

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 3296

TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 08TH AUGUST, 2025

ACCESS TO LEGAL AID AND DIGITAL JUSTICE DELIVERY

3296. SHRI P C MOHAN:

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

- (a) the number of beneficiaries who have availed free legal aid under the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) during the last three years, State-wise including Karnataka;
- (b) whether the Government has taken any steps to strengthen digital infrastructure for court proceedings and legal aid delivery in district and taluk-level courts, particularly in Bengaluru and other urban centres; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the budgetary allocation made in this regard?

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): The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) was constituted under the Legal Services Authorities (LSA) Act, 1987 to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society including beneficiaries covered under Section 12 of the LSA Act, 1987, which aims to ensure that the opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities, and to organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes. In addition, NALSA has also formulated various schemes for the implementation of preventive and strategic legal service programmes, which are implemented by the Legal Services Authorities at various levels i.e. State, District and Taluka level. The State/UT-wise (including Karnataka) details of beneficiaries under various activities/programmes undertaken by Legal Services Authorities during the last three years are at **Annexure - A**.

(b) and (c): Several steps have been taken under the eCourts Project, to improve the court management processes and digitize the services for the various stakeholders, such as, lawyers, litigants, judges and others, which are as under:

- i. Under the digital case management system, eFiling system (version 3.0) has been rolled out with upgraded features for lawyers to access and upload documents related to the cases from any location 24x7.
- ii. ePayment system has been launched for hassle free transfer of fee, etc.
- iii. National Service and Tracking of Electronic Processes (NSTEP) has been launched for technology enabled process serving and issuing of summons.
- iv. A Judgment Search portal has been started with features such as search by Bench, Case Type, Case Number, Year, Petitioner/Respondent Name, etc. This facility is being provided free of cost to all.
- v. To facilitate easy and hassle-free access to citizen-centric services, 1814 eSewa Kendras (Facilitation Centres) have been established across India.
- vi. 29 Virtual Courts are functioning across 21 States/UTs for trying traffic related offences.
- vii. Several eCourts services, are available on case status, cause lists, judgements etc. to lawyers/ litigants including SMS Push and Pull, email, multilingual eCourts services Portal, Info Kiosks, eCourts Mobile App for lawyers/litigants (3.16 crore downloads till date) and JustIS App for judges (21,716 downloads till date).
- viii. To bring in greater objectivity, consistency, transparency and speed, Case Information System (CIS) version 4.0 software has been implemented across the district and taluka courts across the country.

In Karnataka, adequate IT infrastructure including computers, printers, scanners, and related hardware have been provided. Kiosks are installed at the court complex level, and eSewa Kendras are established in each court complex to serve as help desks equipped with video conferencing facilities. All courts are equipped with video conferencing under the eCourts project, with additional financial support from the Government of Karnataka. The State Government has also allocated supplementary funds for setting up eSewa Kendras.

Under Phase – III of eCourts Project, the budgetary allocation made for the Karnataka High Court is as under:

Financial Year	Amount Released (Rs. in crore)
2023-24	35.86
2024-25	67.65
2025-26	48.06
Total	151.57

To strengthen legal aid delivery at the district and taluk (sub-district) levels in India, the following steps have been taken:

- i. NALSA has created a web portal to file an application for getting legal assistance and track its progress.
- ii. NALSA has launched a Legal Services Mobile App for Android and IOS version which facilitate seeking legal assistance, legal advice, tracking of application, applying for victim compensation, etc.
- iii. Legal Services Authorities are also providing legal advice through NALSA's National Toll-Free Helpline Number 15100 through IVRS Technology.

The Government of India is also implementing a Central Sector Scheme namely; Legal Aid Defense Counsel System (LADCS) Scheme through NALSA since 2023-24, which aims to provide legal aid with regard to criminal cases to the beneficiaries eligible for legal aid under Section 12 of the LSA Act, 1987. The following steps have been taken by Karnataka SLISA to strengthen digital infrastructure for legal aid delivery in district and taluk-level courts including Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru Rural and Mysuru which utilized Rs. 15 lakh for both digital and other infrastructure of the office of LADCS:

- i. Wi-Fi facilities provided in LADCS Office for the LADC Counsels to access digital e-General like SCR.
- ii. LADC Counsels are provided computer, monitors and printers for their day-to-day work.
- iii. LADC counsels can appear through Video Conference in the court proceedings.

Annexure-A

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3296 for answer on 08.08.2025 regarding 'Access to Legal Aid and Digital Justice Delivery'

S.No.	Name of the State/UT Authority	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
1	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	134	220	341
2	Andhra Pradesh	9,473	8,265	11,266
3	Arunachal Pradesh	5,559	5,696	9,236
4	Assam	38,335	63,749	82,694
5	Bihar	2,09,809	1,51,413	84,505
6	Chandigarh	2,653	2,822	2,951
7	Chhattisgarh	44,106	62,164	80,874
8	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	28	55	45
	Daman and Diu	24	34	119
9	Delhi	96,433	1,21,882	76,526
10	Goa	2,041	1,558	1,889
11	Gujarat	32,422	40,569	50,467
12	Haryana	43,098	76,863	82,194
13	Himachal Pradesh	5,998	7,346	6,222
14	Jammu and Kashmir	7,992	11,396	18,602
15	Jharkhand	1,45,217	2,69,303	3,28,365
16	Karnataka	45,663	53,406	51,245
17	Kerala	23,418	36,498	26,571
18	Ladakh	711	505	324
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	1
20	Madhya Pradesh	1,91,921	2,25,510	2,33,009
21	Maharashtra	36,663	53,756	59,454
22	Manipur	26,929	62,635	99,062
23	Meghalaya	2,769	2,371	2,754
24	Mizoram	5,038	4,801	3,713
25	Nagaland	7,390	4,603	5,012
26	Odisha	11,880	19,289	22,134
27	Puducherry	788	621	616
28	Punjab	56,448	60,361	65,513
29	Rajasthan	13,472	20,290	22,216
30	Sikkim	1,127	1,074	901
31	Tamil Nadu	49,570	45,180	52,528
32	Telangana	12,615	13,193	16,021
33	Tripura	5,055	9,964	10,303
34	Uttar Pradesh	24,890	29,079	22,732
35	Uttarakhand	5,386	21,339	34,208
36	West Bengal	49,714	62,354	92,914
Total		12,14,769	15,50,164	16,57,527