

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3257
TO BE ANSWERED ON FRIDAY, THE 07TH AUGUST, 2026**

FREE LEGAL AID THROUGH NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

3257. DR. KALANIDHI VEERASWAMY:

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

- (a) the details of persons who have received free legal aid through the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), State Legal Services Authorities (SLSA) and District Legal Services Authorities (DLSA) during the last three years and the current year, category-wise, including women, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, senior citizens, persons with disabilities and economically weaker sections, State-wise;
- (b) the number of beneficiaries who received free legal aid in Tamil Nadu during the said period, district-wise;
- (c) details of legal aid clinics, legal awareness programmes and Lok Adalats conducted during the said period, along with the number of beneficiaries covered;
- (d) whether the Government has undertaken any assessment of the accessibility and effectiveness of free legal aid services and, if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen legal aid delivery, improve outreach in rural and underserved areas and ensure timely access to justice for eligible persons, including those in Tamil Nadu?

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): The State/UT-wise and category-wise details of persons who have received free legal aid through the Legal Services Authorities, including Tamil Nadu during the last three years (2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26) are at **Annexure-A1, A2 and A3** respectively. National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) does not maintain district-wise data of beneficiaries.

(c): The details of Legal Services Clinics functional, Legal Literacy/Awareness Camps/Programmes organized and Lok Adalats conducted in the Country and the number of persons provided legal assistance through these Legal Services Clinics during the said period are as follows: -

Legal Services Clinics

Financial Year	Number of Legal Services Clinics functional	Number of Persons provided Legal Assistance
2023-24	11,384	10,36,040
2024-25	12,019	13,41,986
2025-26	14,813	19,68,005

Legal Literacy/Awareness Camps/Programmes

Financial Year	Number of Camps/Programmes Organised	Number of Persons attended
2023-24	4,30,306	4,49,22,092
2024-25	4,62,988	3,72,32,850
2025-26	5,88,014	4,74,12,862

Lok Adalats

National Lok Adalats is organised by NALSA simultaneously across the country on quarterly basis on a single day, from the States/UTs down to the Taluk levels. The number of cases disposed of by National Lok Adalats during the last three years is as follows: -

Year	Pre-litigation Cases	Pending Cases	Total Cases
2024	8,70,19,059	1,75,07,060	10,45,26,119
2025	12,65,89,535	2,18,35,515	14,84,25,050
2026 (upto March, 2026)	3,46,87,917	59,51,139	4,06,39,056

State Lok Adalats are organised regularly by the respective State Legal Services Authorities within the State. The State Authorities are free to schedule and organise State Lok Adalats, as per requirements. The number of cases disposed of by various State Lok Adalats during the last three years is as follows:-

Financial Year	Pre-litigation Cases	Pending Cases	Total Cases
2023-24	2,19,230	9,87,873	12,07,103
2024-25	8,05,731	5,39,083	13,44,814
2025-26	4,69,914	5,11,431	9,81,345

Permanent Lok Adalats are permanent establishments set up by the State under Section 22-B of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, to provide compulsory pre-litigative mechanism for settlement of disputes related to Public Utility Services. The number of cases disposed of by various Permanent Lok Adalats in the Country is as follows:-

Financial Year	Total Cases Disposed Of
2023-24	2,32,763
2024-25	2,37,980
2025-26	2,70,685

(d) and (e): The National Legal Services Authority (Free and Competent Legal Services) Regulations, 2010 provides for a robust framework for monitoring and evaluating the quality and progress of legal aid services through the constitution of Monitoring and Mentoring Committees (MMCs). The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Personnel, Public Grievances, Law and Justice also assesses the working of Legal Aid under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

The assessment of accessibility and effectiveness of free legal services is done under the aegis of NALSA from time to time, both virtually and physically. NALSA is consistently working to enhance the accessibility and outreach of legal aid services pan-India, including Tamil Nadu by incorporating technology-driven initiatives to ensure that legal assistance reaches those in need. Proactive steps are taken to publicize its toll-free helpline number, 15100, across the country. This initiative involved placing the number in various public spaces to maximize visibility and ensure that individuals, particularly those from marginalized communities, could easily seek legal assistance. NALSA continues to provide ongoing support to SLSAs and DLSAs to enable them to fulfil their responsibilities under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

In 2023-24, a Central Sector Scheme, namely, Legal Aid Defense Counsel System (LADCS) Scheme has been launched to provide legal services in criminal cases from early stage to appellate stage at district level to the persons eligible under Section 12 of Legal Services Authority (LSA) Act, 1987. NALSA has also created a web portal to file applications online for legal assistance in Ten (10) different languages.

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3257 for answer on 07.08.2026 regarding ‘Free Legal Aid through National Legal Services Authority’.

The number of persons received Free Legal Services provided by Legal Services Authorities (LSAs) under Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 during financial year 2023-24														
S. No.	Name of the LSA	SC	ST	Women	Children	In custody	Persons with Disability	Industrial Workmen	Trans gender	Victim of Trafficking in Human beings or Begar	Victims of Mass Disaster Violence, Flood, Draught, Earthquake and Industrial Disaster	General (whose annual income does not exceed the prescribed limit)	Others	Total
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	42	0	64	8	0	0	0	0	14	92	220
2	Andhra Pradesh	318	75	983	61	2,220	24	1	1	0	0	1,128	3,454	8,265
3	Arunachal Pradesh	628	2,006	1,453	84	1,440	4	17	0	0	0	41	23	5,696
4	Assam	1,254	3,098	6,168	2,366	17,711	188	1,286	1	2	813	8,922	21,940	63,749
5	Bihar	7,306	1,270	15,307	6,889	34,778	163	429	21	0	549	2,575	82,126	1,51,413
6	Chandigarh	15	0	1,355	238	418	8	0	1	0	0	692	95	2,822
7	Chhattisgarh	6,884	12,701	9,621	544	14,601	10	12	1	5	21	8,489	9,275	62,164
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	2	6	21	0	15	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	55
	Daman & Diu	4	2	14	1	7	0	2	0	0	0	4	0	34
9	Delhi	1,705	16	22,631	2,761	24,794	342	1,538	13	912	32,940	12,984	21,246	1,21,882
10	Goa	6	4	790	4	232	38	0	0	0	0	480	4	1,558
11	Gujarat	3,825	2,716	11,560	565	10,184	123	101	0	3	62	7,981	3,449	40,569
12	Haryana	1,568	0	7,818	468	35,367	137	7	3	0	26,611	3,151	1,733	76,863
13	Himachal Pradesh	547	143	3,195	90	725	81	0	8	13	553	897	1,094	7,346
14	Jammu & Kashmir	757	398	4,082	510	1,184	145	1	3	0	32	2,759	1,525	11,396

S. No.	Name of the LSA	SC	ST	Women	Children	In custody	Persons with Disability	Industrial Workmen	Trans gender	Victim of Trafficking in Human beings or Begar	Victims of Mass Disaster Violence, Flood, Draught, Earthquake and Industrial Disaster	General (whose annual income does not exceed the prescribed limit)	Others	Total
15	Jharkhand	21,387	27,451	47,687	14,730	19,352	770	5,266	664	34	59	2,534	1,29,369	2,69,303
16	Karnataka	6,751	3,876	11,955	932	8,647	340	314	39	2	0	3,210	17,340	53,406
17	Kerala	2,789	441	15,812	3,899	5,653	225	137	54	85	49	5,822	1,532	36,498
18	Ladakh	29	333	105	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	505
19	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Madhya Pradesh	30,163	25,563	41,291	19,955	58,171	1,444	1,110	0	1	5	20,759	27,048	2,25,510
21	Maharashtra	2,298	635	17,566	964	20,687	287	158	52	389	17	5,823	4,880	53,756
22	Manipur	751	8,585	7,621	2,487	282	129	17	26	686	38,304	2,881	866	62,635
23	Meghalaya	27	716	490	68	865	0	0	0	0	3	81	121	2,371
24	Mizoram	4	2,528	537	62	599	218	0	0	0	0	62	791	4,801
25	Nagaland	373	2,342	557	137	628	56	0	0	0	0	510	0	4,603
26	Odisha	1,375	1,073	3,264	39	4,473	6,020	15	100	11	4	1,967	948	19,289
27	Puducherry	26	0	181	256	71	0	1	0	0	0	49	37	621
28	Punjab	5,287	28	13,714	419	24,764	243	101	6	1	447	9,968	5,383	60,361
29	Rajasthan	333	132	1,337	6,274	11,000	19	36	0	0	0	938	221	20,290
30	Sikkim	32	118	553	18	218	2	0	0	0	0	127	6	1,074
31	Tamil Nadu	1,881	782	10,962	178	8,989	135	90	6	11	32	7,186	14,928	45,180
32	Telangana	131	66	2,066	334	4,258	12	0	0	0	0	3,198	3,128	13,193
33	Tripura	795	831	3,732	286	1,115	41	0	38	24	0	1,610	1,492	9,964
34	Uttar Pradesh	2,776	83	2,487	1,654	7,328	231	89	251	0	1	4,964	9,215	29,079
35	Uttarakhand	626	215	2,358	846	14,701	47	49	2	0	32	1,570	893	21,339
36	West Bengal	5,020	2,590	14,423	1,404	18,383	101	111	18	69	7	18,516	1,712	62,354
	Total	1,07,673	1,00,823	2,83,738	69,526	3,53,924	11,591	10,899	1,308	2,248	1,00,541	1,41,892	3,66,001	15,50,164

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3257 for answer on 07.08.2026 regarding ‘Free Legal Aid through National Legal Services Authority’.

The number of persons received Free Legal Services provided by Legal Services Authorities (LSAs) under Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 during financial year 2024-25														
S. No.	Name of the LSA	SC	ST	Women	Children	In custody	Persons with Disability	Industrial Workmen	Trans gender	Victim of Trafficking in Human beings or Begar	Victims of Mass Disaster Violence, Flood, Draught, Earthquake and Industrial Disaster	General (whose annual income does not exceed the prescribed limit)	Others	Total
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	120	20	3	1	42	0	0	0	28	127	341
2	Andhra Pradesh	234	47	1,162	107	3,289	8	1	3	0	0	1,437	4,978	11,266
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1,658	3,946	1,979	237	1,330	8	30	2	1	0	33	12	9,236
4	Assam	1,536	6,183	9,000	3,130	25,489	276	1,464	122	2	8	12,126	23,358	82,694
5	Bihar	4,673	1,399	10,374	6,550	31,677	162	585	48	0	618	2,647	25,772	84,505
6	Chandigarh	30	0	1,330	106	780	7	0	0	0	0	667	31	2,951
7	Chhattisgarh	10,815	14,336	12,068	607	21,610	109	0	6	0	4	11,868	9,451	80,874
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	4	28	0	7	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	45
	Daman & Diu	10	10	39	4	24	3	12	1	1	1	14	0	119
9	Delhi	1,652	163	19,060	2,942	18,630	336	955	7	510	0	10,869	21,402	76,526
10	Goa	17	20	892	14	314	15	0	0	0	0	569	48	1,889
11	Gujarat	3,882	8,271	12,828	1,404	10,862	173	83	0	0	8	7,999	4,957	50,467
12	Haryana	1,689	0	7,766	572	66,229	65	7	2	0	0	3,936	1,928	82,194
13	Himachal Pradesh	545	88	3,159	112	703	86	8	1	0	3	835	682	6,222
14	Jammu & Kashmir	1,269	573	5,592	1,730	1,299	705	1	5	1	40	6,159	1,228	18,602

S. No.	Name of the LSA	SC	ST	Women	Children	In custody	Persons with Disability	Industrial Workmen	Trans gender	Victim of Trafficking in Human beings or Begar	Victims of Mass Disaster Violence, Flood, Draught, Earthquake and Industrial Disaster	General (whose annual income does not exceed the prescribed limit)	Others	Total
15	Jharkhand	41,537	42,987	72,003	30,572	33,281	3,560	3,703	194	78	173	5,741	94,536	3,28,365
16	Karnataka	6,051	3,329	12,167	790	8,972	254	191	32	9	9	7,659	11,782	51,245
17	Kerala	1,362	724	12,741	2,330	3,473	176	85	31	73	37	3,794	1,745	26,571
18	Ladakh	0	80	192	9	43	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	324
19	Lakshadweep	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
20	Madhya Pradesh	22,764	23,211	35,058	18,240	93,264	669	2,908	0	0	241	15,748	20,906	2,33,009
21	Maharashtra	3,351	1,620	20,167	1,230	20,535	374	240	21	2	36	6,248	5,630	59,454
22	Manipur	346	6,989	7,697	1,504	498	159	48	19	0	78,868	2,433	501	99,062
23	Meghalaya	20	710	544	86	877	1	0	11	6	0	233	266	2,754
24	Mizoram	26	2,145	696	20	676	0	0	0	0	0	0	150	3,713
25	Nagaland	608	2,365	604	432	499	52	0	0	0	0	452	0	5,012
26	Odisha	1,609	1,111	3,957	221	11,536	179	5	40	7	468	2,027	974	22,134
27	Puducherry	31	0	155	240	100	0	0	0	0	0	53	37	616
28	Punjab	5,516	2	14,762	526	33,615	86	38	0	0	0	9,879	1,089	65,513
29	Rajasthan	333	103	1,812	5,755	13,064	27	2	1	0	0	1,109	10	22,216
30	Sikkim	18	118	464	25	167	1	0	0	0	0	103	5	901
31	Tamil Nadu	2,214	357	12,479	323	12,088	201	197	15	0	59	11,110	13,485	52,528
32	Telangana	323	189	2,586	158	5,635	31	0	0	0	0	3,053	4,046	16,021
33	Tripura	829	621	3,348	192	1,588	61	36	115	0	1,460	1,244	809	10,303
34	Uttar Pradesh	1,799	5	2,091	616	6,979	176	32	107	0	0	5,315	5,612	22,732
35	Uttarakhand	1,974	704	4,174	2,332	19,420	204	378	8	47	8	2,922	2,037	34,208
36	West Bengal	10,680	6,029	23,057	4,394	24,398	148	1,722	53	56	124	19,523	2,730	92,914
	Total	1,29,402	1,28,440	3,16,151	87,530	4,72,954	8,313	12,778	844	793	82,165	1,57,833	2,60,324	16,57,527

Statement referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3257 for answer on 07.08.2026 regarding ‘Free Legal Aid through National Legal Services Authority’.

The number of persons received Free Legal Services provided by Legal Services Authorities under Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 during financial year 2025-26														
S. No.	SLSAs	SC	ST	Women	Children	In custody	Persons with Disability	Industrial Workmen	Trans gender	Victim of Trafficking in Human beings or Begar	Victims of Mass Disaster Violence, Flood, Draught, Earthquake and Industrial Disaster	General (whose annual income does not exceed the prescribed limit)	Others	Total
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	141	38	53	6	42	0	3	0	36	125	444
2	Andhra Pradesh	351	96	1,969	205	3,728	31	0	0	0	0	2,487	4,492	13,359
3	Arunachal Pradesh	1,562	3,423	2,016	174	1,053	43	115	0	1	6	53	775	9,221
4	Assam	3,085	5,417	10,645	5,295	28,004	105	3,406	61	50	50	13,911	29,992	1,00,021
5	Bihar	2,740	1,099	10,354	8,715	31,326	266	850	36	0	957	2,945	17,073	76,361
6	Chandigarh	15,299	15,442	14,140	1,082	22,786	29	0	0	0	1	11,786	13,317	93,882
7	Chhattisgarh	0	7	63	0	9	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	83
8	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	7	4	64	3	18	0	30	0	0	0	25	13	164
	Daman & Diu	1,709	66	19,698	3,443	19,886	368	305	8	2	0	9,467	17,602	72,554
9	Delhi	23	38	2,501	7	297	17	0	0	0	0	1,088	312	4,283
10	Goa	7,809	17,685	22,593	15,485	16,824	679	254	56	0	29	13,994	19,244	1,14,652
11	Gujarat	1,819	2	10,505	835	1,13,459	205	54	2	0	0	5,772	3,122	1,35,775
12	Haryana	628	101	3,131	113	785	91	18	0	233	43	952	417	6,512
13	Himachal Pradesh	1,712	2,030	5,182	2,775	3,165	1,029	9	3	0	620	8,201	1,604	26,330
14	Jammu & Kashmir	49,418	53,577	1,21,543	49,663	33,731	3,827	3,747	118	62	1	11,485	1,16,585	4,43,757

S. No.	Name of the LSA	SC	ST	Women	Children	In custody	Persons with Disability	Industrial Workmen	Trans gender	Victim of Trafficking in Human beings or Begar	Victims of Mass Disaster Violence, Flood, Draught, Earthquake and Industrial Disaster	General (whose annual income does not exceed the prescribed limit)	Others	Total
15	Jharkhand	6,752	3,846	15,644	1,018	12,871	167	188	83	2	5	8,493	16,450	65,519
16	Karnataka	1,464	564	16,471	1,501	6,684	151	311	8	6	0	5,140	3,868	36,168
17	Kerala	5	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
18	Ladakh	17,587	18,706	44,609	20,900	84,331	360	2,341	2	5	2	17,399	24,859	2,31,101
19	Lakshadweep	3,340	1,105	20,346	2,736	20,322	1,220	270	29	74	101	7,915	7,607	65,065
20	Madhya Pradesh	390	6,589	8,937	2,082	1,016	240	174	39	0	51,190	2,162	2,329	75,148
21	Maharashtra	26	1,880	667	308	652	1	0	0	0	5	167	1,203	4,909
22	Manipur	2	3,026	1,160	78	84	1	0	0	15	0	35	388	4,789
23	Meghalaya	1,757	3,296	1,813	2,002	680	532	0	0	11	8	1,252	0	11,351
24	Mizoram	1,500	1,123	4,032	362	7,844	135	10	12	21	25	1,910	775	17,749
25	Nagaland	29	0	159	145	130	0	0	0	0	0	50	23	536
26	Odisha	8,360	6	16,704	645	42,114	1,062	101	6	0	0	13,502	2,628	85,128
27	Puducherry	564	158	2,871	6,528	16,135	58	5	0	0	0	2,729	133	29,181
28	Punjab	29	113	619	25	167	7	0	0	0	0	169	14	1,143
29	Rajasthan	2,005	425	12,619	551	13,828	200	71	26	3	2	12,578	13,666	55,974
30	Sikkim	572	457	2,864	626	8,183	31	0	0	0	0	3,303	5,068	21,104
31	Tamil Nadu	1,005	898	3,195	214	1,453	42	0	36	0	0	1,057	2,282	10,182
32	Telangana	9	8	1,455	126	727	7	0	0	0	0	1,005	34	3,371
33	Tripura	2,325	313	3,712	1,793	9,776	797	289	486	0	0	5,165	7,092	31,748
34	Uttar Pradesh	2,553	1,178	7,493	4,618	24,724	1,722	739	6	0	0	4,700	4,326	52,059
35	Uttarakhand	10,884	5,137	24,765	3,905	30,895	1,851	597	55	65	52	23,415	6,263	1,07,884
36	West Bengal	0	108	115	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	255
	Total	1,47,320	1,47,932	4,14,795	1,37,996	5,57,772	15,280	13,930	1,072	553	53,097	1,94,348	3,23,681	20,07,776
