justice on a basis of equal opportunity, and shall in particular, provide free legal aid, by suitable legislation or schemes or in any other way, to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disability. Ministry of Law and Justice has informed that as far as extending legal services at Police stations is concerned, Para-Legal volunteer (PLVs) and**

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**Panel Advocates are available on demand. The names and contact details of the office bearers of the District Legal Services Authority are prominently displayed at the police stations for providing legal services. However, no separate data is maintained centrally, with regard to number of persons who have been given legal assistance at police stations. Further, States/ UT administrations are competent to take action regarding legal assistance in their area of jurisdiction to protect the interests of their citizens.**

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