

04.12.2008

Press Information Bureau  
Government of India

**Subject :- Amendment of Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.**

In pursuance of the ideals and aspirations enshrined in the Constitution with an intent to provide justice to all, the UPA Government have decided to amend the existing the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 by introduction of the Legal Services Authorities (Amendment) Bill, 2008, to include senior citizens whose income is upto One lakh twenty thousand rupees per annum, dependent family members of Defence Forces personnel and personnel of such other armed forces as the central government may specify by notification, who died in action and victims of terrorists/acts or riot, in the categories of persons who are entitled for legal services under Section 12 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987. It will enable Legal Services authorities to provide free legal aid to Senior Citizens (whose income do not exceed the limit specified), dependent family members of Defence Forces personnel and personnel of Para-military Forces who died in action and victims of terrorist/extremist violence and riots. The intention to include these categories of persons is to provide a legal protection to these special categories and to avoid any kind of economic disability.

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