

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2063

ANSWERED ON:28.07.2016

Free Legal Services

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

- (a) the number of eligible persons applied for and provided with the free legal services by various legal services institutions under Section 12 of The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise;
- (b) the total number of various legal services institutions under the said Act presently functioning in the country, State/ UT-wise;
- (c) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to ensure accountability and transparency by the legal aid professionals/advocates engaged therein;
- (d) whether any of such legal services institutions are functional in all the law colleges in the country and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of funds allocated/released by the Government for the purpose during the said period, State/UT-wise?

Answer

ANSWER

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LAW AND JUSTICE AND ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
(SHRI P.P. CHAUDHARY)

(a) A total number of 49,79,707 eligible persons were provided free legal services by various legal services institutions during the last three calendar years and the current year 2016 (upto March, 2016). A statement showing State/UT-wise and year-wise number of beneficiaries who were provided free legal services is at Annexure-A.

(b) A statement showing State/UT-wise total number of Legal Services Institutions presently functioning in the country under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 is at Annexure-B.

(c) All eligible persons are provided free legal services through the competent panel advocates. While preparing the panel of lawyers, the competence, integrity, suitability and experience of such lawyers are taken into account by the Legal Services Institutions. If the panel lawyers engaged is not performing satisfactorily or has acted contrary to the object and spirit of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 and the National Legal Services Authority (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulation, 2010, the Legal Services Institutions take appropriate steps including withdrawal of the case from such lawyer and his removal from the panel. The Monitoring Committee constituted under the Regulations, 2010 also monitors the Court based legal services rendered and progress of the case in legal aid matters. The Monitoring Committee is required to send periodic reports to the Chairman of the District Legal Services Authority.

(d) The National Legal Services Authority (Legal Aid Clinics) Regulations, 2011 provide for setting up legal aid clinics in the law colleges, law universities and other institutions as a part of the clinical legal education. As on 31.01.2016, 1575 such clinics have been set up in schools/ colleges/ universities in the country.

(e) A statement showing the details of financial assistance provided to State Legal Services Authorities during the last three calendar years and the current year 2016 for implementing various legal aid activities including providing free legal services to eligible persons is at Annexure-C.

Annexure -"A"

Statement referred to in reply to Part (a) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2063 for 28.07.2016 regarding Free Legal Services.

State/UT-wise and year-wise number of eligible persons provided Free Legal Services during the last three calendar years and the current year 2016 (Based on the information made available by State Legal Services Authorities (SLSAs).

S.No Name of the State Authority 2013 2014 2015 2016 (upto March, 2016)

1 Andhra Pradesh 4,536 4,123 3,674 883

2 Arunachal Pradesh 23 57 155 92

3 Assam 21,911 2,313 1,156 220

4 Bihar 1,911 694 2,517 2,086

5 Chhattisgarh 62,548 49,230 43,410 11,098

6 Goa 812 1,034 1,060 307
7 Gujarat 8,050 10,173 12,004 3,296
8 Haryana 7,191 8,954 9,380 2,390
9 Himachal Pradesh 1,359 1,551 1,655 395
10 Jammu & Kashmir 1,120 4,927 2,288 453
11 Jharkhand 1,576 3,445 4,748 1,119
12 Karnataka 4,044 3,128 3,247 893
13 Kerala 8,802 11,754 14,933 2,587
14 Madhya Pradesh 45,645 23,606 49,305 8,990
15 Maharashtra 7,30,307 2,90,010 7,075 1,944
16 Manipur 16 67 81 31
17 Meghalaya 561 1,064 2,156 748
18 Mizoram 2,782 6,331 4,101 1,169
19 Nagaland 1,579 2,523 4,091 262
20 Odisha 4,422 3,960 3,321 802
21 Punjab 11,397 14,203 11,653 3,457
22 Rajasthan 5,860 6,748 7,247 1,997
23 Sikkim 685 848 1,016 283
24 Tamil Nadu 15,08,166 15,94,777 59,692 15,614
25 Telangana * 1,508 2,012 387
26 Tripura 1,475 2,154 2,179 610
27 Uttar Pradesh 2,541 1,736 1,283 7,781
28 Uttarakhand 598 730 1,098 228
29 West Bengal 5,706 7,310 14,398 4,958
30 A & N Islands 97 45 67 -
31 U.T. Chandigarh 721 963 1,223 321
32 Dadra and Nagar Haveli 2 961 1,168 7
33 Daman and Diu 245 200 - 16
34 Delhi 31,681 43,869 32,175 7,360
35 Lakshadweep - - - -
36 Puducherry 4,665 2,196 728 401
24,83,034 21,07,192 3,06,296 83,185

Note: * Telangana came into being in June 2014.

Annexure-B

Statement referred to in reply to Part (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2063 for 28.07.2016 regarding Free Legal Services. State/UT-wise number of Legal Services Institutions functioning in the country under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

S.No. Name of the SLSAs Total number of Legal Services Institutions functioning Total number of Legal Services Institutions not functioning

SLSAs HCLSC DLSAs TLSCs Total SLSAs HCLSC DLSAs TLSCs Total

1 Andhra Pradesh 1 1 13 138 153 0 0 0 0
2 Arunachal Pradesh 1 1 17 14 33 0 0 0 0
3 Assam 1 1 22 3 27 0 0 0 0
4 Bihar 1 1 37 15 54 0 0 0 0
5 Chhattisgarh 1 1 21 66 89 0 0 0 0
6 Goa 1 1 2 11 15 0 0 0 0
7 Gujarat 1 1 25 210 237 0 0 0 0
8 Haryana 1 1 21 31 54 0 0 0 0
9 Himachal Pradesh 1 1 11 39 52 0 0 0 0
10 Jammu & Kashmir 1 1 22 67 91 0 0 0 0
11 Jharkhand 1 1 24 3 29 0 0 0 0
12 Karnataka 1 3 30 148 182 0 0 0 0
13 Kerala 1 1 14 62 78 0 0 0 0
14 Madhya Pradesh 1 3 50 149 203 0 0 0 0
15 Maharashtra 1 3 33 301 338 0 0 0 0
16 Manipur 1 1 9 0 11 0 0 0 0
17 Meghalaya 1 0 10 0 11 0 0 0 0
18 Mizoram 1 1 8 0 10 0 0 0 0
19 Nagaland 1 1 11 0 13 0 0 0 0
20 Orissa 1 1 30 74 106 0 0 0 9
21 Punjab 1 1 22 40 64 0 0 0 0
22 Rajasthan 1 2 35 182 220 0 0 0 0
23 Sikkim 1 1 4 6 12 0 0 0 0
24 Tamil Nadu 1 2 29 151 183 0 0 0 0
25 Telangana 1 1 11 78 91 0 0 0 3

26 Tripura 1 1 3 12 17 0 0 0 0
 27 Uttar Pradesh 1 1 71 310 383 0 0 0 0
 28 Uttarakhand 1 1 13 31 46 0 0 0 0
 29 West Bengal 1 1 19 42 63 0 0 0 0
 30 A&N Islands 1 1 1 4 7 0 0 0 0
 31 U.T. of Chandigarh 1 1 1 0 3 0 0 0 0
 32 Dadra & Nagar Haveli 1 0 1 0 2 0 0 0 0
 33 Daman & Diu 1 0 1 0 2 0 0 0 0
 34 Delhi 1 1 11 0 13 0 0 0 0
 35 Lakshadweep 1 0 0 2 3 0 0 0 0
 36 U.T. of Puducherry 1 0 1 3 5 0 0 0 0
 37 SCLSC 1 1 0 0

Total 36 40 633 2192 2901 0 0 0 12 12

Note: SLSA means State Legal Services Authority
 HCLSC means High Court Legal Services Committee
 DLSAs means District Legal Services Authorities
 TLLSCs means Taluk Legal Services Committees
 SCLSC means Supreme Court Legal Services Committee

Annexure-C

(Amount in lakh Rupees)

Statement referred to in reply to Part (e) of the Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 2063 for 28.07.2016 regarding Free Legal Services.

Details of financial assistance provided to State Legal Services Authorities during the last three calendar years and the current year 2016 for legal aid programmes/schemes.

S. No Name of the State Authority Amount of Funds Allocated Amount of Funds Allocated Amount of Funds Allocated Amount of Funds Allocated

2013-14 2014-15 2015-16 2016-17 (upto July, 2016)

1 Andhra Pradesh 300 215 300 300
 2 Arunachal Pradesh 122 97 83.89 0
 3 Assam 122 97 200 0
 4 Bihar 300 215 50 0
 5 Chhattisgarh 222 163 200 100
 6 Goa 147 113 50 0
 7 Gujrat 257 187 250 0
 8 Haryana 277 855.68 50 632.96
 9 Himachal Pradesh 172 130 800 400
 10 J & K 172 130 200 100
 11 Jharkhand 142 110 200 0
 12 Karnataka 247 180 250 150
 13 Kerala 272 347 150 500
 14 Madhya Pradesh 182 137 100 0
 15 Maharashtra 172 130 200 700
 16 Manipur 172 130 50 0
 17 Meghalaya 122 97 50 0
 18 Mizoram 147 113 75 150
 19 Nagaland 172 130 100 250
 20 Orissa 222 163 200 300
 21 Punjab 172 130 300 300
 22 Rajasthan 182 137 200 300
 23 Sikkim 122 97 75 0
 24 Tamil Nadu 182 137 240 300
 25 Telangana 0 215 150 0
 26 Tripura 122 97 100 100
 27 Uttar Pradesh 152 115 100 0
 28 Uttarakhand 147 113 100 200
 29 West Bengal 147 113 250 0
 30 And. & Nico. Islands 30 35 50 0
 31 U.T. Chandigarh 122 97 50 100
 32 D & Nagar Haveli 30 35 50 0
 33 Daman & Diu 30 35 50 0
 34 Delhi 172 130 331 675
 35 Lakshadweep 30 35 50 0
 36 U.T.Puducherry 97 80 50 0

Total 5678 5340.68 5704.89 5557.96

Note: * Telangana came into being in June, 2014.