GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1940 TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 6th DECEMBER, 2024

Financial Support to Advocates

1940. Shri Raja Ram Singh:

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

- (a) whether the Ministry has taken specific measures to financially support advocates, especially the young advocates from marginalised communities;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the Government is considering to introduce a stipend system for young advocates, particularly from marginalized communities to address the issue of severe underpayment; and
- (d) if so, the details of the proposed initiative, if not, the reasons therefor?

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) to (d): With respect to above mentioned question, it is submitted that under the Advocate Act, 1961, the Advocate Welfare Fund Act, 2001 and respective State Welfare Acts, Bar Council of India and State Bar Councils are empowered to provide financial help to Advocates in various exigencies. As per the provision of section 6(2) and section 7(2) of the Advocates Act, 1961, the State Bar Council and Bar Council of India (BCI) respectively have power to constitute one or more funds in the prescribed manner for the purpose of giving financial assistance to organize welfare schemes for indigents, disabled or other advocates. In this regard, some of the State Governments have also constituted 'Advocates Welfare Fund' and Advocates Welfare Fund Trustee Committee' under their respective State enactments to provide financial help to Advocates. The Government of India, M/o Law and Justice does not have any specific measures to financially support advocates, especially the young advocates from marginalised communities.
