GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-4250 ANSWERED ON - 20/12/2024

JUSTICE FOR POOR

†4250. SHRI CHHOTELAL:

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

- (a) whether the Government proposes to formulate any law to ensure justice for the poor given that the officials of police and revenue departments are not dispensing justice; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof?

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) and (b): Government is making every effort in providing affordable, quality and speedy justice to the common man. The following Authorities/Institutions have been established under the Legal Services Authorities (LSA) Act, 1987 to provide free legal aid to poor and weaker sections of the society including beneficiaries covered under Section 12 of the Act: -
 - (i) National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) at National level
 - (ii) Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC) at Supreme Court level
 - (iii) 38 High Court Legal Services Committees (HCLSCs) at High Court level
 - (iv) 37 State Legal Services Authorities (SLSAs) at State level
 - (v) 709 District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) at District level
 - (vi) 2376 Taluk Legal Services Committees (TLSCs) at Taluk level

The other activities/programmes undertaken by Legal Services Authorities include legal aid and advice; legal awareness programmes; legal services/empowerment camp; legal services clinics; legal literacy clubs; conduct of Lok Adalats and implementation of Victim Compensation Scheme. Legal Aid Clinics have also been set up in Jails, Observation Homes, Juvenile Justice Boards which are manned by panel lawyers and para legal volunteers of legal

services authorities. To enable quick and equitable access to justice, NALSA has launched Legal Services Mobile App on Android and iOS versions to enable easy access to legal aid to common citizens.

In 2021, a comprehensive, pan-India scheme titled "Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice in India" (DISHA) was launched for a period of five years (2021-2026), at an outlay of Rs. 250 crores. The DISHA scheme aims to provide easy, accessible, affordable and citizen-centric delivery of legal services through the Tele-Law, Nyaya Bandhu (Pro Bono Legal Services) and Legal Literacy and Legal awareness programme. The Scheme embeds use of technology and developing contextualized IEC (Information, Education and Communication) material in regional / local dialect to support its intervention and to achieve easy access of legal services to the poor and weakest sections of the society. All these services under the scheme are provided free of cost to all citizens including the Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and other Economically Weaker sections of the society.
