

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4030
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2014
FREE LEGAL SERVICE CLINICS
Sivasami Shri C.

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

- (a) whether the Government has launched free legal services clinics to provide easily accessible legal services to the rural population;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the funds allocated/spent on each such clinic, State- wise during each of the last three years and the current year;
- (c) whether the said clinics would function as single window facilities for giving the common man all types of legal services; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the time by which these are likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL)

- (a) Yes, Madam. National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has launched a nationwide programme for setting up Village Legal Services Clinics in one village in each taluk of the country, which was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India on 24.01.2014.
- (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.
- (c)&(d) The aim of Village Legal Services Clinics is to provide easily accessible legal services to the large rural population living in our villages. In addition to rendering legal advice, these clinics will assist in routine issues of BPL Card, Election I.D., Adhar Card, gas connection, Government beneficial schemes like old age pension, preparing applications for job card under the MGNREGA Scheme, identity card for different Government purposes, liaison with the Government offices and public authorities, helping the common people for solving their problems with the Government schemes, public distribution system and other social schemes. There is no time frame fixed for the establishment of legal aid clinics in villages.