

LEGAL AID

Under sec.12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 the following categories of persons are entitled for free and competent legal services from the legal services institutions -

- a) A member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe;
- b) A victim of trafficking in human being or beggar as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution;
- c) A woman or a child;
- d) A person with disability as defined in clause (i) of Section 2 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995;
- e) A person under circumstances of undeserved want such as being a victim of a mass disaster, ethnic violence, caste atrocity, flood, drought, earthquake or industrial disaster;
- f) An industrial workman; or
- g) In custody, including custody in a protective home within the meaning of Clause(g) of Section 2 of the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956(104 of 1956) or in a juvenile home within the meaning of Clause(j) of Section 2 of the Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 (53 of 1986) or in a psychiatric hospital or psychiatric nursing home within the meaning of Clause (g) of Section 2 of the Mental Health Act, 1987 (14 of 1987); or
- h) The persons whose annual income does not exceed Rs. 9,000/-, or such other higher amount as may be prescribed by the State Government, are also entitled for legal services if they does not come under any of the above categories.

LEGAL SERVICES/ ASSISTANCE

The **procedure** for availing Legal Services in as follows -

- a. A person eligible for free legal-aid u/s 12 of the Act shall make an application in the given format to the Legal Services Authority. If he/she cannot give it in writing then the office shall ensure that it is filled-up in proper format.
- b. On receipt of the application a legal-aid counsel is appointed to provide the necessary legal-aid.
- c. The appointed legal-aid counsel submits Report on progress of the case to the Legal Services.

The **types of Legal Services** provided is in the form of -

- a. Representation of an entitled person by a legal practitioner on the list in the legal proceedings;
- b. Payment to the entitled person or on his behalf-
 - i) of Court fee;
 - ii) of process fee and expenses of witnesses;
 - iii) of charges for preparation of paper books, including charges for Printing and translation of documents;
 - iv) of charges for the supply of certified copies of judgment, decrees, orders and other documents;
 - v) of any amount on any other account in any legal proceedings.

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