

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

**LOK SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. *320
TO BE ANSWERED ON WEDNESDAY, 17th MARCH, 2021.**

Legal Literacy Outreach Programmes

***320.SHRIMATI MEENAKASHI LEKHI:**

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

- (a) the number of Legal Literacy outreach programmes conducted in the past three years;**
- (b) the total number of women legal representatives trained through these outreach programmes; and**
- (c) whether the Government, through State Women Commissions, proposes to expand the areas covered and if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

**MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE, COMMUNICATIONS AND
ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)**

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

**STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF
LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. *320 FOR ANSWER ON
17.03.2021 REGARDING 'LEGAL LITERACY OUTREACH
PROGRAMMES'.**

(a) To make people aware of their legal entitlements as well as their duties, Legal Awareness programmes are held across the country by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA). More than 6.59 lakh Legal Awareness Camps have been organized by Legal Service Authorities from April, 2017 to December, 2020 which were attended by more than 8.34 crore citizens. In addition, Legal Empowerment Camps are also organized by NALSA focusing on poor, weak and marginalized people to connect them with their entitlements under the law and the welfare schemes. 5898 camps have been organized from the year 2017 to 2020 which has benefitted more than 82.41 lakh citizens. Furthermore, the Government is implementing the programme of "Access to Justice in North Eastern States and UTs of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh" since 2012. Under this programme, legal literacy/legal awareness and legal aid clinics are held in collaboration with State Legal Services Authorities, State Institute of Rural Development, State Women Commissions, State Resource Centres, etc. During the last three years, 4265 Legal Awareness /Legal Literacy programs have been conducted reaching out to 4.6 lakh beneficiaries including 158 Legal Aid Clinics.

(b) Women constitute a substantial part of the Legal Service Authorities workforce in the capacity of Panel Lawyers and Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs). At present, 11,329 female Panel Lawyers and 19,404 female PLVs are attached with the Legal Services Authorities. This workforce is trained by NALSA through specialised training modules held at regular intervals.

(c) National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) in collaboration with the National Commission for Women has launched a project, “Empowering Women through Legal Awareness” on 15th of August, 2020. Under this Project, legal literacy programmes for women were carried out in 285 districts in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. Legal awareness programmes were held with the overarching objective of making women aware of their relevant rights and protections available for them under the various laws and enhance their capacities to advance their rights and navigate the judicial and administrative set up for actualization of their rights. From 15.08.2020 to 31.12.2020, 675 programmes were held under the said project which were attended by 34,621 women. In addition, the Government in partnership with the State Commission for Women, Arunachal Pradesh disseminated 6.02 lakh copies of Information Education and Communication materials on issues related to women and children. Furthermore, the Government in collaboration with the State Commission for Women, Meghalaya trained 350 tribal women as Resource Persons for spreading legal literacy at the grass root level.
