

LADAKH LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY PLAN OF ACTION PROJECT PLAN FOR FOCUS IMPLEMENTATION YEAR 2023

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LADAKH LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

PLAN OF ACTION FOR THE YEAR 2023

<u>INTRODUCTION</u>: The experience has been that the National Plan of Action has helped not only to streamline the activities of the Legal Services Institutions but also to step-up its pursuits. Though much remains to be done, but it can't be denied that the legal Services activities have expanded manifold and has most certainly shifted from the conventional legal aid in the Courts, to assistance in access to justice. All this has happened on account of the NALSA's various Schemes, including Legal Services to Disaster Victims through Legal Services Authorities, Scheme of Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) and the NALSA's (Legal Aid Clinics) Scheme, 2010. Setting up of legal literacy clubs in Schools and Colleges has helped in not only encouraging the students to inculcate legal and constitutional temper but also contributed to the society by brining to the notice of the Authorities concerned, of any violation of legal rights or avoidance of duties. With the setting up of ADR Centers there is a need to strengthen the ADR mechanism and streamline activities in the ADR Centers. However, people approaching the courts for redressal of their rights is a healthy trend and must be encouraged. Therefore, the legal assistance rendered in the Courts must be upgraded in terms of quality. In order to spread the awareness and facilitate the eligible beneficiaries in availing free legal services, the Ladakh Legal Services Authority, in collaboration with the Department of Posts is intending to increase the outreach of legal services to the eligible categories specially the villagers and underprivileged residing in rural and far flung areas of the U.T of Ladakh. The people approaching the post offices shall not only be made aware of their rights and entitlements but also, the personal present at these offices shall facilitate access to justice to the eligible persons with the help of available technologic tools. On action taken reports of the calendar of activities, it appears that the Ladakh Legal Services Authority needs to gear up a little more in the implementation of the NALSAs Schemes and Regulations in the year 2023. In this background, the Ladakh

Legal Services Authority Plans to work on the following Schemes during the financial year 2023

S.No	Name of Schemes
01	A scheme for Legal Services to Disaster Victims through Legal Services Authorities.
02	NALSA (Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation) Scheme, 2015
03	NALSA (Legal Services to the Workers in the Unorganized Sector) Scheme, 2015
04	NALSA (Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection) Scheme,
	2015
05	NALSA (Effective Implementation of Poverty Alleviation) Scheme, 2015
06	NALSA (Legal Services to the Victims of Drug Abuse and Eradication of Drug
	Menace) Scheme, 2015
07	NALSA (Legal Services to Senior Citizens) Scheme, 2016
08	NALSA (Legal Services to Victims of Acid Attacks) Scheme, 2016
09	NALSA Para- Legal Volunteers Scheme through enhanced training, mentoring and
	monitoring.
10	Encourage ADR methods of Lok-Adalat, Mediation, Conciliation and Plea-
	bargaining
11	Ladakh Victim Assistance scheme, 2022

1. A scheme for Legal Services to Disaster Victims through Legal Services Authorities.

National Legal Services Authority has framed a comprehensive Scheme for providing legal services to the victims of disasters through the District Legal Services Authorities. The Scheme provides for strategic intervention by the Legal Services Authorities for ensuring immediate help to the victims, co-coordinating the activities with different government departments and NGO's for bringing relief measures, enabling the victims to get the benefits of the different beneficial measures and amounts of solatium announced by the Government, restoration of lost records like title deeds, identity cards, Certificates, passport etc., and for providing assistance to the victims in restoring

their lost livelihood. The Legal Services Authorities are expected to establish core groups in all districts under the control of the District Legal Services Authorities to spring into action in the event of disasters whether manmade or natural much before the disasters strike.

2. Implementation of (Victims of Trafficking Commercial Sexual Exploitation) Scheme, 2015.

Victims of trafficking for Commercial Sexual exploitation face a great deal of trauma not just following such trafficking but also after their rescue. They need to be protected against the traffickers who would want them to come back or not pursue their case. There are also livelihood issues and if available alternative is not given, chances of being re-trafficked are high. The Ladakh Legal Services Authority intends to take following steps for implementation of the Scheme in the U.T of Ladakh.

- a) Provide legal assistance to the victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation at the time of rescue and thereafter during trial.
- **b)** Facilitate the accessing of the District Legal Services Authorities for award of Victim Compensation.
- c) To monitor and act as social auditors of the existing facilities available for rehabilitation of rescued victims of Sexual exploitation and trafficking.
- **d)** To organize awareness camps in the Community through the panel lawyers and para-legal volunteers about the issues of trafficking particularly in vulnerable areas and among vulnerable groups.
- e) To ensure that the DLSAs can act as converging nodes so that the government' Schemes meant for the marginalized actually reach them and such access to the government support does have a positive impact in preventing trafficking and falling prey to traffickers.

3. Strengthening of Legal Services to the Workers in the Unorganized Sector Scheme, 2015.

The distinguishing feature of the unorganized sector is non-applicability of most of the labour laws and other regulations providing for decent working conditions job security and social security to the workers. The unorganized workers lack collective bargaining power and are therefore susceptible to excessive exploitation. They work under poor working conditions and receive far lower wages/ remuneration as compared to the organized sector. Majority of unorganized workers are employed in agriculture. Other major categories include construction workers in small enterprises, workers employed through contractors even in large enterprises, artisans/Craftsmen, home based workers, workers depending upon forest produce, self-employed workers like drivers and labours etc. The legislations provide for social security for old-age health care and assistance in the event of death, marriage and accidents etc. The combined effect of the above factors is that many of them are generally forced to lead an undignified and servile life. The Ladakh Legal Services Authority proposes that the District Legal Services Authorities may take steps for conducting survey for identifying unorganized workers, Services of law Students and Para-legal Volunteers also can be availed of for conducting such survey. The survey should indicate whether the Workers belonging to each category have made efforts to avail of the benefits of the Scheme / programmes of the Government. Every effort shall be made to ensure that all deserving unorganized workers are brought to avail of the benefits. The Legal Services Authority intends to organize awareness camps in collaboration with the Labour Department of UT administration at District/ Tehsil level about different welfare schemes that are in vogue for un-organized workers in the U.T of Ladakh so as to reap the benefits of the schemes.

4. Implementation of Child Friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection Scheme, 2015.

The Children are amongst the most vulnerable sections in any society. They represent almost one third of the world population and unless they are provided with proper amenities, the opportunity of making them grow into responsible citizens of tomorrow will slip out of the hands of the present generation. It is our obligation to the young generation to open up all opportunities including the legal services for every child to unfold his/her personality and rise to full stature physical, mental, moral and spiritual. The Ladakh Legal Services Authority intends to organize awareness camps at District/ Tehsil level about rights and privileges of children and to inculcate values in children so that they become good citizens in future.

5. Effective Implementation of Poverty Alleviation Scheme, 2015.

The Legal Services Authorities Act underscores that the legal services authorities are concerned with the weaker sections of the society and imposes a duty on them to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities. Very often intended beneficiaries of poverty alleviation and social security measures are unable to access the benefits due to severe lack of capabilities, social structures, economic marginalization, Social values, cultural norms, discrimination etc. In this context, the role of legal service authorities must be proactive one where measures designed to alleviate poverty must be brought to the attention of the intended beneficiaries. Ladakh Legal Services Authority intends to hold awareness camps about Poverty Alleviation Schemes at District & Tehsil Level for marginalized, poor and down trodden people.

6. Implementation of Legal Services to the Victim of Drug Abuse and Eradication of Drug Menace Scheme, 2015.

It is an open secret that drugs have spread their dreaded tentacles to innocent children, adolescent, youth and women. The horrible dimension which this menace has acquired can be gauged from the average age of initiation of drugs which is as low as nine-ten years. The Legal Services Institutions have a significant role for reduction play in supply and demand of drugs, de addiction and rehabilitation. Ladakh Legal Services Authority intends to hold awareness camps at District and Tehsil level in collaboration with Education, Social welfare, Health Department and Police about the ill effects of drug abuse and how to eradicate drug menace in the U.T of Ladakh.

7. NALSA (Legal Services to Senior Citizens) Scheme, 2016.

A Person of the age of 60 years or above is regarded as Senior Citizen. Despite the existence of various legal provisions and schemes for Senior Citizens, the benefits of the schemes have reached to very few Senior Citizens. Often the senior citizens are unaware of their entitlements and or they are in too destitute a condition to be able to access the said benefits. They are not only deprived of their properties but also subjected to all forms of abuse ripping them of their dignity as well. For the widows, who are senior citizens or for the retired senior citizens, it often becomes a herculean task to get their pension and other benefits. The laws and the schemes lay down the entitlements of the senior citizens and if the senior citizens have any difficulty in availing their entitlements under the laws and the schemes, it is felt by NALSA that Legal Services Institutions have a significant role to play in ensuring access to the benefits of the schemes and the legal provisions to the Senior Citizens.

8. NALSA (Legal Services to Victims of Acid Attacks) Scheme, 2016.

The Preamble of the Legal Services Authorities Act emphasized that the Legal Services Authorities are concerned with the weaker sections of the society and imposes a duty on them to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities. The main objectives of the Scheme are as follow:

- i) To strengthen legal aid and representation at the national, State, District and Tehsil levels for victims of acid attacks in availing the benefits of the various legal provisions and schemes for compensation which exist;
- ii) To enable the victims of acid attacks to get access to medical facilities and rehabilitative services;
- iii) To create and spread awareness about the entitlements of the victims of acid attacks through the District Legal Services Authorities. Tehsil Legal Services Committees, Panel Lawyers, Para Legal Volunteers and Legal Services Clinics;
- iv) To enhance capacities at all levels of panel lawyers, Para legal volunteers, volunteers in legal services clinics, Government officers tasked with the implementation of the various schemes, service providers, Police personnel and NGOs by organizing training, orientation and sensitization programmes.
- v) The ultimate objective of the scheme is to ensure that the victims of acid attacks are appropriately rehabilitated in the society and live a life of dignity.
- 9. Strengthening of the Para-Legal Volunteers Scheme through enhanced training and monitoring. In the past years, a number of Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs) have been trained. However, fresh trainings will need to be imparted to make the PLVs more effective in their work. Strict monitoring of their activities is the need of the hour. At the same time mentoring and hand-holding would be necessary, if the PLVs have to establish themselves within the community as sources of help and solace to the community. The Ladakh Legal Services Authority intends to organize training programmes for PLVs at District headquarters to sanitize the PLVs about their role in spreading legal awareness in the U.T of Ladakh about the marginalized groups.

10. Encourage ADR methods of Lok - Adalat, Mediation, Conciliation and Plea-bargaining.

There must be an emphasis on spreading awareness in the community about the various ADR methods and the benefits of non-adjudicatory methods of dispute resolution. Lok Adalats, Mediation, Conciliation and Plea-bargaining must be made familiar to the community at large. Thus, not only civil matters but also compoundable and non- Compoundable criminal cases which are matrimonial part o disputes could be disposed off and to extent the burden with the courts could be reduced. People should be encouraged to adopt the ADR methods before coming to the court even at the prelitigation Mediation stage, by reference to the Lok Adalat or Conciliation. In this regard Ladakh Legal Services Authority intends to organize awareness camps to encourage people to resort to reconciliatory methods of adjudication.

11. Ladakh Victim Assistance Scheme, 2022.

The victim compensation scheme launched by the Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh, for providing compensation to the victim or their dependents who has suffered loss or injury as a result of the offence committed and who require rehabilitation. As per the scheme, the Ladakh Legal Services Authority shall sanction the compensation after recommendation is made by the Court for compensation or the application made to the concerned District Legal Services Authority, the concerned authority in deserving cases may initiate preliminary verification of facts for the purpose of grant of compensation to the victim taking into consideration the factors related to the loss or injury suffered by the victim. Ladakh Legal Services Authority intends to hold awareness camps at District and Tehsil level to aware the general public about the existence of the scheme so that all the deserving victims are compensated.

Way forward

Ladakh Legal Service Authority has took up the initiative of establishing Vidhik Sewa Kendras in both the District Headquarters for encouraging filing through e-mode and also aware the general public about this facility. In addition to this, the Ladakh Legal Service Authority is facilitating legal aid by the functionaries of Legal Service Institutions in collaboration with department of posts. This facility would not only make the people living in far-flung areas aware about their right to free legal services but would also help in filing application for legal assistance through NALSA app. as well as through ordinary mode of filing application, from the nearest post office. For this Ladakh Legal Services Authority has already affixed display boards in all the post offices of U.T of Ladakh. Apart from this, Ladakh Legal Services Authority intends to use the platform of Doordarshan Kendra, Leh and All India Radio, Kargil for telecasting legal services programme "Qanoon Aur Insaaf Ki Baat" deputing one judicial officer in the said programme on rotation basis, so that the people of Ladakh, living in far flung area are also educated about the basic laws & also about various welfare schemes of Government and NALSA.

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PLAN FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2023

01	Observance of ;
	1. National Voters day on 25th Jan. 2023
	2. Republic Day on 26th Jan.2023
02	Organize legal literacy regarding Victims of
	Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation.

PLAN FOR THE MONTH OF FEBUARY, 2022

01	Implementation of NALSA Scheme: NALSA 2016 (
	Legal Services to Senior Citizens) Scheme,
02	Holding of 1st National Lok Adalat on 11th March 2023
03	Observances of "World Day Of Social Justice" on 20th
	February 2023
O4	Central Sector Scheme of NALSA DISHA (Designing
	Innovative Solution for Holistic Access to Justice).

PLAN FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH, 2023

01	Implementation of NALSA Scheme: NALSA (Legal
	Services to the Workers of Un organized Sector)
	Scheme, 2015
02	Observance of:
	i) International Women's Day on 8th of March 2023.
	Special Programmes to be organized on Women's
	Right and Violence against Women.
	ii) National Consumer Day on 15-03-2023
	iii) World Water Day" On 22nd of March 2023
03	Organize special drive for the Under -Trial prisoners
	focusing on:
	Legal awareness of their rights and availing free Legal
	services to them Ensuring representation before the
	courts
04	Organize Advanced Training Programmes for PLVs of
	the DLSAs & TLSCs.

PLAN FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2023

01	Implementation of NALSA Scheme:
	Victims/Survivors (Compensation Scheme for Women
	of Sexual Crimes) Scheme
02	Celebration of "World Health Day" on 7th April, 2023
03	Campaign on Prohibition of Child Marriage
04	Awareness programs on Pre-institution Mediation and settlement
05	Awareness programme on cyber laws

PLAN FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 2023

01	Implementation of NALSA Scheme: NALSA (Legal
<u> </u>	Services to the Victims of Drug Abuse and Observance
	Eradication of Drug Menace), Scheme, 2015
02	Holding of 2nd National Lok -Adalat on 13th May 2023
03	Observance of :
	i) International Labour Day" on 1st of May, 2023
	ii) Bio- Diversity Day" on 22nd of May, 2023
	iii) Anti- Tobacco Day on 31st of May, 2023
04	Organize Legal Literacy Programmes for Labour.
05	Organize plantation Drive.
03	Holding of 2nd National Lok -Adalat on 13th May 2023 Observance of: i) International Labour Day" on 1st of May, 2023 ii) Bio- Diversity Day" on 22nd of May, 2023 iii) Anti- Tobacco Day on 31st of May, 2023 Organize Legal Literacy Programmes for Labour.

PLAN FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 2023

01	Implementation of NALSA Scheme: NALSA (Legal
	Services to the Mentally Ill and Mentally Disabled
	Persons) Scheme, 2015
02	Observance of:
	i) "World Environmental Day" On 5th of June, 2023 in
	Collaboration with Forest Department and Organize
	Plantation Drives.
	ii) World Day Against Child Labour" On 12th Of June,
	2023
	iii) International Yoga Day" On 21th June
	iv) International Day Against Drug Abuse" On 26th

	June, 2022
03	Refresher Training programme for Panel Lawyers on
	18th June, 2023.
04	Organize programmes on Child labour.

PLAN FOR THE MONTH OF JULY, 2023

01	Implementation of NALSA Scheme: NALSA (Effective
	Implementation of Poverty Alleviation Schemes)
	Scheme, 2015
02	Organise Legal Awareness Programmes at village level
	Specially focusing on Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme
	and Drug Abuse.
03	Observance Of:
	i) World Population Day" On 11th Of July, 2023.
	ii) World Day Of International Justice" On 17th of July,
	2023.
04	Organize Awareness Programme on Right to
	Information Act, 2005 & Public Services Guarantee Act,
	2011

PLAN FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2023

01	Implementation of NALSA Scheme: NALSA (Victims of
	Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation)
	Scheme, 2015
02	Observance Of "International Youth Day" On 12th of
	August, 2023.
03	Organise Legal Awareness Programme in Jail on Plea
	bargaining, Rights of Prisoners and bail provisions
04	To Conduct Awareness Programmes on POCSO Act

PLAN FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 2023

01	Implementation of NALSA Scheme: NALSA (Child
	Friendly Legal Services to Children and their
	Protection) Scheme, 2015.
02	Observance Of "International Literacy Day" On 8th
	Sep,2022
03	Holding of 3rd National Lok -Adalat on 09th September
	2023.
04	Organize Sensitization Programmes regarding
	Settlement of cases through mediation
05	Organize awareness programs On Public Utility
	Services & Central Government welfare schemes

PLAN FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 2023

01	Implementation of NALSA Scheme:
	NALSA (Legal Services to Victims of Acid Attack)
	Scheme, 2016.
02	Celebration of Gandhi Jayanti" On 2nd Oct, 2023
03	Observance of :
	i) International Day Of Elderly" On 1st October, 2023
	ii) World Mental Health Day" On 10th October, 2023
	iii) International Girl Child Day" 11th October, 2023
04	Awareness programme:
	Maintenance and welfare of Parents and Senior
	Citizens Act, 2007.

PLAN FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2023

01	Implementation of NALSA Scheme:
	NALSA, Schemes for legal services to Disaster Victims
02	Observances of "Legal Services Day" On 9th November,
	2023 and Celebration of Legal Services Week.
03	Observance Of:
	i) World Population Day" On 11th Of July, 2023.
	ii) National Education Day" On 11th November, 2023
	and to organize special programmes in schools and
	colleges.
04	Observances of "Constitution Day" On 26th November,
	2023 and Celebration of Constitution week.

PLAN FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 2023

01	Implementation of NALSA Scheme:
	NALSA (Protection and Enforcement of Tribal Rights)
	Scheme, 2015
02	Holding of 4th National Lok -Adalat on 09th December
	2023.
03	Observance of :
	i) World HIV/ AIDS Day" on 1st of December, 2023
	ii) International Day of persons with disabilities on 3rd
	Dec.2023
	iii) World human rights day on 10th Dec. 2023
	iv) National consumer day on 24th Dec. 2023.
04	Organize awareness programme on Juvenile Justice
	(Care and Protection of Children) Act,2015