

laws governing different communities, the Government had requested the Law Commission of India to undertake examination of various issues relating to Uniform Civil Code and to make recommendation thereof.

#### **Assistance by National Legal Services Authority**

2817. SHRI K.R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to create awareness about the assistance being provided by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI P. P. CHAUDHARY): The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 has set up legal services institutions at all levels from the level of Taluk to the Supreme Court to provide free legal services to the persons eligible under Section 12 of the Act. These include the National Legal Services Authorities (NALSA), Supreme Court Legal Services Committee, High Court Legal Services Committees, State Legal Services Authorities (SLSAs), District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) and the Taluka Legal Services Committees (TLSCs). NALSA, through these legal services institutions, is regularly organising Legal Awareness Camps/programmes for creating awareness among the weaker sections of the society throughout the country. SLSAs are also holding camps/programmes in School and Colleges.

The tools used for awareness by these legal services institutions include conduct of seminars, symposia, lectures, discussions etc, distribution of pamphlets, participation in Doordarshan programmes, jingles in the All India Radio, participation in Radio Talks Shows and Phone-in-Programmes, Community Radio, mobile multi-utility vans for spreading awareness through public contact, Nukkadnataks, Puppet Shows etc, Audio visual such as short documentaries in some States, Cultural programmes using themes based on legal issues put up by school children on female foeticide, domestic violence etc, and painting/slogan-writing/essay writing competitions, debate and declamation, poetry competition.

Further, 9th November is observed as the National Legal Services Day every year. On this occasion, various programmes are organised. An informative advertisement is also inserted in the newspapers in local languages on 9th November to make people aware about the availability of the free legal services. NALSA has also organized Commendation Ceremonies since the year 2014 to commend the work of the National Best and Zonal Best Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) and DLSAs.

A Theme Song depicting NALSA's commitment to provide access to justice to all the marginalised communities all over the country was released on 01.10.2016.

On 9.11.2016, a documentary and 5 capsules of short duration showing legal services provided to various sections alongwith a 'Sankalp Song', has also been released on Legal Service Day. All Cinema owners have been requested to play the theme song and Doordarshan has been requested to exhibit the capsules.

#### **Railway zonal office at Ranchi**

2818. DR. PRADEEP KUMAR BALMUCHU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government of Jharkhand has requested Railways for setting up of Railway zonal office at Ranchi, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether Railways have taken any decision in the matter, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) Proposals for setting up a Railway zonal office at Ranchi have been received from time to time from various fora, including the State Government of Jharkhand.

(b) Railway zones are set up keeping in view factors like size, workload, accessibility, traffic pattern and other administrative/operational requirements, consistent with the needs of economy and efficiency, and not on regional considerations. The proposal for setting up of Railway zonal office at Ranchi, when seen in the light of these considerations, has not been found operationally feasible.

#### **Mega cable-stayed railway bridge**

2819. SHRI T. RATHINAVEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Railways have decided to build country's first mega cable-stayed railway bridge, if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the final decision on the above mega cable-stayed railway bridge was taken on the basis of the recommendation of the Sreedharan Committee, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAJEN GOHAIN): (a) The Cable stayed bridge with single pylon on Reasi end of Anji Khad with total bridge length of 473.25 metre has been planned for construction in Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link Project.