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Q2

Who are entitled to receive free legal aid? Assess the role of the National Legal Services Authority(NALSA) in rendering free legal aid in India.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2023 · GS II · 10 marks · Governance and Policy

Government policies and interventions for development in various sectors and issues arising out of their design and implementation.

Facts & figures for this PYQ only.

Numbers move. Confirm the latest Budget, Economic Survey or census round. This sheet is for revision, not a substitute for the model answer.

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Article 39A

Directive Principle inserted by the 42nd Amendment, requiring equal justice and free legal aid.

Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987

Statutory basis for NALSA, State Authorities, Taluk Committees and Lok Adalats.

Section 12

Lists persons entitled to legal services, including women, children, SC/ST, custody, disability and income criteria.

Hussainara Khatoon v. State of Bihar

Supreme Court linked speedy trial and legal aid for undertrials to [Article 21](#).

National Lok Adalat

Periodic nationwide Lok Adalat sittings organised under the NALSA system to settle pending and pre-litigation cases.

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