

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE  
DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS**

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**RAJYA SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3955  
ANSWERED ON 06/04/2023**

**Free legal aid by law schools**

**3955 Shri Abdul Wahab:**

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

- (a) the number of law schools in the country, State-wise;
- (b) the number of schools that come under sub-standard category which the Bar Council is planning to shut;
- (c) the number of the schools which operate legal services clinic providing professional training to students and free legal services for the socially and economically weaker sections of the society;
- (d) whether Government is taking any steps to promote legal services clinics across the country; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

**ANSWER  
MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE  
(SHRI KIREN RIJIJU)**

- a. The details of law schools in the country, State-wise, as provided by the Bar Council of India is as under:

STATE	NO.OFCOLLEGES/CLES
ANDHRAPRADESH	39
ARUNACHALPRADESH	8
ASSAM	32
BIHAR	29
CHHATTISGARH	36
DELHI	29
GOA	2
GUJRAT	117
HARYANA	55

## VERDICTUM.IN

HIMACHALPRADESH	23
JAMMU&KASHMIR	13
JHARKHAND	22
KARNATAKA	124
KERALA	28
MADHYAPRADESH	161
MAHARASHTRA	201
MANIPUR	5
MEGHALAYA	7
MIZORAM	1
NAGALAND	3
ODISHA	33
PUDUCHERRY	4
PUNJAB	55
RAJASTHAN	125
SIKKIM	5
TAMILNADU	38
TELENGANA	32
TRIPURA	3
UTTRAKHAND	40
UTTAR PRADESH	339
WESTBENGAL	53
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1662</b>

**b.** Bar Council of India has constituted a high level committee headed by a former Chief Justice of a High Court to identify such Centres of Legal Education who are not complying with the infrastructural, faculty, library and other requirements as per Rules of Legal Education, which are required to be complied with by Centres of Legal Education. They conduct surprise Inspections on such CLEs. Once the inspection reports are received by the Committee set up by Bar Council of India, it takes action accordingly. Even otherwise, as per regular inspections when it is seen that there are deficiencies on the part of CLE's, they are not granted approval of affiliation, or when the deficiencies are not of such nature or of such nature which may be made up by way of compliance of such condition, then an opportunity is given to comply and make up the deficiencies and the matter is considered afresh after such deficiencies are made up.

**(c) to (e)** Schedule-III of Legal Education Rules, 2008 framed by BCI elaborately provides minimum infrastructure required for any Law College to apply for permission to run a Law Courses before the Bar Council of India and Clause 11 of Schedule-III of Legal Education Rules, 2008 mandates each and every Law College of the country to mandatorily establish and run Legal Aid Clinic by the Final Year students of the Institution in cooperation with the Legal Aid Authorities.

Clause 1 of Schedule-III of Legal Education Rules, 2008 is reproduced herein:-

***11. Legal Aid Centre: Each institution shall establish and run a Legal Aid Clinic under the supervision of a Senior Faculty Member who may administer the Clinic run by the Final year students of the Institution in cooperation with the Legal Aid Authorities with list of voluntary lawyers and other Non-Government Organizations engaged in this regard in the locality generally from which the student community of the Institution, hail from.***

Therefore, free Legal Aid is provided by each and every Law College of the country.

Also as per information made available by National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), Regulation 3 of the National Legal Services Authority (Legal Services Clinics) Regulations, 2011 provides for establishment of legal services clinic, subject to the financial resources available. As provided, the District Legal Services Authority shall establish legal services clinics in-

- (a) all villages, or for a cluster of villages, depending on the size of such Villages, which shall be called the village Legal Care and Support Centre; and
- (b) jails, educational institutions, community centres, protection homes, Courts, juvenile justice boards and other areas, especially where the people face geographical, social and other barriers for access to the legal services institutions.

In compliance of the aforesaid Regulations, 2011, the State Legal Services Authorities have established Legal Services Clinics in 1095 educational institutions like, Law Schools/colleges/universities.