

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5519
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, THE 28TH MARCH, 2018

High Fees in Supreme Court

5519. SHRI P.KUMAR:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state

- (a) whether it is a fact that the poor and low income group people find it difficult to file petitions in the Supreme court due to high fees;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) whether any scheme has been introduced by the Supreme Court for facilitating the filing of petition and providing financial assistance to the poor and people belonging to low income group; and
- (d) if so, details thereof?

ANSWER

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

(a) and (b): Supreme Court Legal Services Committee has been constituted to provide free legal aid to eligible persons under section 12 of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, including a member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe; a woman or a child and a person in receipt of annual income less than Rs.1.25 lakh.

(c) and (d): Supreme Court Legal Services Committee provides free panel lawyers to eligible persons under section 12 of Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 for legal advice, drafting of applications and filling up of various forms, making personal appearance in the court and providing certified copies of judgements. It also pays court fee on behalf of such litigants. In special cases where court appoints commissions for such persons, it makes payment to the commissioners and incurs expenditure for summoning of witnesses.
