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During FY 2025–26 (upto January 2026), 16,60,249 persons have been provided free legal aid and advice

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Government is implementing different scheme for ensuring affordable and accessible justice to the citizen. The Scheme of “**Designing Innovative Solutions for Holistic Access to Justice (DISHA)**” aims to strengthen the **access to justice for all citizens**, in alignment with the provisions of the **Legal Services Authorities (LSA) Act, 1987**.

Under the component **Tele-Law**, citizens are connected with panel lawyers to obtain **pre-litigation legal advice through video or tele-conferencing** using a network of about **2.50 lakh Common Service Centres (CSCs)** operating at the Gram Panchayat level across **777 districts**, including **112 Aspirational Districts and 500 Aspirational Blocks**, in **36 States/UTs**. As on **28.02.2026**, more than **1.12 crore pre-litigation advices** have been provided under the programme.

Through the component of **Nyaya Bandhu**, a **pro bono culture is being promoted among advocates, law students**. Under this programme, **pro bono Advocates** provides free legal assistance and representation in the courts to the eligible beneficiaries under **Section 12 of the LSA Act, 1987**. As on **28.02.2026**, **10,263 advocates** have been registered under the programme.

The **Legal Literacy and Legal Awareness Programme** promotes partnerships with Ministries, Departments, institutions and schools for capacity building of grassroots legal workers and dissemination of legal awareness/literacy. As on **28.02.2026**, the programme has reached **1,21,48,172 beneficiaries**. Further, the Government is also implementing the **Legal Aid Defense Counsel System (LADCS)**, a **Central Sector Scheme** through NALSA since **FY 2023–24** to provide legal representation in criminal

cases to beneficiaries eligible under **Section 12 of the LSA Act, 1987**. As on **31.12.2025**, **LADC offices are functional in 680 districts** across the country. Under the scheme, **8,71,581 cases have been disposed of against 12,62,857 assigned cases**, and **2,76,476 Under-Trial Prisoners (UTPs)** have been provided legal representation, resulting in the **release of 59,630 UTPs during FY 2025–26 (upto December 2025)**.

In addition to these Scheme, **National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)** under the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987** provides **free and competent legal services to weaker sections of society**. Legal Services Institutions have been established from the **Taluk level to the Supreme Court**, including the **Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC)**, **38 High Court Legal Services Committees**, **37 State Legal Services Authorities**, **715 District Legal Services Authorities** and **2,475 Taluk Legal Services Committees**. Their activities include legal aid and advice, legal awareness programmes, legal services clinics, legal literacy clubs, Lok Adalats and implementation of the **Victim Compensation Scheme**.

During **FY 2025–26 (upto January 2026)**, **16,60,249 persons** have been provided free legal aid and advice, and **4,91,990 legal awareness programmes/camps** have been organized, attended by **4,04,59,246 persons**.

This information was given by **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** in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha today.

Samrat/

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