GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2190 TO BE ANSWERED ON THURSDAY, THE 4th AUGUST, 2022

Legal aid to the poor women prisioners

2190 # Shri Neeraj Dangi:

Will the Minister of Law and Justice be pleased to state:

- (a) whether legal aid is not available to the poor women prisoners across the country;
- (b) if so, the arrangements made by Government to appoint lawyers to provide assistance to such women; and
- (c) the number of such cases disposed off by the lawyers during the last three years?

ANSWER

MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE (SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)

(a) and (b) No Sir. The Legal Services Authorities have been providing free legal aid to all prisoners including women prisoners through their Jail Visiting Lawyers, Jail Legal Services Clinics manned by Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) and Remand Advocates. In the year 2020 and 2021, 38477 women prisoners were provided legal assistance through Jail Legal Services Clinics and 6018 women prisoners were provided legal assistance through other modes. Further, Legal Services Institutions have appointed Remand Advocates in Magisterial Courts and Sessions Courts, wherever required. As on June 2022, 8298 Remand Advocates are providing legal services to arrestees in the criminal courts including women. In addition awareness

camps are also being conducted in jails to make inmates including women aware about the availability of free legal aid and their legal rights including right to bail.

(c) National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) compiles data regarding cases of prisoners attended by the Remand Lawyers. This data is available from the year 2021 onwards. During the year 2021, 117971 remand cases of prisoners including women prisoners were attended by the Remand Lawyers, out of which application for bails were filed in 48435 cases and bails were granted in 23115 cases.
