

Annual Accounts
of
National Legal Aid Fund
And
Audit Report of the
Comptroller and Auditor General of India
New Delhi
for
2016-17



NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

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NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-2017

NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
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New Delhi-110011

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INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY OF NALSA

Towards fulfilling the Preamble promise of securing to all the citizens, Justice — social, economic and political, Article 39A of the Constitution of India provides for free legal aid to the poor and weaker sections of the society, to promote justice on the basis of equal opportunity. Articles 14 and 22(1) of the Constitution also make it obligatory for the State to ensure equality before law. In 1987, the Legal Services Authorities Act was enacted by the Parliament, which came into force on 9th November, 1995 to establish a nationwide uniform network for providing free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society.

The earliest Legal Aid movement appears to be of the year 1851 when some enactment was introduced in France for providing legal assistance to the indigent. In Britain, the history of the organised efforts on the part of the State to provide legal services to the poor and needy dates back to 1944, when Lord Chancellor, Viscount Simon appointed Rushcliffe Committee to enquire about the facilities existing in England and Wales for giving legal advice to the poor and to make recommendations as appear to be desirable for ensuring that persons in need of legal advice are provided the same by the State. Since 1952, the Govt. of India also started addressing to the question of legal aid for the poor in various conferences of Law Ministers and Law Commissions. In 1960, some guidelines were drawn by the Govt. for legal aid schemes. In different states legal aid schemes were floated through Legal Aid Boards, Societies and Law Departments. In 1980, a Committee at the national level was constituted to oversee and supervise legal aid programmes throughout the country under the Chairmanship of Hon. Mr. Justice P.N. Bhagwati then a Judge of the Supreme Court of India. This Committee came to be known as CILAS (Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes) and started monitoring legal aid activities throughout the country. The introduction of Lok Adalats added a new chapter to the justice dispensation system of this country and succeeded in providing a supplementary forum to the litigants for conciliatory settlement of their disputes. In 1987 Legal Services Authorities Act was enacted to give a statutory base to legal aid programmes throughout the country on a uniform pattern. This Act was finally enforced on 9th of November, 1995 after certain amendments were introduced therein by the Amendment Act of 1994. Hon. Mr. Justice R.N. Mishra the then Chief Justice of India played a key role in the enforcement of the Act.

PRESENT PATRON-IN-CHIEF/CHAIRMAN OF NALSA

Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.S.Khehar

Chief Justice of India & Patron-in-Chief

National Legal Services Authority

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dipak Misra

Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman

National Legal Services Authority

Public awareness, equal opportunity and deliverable justice are the cornerstones on which the edifice of NALSA is based. The principal objective of NALSA is to provide free and competent legal services to the weaker sections of the society and to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen by reason of economic or other disabilities, and to organize Lok Adalats for amicable settlement of disputes. Apart from the abovementioned, functions of NALSA include spreading legal literacy and awareness, undertaking social justice litigations etc.

With the aim of reaching out to the diverse milieu of people belonging to different socio-economic, cultural and political backgrounds, NALSA identifies specific categories of the marginalized and excluded groups from the diverse populace of the country and formulates various schemes for the implementation of preventive and strategic legal service programmes to be undertaken and implemented by the Legal Services Authorities at the various levels. In carrying out all these responsibilities, NALSA works in close coordination with the various State Legal Services Authorities, District Legal Services Authorities and other agencies for a regular exchange of relevant information, monitoring and updating on the implementation and progress of the various schemes in vogue and fostering a strategic and coordinated approach to ensure smooth and streamlined functioning of the various agencies and stakeholders.

VISION STATEMENT

OUR VISION:

To promote an inclusive legal system in order to ensure fair and meaningful justice to the marginalized and disadvantaged sector.

OUR MISSION:

To legally empower the marginalized and excluded groups of the society by providing effective legal representation, legal literacy and awareness and bridging the gap between the legally available benefits and the entitled beneficiaries.

To strengthen the system of Lok Adalats and other Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanisms in order to provide for informal, quick, inexpensive and effective resolution of disputes and minimize the load of adjudication on the overburdened judiciary.

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE

National Legal Services Authority has been constituted by the Central Government to exercise the powers and to perform the functions conferred on or assigned to it under the Act.

The Chief Justice of India is the Patron-in Chief of NALSA. The Senior Most Judge of the Supreme Court is the Executive Chairman. The Central Government in consultation with Chief Justice of India has also appointed a person as the Member Secretary of the NALSA.

Similarly, at the State level the Chief Justice of the High Court is the Patron-in-Chief of State Legal Services Authority and Senior Most Judge of the High Court is the Executive Chairman. There is also an office of Member Secretary at State level. The District Legal Services Authorities are headed by the District Judge as the Chairperson.

At National Level	-- National Legal Services Authority
At State Level	-- State Legal Services Authority
At the Supreme Court	-- Supreme Court Legal Services Committee
At High Court Level	-- High Court Legal Services Committee
At District Level	-- District Legal Services Authority
At Taluk Level	-- Taluk Legal Services Committee.

FUNCTIONING OF NALSA & SLSAs

Legal services to the poor and disadvantaged people has in the past often been guided by charitable and philanthropic concerns. In a rights based society, however, the philosophy of legal aid has acquired a new meaning. With emphasis on the concept of equality of all human beings, increasingly drawn from the universal principles of Human Rights, free legal aid to the poor and marginalised members of the society is now viewed as a tool to empower such people to use the power of the law to advance their rights and interests as citizens and also as, economic actors. This paradigm shift in the concept of legal aid achieves greater importance when India is viewed as a growing economic power.

Accordingly, the functions of the Legal Services Authorities enumerated in Sections 4, 7, 10 & 11-B of the Act are intended to make the Legal Services Institutions self-developing, innovative and pro-active institutions designed to reach out to the weaker-sections of the society. The Act also takes into account the constraints and limitations of the executive and judicial functionaries and envisages enlisting the support of voluntary social welfare institutions.

Following are the broad functions of the Legal Services Institutions as mandated by the Act:

- (i) Providing free and competent legal services, including legal aid and advice to the eligible categories of persons.
- (ii) Taking appropriate measures for spreading legal literacy and legal awareness amongst the people and, in particular, to educate weaker sections of the society about the rights, benefits and privileges guaranteed by social welfare legislations and other enactments as well as administrative programmes and measures;
- (iii) Conducting Lok Adalats;
- (iv) Preventative and strategic legal services schemes;
- (v) Taking necessary steps by way of social justice litigation in matters of special concern to the weaker sections of the society.
- (vi) Capacity building of Legal Services Lawyers and Para Legal Volunteers.

SOURCE OF FUNDS

NALSA being the Central Authority receives funding by way of grants as deemed fit by the Central Government after due appropriation is made by the Parliament by law for being utilized for the purposes of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987.

Section 15 of the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 mandates the establishment of a National Legal Aid Fund by the Central Authority and there shall be credited thereto:

- a) All sums of money given as grants by the Central Government under Section 14;**
- b) Any grants or donations that may be made to the Central Authority by any other person for the purposes of this Act;**
- c) Any amount received by the Central Authority under the orders of any Court or from any other source.**

The said National Legal Aid Fund shall be applied for meeting:

- a) The cost of legal services provided under this Act including grants made to State Authorities;**
- b) The cost of legal services provided by the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee;**
- c) Any other expenses which are required to be met by the Central Authority.**

BUDGET 2016-2017

Budget Estimates of NALSA	Rs.142 Cr.
Revised Estimates	Rs.83.95 Cr.
Grant received from Ministry of Law & Justice	Rs.63.67 Cr.
Grant released to SLSAs/SCLSC etc.	Rs.110.09 Cr.
Other Expenses	Rs.2.92 Cr.
Total Expenses	Rs.113.01 Cr.

LEGAL SERVICES ACTIVITIES

I. LEGAL AID BENEFICIARIES:

The Core activity of Legal Services Institutions is to provide free legal services in civil and criminal matters to those eligible applicants who cannot afford the services of a lawyer for the conduct of a case or a legal proceeding in any court, tribunal or before an authority.

Provision of free legal services may include:

- a) Representation of an Advocate in legal proceedings.
- b) Preparation of pleadings, memo of appeal, paper book including printing and translation of documents in legal proceedings;
- c) Drafting of legal documents, special leave petition etc;
- d) Rendering of any service in the conduct of any case or other legal proceeding before any court or other Authority or tribunal and;
- e) Giving of advice on any legal matter.

Free Legal Services also include provision of aid and advice to the beneficiaries to access the benefits under the welfare statutes and schemes framed by the Central Government or the State Government and to ensure access to justice in any other manner.

Free Legal Services can be availed by:

- (a) A member of a Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe;
- (b) A victim of trafficking in human beings or beggar as referred to in Article 23 of the Constitution;
- (c) A woman or a child;
- (d) A mentally ill or otherwise disabled person;
- (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; or
- (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) In receipt of annual income less than rupees nine thousand or such other higher amount as may be prescribed by the State Government, if the case is before a court other than the Supreme Court, and less than rupees twelve thousand or such other higher amount as may be prescribed by the Central Government, if the case is before the Supreme Court.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PERSONS BENEFITTED THROUGH LEGAL SERVICES AND ADVICE FROM APRIL, 2016 TO MARCH, 2017.								
S.No.	SLSAs	SC	ST	Women	Children	In custody	General	Total
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	7	0	31	1	39
2	Andhra Pradesh	223	99	1387	317	744	2952	5722
3	Arunachal Pradesh	39	277	531	0	186	139	1172
4	Assam	99	369	858	80	817	1992	4215
5	Bihar	407	161	596	159	6132	1956	9411
6	Chhattisgarh	5236	6345	3192	1427	8939	13646	38785
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	0	1	0	4	125	131
8	Daman & Diu	0	0	2	3	4	0	9
9	Delhi	749	8	9932	5392	10672	8533	35286
10	Goa	10	6	527	15	284	372	1214
11	Gujarat	1317	326	3306	101	2680	4300	12030
12	Haryana	922	11	5112	153	5528	4085	15811
13	Himachal Pradesh	300	32	1246	16	202	544	2340
14	Jammu & Kashmir	403	130	646	136	201	1778	3294
15	Jharkhand	1371	1655	4073	497	2788	5623	16007
16	Karnataka	4280	2274	8647	350	2883	21444	39878
17	Kerala	2683	801	27382	750	18171	28234	78021
18	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	6858	5876	10500	4355	22208	18430	68227

20	Maharashtra	408	130	2794	156	2514	1690	7692
21	Manipur	730	1748	3821	19	611	3363	10292
22	Meghalaya	122	868	371	450	451	148	2410
23	Mizoram	0	2727	1064	26	639	285	4741
24	Nagaland	261	4430	1726	260	384	1046	8107
25	Odisha	390	386	1421	76	560	935	3768
26	Puducherry	50	0	284	123	93	179	729
27	Punjab	3019	58	5660	272	6670	5474	21153
28	Rajasthan	1937	1889	2239	1282	3678	4285	15310
29	Sikkim	32	79	308	44	499	111	1073
30	Tamil Nadu	3007	617	8040	107	4138	28613	44522
31	Telangana	82	39	558	57	941	943	26t20
32	Tripura	751	357	2048	129	522	1165	4972
33	U. T. Chandigarh	197	15	541	427	370	581	2131
34	Uttar Pradesh	5873	1573	4647	1531	2201	52542	68367
35	Uttarakhand	82	0	377	42	851	553	1905
36	West Bengal	1967	779	7206	478	5352	9523	25305
	Total	43806	34065	121050	19230	112948	225590	556689

II. LEGAL AWARENESS/LEGAL LITERACY PROGRAMMES ORGANIZED.

An important activity of all Legal Services Institutions is to create legal awareness. For this purpose all the Legal Services Authorities organise various awareness programmes and also hold legal literacy camps.

Statistical Information in respect of Legal Literacy/Legal Awareness Camps/Programme organized during the period (April, 2016 to March,2017).

S.No.	SLSAs	No. of Programmes Held	No. of Persons Attended
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	5	820
2	Andhra Pradesh	7942	847891
3	Arunachal Pradesh	42	12726
4	Assam	1152	94409
5	Bihar	3495	158228
6	Chhattisgarh	7972	594756
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	19	1520
8	Daman & Diu	18	6830
9	Delhi	6107	347130
10	Goa	178	16447
11	Gujarat	7885	1385304
12	Haryana	17288	7682839
13	Himachal Pradesh	2236	204002
14	Jammu & Kashmir	441	48315
15	Jharkhand	5504	326788
16	Karnataka	7227	1170555

17	Kerala	3094	440731
18	Lakshadweep	2	450
19	Madhya Pradesh	5936	677561
20	Maharashtra	5263	418073
21	Manipur	618	79530
22	Meghalaya	160	17585
23	Mizoram	324	50626
24	Nagaland	611	361726
25	Odisha	1065	131618
26	Puducherry	103	8195
27	Punjab	11181	2842394
28	Rajasthan	12120	1092280
28	Rajasthan	12120	1092280
29	Sikkim	413	16165
30	Tamil Nadu	3053	441113
31	Telengana	1626	234720
32	Tripura	1129	297642
33	U. T. Chandigarh	422	20838
34	Uttar Pradesh	1512	354424
35	Uttarakhand	1617	235954
36	West Bengal	3366	359974
	Grand Total	121126	20980159

III. LOK ADALATS

Besides providing legal services to the weaker and marginalized sections of the society, access to real justice entails providing speedy and less expensive modes of dispute resolution for everyone as an alternative to litigation in courts. Lok Adalat is India's indigenous form of Alternative Dispute Resolution and is now well entrenched in the legal and the judicial system of the country.

Lok Adalat is a forum where disputes/cases pending in the court of law or at pre-litigation stage are settled/compromised amicably. As per the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, the award (decision) made by the Lok Adalats is deemed to be a decree of a civil court and is final and binding on all parties and no appeal against such an award lies before any court of law. If the parties are not satisfied with the award of the Lok Adalat, though there is no provision for an appeal against such an award, they are free to initiate litigation by approaching the court of appropriate jurisdiction.

There is no court fee payable when a matter is filed in a Lok Adalat. If a matter pending in the court of law is referred to the Lok Adalat and is settled subsequently, the court fee originally paid in the court on the complaints/petition is also refunded back to the parties. The persons deciding the cases in the Lok Adalats are called the Members of the Lok Adalats, they have the role of statutory conciliators only and do not have any judicial role; therefore they can only persuade the parties to come to a conclusion for settling the dispute outside the court in the Lok Adalat and shall not pressurize or coerce any of the parties to compromise or settle cases or matters either directly or indirectly. The Lok Adalat shall not decide the matter so referred at its own instance, instead the same would be decided on the basis of the compromise or settlement between the parties. The Members shall assist the parties in an independent and impartial manner in their attempt to reach amicable settlement of their dispute.

As per section 18(1) of the Act, a Lok Adalat shall have jurisdiction to determine and to arrive at a compromise or settlement between the parties to a dispute in respect of —

- (1) Any case pending before; or
- (2) Any matter which is falling within the jurisdiction of and is not brought before, any court for which the Lok Adalat is organized.

Provided that the Lok Adalat shall have no jurisdiction in respect of matters relating to divorce or matters relating to an offence not compoundable under any law.

NALSA along with other Legal Services Institutions conducts Lok Adalats. The State Legal Services Authority or District Legal Services Authority, as the case may be on receipt of an application from any one of the parties at a pre-litigation stage may refer such matters to the Lok Adalat for amicable settlement of the dispute for which notice would then be issued to the other party. There are also Permanent Lok Adalats set up in respect of Public Utility Services.

DISPOSAL IN MONTHLY LOK ADALAT (Excluding National Lok Adalat) w.e.f. April, 2016 to March, 2017)					
S. No.	Name of the SLSA	Pre-Litigation cases settled	Pending cases settled	Total Cases settled	Total settlement amount Rs.
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	92	52	144	15970300
2	Andhra Pradesh	3784	25649	29433	2823243848
3	Arunachal Pradesh	162	478	640	73933073
4	Assam	167	3257	3424	103655384
5	Bihar	26662	1869	28531	292002598
6	Chhattisgarh	4590	20680	25270	489860155.6
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0
8	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0
9	Delhi	5115	1100	6215	353437656
10	Goa	10	483	493	9375435
11	Gujarat	16328	37977	54305	2182650041
12	Haryana	2200	167412	169612	833192880
13	Himachal Pradesh	32	11718	11750	59692178
14	Jammu & Kashmir	4993	3067	8060	279776064
15	Jharkhand	10555	9521	20076	120380099
16	Karnataka	220325	185123	405448	3183097777
17	Kerala	19139	18787	37926	2058398834
18	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	4031	11028	15059	613218127
20	Maharashtra	111737	32016	143753	3260750906
21	Manipur	196	0	196	1028542
22	Meghalaya	54	9	63	2786470
23	Mizoram	352	65	417	23555779
24	Nagaland	0	4	4	3000
25	Odisha	509	216430	216939	76083599

26	Puducherry	941	376	1317	189528032
27	Punjab	4173	14017	18190	1825242058
28	Rajasthan	3335	96818	100153	808677245
29	Sikkim	482	435	917	33948391
30	Tamil Nadu	13698	5484	19182	2347385985
31	Telengana	2407	16251	18658	1312532836
32	Tripura	2734	45346	48080	53489371
33	U. T. Chandigarh	178	406	584	59963100
34	Uttar Pradesh	231	3279	3510	11241269
35	Uttarakhand	587	10387	10974	37304865
36	West Bengal	298834	26155	324989	896467504
	TOTAL	758633	965679	1724312	24431873401

**STATISTICAL INFORMATION IN RESPECT OF PERMANENT LOK
ADALATS (Established u/s 22-B of LSA Act)
For the period w.e.f. April, 2016 to March , 2017**

S. No	SLSA	PLAs Functioning	Sitting During the months	cases pending as on the beginning of the months	Cases received during the months	cases set- tled during the months	Total Value Settle- ment Rs.
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	0	0	0	0	0
2	Andhra Pradesh	9	200	432	2653	707	2141868
3	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	Nil	0	0	0
4	Assam	16	235	358	3700	509	10097030
5	Bihar	0	0	Nil	0	0	0
6	Chhattisgarh	5	1034	123	210	106	140374
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Daman & Diu	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Delhi	2	411	281	6342	5724	346961165
10	Goa	2	13	0	1613	99	153629
11	Gujarat	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Haryana	21	2516	14429	47541	44476	362423206
13	Himachal Pradesh	4	20	0	69	57	550292
14	Jammu & Kashmir	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Jharkhand	22	2521	3140	1362	1448	26867697
16	Karnataka	7	1414	12409	11248	4780	279057565.9
17	Kerala	3	834	821	740	570	35367984
18	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	50	422	946	3374	3519	397550
20	Maharashtra	4	497	2722	7969	10546	107219306
21	Manipur	0	0	Nil	0	0	0
22	Meghalaya	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Mizoram	2	1	0	0	3	0
24	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	Odisha	13	389	1518	1813	1892	76676317
26	Puducherry	0	0	0	0	0	5

27	Punjab	22	2717	6968	14718	12425	212504948
28	Rajasthan	34	2003	2485	2417	2256	82371830
29	Sikkim	0	0	Nil	0	0	0
30	Tamil Nadu *	0	4	0	140	0	0
31	Telengana	6	355	2369	9442	1229	27918386
32	Tripura	0	114	0	120	29	640000
33	U. T. Chandigarh	1	234	468	2862	1920	20849254
34	Uttar Pradesh	47	4952	4191	2724	1260	15973471
35	Uttarakhand	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	West Bengal	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Grand Total	271	20886	53660	121057	93555	1608311878

Note: * Established but not constituted, appointment of Members is under progress.

IV MEDIATION

Mediation as a method of dispute resolution has deep roots in the Indian culture and in recent times it has emerged as one of the most effective methods of providing expeditious justice to the satisfaction of the parties whereby the parties are facilitated to arrive at a mutually satisfactory disposition with the assistance of a third party mediator. Mediation, without doubt results in a win win situation for both the parties.

The statistical figures in respect of cases disposed of through mediation in different States during the year are as under:

STATEMENT SHOWING THE DETAILS OF MEDIATION CASES SETTLED FROM APRIL, 2016 TO MARCH, 2017						
(in rupees)						
S.NO	SLSA	ADR Centre Functional	Existing Mediation Centres other than ADR Centres	No of cases received during the months	No. of cases settled during the months	No. of cases pending at the end of the month
1	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	1	1	11	0	2
2	Andhra Pradesh	13	13	7095	821	583
3	Arunachal Pradesh	Nil	2	0	0	0
4	Assam	5	14	2268	599	251
5	Bihar	23	11	2295	371	641
6	Chhattisgarh	30	30	1528	408	432
7	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	1	1	11	3	0
8	Daman & Diu	0	1	34	8	0
9	Delhi	6	0	1782	526	248
10	Goa	5	10	116	4	81
11	Gujarat	12	13	6231	796	1198
12	Haryana	17	21	7596	1628	1007
13	Himachal Pradesh	2	12	1783	520	490
14	Jammu & Kashmir	6	16	291	43	124
15	Jharkhand	24	0	8270	2400	2827
16	Karnataka	12	29	12945	3596	5586

17	Kerala	6	54	35355	10557	5197
18	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
19	Madhya Pradesh	28	97	75441	35517	10088
20	Maharashtra	13	35	48458	22021	10927
21	Manipur	0	1	10	0	4
22	Meghalaya	1	0	22	4	0
23	Mizoram	2	2	0	0	0
24	Nagaland	0	0	0	0	0
25	Odisha	12	18	2770	254	772
26	Puducherry	2	2	162	24	49
27	Punjab	14	9	6944	1485	666
28	Rajasthan	35	132	18738	2705	2316
29	Sikkim	4	4	170	72	19
30	Tamil Nadu	37	35	9554	1044	3520
31	Telengana	0	12	5293	821	866
32	Tripura	6	5	17	3	4
33	U. T. Chandigarh	1	1	1101	345	125
34	Uttar Pradesh	33	-	34423	6829	10576
35	Uttarakhand	3	16	1004	272	197
36	West Bengal	21	2	271	56	161
	Grand Total	375	599	291989	93732	58957

V INFORMATION AS ON 31.1.2016 WITH REGARD TO LEGAL SERVICES CLINICS IN JAILS AND LEGAL SERVICES TO UNDER TRIAL PRISONERS (UTPs)

S.No.	States	Total No. of Jails.	No. of Legal Services Clinics set up in Jails.	No. of UTPs interacted with at Jail Clinics.	No. of days in a week on which Legal Services Clinics function in the Jails.	Mechanism for the Jail Visiting Lawyers/ PLVs to meet each UTPs in jails premises.
1	Andhra Pradesh	83	85	650	Twice in a week, in some districts once in a week.	<p>The jail visiting lawyers meet the prisoners and prepare required petitions and also provide necessary advice to them.</p> <p>The panel lawyers attached to the under trial review committees are visiting jails periodically and finding out the UTPs who have been granted bail but not released for want for sureties and also finding out the UTPs who are involved in compoundable offences and pursuing the matters before the Courts. The PLVs are also attached by some DLSAs in this regard who are interacting with the prisoners, preparing petitions and sending to the DLSAs. DLSAs are taking further steps for resolving the grievances. The jail visiting advocates are providing assistance to prisoners and also visiting jails barracks. The Secretary, DLSA is also visiting and interacting with the prisoners periodically and providing necessary legal aid.</p>
2	Arunachal Pradesh	09	01	-	At least twice in a week or once in a week.	The panel lawyers are allowed to call for UTPs who require legal aid and counselling at the clinic through the intervention of the Jail Authority.
3	Assam	31	22	2	Twice or thrice a week.	Lawyers/PLVs are deputed by DLSAs twice or thrice a week for jail visits.
4.	Bihar	58	58	324	Once in a week	One or two panel lawyers have been deputed to such legal aid clinics on weekly or quarterly basis as per requirement to provide legal services to prisoners. In order to assist panel lawyers in jail legal aid clinics; one or two PLVs (preferably selected from amongst prisoners themselves) are also deputed in each prison to interact with prisoners and put their grievances before panel lawyers.
5	Chhattisgarh	30	28	420	In some districts once in a week and some by weekly.	There is no specific mechanism but visiting dates are displayed and information is given to UTPs through announcement on such dates. The panel lawyer of jail clinic meet UTPs at jail clinic and he has also been asked to visit women cell and other cells, after approval from the competent authority. The PLVs are convicted prisoners and it is directed to the state that one PLV for each cell for this purpose shall be appointed.
6	Goa	02	02	125	Every Wednesday/ 04 days in a month.	Every Wednesday and submits report to this Authority.
7	Gujarat	26	35	178	One day in a week	PLV does not need each UTP but the UTP visits such clinic through Jailor to resolve their problems.

8	Haryana	19	19	19267	Two days in a week as per requirement.	Panel advocate visiting jails sits in the legal aid clinic set up inside the jail premises. Announcements are made by jail authorities over loud speakers in each barrack informing them of the visit to jail by panel advocate and those desirous of obtaining free legal aid counsel or other assistance in drafting of their applications etc meet the panel advocate in legal aid clinic. Thereafter, interested inmates from each barrack are brought by jail authorities at the legal aid clinic where necessary legal assistance is provided to them.
9	Himachal Pradesh	12	12	6717	Once in week on each Wednesday.	The Retainer Lawyers in legal aid clinic in District/Sub Jails sit such jails once in a week on every Tuesday from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm and legal aid counsel for bail and remand visit the district/sub jails on every Saturday in a week on rotation basis to make direct communication with the under trail prisoners and also apprise them about their legal rights and other help. The panel lawyers meet the under trail prisoners in the courts and if need be, in jails with permission of jail authorities.
10	J & K	14	14	63	03 days in a week.	Panel Lawyers/PLVs meet the UTPs in jails twice in a week to address their grievances and to provide legal aid which they require.
11	Jharkhand	25	25	1364	06 days in a week.	Panel lawyers visit jails alternatively. Jail inmates trained as PLVs are functioning in the jails.
12	Karnataka	102	53	1765	Once in a week.	Panel Lawyers meet UTPs in the separate chambers at the prison office or legal aid clinics in the jail premises.
13	Kerala	55	59	7357	Once in a week.	Panel lawyers and PLVs visit the jails at least twice in a month. The jail authorities make arrangements during such visits to meet UTPs personally.
14	Madhya Pradesh	121	104	37700	Twice in a week.	Through jail official's panel lawyers, PLVs meet each UTPs.
15	Maharashtra	36	45	1027	Once in a week.	UTPs in jail are allowed to meet the lawyers/PLVs as per jail rules.
16	Manipur	02	02	472	Three days in a week.	PLVs working in the legal aid clinics opened at jails meet the UTPs regularly.
17	Meghalaya	04	04	380	Twice in a week.	Yes, one to one meeting in Jail premises.
18	Mizoram	07	07	393	Twice a week	Permission is being granted by the jail authorities.
19	Nagaland	10	06	42	Twice a week	DLSA Secretary, Jailor/Assistant Jailor.
20	Odisha	87	91	412	Twice a week	Jail visiting lawyers/PLVs are being facilitated four days in a month to meet the UTPs through jail legal aid clinic operating inside the jail.
21	Punjab	26	31	3325	06 days in a week	Lawyers and PLVs visit jail premises and hold lectures and give information regarding latest information in the legal aid system.
22	Rajasthan	97	67	3609	Twice a week in Central Jails and once a week in other jails.	Awareness teams of RLSAS comprising of two panel lawyers and two PLVs visit jails on 3 rd Saturday of every month and personally meet the UTPs. PLV also attends the legal services clinic/centre on stipulated days. The inmates come to the centre and meet the PLVs.

23	Sikkim	02	01	184	Twice a week	Panel Advocates visit jail when they are appointed as Legal Aid Counsel for the UTPs.
24	Tamil Nadu	125	09	2475	Daily	One advocate in the morning and one advocate in the evening are deputed for legal aid clinics in Central Prisons.
25	Telangana	38	38	8602	Weekly once	The Panel lawyers and PLVs are accompanying the Secretary/Chairman of Legal Services Institutions during the jail visits and inquiring the UTPs about their cases and if necessary filing petitions before the concerned courts.
26	Tripura	13	13	657	Daily, two PLVs in rotation.	Once in week, one Panel Lawyer along with one PLV meet the UTPs in the jail premises under their respective District/Sub-Division through DLSAs/SDLSCs.
27	Uttar Pradesh	62	49	1476	Ordinarily two days in a week.	By visiting the jails.
28	Uttarakhand	10	09	2258	02	In order to sensitize the UTPs about their legal rights, for counselling and for identifying the UTPs in need of legal aid, secretary and panel lawyers are visiting the District/Sub Jails of the State.
29	West Bengal	58	56	3505	Clinics are functioning in the manner once in a week/two days in a week/five days in a week/fortnightly.	<p>Legal Literacy and general legal awareness in respect of Plea-Bargaining, Criminal Laws, Rights of prisoners, Free Legal assistance by the Legal Services Institutions.</p> <p>Rendering legal services in respect of bail matters, appeal matters, present status of his/her case(s),</p> <p>In connection with ascertainment of legal aid needs to UTPs /Convicts, the retired Ld. Judicial Officers have been visiting the Correctional Homes at Alipore including presidency Correctional Home on routine basis as per direction of Calcutta High Court Legal Services Committee under the NALSA's Project Component No. 3 and on the basis of the observation report, legal services have been render by the Legal Services Institutions.</p> <p>Legal services lawyers to defend the undefended UTPs under Model Scheme of the Legal Aid Counsel in the all Magistrate Courts & Sessions Courts.</p> <p>As per recommendation of the Hon'ble Justice Manju Goel(Retd.), Member of NALSA, the Committee has been constituted in each district and the team visit the Correctional Homes in regard to conduct an in-depth study of the conditions of UTPs as per sub-Committee meeting of NALSA held on 08.02.2015.</p> <p>Effective implementation of the order of the Supreme Court of India in W.P.(C) No. 406 of 2013 – Re-inhuman conditions of 1382 prisons, the Under Trial Review Committee has been constituted in every district.</p>
30	Andaman & Nicobar	04	02	-	Daily	Many lawyers on rotation.

31	UT Chandigarh	01	01	211	6 days a week.	The jail visiting advocates/law officers visit each and every barrack of the model jail, Chandigarh to interact with the under trial prisoners and guide them as per the requirement. Two long term prisoners have been deputed as PLVs, in addition to it, two officials of State Legal Services Authority, UT Chandigarh are permanently deputed there from 9.30 AM to 12.30 PM to assist the PLVs and lawyers in helping the inmates.
32	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	01	01	1	Scheduled not fixed.	24 advocates are appointed on Legal Services Panel Lawyers to look into the matter of under trial prisoners.
33	Daman & Diu	02	01	-	Two days in a week in Daman and Nil in Diu.	Personal visit in Daman and no UTPs at Diu.
34	Delhi	10	11	40660	All working days.	The Jail Visiting Legal Services Advocates (LSAs) visit daily in all jails assigned to them in day and hold the office from 3.00 PM to 7.00 PM in the legal services clinics established in jails. They hold office and announcements are made to this effect that each and every inmate can meet them and seek for counselling/opinion and any other free legal aid services viz. drafting of bail application, appeal etc. The PLVs assist these LSAs and ensure that each and every inmate is made aware that free legal aid service/facility is available to them.
35	Lakshadweep	03	-	-	No prisoners in 3 jails.	NA
36	Puducherry	04	04	153	All working days.	A room is provided for lawyers and PLVs.

National Legal Services Authoritie/Activities/Achievements During The Year 2016-17

From February, 2016, National Lok Adalat's are being held on a specific subject matter every month all over the country. The number of pending and pre-litigation cases settled in each of the National Lok Adalat's (April, 2016 to March, 2017) is as under.

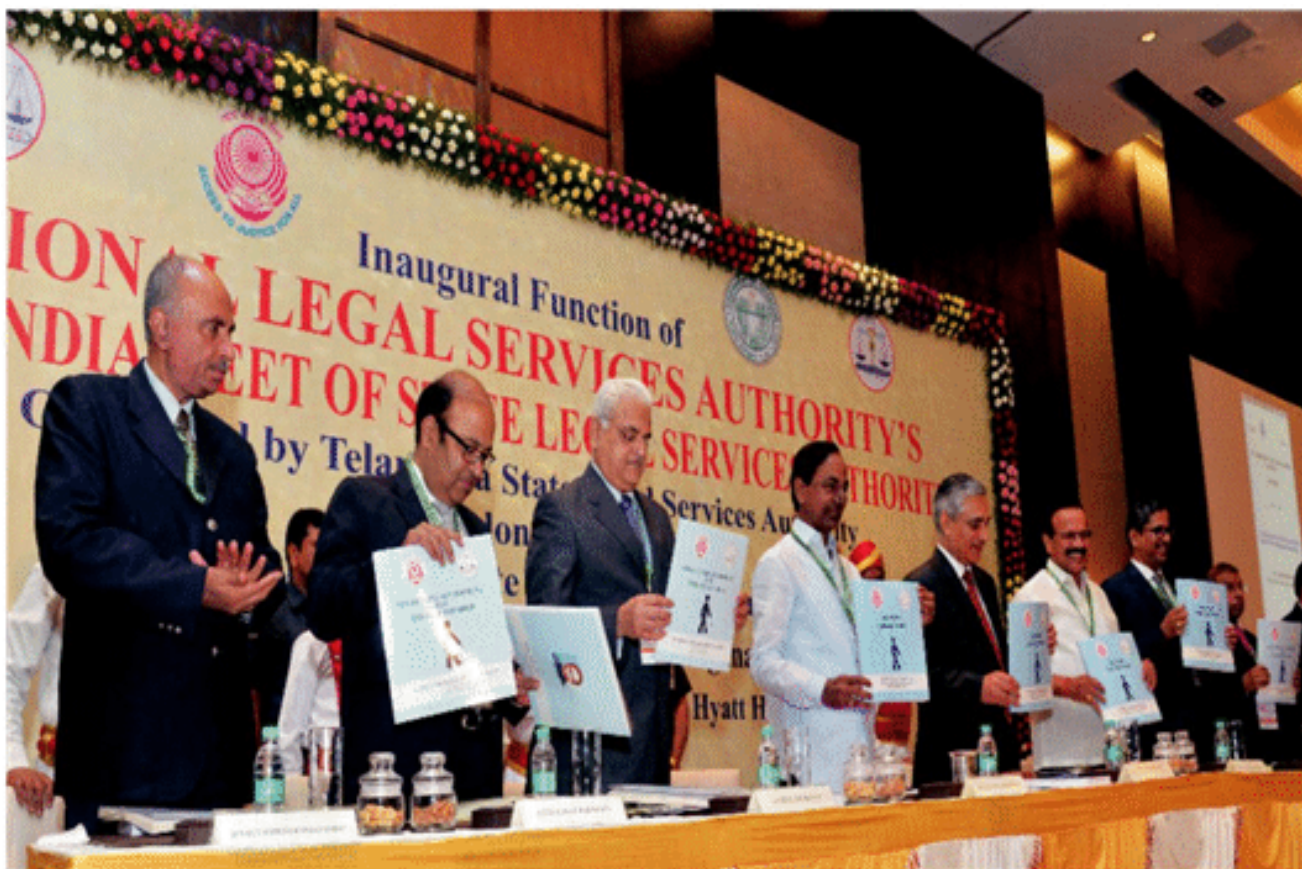
TOTAL DISPOSAL IN MONTHLY NATIONAL LOK ADALTS ORGANISED ON VARIOUS SUBJECT MATTERS (W.E.F. APRIL, 2016 TO MARCH, 2017).			
S.No.	Dated	Subject	Total Disposal (both pre-litigation and pending cases)
1	09.04.2016	Labour and Family Matters	801552
2	14.05.2016	MACT & Insurance Claims	111828
3	11.06.2016		110673
4	09.07.2016	Electricity/Water/Telephone and Public Utility Dispute etc.	708305
5	13.08.2016	Banking Matters & u/s 138 NI Act	409487
6	10.09.2016t	Criminal Compoundable Matters	324208
7	08.10.2016	Traffic, Petty Matters and Municipal Matters	1096932
8	12.11.2016	All types of cases	5146084
9	11.02.2017	All Types of Cases	953312
		Grand Total	9662381

All India Meet of the State Legal Services Authorities held at Hyderabad, Telangana on 9-10 April, 2016.

The 14th All India Meet of the State Legal Services Authorities was organized at Hyderabad, Telangana on 9-10 April, 2016. The Meet was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Thakur, Chief Justice of India & Patron-in-Chief, NALSA in the august presence of Sri K.Chandrashekar Rao, Hon'ble Chief Minister, State of Telangana, Sri D.V. Sadananda Gowda, Hon'ble Minister of Law & Justice, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil R. Dave, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, NALSA, Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.V. Ramana, Judge, Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dalip B. Bhosale, Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Judicature of Hyderabad, Hon'ble Mr. Justice G. Chandraiah, Executive Chairman, Telangana State Legal Services Authority and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ramesh Ranganathan, Executive Chairman, A.P. State Legal Services Authority.

In the Inaugural Session, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Telangana reiterated his Government's commitment to adopt ADR Resolution Mechanisms including Lok Adalat's and to provide all necessary support to the Legal Services Authorities in their functioning.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Thakur, Chief Justice of India & Patron-in-Chief, NALSA highlighted the importance of Lok Adalat's in providing expeditious justice and thereby mitigating the burden on the courts. His Lordship also highlighted the fact that Lok Adalat's in pre-litigation matters have been preventing almost about 02 crores cases every year from further clogging the justice delivery system.



14th All india Meet of State Legal Services Authorities held at Hyderabad on 9th & 10th April, 2016 and organised by Telangana State Legal Services Authority

In the sessions that followed, the main emphasis of Hon'ble Executive Chairman, NALSA was on enhancing the quality of all kinds of legal services provided by the Legal Services Institutions. The key outcomes of the Meet may be listed as follows:

- a) A resolution by all State Legal Services Authorities (SLSAs) to immediately take steps for amendment in the Regulations, to fix the fee payable to the Panel Lawyers at a rate not lower than that approved by the Central Authority;
- b) To evolve a mechanism for closer monitoring of the progress of each legal aided case, guidance to the panel lawyers wherever required and suitable action for non-performance;
- c) Regular training of panel lawyers for each district;
- d) To establish legal services clinics in all jails and ensure adequate frequency of visits by lawyers (preferably everyday);
- e) To give adequate publicity to jail clinics and to facilitate legal services to jail inmates by panel lawyers/para legal volunteers;
- f) To create a mechanism to ensure that the figures of disposal of pending cases in Lok Adalat's verifiably correspond to reduction of pendency of such cases in the courts;

- g) To strictly adhere to the definition of pre-litigation matters in the context of Lok Adalat's, as adopted in the 13th All India Meet;
- h) To follow up with the State Governments to revise their Victim Compensation Schemes and to keep the victim compensation fund at disposal of SLSAs/DLSAs to ensure timely disbursement of the awarded amount.

Regional Meet of State Legal Services Authorities

Regional Meet of State Legal Services Authorities of North Eastern States including Sikkim was held on 18th and 19th June, 2016 at Agartala on "Effective Implementation of Legal Services Programmes: Challenges and Way Forward".

The broad objectives of the Meet were:

- a) To understand and build consensus on priorities of State Legal Services Authorities in the Region.
- b) To discuss ways of enhancing the visibility of legal services institutions and their work;
- c) To find effective ways of full and proper utilisation of grants, by expanding the range and
- d) To identify area specific challenges and find a way forward.

The Regional Meet was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil R. Dave, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, NALSA, in the august presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.Vaiphei, Chief Justice (Acting), High Court of Tripura & Patron-in-Chief, Tripura State Legal Services Authority, Hon'ble Mr. Justice U.B. Saha, Judge, High Court of Tripura & Executive Chairman, Tripura State Legal Services Authority, Hon'ble Mr. Justice S.C. Das, Judge, High Court of Tripura & Chairman, High Court Legal Services Committee & Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Talapatra, Judge, High Court of Tripura & Judge-in-Charge, Mediation for the state of Tripura. The Executive Chairpersons of the State Legal Services Authorities including Sikkim were present as also the Member Secretaries of all the said SLSAs.

On the second day, a Meeting of all the Member Secretaries of the concerned SLSAs was held. After discussions, the broad common suggestions made to all the State Legal Services Authorities were as follows:

- a) The respective High Courts were requested to fill up all the sanctioned posts of Member Secretaries and Districts Secretaries and in the meanwhile, Judicial Officers looking after the work of Secretaries be granted half day exemption from judicial work and proportionate exemption from units;
- b) To prepare an advance training calendar for panel lawyers and to conduct the training programmes through master trainers;
- c) To maintain effective coordination with the jail authorities and to train some of the long term convicts in all the jails as PLVs and to ensure that all the under trial prisoners in all the jails are contacted by the PLVs to ascertain their need of legal assistance. The PLVs should maintain the relevant records and pass it on to the jail visiting lawyers;
- d) To employ all possible methods of enhancing visibility of legal services institutions and their work including print and electronic media, putting up of hoardings, social media, bulk sms etc.;
- e) To estimate and project likely expenses on each of the legal services and to first utilise the carried forward amounts available with them;

- f) To promptly submit the utilisation certificates for each of the previous year's carried forwards grants; and
- g) To develop website for all DLSAs so that they could be eventually linked with the online portal being developed by NALSA for filling online applications, forwarding of grievances and reporting of statistics.



The Regional Meet of the State Legal Services Authorities of North Eastern States at High Court Auditorium, Agartala was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil R. Dave, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Executive Chairman, NALSA by lighting lamp.



Some glimpses of "THE REGIONAL MEET"

Undertrial Review Committees

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P.(C) No.406/2013 had passed directions for release of under trails prisoners who had served half of the sentence giving the benefit of Section 436A of the Cr. P.C. The Under Trial Review Committees have been set up in all the districts chaired by the District Judge of the concerned district and the District Legal Services Authorities have been assisting the under trial prisoners in getting the benefit of Section 436A of Cr. P.C. During the period from April, 2016 to June, 2016 many such cases were identified by the DLSA Secretaries and recommended by the UTRCs for release and some of them were also released.

Social Action Litigation

NALSA is either a party in a number of cases pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court or directions have been issued to it from time to time to submit report or otherwise. Some such case are:

Bachpan Bachao Andolan v. UOI WP (C) No.75/2012 pertaining to missing children.

Sampurna Behrui v. UOI WP (C) 473/2005 where directions were given for providing legal aid to the children in conflict with law.

Vrindavan Widows: National Legal Services Authority v. Union of the India and Others WP (C) No. 1338/2012.

Bachpan Bachao Andolan v. UOI (C) No.906/2014 pertaining to drug abuse.

RE-In Human Conditions in 1382 prisons WP (C) No.406/2013 where the Hon'ble Supreme Court is examining the condition of prisons and prison inmates.

National Legal Services Authority v. Union of India and others WP (C) 212/2013 regarding illegal sand mining.

E.R. Kumar v. UOI WP (C) 55/2003: The Member Secretary, NALSA was directed to take up verification of the actual progress in the matter of setting up of the urban shelters with the help of the State Legal Services Authorities and to submit a report as to the actual position on the ground.

Dr. Ashwani Kumar v. Union of India and Anr. WP (C) 193/2016 regarding the condition of senior citizens and old age homes.

Other Activities

A programme "Access to Justice for Marginalised People: Regional Review and Sharing Workshop" was organised by Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India with UNDP on 4th June, 2016 at Jaipur, Rajasthan. The Workshop was aimed at conducting a strategic review of the initiatives taken in the country under the Project. The Member Secretary, NALSA and Director, NALSA participated in the programme and the Member Secretary, NALSA chaired a session titled ' Legal Aid and Legal Empowerment Using IEC Tools'.

Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority organised a Refresher Training Course for newly appointed Secretaries of DLSAs on 12th June, 2016. The Member Secretary, NALSA attended the said programme as a Resource Person.

The Director, NALSA was a member of the Committee for drafting the Model Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Rules, 2016 under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, 2015 and attended the meetings in this respect at NCPCR and the Ministry of Women and Child Development.

Expressions India organised the 'National Update on implementing the POCSO Act, 2012 for Schools' on 20.05.2016 at India International Centre, New Delhi in which Principals of several schools participated. The Director, NALSA was a resource person at the said programme.

Regional Meets of State Legal Services Authorities

Continuing in the chain of Regional Meets of State Legal Services Authorities on “Effective Implementation of Legal Services Programmes: Challenges and Way Forward”, during this quarter, Regional Meet of State Legal Services Authorities for Southern States was held on 23-24 July, 2016 at Puducherry and Regional Meet for Eastern States including Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand was held on 3-4 September, 2016 at Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh.

The broad objectives of the Meets were:

- a) To understand and build consensus on priorities of State Legal Services Authorities in the Region;
- b) To discuss ways of enhancing the visibility of legal services institutions and their work;
- c) To find effective ways of full and proper utilisation of grants, by expanding the range and enhancing quality of legal services; and
- d) To identify area specific challenges and find a way forward.

The Regional Meet at Puducherry was inaugurated by Hon’ble Mr. Justice Anil R. Dave, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Executive Chairman, NALSA in the august presence of Dr. Kiran Bedi, I.P.S., (Retd.), Hon’ble Lieutenant Governor, Puducherry, Hon’ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul, Chief Justice, High Court of Madras and Patron-in-Chief, UTPLSA, Mr. V. Narayanasamy, Hon’ble Chief Minister, Puducherry, Hon’ble Mr. Justice M. Jaichandren, Judge, High Court of Madras and Executive Chairman, UTPLSA and other judges of the High Court of Madras and the Executive Chairpersons of the different State Legal Services Authorities of the Southern Region. The Member Secretaries of the SLSAs of the Southern Region were also present in the Meet. During the technical sessions, the different State Legal Services Authorities highlighted the initiatives taken by them and their achievements and also the difficulties.



Inaugural Function of the Regional Meet at Puducherry



Regional Meet in Progress

The Regional Meet at Bilaspur, Chhattisgarh was inaugurated by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil R Dave, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority in the august presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Deepak Gupta, Chief Justice, High Court of Chhattisgarh & Patron-in Chief CGSLSA, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajendra Menon, Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Madhya Pradesh and Executive Chairman, M.P. SLSA, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Hemant Gupta, Judge, High Court of Bihar and Executive Chairman, Bihar SLSA, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Pritinker Diwaker, Judge, High Court of Chhattisgarh and Executive Chairman, CGSLSA, Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.N. Patel, Judge, High Court of Jharkhand and Executive Chairman, Jharkhand SLSA, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vinod Prasad, Judge, High Court of Orissa and Executive Chairman, Odisha SLSA and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anirudha Bose, Judge, High Court of Calcutta and Executive Chairman, West Bengal State Legal Services Authority and other Hon'ble Judges of the High Court of Chhattisgarh. Dr. Raman Singh, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh also graced the inaugural function.



Inaugural Programme of the Regional Meet at Chhattisgarh



Newspaper clippings covering the Inaugural Programme of the Regional Meet at Chhattisgarh

On the second day of both the Regional Meets, a Meeting of all the Member Secretaries of the concerned SLSAs was held.

After discussions, the broad common suggestions made to all State Legal Services Authorities were as follows:

- The respective High Courts were requested to fill up all the sanctioned posts of Member Secretaries and District Secretaries and in the meanwhile, Judicial Officers looking after the work of Secretaries be granted half day exemption from judicial work and proportionate exemption from units;
- To prepare an advance training calendar for panel lawyers and to conduct the training programmes through master trainers;
- To enhance the fees of the lawyers;
- To maintain effective coordination with the jail authorities and to train some of the long term convicts in all the jails as PLVs and to ensure that all the under trial prisoners in all the jails are contacted by the PLVs to ascertain their need of legal assistance. The PLVs should maintain the relevant records and pass it on to the jail visiting lawyers;
- To maintain coordination with the Government Departments in the implementation of the different NALSA Schemes;
- To employ all possible methods of enhancing visibility of legal services institutions and their work including print and electronic media, putting up of hoardings, social media, bulk sms etc;
- To estimate and project the likely expenses on each of the legal services and to first utilise the carried forward amounts available with them;

- h) To promptly submit the utilisation certificates for each of the previous year's carried forward grants; and
- i) To develop website for all DLSAs so that they could be eventually linked with the online portal being developed by NALSA for filing online applications, forwarding of grievances and reporting of statistics.



Meeting of the Member Secretaries of the Eastern States including Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand with the Member Secretary, NALSA at Chhattisgarh

Special Talk by Hon'ble Chief Justice of India through All India Radio.

A special talk with Hon'ble Chief Justice of India & Patron-in-Chief, NALSA on the topic "Empowerment through Legal Aid" was broadcast on the channels of Akashvani throughout the country on 18th July, 2016 on the eve of International Justice Day.

Interaction with Jail Inmates

The Member Secretary, NALSA Shri Alok Aggarwal and the Director, NALSA Ms. Geetanjli Goel visited jails namely Yerawada (Pune), Jagdalpur (Chhattisgarh) Dimapur (Nagaland) and interacted with inmates both under trials and convicts and also with the DLSA officers, Para Legal Volunteers, Panel Lawyers and gave necessary directions for improving the system of representation of the inmates in courts. It was discovered that at many places, the inmates were not being produced before the Courts regularly for remand, either physically or through video conferencing. Some of them did not know the status of their appeals in the higher courts. Consequently, a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for legal representation of persons in custody was prepared and sent to all SLSAs for implementation. The SOP lays down what the Legal Services Authorities and the Legal Services Lawyers are expected to do in order to ensure legal representation for all the undertrials and to ensure that all the undertrials are produced in courts at regular intervals and to ensure proper functioning of the Legal Services Clinics in the jails.

कैदियों से पूछी समस्याएं, दी जानकारी

राष्ट्रीय विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण के सदस्य सचिव ने किया केन्द्रीय जेल का निरीक्षण

पत्रिका न्यूज नेटवर्क
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जगदलपुर, राष्ट्रीय विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण के सदस्य सचिव आलोक अग्रवाल ने जगदलपुर स्थित केन्द्रीय जेल का निरीक्षण किया। इस दौरान प्राधिकरण के अधिकारियों ने सजायाफ्ता कैदियों से मुलाकात कर उनके समस्याओं की जानकारी ली।

उन्होंने कैदियों को उच्च न्यायालय और उच्चतम न्यायालय में अपील के अधिकार के संबंध में अवगत कराते हुए बताया कि वे अपने मामलों में निम्न न्यायालयों द्वारा किए गए निर्णयों के विरुद्ध जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण, उच्च न्यायालय विधिक सेवा समिति, बिलासपुर अथवा उच्चतम न्यायालय विधिक सेवा समिति, नई दिल्ली से उच्चतम न्यायालय तक अपील प्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं। इस दौरान उन्होंने ऐसे कैदियों से मुलाकात की, जिनके अपील के मामले उच्च एवं उच्चतम



विधिक सेवा ... केन्द्रीय जेल का निरीक्षण करते सचिव आलोक अग्रवाल व प्राधिकारी



हर बैरक में दो वालंटियर्स

राष्ट्रीय विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण के अधिकारियों ने जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण द्वारा जेल में प्रैक्टीशनर वालंटियर्स से मुलाकात की। जेल अधिकारों ने बताया कि प्रत्येक बैरक में एक से दो प्रैक्टीशनर वालंटियर्स हैं, जो कैदियों को नि:शुल्क विधिक सहायता के संबंध में अवगत कराया जाता है।

न्यायालयों में लंबित हैं। इन प्रकरणों के निराकरण के लिए जिला विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण व जेल प्रशासन को कार्यवाही के निर्देश दिए। इस दौरान राष्ट्रीय विधिक

क्षमता से कोशुना बंदी- जेल प्रशासन द्वारा कैदियों की क्षमता 889 से लगभग कोशुना बंदी होने पर जेल की क्षमता बढ़ाने के निर्देश दिए गए। बताया गया कि 500 की क्षमता के नए बैरकों का निर्माण पूर्णता की ओर है, साथ ही बीजपुर, सुकमा और बरोवाड़ा में भी शीघ्र जेल घाटन होने की संभावना है।

सेवा प्राधिकरण की निदेशक गीतांजलि गोयल, अवर सचिव वी के सिंह, जिला सचिव जितेन्द्र कुमार सिंह व जेल अधीक्षक अमित शाहिल्य शामिल थे।

Newspaper clipping covering the visit to the Jail at Jagdalpur



Newspaper Clippings of the visit to Dimapur Jail

Under Trial Review Committees

Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P. (C) No.406/2013 had passed directions for release of under trial prisoners who had served half of the sentence giving the benefit of Section 436 A of the Cr.P.C. The Under Trial Review Committees have been set up in all the districts chaired by the District Judge of the concerned district and the District Legal Services Authorities have been assisting the under trial prisoners in getting the benefit of Section 436 A of Cr.P.C. During the period from April, 2016 to September, 2016, 1034 such cases were identified by the DLSA Secretaries, out of which 432 UTPs were recommended by the UTRCs for release and 167 of them have been released.

Remand Advocates

In order to ensure that all the under trial prisoners get representation from the first day of remand itself, all the State Legal Services Authorities were advised vide letters dated 20.1.2016 and 5.7.2016 to appoint one Remand Advocate for each of the criminal courts, to represent the unrepresented accused in custody, oppose remand, move bail applications and miscellaneous application etc. and to undertake such other action as may be necessary to effectively represent the accused at the stage of remand. Accordingly, most of the SLSAs have designated one panel lawyer for each Magistrate's Court and Sessions Court wherever remand proceedings are conducted.

Standard Operating Procedure for Redressal of Complaints/Public Grievances

With a view to streamlining the procedure and ensuring timely and effective redressal of grievances/complaints made by the general public, a SOP was developed and was sent to all State Legal Services Authorities for implementation. The said SOP outlined the procedure to be followed by every Authority while dealing with complaints and emphasised problem solving approach rather than merely disposing of the complaint. The SLSAs followed the said procedure which has resulted in **zero pendency** of grievances pertaining to Legal Services Authorities registered at Central Public Grievance Redressal and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) Portal. During this period, work was also started on developing an online Web Portal for this purpose.

Legal Services to Sex Workers.

The Member Secretary, NALSA Shri Alok Aggarwal and the Director, NALSA Ms. Geetanjli Goel interacted with sex workers and Community Based Organisations working with them at Pune and Sangli (Maharashtra) from 11th to 13th August, 2016 and addressed them on issues of concern to them. This led to establishing linkages of the sex workers and organisations working for them with the District Legal Services Authorities and the police authorities in the said two districts. As part of the visit, the Officers of NALSA also interacted with the lawyers at Sangli and informed them about the various NALSA Schemes and motivated them to take up work as legal services lawyers.



Newspaper clipping covering the Interaction with Sex Workers at Pune

National Workshop on Rehabilitation of Missing and Trafficked Children Phase-I on 22nd & 23rd August, 2016.

The National Legal Services Authority in association with Delhi State Legal Services Authority and Bachpan Bachao Andolan through the All India Child Rights Cell organised a National Workshop on Rehabilitation of Missing and Trafficked Children Phase-I on 22nd & 23rd August, 2016. The objective was to draw up a strategy and mechanism by which children could be repatriated to their home States without much delay and could thereafter be rehabilitated. The Workshop was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India & Patron-in-Chief, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) in the presence Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anil R. Dave, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, NALSA, Hon'ble Ms. Justice G. Rohini, Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi & Patron-in-Chief, Delhi State Legal Services Authority (DSLSA), Hon'ble Ms. Justice Indira Banerjee, Judge, High Court of Delhi & Executive Chairperson, DSLSA and Nobel Peace Laureate Shri Kailash Satyarthi on 22nd August, 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan. The children from Prayas Observation Home for Children and Bachpan Bachao Andolan also put up a cultural programme on socially relevant issues.



Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Thakur, Chief Justice of India and Patron-in-Chief, NALSA addressing the participants at the inaugural of the National Workshop on Rehabilitation of Missing and Trafficked Children at Vigyan Bhawan on 22nd August, 2016

Discussions were held with various stakeholders in the technical sessions on the next day regarding repatriation and rehabilitation of missing and trafficked children. The participants included Member Secretaries of 12 source and destination States for trafficking, Members of Child Welfare Committees, Officers of State Child Protection Commissions, police officials, senior government officials and NGOs. The deliberations during the day led to development of draft Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) with a view to facilitating easier and quicker identification of the Children's native home and drawing up the plan for repatriation and rehabilitation by the CWCs. The said draft SOP was presented in the valedictory session which was presided over by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madan B. Lokur, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Chairman of the Juvenile Justice Committee in the Supreme Court and Hon'ble Ms. Justice Indira Banerjee, Judge, High Court of Delhi & Executive Chairperson, DSLSA and Nobel Peace Laureate Shri. Kailash Satyarthi also graced the occasion.

Initiative for Protection of Water Resources

State Legal Services Authorities have been issued advisory to take up the issue of 'Protection of Water Resources' as a part of preventive and strategic level awareness programmes and also as a step towards promotion of commitment to Fundamental Duty to protect and improve the national environment including forests, lakes, rivers and wild life and to have compassion for living creatures.. In this regard, a detailed concept note has been sent to all State Legal Services Authorities. The Concept Note highlights what measures the SLSAs can take to create awareness on the issue of preservation of water resources through the Legal Literacy Clubs, Legal Services Clinics and para legal volunteers, sensitization of judicial officers, training the lawyers to handle the legal aspects including the infringement of rights of the people by pollution of water resources and its ill-effects, supporting NGOs engaged in campaigns for reviving the rivers or preserving or cleaning the rivers and supplementing the efforts of the government departments and building coordination with them.

Training Modules

Work continued in right earnest to bring out two training modules (i) Training Module for Legal Services Lawyers Part-II; (ii) Training Module for Legal Services Lawyers and Probation Officers attached to the Juvenile Justice Boards under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015.

As part of the same, a four day Pilot Training Programme for Probation Officers and Legal Services Lawyers attached to JJBs was conducted at Maharashtra Judicial Academy, Thane from 27-30 August, 2016. The participants included Member Secretaries, legal services lawyers and probation officers from Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Goa, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. The programme was inaugurated by Hon'ble Dr. Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, Judge, Supreme Court of India in the presence of Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.M. Kanade, Judge, High Court of Bombay, Director, Maharashtra Judicial Academy and Chairman of the Juvenile Justice Committee. The four day programme included sessions on Overview of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, child abuse, child psychology, drugs, role of probation officers, counselling, communication skills, ethics, preparation of Social Investigation Report, Individual Care Plan, Rehabilitation and the legal provisions. The resource persons were experts in the field drawn from all over the country.



Pilot Training Programme in Progress

A highlight of the programme was a visit to the Observation Home at Bhiwandi, Thane to give the participants an on hands experience of working with children. The participants interacted with the children and sessions were held on group counselling at the Home. Justice Roshan Dalvi, retired judge of the High Court of Bombay also addressed the participants on the occasion.



Justice Roshan Dalvi (Retd.) with the participants during the visit to the Observation Home at Bhiwandi, Thane

Consultative Meet of Member Secretaries, SLSAs held on 30th September, 2016 at India International Centre, New Delhi.

National Legal Services Authority organised Consultative Meet of the Member Secretaries, State Legal Services Authorities on 30th September, 2016 at India International Centre, New Delhi to discuss various issues arising in the implementation of Legal Services Programmes. During the half day deliberations, a number of issues were raised regarding use of the funds, implementation of Schemes of NALSA, legal aid to the marginalised sections and conduct of Lok Adalats. The Chhattisgarh State Legal Services Authority also exhibited some of the short films which had been awarded at the Short Film Festival on legal services held in their State.

Hon'ble Executive Chairman, NALSA interactive session on Doordarshan.

Hon'ble Executive Chairman, NALSA along with Shri Prakash Jha, Director and Producer of M/s. Prakash Jha Productions appeared on the National Television (Doordarshan) and gave a brief description of the activities conducted by NALSA and SLSAs for ensuring prompt and qualitative legal services to the marginalised sections of the society.

Meeting of the Committee to consider the amendments to NALSA Regulations and PLV Scheme

A meeting of the Committee to consider the amendments to NALSA Regulations and PLV Scheme was held on 3rd July, 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan Annexe under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.N. Patel, Judge, High Court of Jharkhand and Executive Chairman, Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority. Another meeting of the Committee was held on 17th September, 2016 and the proposed amendments were finalised.



The meeting of the Committee to review the contents of the documentary, capsules and NALSA theme song to be prepared by M/s Prakash Jha Productions was held on 20th July, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Mr. Justice D.N. Patel, Judge, High Court of Jharkhand and Executive Chairman, Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority. Another meeting of the Committee was held on 17th September, 2016 and the contents of the NALSA Theme song were approved.

Other Activities

The Director, NALSA Ms. Geetanjali Goel was the resource person at the “Training and Orientation on the Role of Prosecution in Ensuring Justice to Children” on 1st and 2nd July, 2016 organised by Centre for Child Rights at National Law University, Orissa at Cuttack for the Public Prosecutors in Odisha. The sessions focussed on the Constitutional and Legislative Framework for the Children, the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and children as witnesses and victims.

The Member Secretary, NALSA Shri Alok Aggarwal addressed the participants at a Workshop on “Mainstreaming Sex Workers for Greater Social Inclusion: Sharing Outcomes of Single Window Initiative in Seven Districts” organised by Centre for Advocacy and Research at India Habitat Centre on 13th July, 2016.



The Member Secretary, NALSA Shri Alok Aggarwal chaired a Session in the Asia Workshop on Legislative Advocacy: Child Labour in Domestic Work and Gender Based Violence organized by Global March on 1-2 August, 2016 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. This Workshop was attended by representatives of NGOs and lawyers from Nepal, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and other countries. The Director, NALSA Ms. Geetanjali Goel was also a resource person at the said programme.

The Member Secretary, NALSA Shri Alok Aggarwal chaired Sessions in the National Seminar on Emerging Role of School Leadership in Child Protection & Child Rights Education in India held on 6th August, 2016 at Moolchand Medcity, New Delhi. The Director, NALSA Ms. Geetanjali Goel also took a session on ‘Implementation of the POCSO Act and the Role of the Schools’.

The Member Secretary, NALSA Shri Alok Aggarwal and the Director, NALSA Ms. Geetanjali Goel visited Nagaland from 11th to 13th September, 2016 and took various sessions at the training for Para-Legal Volunteers organized by Nagaland State Legal Services Authority at Dimapur, Nagaland on 11th and 12th September, 2016. They also inaugurated Legal Services Clinic in Kohima.



The Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority organized the Plenary Meeting of Legal Services Institutions of Santhal Pargana Region of Jharkhand at Deogarh on 23rd September, 2016. The Director, NALSA Ms. Geetanjali Goel took a session on Role of Para Legal Volunteers and Legal Services Lawyers as part of the same.

Social Action Litigation

NALSA is either a party in a number of cases pending before the Hon'ble Supreme Court or directions have been issued to it from time to time to submit reports or otherwise. Some such cases are:

Bachpan Bachao Andolan v. UOIWP(C) No. 75/2012 pertaining to missing children.

Sampurna Behrui v. UOIWP(C) 473/2005 where directions were given for providing legal aid to the children in conflict with law.

Vrindavan Widows: National Legal Services Authority v. Union of India and Others WP (C) No.133/2012.

RE- In Human Conditions in 1382 prisons WP (C) No. 406/2013 where the Hon'ble Supreme Court is examining the condition of prisons and prison inmates.

National Legal Services Authority v. Union of India and others WP (C) 212/2013 regarding illegal sand mining.

E.R. Kumar v. UOIWP (C) 55/2003: The Member Secretary, NALSA was directed to take up verification of the actual progress in the matter of setting up of the urban shelters with the help of the State Legal Service Authorities and to submit a report as to the actual position on the ground.

Dr. Ashwani Kumar v. Union of India and Anr. WP (C) 193/2016 regarding the condition of senior citizens and old age homes.

National Campaign Committee for Central Legislation on Construction Labour (NCC-CL) v. Union of India and others.W.P.(C) No. 318 of 2006 regarding unorganised and construction workers.

During the period from 1st October, 2016 to 31st December, 2016, more than 1, 19,566 persons were benefited through legal aid in the country. Out of them, 9899 persons belonged to the Scheduled Castes, 7058 to Scheduled Tribes, 27,426 were women and 3,885 were children.

From 1st October, 2016 to 31st December, 2016, more than 25,213 Lok Adalats have been organized in the country. More than 3, 26,591 cases including cases pending in the courts and those at the pre-litigation stage have been settled in these Lok Adalats. Since there is no appeal against the award of the Lok Adalat, many of these cases have been permanently removed from the formal court system.

From 1st October, 2016 to 31st December, 2016, more than 4, 21, 826 cases have been settled through Mediation in the country.

From 1st October, 2016 to 31st December, 2016, more than 919 Training Programmes have been conducted in the country where no. of Participants were more than 25,793.

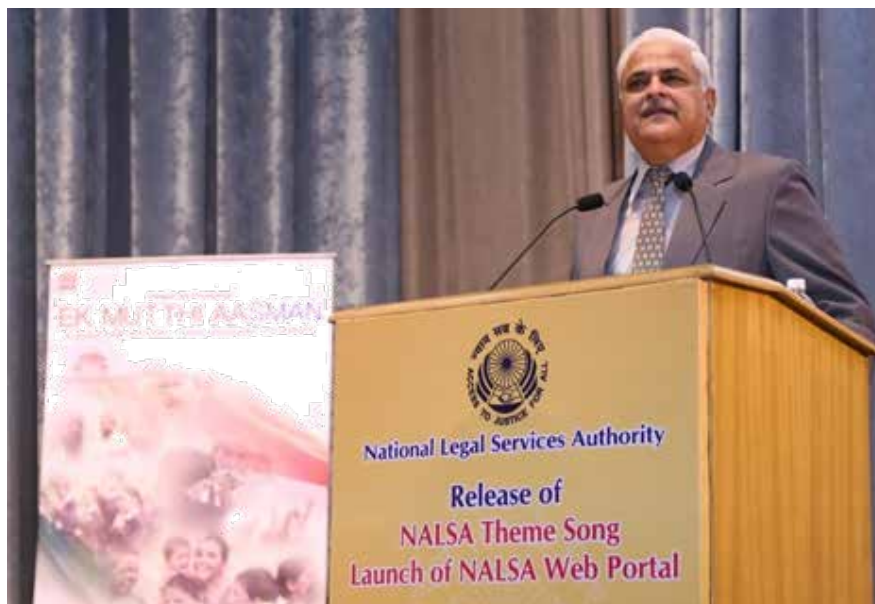
Launch of Web Portal of NALSA.

A new Web Portal has been developed by NALSA along with a Portal for filing online applications and another Portal for web based monitoring of grievances. The same was launched by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India and the Hon'ble Law Minister on 1st October, 2016 at a function held at DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi. NALSA is also working to develop a Portal for online uploading of statistical information by SLSAs and DLSAs.



Release of Theme Song of NALSA.

A decision was taken in the Central Authority Meet held on 09.04.2016 to get a documentary, a theme song and 15 short capsules produced by M/s. Prakash Jha Productions. The Theme Song depicting NALSA's commitment to provide access to justice for all the marginalized communities all over the country was released by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India and Hon'ble Union Law Minister on 1.10.2016. Five capsules of short duration showing legal services provided to various sections along with a Sanklap Song has been released on the Legal Services Day on 9th November, 2016.



National Consultation on Challenges in Mediation and Way Forward held on 01.10.2016 at New Delhi.

A National Consultation on Challenges in Mediation and Way Forward was organized on 01.10.2016 at Dr. D.S.Kothari Auditorium, New Delhi. The said Workshop was attended by the Hon'ble Executive Chairpersons of SLSAs, Chairmen and Members of the Mediation Committee of the High Courts, 2-3 Mediators/Trainers from each High Court. The main objectives of the workshop were to promote coordination between the Legal Services Institutions and the Mediation Committees for management of the mediation activities and to ensure adequate provisions for funds required for the same.





Two New Schemes of NALSA.

c) NALSA (Legal Services to Victims of Acid Attacks) Scheme, 2016:

In the matter of Laxmi v. Union of India, W.P. (C) No.129/2006, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India vide order dated 10.04.2015, directed that the Member Secretaries of the State Legal Services Authorities (SLSAs) shall take up the issue with the State Government so that the orders passed by the Court were complied with and a minimum of Rs.3, 00,000/- was made available to each victim of acid attack. The Member Secretaries, SLSAs were also directed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India to give wide and adequate publicity in the State/Union Territory to the Victim Compensation Scheme so that each acid attack victim could take the benefit of the Victim Compensation Scheme. In this connection, NALSA has prepared a Scheme, NALSA (Legal Services to Victims of Acid Attacks) Scheme, 2016 to facilitate the victims of acid attacks, which was released on 9th November, 2016.

e) NALSA (Legal Services to Senior Citizens) Scheme, 2016:

A scheme prepared for legal services to senior citizens, was released on 09.11.2016.

Documentary of NALSA.

M/s. Prakash Jha Productions have also produced a documentary depicting the working of Legal Services Authorities and highlighting some of the cases where the Legal Services Authorities have helped individuals from the marginalized sections claim their entitlements and realise their rights. The documentary, the theme song and the real stories capsules are being planned to be published through Doordarshan, local cable TV Channels, Mobile Vans and other modes.



National Initiative towards Strengthening Arbitration and Enforcement in India on 21-23 October, 2016 at New Delhi.

The National Legal Services Authority along with National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog), Govt. of India and Ministry of Law & Justice organized a Global Conference on “National Initiative towards Strengthening Arbitration in India” in Delhi from 21st to 23rd October, 2016. Hon’ble Patron-in-Chief, NALSA was the Chief Patron of the said Global Conference. The said Conference was inaugurated by the Hon’ble President of India on 21st October, 2016 and the Valedictory Session on 23rd October, 2016 was addressed by the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India. The technical sessions on 22nd& 23rd were held in the form of panel discussions.

Observance of Legal Services Day - 2016

National Legal Services Authority observed the ‘Legal Services Day’ in association with the Delhi State Legal Services Authority at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. Hon’ble Mr. Justice T.S.Thakur, Chief Justice of India & Patron-in-Chief, NALSA was the Chief Guest. A commendation ceremony was held wherein the contributions of the best District Legal Services Authorities and best Para Legal Volunteers in six different zones and also, the National Best in both categories were recognized. Apart from the above, the Hon’ble Chief Guest also released:

- a) An Anthem (Sankalp Song) for legal services functionaries
- b) Five Real Stories of Access to Justice by Legal Services Authorities
- c) NALSA (Legal Services to Victims of Acid Attacks) Scheme, 2016

- d) NALSA (Legal Services to Senior Citizens) Scheme, 2016
- e) Training Module for Legal Services Lawyers Part-2
- f) Training Module for Probation Officers and Legal Services Lawyers attached to the Juvenile Justice Boards (Samvedan);
- g) Vidhik Seva Vigyapti — A Quarterly Legal Services Bulletin Issue No.1 & 2



15th All India Meet of the State Legal Services Authorities

The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) in association with Delhi State Legal Services Authority (DSLSA) organised National Legal Services Authority's 15th All India Meet of the State Legal Services Authorities held on 18th & 19th March, 2017 at Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra, Rizal Marg, Chankya Puri, New Delhi.



The said Meet was inaugurated by **Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.S.Khehar, Chief Justice of India & Patron-in-Chief, NALSA** in the august presence of **Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dipak Misra, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, NALSA**, **Shri P.P.Chaudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State for Law & Justice, Govt. of India**, **Hon'ble Ms. Justice G.Rohini, Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi & Patron-in-Chief, DSLSA**, **Hon'ble Ms. Justice Indira Banerjee, Judge, High Court of Delhi & Executive Chairman, DSLSA**.

The objective of holding the Meet was to check out strategies for infusing more vibrancy in the legal services institutions all over India and also discussed the ways and means to enable the needy to access justice and realisation of their rights.

The following important resolutions were passed in the said Meet:

1. *It was resolved that State Legal Services Authorities would take necessary steps in firstly appointing Remand Advocates in all the magisterial courts and the sessions courts, wherever required, and would fix their honorarium at par with the retainer lawyers.*
2. *It was resolved that a three pronged approach, shall be adopted in disposing of cases in the Lok Adalat. Firstly, in identifying the said cases, secondly, in associating the lawyers of the parties and thirdly, in having pre Lok Adalats conciliatory sittings.*
3. *It was resolved that the minimum number of visits of Panel Lawyers to the Jail Clinics should be at least four days in a week.*
4. *It was resolved that all SLSAs shall appoint convicts as Para Legal Volunteers in Jails who will in turn help in providing legal assistance to UTPs or other convicts.*
5. *It was resolved that regarding publicity in the Jail, Permanent Sign Boards and Hoardings be put at conspicuous place in the Jails to publicize about the free legal services.*
6. *It was resolved that efforts shall be made by all SLSAs to obtain separate space in all the Jails to run the Legal Services Clinics.*
7. *It was resolved that every SLSAs/UTs shall take steps to constitute Permanent Lok Adalats except in affected districts where there were administrative difficulties, within three months. It was also resolved that trainings be also imparted to the Chairpersons and Members in Permanent Lok Adalat through the State Judicial Academies.*

Separate Audit Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on the Accounts of National Legal Services Authority for the year ended 31 March 2017.

We have audited the attached Balance Sheet, Income & Expenditure and Receipts & Payments Account for the year ended 31 March 2017 of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) under Section 19(2) of the Comptroller & Auditor General's (Duties, Powers & Conditions of Service) Act, 1971 read with Section 18(2) of "The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987". These financial statements are the responsibility of the management of National Legal Services Authority. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

2. This Separate Audit Report contains the comments of the Comptroller & Auditor General of India on the accounting treatment only with regard to classification, conformity with the best accounting practices, accounting standards and disclosure norms, etc. Audit observations on financial transactions with regard to compliance with the Law, Rules & Regulations (Propriety and Regularity) and efficiency-cum-performance aspects, etc., if any, are reported through Inspection Reports/Comptroller & Auditor General of India Audit Reports separately.

3. We have conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in India. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatements. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidences supporting the amounts and disclosure in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

4. Based on our audit, we report that:

- i We have obtained all the information and explanations, which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit;
- ii The Balance Sheet, Income & Expenditure Account and Receipts & Payments Account dealt with by this report have been drawn up in the format approved by the Ministry of Finance.
- iii In our opinion, proper books of accounts and other relevant records have been maintained by the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) in so far as it appears from our examination of such books.

iv We further report that:

A. Balance Sheet

A.1. Overstatement of Fixed Assets by ₹ 34.93 lakh

The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) which had all its expenditure made from grants in aid from its inception in 1995 to 2008-09. From 2009-10 the components of administrative expenses was allocated under the government expenditure – booked under Major Head 2052. The grants in aid received by NALSA forms a major part of National Legal Aid Fund and is used exclusively to provide grants to legal services all over the country. NALSA had purchased fixed assets up to 2008-09 amounting to ₹.67.66 lakh by utilizing the grants in aid and as on 31st March 2009, the written down value of these assets were ₹ 19.33 lakh. As on 2016-17, the written down value of fixed assets purchased upto 2008-09 should have been ₹ 6.04 lakh instead of ₹ 40.97 lakh shown in the balance sheet. Hence an excess amount of ₹ 34.93 lakh (₹ 40.97 lakh - ₹ 6.04 lakh) depicted in the schedule 8 of the fixed assets is the overstatement of assets.

Further, the excess depreciation of ₹ 5.21 lakh (₹ 6.12 lakh - ₹ 0.91 lakh) charged on the overstated assets is deducted from the capital fund. Thus there has been understatement of capital fund by ₹ 5.21 lakh.

A.2. Current Assets, Loans, Advances etc. –

1. The security deposit and income accrued from others belonging to the period 2009-10 and 2015-16 respectively relates to the government account of NALSA. The wrong depiction of ₹ 0.28 (₹ 0.04 lakh + ₹ 0.24 lakh) in the accounts of NALSA has resulted in the overstatement of current assets.
2. As per uniform format of accounts, loans and advances as are considered good and recoverable should be disclosed. Doubtful amounts if any should be stated under each sub-head and provisions if made should be shown as a reduction there from. The TDS recoverable amounting ₹ 1.20 lakh since 2009-10 could not be recovered and no provision for the doubtful recovery was made in the accounts.

B. General

- (i) NALSA was not maintaining its accounts on accrual basis as required under uniform format of accounts prescribed for Central Autonomous Bodies (CAB).

- (ii) Had accounts been prepared on accrual basis, the accrued interest of ₹ 1.36 lakh, on the FDR up to 31.03.2017, would have become part of income & Expenditure of CAB.

C. Grants-in-Aid

National Legal Services Authority received Grants-in aid of ₹ 63.67 crore from the Ministry of Law & Justice during 2016-17. The previous year's unspent balance was ₹ 62.32 crore and ₹ 5.37 crore was received as unspent grant from the States. The internal generated income was ₹ 2.26 crore (cost collection imposed by the honorable court and ₹ 51.50 lakh, interest income ₹ 174.57 lakh). Out of the total available fund of ₹ 133.62 crore, NALSA utilized ₹ 113.02 crore leaving an unspent balance of ₹ 20.60 crore at the end of 31st March 2017.

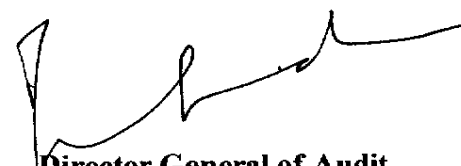
v. Subject to our observations in the preceding paragraphs, we report that the Balance Sheet, Income and Expenditure Account and Receipts and Payments Account dealt with by this report are in agreement with the books of accounts.

vi. In our opinion and to the best of our information and according to the explanations given to us, the said financial statements read together with the Accounting Policies and Notes on Accounts, and subject to the significant matters stated above and other matters mentioned in Annexure to this Audit Report give a true and fair view in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in India;

- a. In so far as it relates to the Balance Sheet, of the state of affairs of the National Legal Services Authority as at 31 March 2017; and
- b. In so far as it relates to Income and Expenditure Account of the deficit for the year ended on the date.

For and on behalf of C& AG of India

Place: New Delhi
Date: 16.10.2017



Director General of Audit
(Central Expenditure)

Annexure

1. Adequacy of internal audit system

There is no internal audit department or cell. Internal audit of NALSA is conducted by Chief Controller of Accounts, Ministry of Law and Justice. The internal audit was conducted upto 2015-16. No internal audit was conducted for the period 2016-17.

2. Adequacy of internal control

The internal control was not adequate due to the following reasons:

i) The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) had given Grant-in-Aid to different State Legal Service Authority, NGO's and Universities etc. The Utilization Certificates amounting to ₹ 19,599.10 lakh involving 36 State Legal Services Authorities and 29 NGO's/Universities were outstanding since 1982-83.

ii) As per point 8 of the Schedule 24, the grants in aid in excess of the sanction were released to the grantees as huge amount was lying in national legal fund being the unspent balances in previous years.

iii) Fourteen paras of internal audit observations and thirteen paras of external audit observations for the period from 1995-96 were pending for settlement as on 31.03.2017

iv) The asset register, expenditure control register, investment register and personal ledger were not maintained.

3. System of Physical Verification of assets

No physical verification of fixed assets on the assets created out of the grants was conducted for the year 2016-17.

4. System of physical verification of inventory

No purchase of books, stationery or consumables were made from the grants.

5. Regularity in payment of dues

As per accounts, no payments in respect of statutory dues were outstanding as on 31.03.2017.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
OF
NATIONAL LEGAL AID FUND
OF
NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY
12/11, JAM NAGAR HOUSE,
SHAHJAHAN ROAD, NEW DELHI – 110011.
FOR THE PERIOD 2016-17**

Contents

Annexures

- A Balance Sheet
- B. Income and Expenditure Account
- C. Schedules of the above
- D. Accounting Principles
- E. Notes for the Schedules
- F. Statement of Receipts and Payments

BALANCE SHEET
National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017 of National Legal Aid Fund

(in rupees)

Corpus/ National Legal Aid Fund and Liabilities	Schedule	Current Year		Previous Year	
		Amount	Total	Amount	Total
Corpus Fund	1		5,400,907.96		6,012,631.42
National Legal Aid- Fund					
Balance as on 1st April,2016		623,257,737.00		520,315,307.00	
Add: Amount Transferred From Income & Expenditure A/C (National Legal Aid Fund)		(417,227,290.00)	206,030,447.00	102,942,430.00	623,257,737.00
Reserves and Surplus	2		-		-
Earmarked/ Endowment Funds	3		-		273,600.00
Secured Loans and Borrowings	4		-		-
Unsecured Loans and Borrowings	5		-		-
Deferred Credit Liabilities	6		-		-
Current Liabilities and Provisions	7		-		-
Total			211,431,354.96		629,543,968.42
Assets					
Fixed Assets	8		4,096,966.96		4,708,690.42
Investments-from Earmarked/Endowment Funds	9		-		-
Investments-Others	10		2,899,780.00		2,803,889.00
Current Assets, Loans, Advances, etc.	11		204,434,608.00		622,031,389.00
Miscellaneous Expenditure					
(to the extent not written off or adjusted)					-
Total			211,431,354.96		629,543,968.42

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Member Secretary

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**National Legal Aid Fund****Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority****Income and Expenditure Account of National Legal Aid fund for the year ended 31st March 2017****(in rupees)**

Income	Schedule	Current year	Previous year
Income from Sales/Services	12	-	-
Grants/Subsidies	13	690,390,602.00	681,333,442.00
Fees/Subscriptions	14	-	-
Income from Investments(Income on Investment from earmarked/ endowment funds transferred to funds)	15	-	-
Income from Royalty, Publication, etc.	16	-	-
Interest earned	17	17,457,648.00	27,518,073.00
Other Income	18	5,150,200.00	652,394.00
Increase/(decrease) in stock of finished goods and works-in-progress	19	-	-
Total (A)		712,998,450.00	709,503,909.00
Expenditure			
Establishment Expenses	20	-	-
Other Administrative Expenses, etc.	21	29,229,740.00	3,572,484.00
Expenditure on Grants, Subsidies, etc	22	1,100,996,000.00	602,988,995.00
Interest	23	-	-
Depreciation (Net total at the end of year corresponding to Schedule)			
Total (B)		1,130,225,740.00	606,561,479.00
Balance being excess of Income over Expenditure (A-B)		(417,227,290.00)	102,942,430.00
Transfer to Special Reserve (Specify each)			
Transfer to/from General Reserve			
Balance being unutilized Grant/ Other collections transferred to Legal Aid-Fund		(417,227,290.00)	102,942,430.00

Significant Accounting Policies

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Contingent Liabilities and Notes on Accounts

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Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Income and Expenditure Account (Corpus Fund) for the year ended 31st March 2017

(in rupees)

Income	Schedule	Current year	Previous year
Income from Sales/Services		-	-
Grants/Subsidies		-	-
Fees/Subscriptions		-	-
Income from Investments(Income on Investment from earmarked/ endowment funds transferred to funds)		-	-
Income from Royalty, Publication, etc.		-	-
Interest earned		-	-
Other Income		-	-
Increase/(decrease) in stock of finished goods and works-in-progress		-	-
Total (A)		-	-
Expenditure			
Establishment Expenses		-	-
Other Administrative Expenses, etc.		-	-
Expenditure on Grants, Subsidies, etc		-	-
Interest		-	-
Depreciation (Net total at the end of year corresponding to Schedule)		611,723.46	714,956.60
Total (B)		611,723.46	714,956.60
Balance being excess of Income over Expenditure (A-B)		(611,723.46)	(714,956.60)
Transfer to Special Reserve (Specify each)		-	-
Transfer to/from General Reserve		-	-
Balance being Deficit, Carried to Corpus Fund		(611,723.46)	(714,956.60)

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Member Secretary

SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Schedule forming part of Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE - 1 : Corpus Fund	Current Year		Previous Year	
Corpus Fund				
Balance on the beginning of the year	6,012,631.42		6,727,588.02	
Add: Cost of Addition to Fixed Assets	-	6,012,631.42	-	6,727,588.02
Add/(Deduct): Net Balance of Income & Expenditure A/c (Corpus Fund)		(611,723.46)		(714,956.60)
Less : W.D.V. of Cars and Adjustment of Vehicle Advance		-		-
transferred from the Income and Expenditure Account.				
Balance as on the end of the Year		5,400,907.96		6,012,631.42

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 2-RESERVES AND SURPLUS	Current Year		Previous Year	
1. Capital Reserves:				
As per last Account	-	-	-	-
Addition during the year	-	-	-	-
Less deductions during the year	-	-	-	-
2. Revaluation Reserve:				
As per last Account	-	-	-	-
Addition during the year	-	-	-	-
Less deductions during the year	-	-	-	-
3. Special Reserves:				
As per last Account	-	-	-	-
Addition during the year	-	-	-	-
Less deductions during the year	-	-	-	-
4. General Reserve				
As per last Account	-	-	-	-
Addition during the year	-	-	-	-
Less deductions during the year	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-



Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Schedule forming part of Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017

(in rupees)

	Fund-Wise break up				Total	
SCHEDULE 3- EARMARKED/ENDOWMENT FUNDS	UNDP Fund	Name of Fund	Name of Fund	Name of Fund	Current Year	Previous Year
a) Opening balance of the fund	273,600.00	-	-	-	273,600.00	273,600.00
b) Additions to the funds:						
i) Donations/grants	-	-	-	-	-	-
ii) Income from investments made on account of funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
iii) Other additions (specify nature)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total (a+b)	273,600.00	-	-	-	273,600.00	273,600.00
c) Utilization/Expenditure towards objectives of funds	-	-	-	-	-	-
i) Capital Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fixed Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-
ii) Revenue Expenditure	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salaries, Wages and Allowances, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grant Paid	273,600.00	-	-	-	273,600.00	-
Other Administrative expenses	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total c	273,600.00	-	-	-	273,600.00	-
Net Balance as at the end of the Year (a+b+c)	-	-	-	-	-	273,600.00

Note 1. Disclosures shall be made under relevant heads based on conditions attaching to the grants.

Note 2. Plan Funds received from the Central/State Governments are to be shown as separate fund and not to be mixed up with any other fund.



Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Schedule forming part of Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 4- SECURED LOANS AND BORROWINGS:	Current Year	Previous Year
1. Central Government	-	-
2. State Government	-	-
3. Financial Institutions	-	-
a) Term Loans	-	-
b) Interest accrued and due	-	-
4. Banks	-	-
a) Term Loans	-	-
Interest accrued and due	-	-
b) Other Loans	-	-
Interest accrued and due	-	-
5. Other Institutions and Agencies	-	-
6. Debentures and Bonds	-	-
7. Others	-	-
Total	-	-

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 5-UNSECURED LOANS AND BORROWINGS	Current Year	Previous Year
1. Central Government	-	-
2. State Government	-	-
3. Financial Institutions	-	-
4. Banks:	-	-
a) Term Loans	-	-
b) Other Loans	-	-
5. Other Institutions and Agencies	-	-
6. Debentures and Bonds	-	-
7. Fixed Deposits	-	-
8. Other	-	-
Total	-	-

SCHEDULE 6- DEFERRED CREDIT LIABILITIES:	Current Year	Previous Year
a) Acceptances Secured by hypothecation of capital equipment and other assets	-	-
b) Others	-	-
Total	-	-



Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Schedule forming part of Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 7-CURRENT LIABILITIES AND PROVISIONS:	Current Year	Previous Year
A. Current Liabilities		
1. Acceptances		
2. Sundry Creditors:		
a) For Goods	-	-
b) Others	-	-
3. Unutilised Grant	-	-
4. Interest accrued but not due on:	-	-
a) Secured loans/borrowings	-	-
b) Unsecured loans/borrowings	-	-
5. Statutory Liabilities		
a) Overdue	-	-
b) Others	-	-
6. Other Current Liabilities	-	-
Total (A)	-	-

B. Provisions	Current Year	Previous Year
1. For Taxation	-	-
2. Gratuity	-	-
3. Superannuation/Pension	-	-
4. Accumulated Leave Encashment	-	-
5. Trade Warranties/Claims	-	-
6. Others	-	-
Total (B)	-	-
Total (A+B)	-	-



Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Depreciation Schedule For The Year ending 31st March ,2017

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Particulars	Cost as on beginning of the year as on 1.4.2016	Addition during the year 1st Half	Addition during the year 2nd Half	Deletion/Sales	Cost valuation at year end as on 31.03.17	Depreciation as on 1.4.16	Depreciation for the year as on 31-03-2017	Depreciation W/Back	Total Depreciation up to 31-03-2017	WDV as on 31.3.17	WDV as on 31.3.16
Building (Superstructure on land not belonging to the entity)	2,373,356.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,373,356.00	1,379,211.50	99,414.45	0.00	1,478,625.95	894,730.05	994,144.50
Vehicles	3,939,821.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,939,821.00	2,650,225.85	193,439.27	0.00	2,843,665.12	1,096,155.88	1,289,595.15
Furniture & Fixtures	2,007,057.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,007,057.00	1,016,020.27	99,103.67	0.00	1,115,123.94	891,933.06	991,036.73
Office Equipment	3,241,297.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,241,297.00	2,421,026.28	123,040.61	0.00	2,544,066.89	697,230.11	820,270.72
Computers/Peripherals	1,796,430.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,796,430.00	1,786,032.32	6,238.61	0.00	1,792,270.93	4,159.07	10,397.68
Mobile Accessories	106,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	106,000.00	49,872.16	8,419.18	0.00	58,291.34	47,708.66	56,127.84
Camera	458,703.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	458,703.00	127,289.70	49,712.00	0.00	177,001.70	281,701.31	331,413.30
Microphone Cum Speaker	230,164.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	230,164.00	63,870.85	24,943.97	0.00	88,814.82	141,349.18	166,293.15
IC Recorder	5,990.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,990.00	1,662.65	649.10	0.00	2,311.75	3,678.25	4,327.35
Air Conditioner	62,400.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	62,400.00	17,316.00	6,762.60	0.00	24,078.60	38,321.40	45,084.00
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	14,221,218.00	-	-	-	14,221,218.00	9,512,527.58	611,723.46	-	10,124,251.04	4,096,966.96	4,708,690.42
Previous year	14,221,218.00	-	-	-	14,221,218.00	8,797,570.98	714,956.60	-	9,512,527.58	4,708,690.42	5,423,647.02

Member Secretary

Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Schedules forming part of Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017

SCHEDULE 9- INVESTMENTS FROM EARMARKED / ENDOWMENT FUNDS:	Current Year	Previous Year
1. In Government Securities	-	-
2. Other Approved Securities	-	-
3. Shares	-	-
4. Debentures and Bonds	-	-
5. Subsidiaries and Joint Ventures	-	-
6. Others	-	-
Total	-	-

SCHEDULE 10- INVESTMENTS-OTHERS	Current Year	Previous Year
1. In Government Securities	-	-
2. Other Approved Securities	-	-
3. Shares	-	-
4. Debentures and Bonds	-	-
5. Subsidiaries and Joint Ventures	- t	-
6. Fixed Deposits with Bank	2,899,780.00	2,803,889.00
Total	2,899,780.00	2,803,889.00



Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority -National Legal Services Authority
Schedule forming part of Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 11-CURRENT ASSETS,LOANS,ADVANCES,ETC.	Current Year	Previous Year
A. Current Assets		
1. Inventories:		
a) Stores and Spares	-	-
b) Loose Tools	-	-
c) Stock-in-Trade		
Finished Goods	-	-
Work-in-progress	-	-
Raw Materials	-	-
2. Sundry Debtors		
a) Debts Outstanding for a period exceeding six months	-	-
b) Others	-	-
3. Cash balances in hand (including cheques / drafts and imprest)	-	-
4. Bank Balances		
a) With Scheduled Bank		
On Current Accounts	-	-
On Deposit Accounts(includes margin money)	-	-
On Savings Accounts	204,286,498.00	621,883,279.00
b) With non-Scheduled Banks		
On Current Accounts	-	-
On Deposit Accounts	-	-
On Savings Accounts	-	-
5. Post Office-Savings Accounts	-	-
Total(A)	204,286,498.00	621,883,279.00

SCHEDULE 11-CURRENT ASSETS,LOANS,ADVANCES,ETC. (CONT.)	Current Year	Previous Year
B. Loans, Advances and Other Assets		
1. Loans:		
a) Staff Loans	-	-
b) Other Entities engaged in activities/objectives similar to that of the Entity	-	-
c) Security Deposit	4,000.00	4,000.00
2. Advances and other amounts recoverable in cash or in kind or for value to be received:		
a) On Capital Account	-	-
b) Repayments	-	-
c) Others	-	-
3. Income Accrued:		
a) On Investments from Earmarked/ Endowment Funds	-	-
b) On Investments-Others	-	-
c) On Loans and Advances	-	-
d) Others	24,336.00	24,336.00
4. TDS Recievable	119,774.00	119,774.00
Total(B)	148,110.00	148,110.00
Total(A+B)	204,434,608.00	622,031,389.00

Alekh Apandil

Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Schedules forming part of Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 12-INCOME FROM SALES/SERVICES	Current Year		Previous year	
	Amount	Total	Amount	Total
(Irrevocable Grants and Subsidies Received)				
1. Income from Sales				
a) Sale of Finished Goods	-	-	-	-
b) Sale of Raw Material	-	-	-	-
c) Sale of Scarps	-	-	-	-
2. Income from Services				
a) Labour and Processing Charges	-	-	-	-
b) Professional/ Consultancy Charges	-	-	-	-
c) Agency Commission and Brokergae]	-	-	-	-
d) Maintaine Services (Equipment/ Property)	-	-	-	-
e) Others	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-

SCHEDULES 13-GRANTS/SUBSIDIES	Current Year		Previous year	
	Amount	Total	Amount	Total
(Irrevocable Grants and Subsidies Received)				
1. Central Government				
Grant Received	636,700,000.00		679,700,000.00	
Add: Unspent Grant Received Back	53,690,602.00	690,390,602.00	1,633,442.00	681,333,442.00
Less: Unspent Grant Durring the year		-		-
2. State Government		-		-
3. Government Agencies		-		-
4. Institutions/Welfare Bodies		-		-
5. International Organisations		-		-
6. Others - Consolidated Fund		-		-
Total		690,390,602.00		681,333,442.00



Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Schedule forming part of Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 14-FEES/SUBSCRIPTIONS	(Amount - Rs.)	
	Current Year	Previous Year
1.Entrance Fees	-	-
2.Annual Fees/ Subscriptions	-	-
3.Seminar/Program fees	-	-
4. Consultancy Fees	-	-
5. Others (Specify)	-	-
Total	-	-
Note:- Accounting Policies towards each item are to be disclosed		

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 15-INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS	Investment from earmarked fund		Investment-Others	
(Income on Invest from Earmarked/Endowment Funds transferred to funds)				
	Current year	Previous Year	Current year	Previous Year
1. Interest				
a) On Government Securities	-	-	-	-
b) Other Bonds/Debentures	-	-	-	-
2. Dividends:				
a) On Shares	-	-	-	-
b) On Mutual Fund Securities	-	-	-	-
3. Rents	-	-	-	-
4. Others(Specify)	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-

Transferred to Earmarked/ Endowment Funds




Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Schedules forming part of Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 16-INCOME FROM ROYALTY,PUBLICATION,ETC.	Current Year	Previous Year
1.Income from Royalty	-	-
2.Income from Publications	-	-
3.Others(Specify)	-	-
Total	-	-
SCHEDULE 17-INTEREST EARNED	Current Year	Previous Year
1. On Term Deposits		
a) With Scheduled Banks	95,891.00	196,510.00
Less Interest on Library fund (FD) Tsfd to Corpus Fund	-	-
b) With Non-Scheduled Banks	-	-
c) With Institutions	-	-
d) Others	-	-
2. On Savings Accounts:		
a) With Scheduled Banks	17,361,757.00	27,316,922.00
b) With Non-Scheduled Banks	-	-
c) Post Office Savings Accounts	-	-
d) Others - Interest on Upspent Grant	-	4,641.00
3. On Loans:		
a) Employees/Staff	-	-
b) Others	-	-
4. Interest on Debtors and Other Receivables	-	-
Total	17,457,648.00	27,518,073.00
Note:- Tax deducted at source to be indicated		


Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Schedules forming part of Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 18-OTHER INCOME	Current Year	Previous Year
1. Profit on Sale/Disposal of Assets:		
a) Owned assets	-	-
b) Assets acquired out of grants, or received free of cost	-	-
2. Donation Received	-	-
3. Fees for Cost/RTI received	5,150,200.00	652,394.00
4. Miscellaneous Income	-	-
Total	5,150,200.00	652,394.00

SCHEDULE 19-INCREASE/DECREASE IN STOCK OF FINISHED GOODS AND WORK IN PROGRESS	Current Year	Previous Year
a) Closing stock		
Finished stock	-	-
Work-in-progress	-	-
b) Less: Opening Stock		
Finished goods	-	-
Work-in-progress	-	-
Net Increase/Decrease(a-b)	-	-
Total	-	-



Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Schedule forming part of Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 20-ESTABLISHMENT EXPENSES	Current Year	Previous Year
a) Salaries and Wages	-	-
b) Allowances and Bonus	-	-
c) Contribution to Provident Fund	-	-
d) Interim Relief Arrears	-	-
e) Pay and Allowances Arrears	-	-
f) Expenses on Employees Retirement and Terminal Benefits	-	-
g) Others	-	-
Total	-	-



Member Secretary

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Schedule forming part of Balance Sheet as on 31.03.2017

(in rupees)

Schedule 21-OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES,ETC.	Current Year	Previous Year
a) Purchase	-	-
b) Labour and Processing expenses	-	-
c) Cartage and Carriage Inwards	-	-
d) Electricity and Power	-	-
e) Conveyance	-	-
f) Repairs and Maintenance	-	-
g) Vehicles Running and Maintenance	-	-
h) Postage, Telephone and Communication Charges	-	-
i) Printing and Stationery	-	-
j) Tour and Travelling Expenses	-	-
k) Expenses on Seminar/ Workshops- Training of Trainers Expenses	-	1,630,053.00
l) Subscription Expenses	-	-
m) Auditors Remuneration	-	-
n) Professional Charges	-	-
o) Provision for Bad and Doubtful Debts/ Advances	-	-
p) Bank Charges	-	161.00
q) Advertisement and Publicity	26,001,712.00	208,947.00
r) Annual day Sahyog Exps.- National Legal Day & Commendations Ceremony Expenses	3,228,028.00	1,733,323.00
Total	29,229,740.00	3,572,484.00

(in rupees)

SCHEDULE 22-EXPENDITURE ON GRANTS,SUBSIDIES,ETC.	Current Year	Previous Year
a) Grants given to Institutions/Organisations	1,100,996,000.00	602,100,000.00
b) Grant for Multipurpose Vehicles / Institutions/ Organisations	-	888,995.00
c) Subsidies given to Institutions/Organisations	-	-
Total	1,100,996,000.00	602,988,995.00
As per Annexure		

SCHEDULE 23- INTEREST	Current Year	Previous Year
a) On Fixed Loans	-	-
b) On Other Loans(Including Bank Charges)	-	-
c) Others	-	-
Total	-	-



Member Secretary

ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES

FORM-3

Appendix forming part of Accounting of National Legal Aid Fund for the Year ended 31st March, 2017

Name of Authority: NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

SCHEDULES – 24 Significant Accounting Policies

1. Accounting Convention:

The financial statements are prepared on the basis of historical cost convention, unless otherwise stated and on the Cash Basis of accounting.

2. Inventory, Investments, Deferred Revenue and Sales:

The authority has no Inventory, no Investments, no Deferred Revenue Expenditure and no Sales.

3. Government Grant / Subsidies:

- Government grants of the nature of contribution towards capital cost of setting up projects treated as Capital Reserve.
- Grant in respect of specific fixed assets, if any, acquired are shown as an addition to Corpus Fund.
- Government grants / subsidy are accounted for on realization basis.

4. Foreign Currency Transactions, Lease and Excise duty:

The authority has had no foreign currency, no lease and no excise duty transactions.

5. Fixed Assets:

- Fixed assets are stated at cost of acquisition inclusive of inward freight, duties taxes and incidental and direct expenses relating to acquisition. In respect of projects involving construction, related pre-operational expenses, from part of the value of the assets capitalized.
- From the financial year 2015-16, the Authority has decided to account for the addition of fixed assets only when the same are financed from National Legal Aid Fund.

Since no addition of fixed assets was financed out of National Legal Aid Fund, no addition of fixed assets has been considered.

6. Depreciation:

- Depreciation is provided on "Reducing Balance Method" as per rates specified in Income Tax Act 1961.

7. As per practice grant given to different State Legal Services Authorities and NGO's & Universities etc. have been considered as expenses of the year when paid, pending receipt of utilization certificates. The details of pending utilization certificates relate to the years 1982-83 to 2015-16 Rs.19,599.10 Lacs (excluding grants given worth Rs. 11009.96 lacs during the year 2016-17) involving 36 State Legal Service Authorities, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee including Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee and 29 NGO's / Universities etc.

8. During the Financial Year 2016-2017 National Legal Aid Authority Received Grant –in aid From Ministry of Law & Justice Rs 63.67 Crores out of this amount Rs 110.01 crores (Appr.) were distributed as grant to different State Legal Services Authorities. The reason for the excess amount given to State legal Services Authorities is huge amount lying in national legal fund which was unspent balances in Previous year's.
9. Tds Receivables Rs 119774 shown in balance sheet which are deducted by various agencies from the year 2007-2008 to 2013-2014 and not claimed as refund while submitting income tax return for the above periods. It has been advised to write off the amount of TDS Receivable from the books because there is no scope of getting the refund from IT Departments.
10. Loans and Advances amount Rs 24336 shown in the Balance sheet for Staff advances which are not related to this account because National legal aid fund has not appointed any employee and no salary or any advances had been paid or is paid from national legal aid fund. This amount is wrongly shown in under loans and advances head in balance sheet.
11. Not any amount in respect of statutory dues were outstanding as on 31.03.2017.
12. Corresponding figures for the Previous year have been regrouped/rearranged, wherever necessary.



Member Secretary

NOTE FOR THE SCHEDULES

FORM-4

Appendix forming part of Accounting for the Period / Year ended 31st March, 2017 of National Legal Aid Fund, Name of Authority : NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

SCHEDULES – 25

Certificate in respect of contingent Liabilities and Notes on Accounts

1. Contingent Liabilities during the year under reference – NIL

(Previous year – NIL)

- Claims against the entity acknowledged as debts – NIL
- In respect of
 - Bank Guarantees given by / on behalf of the Entity – Nil
 - Letters of Credit opened by Bank on behalf of the Entity- NIL
 - Bills discounted with Banks – NIL
- Disputed demands in respect of
 - Income – Tax Rs. NIL
 - Sales – Tax – NIL
 - Municipal Tax – NIL
- In respect of claims from parties for non – execution of orders, but contested by the Entity - NIL

2. Capital Commitments during the year under reference - NIL

(Previous year – NIL)

Estimated value of contracts remaining to be executed on capital account and not provided for (net of advance) - NIL

3. Lease obligations during the year under reference – Nil (Previous year – NIL)

Future obligations for rentals under finance lease arrangements for plant and machinery amount to – NIL

4. Current Assets, Loans and Advances

In the opinion of the management, the current assets, loans and advances have a value on realization in the ordinary course of business, equal at least to the aggregate amount shown in Balance Sheet.

5. Taxation

In view of there being no taxable income under Income Tax Act, 1961, no provision for Income Tax has been considered necessary

6. Foreign Currency Transaction during the year under reference - NIL (Previous year - NIL)

<u>Particulars</u>	(Amount Rs.)	
	Current Year	Previous Year
1. Value of Imports Calculated on C.I.F. Basis:		
- Purchase of finished Goods	NIL	NIL
- Raw Materials & Computers (including in transit)	NIL	NIL
- Capital Goods	NIL	NIL
- Stores, Spares and Consumables	NIL	NIL
2. Expenditure in foreign Currency:		
- Travel	NIL	NIL
- Remittances and Interest payment to Financial Institutions / Banks in Foreign Currency	NIL	NIL
- Other expenditure		
* Commission on Sales	NIL	NIL
* Legal and Professional Expenses	NIL	NIL
* Miscellaneous Expenses	NIL	NIL
3. Earnings:		
- Value of Exports on FOB basis	NIL	NIL
4. Remuneration to auditors:		
- Taxation matters	NIL	NIL
- For Management Services	NIL	NIL
- For certification	NIL	NIL

7. Fixed Assets Register has been properly maintained with effect from 1.4.2011. Assets relating to prior period though appearing in the fixed asset register have not been reconciled with the financial records for want of detailed information as to quantity and value. However, from the year 2015-16, The Authority has decided not to account for the new purchases of fixed assets if they are not financed out of National Legal Aid Fund.
8. Appendix 1 to 23 are annexed to and form an integral part of the Balance Sheet and the Income and Expenditure accounts for the year ended on that date.
9. Corresponding figures for the previous year have been regrouped/ rearranged, wherever necessary.



Member Secretary

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS

National Legal Aid Fund
Name of Authority - National Legal Services Authority
Receipts and Payments for the period/Year ended 31.03.2017

(in rupees)

Receipts	Current Year	Previous Year	Payments	Current Year	Previous Year
1. Opening Balances			1. Expettnses		
a) Cash in hand	-	-	a) Establishment Expenses(Corre-sponding to schedule 20)	-	-
b) Bank Balances			b) Administrative Expenses(Corre-sponding to Schedule 21)	29,229,740.00	3,572,484.00
i) In current accounts	-	-	2. Payments made against funds for various Projects- Annexure	1,100,996,000.00	602,100,000.00
ii) In Fixed Deposit accounts	2,803,889.00	2,606,814.00	(Name of the fund or project should be shown alongwith the		
iii) Saving accounts	621,883,279.00	519,137,359.00	particulars of payments made for each project).		
2. Grants Received			3. Library Grant distributed	-	-
a) From Government of India	636,700,000.00	679,700,000.00	4. Investments and deposits made	-	-
b) From State Government			a) Out of Earmarked/Endowment funds	-	-
c) From Other sources- Unspent Grant	53,690,602.00	1,633,442.00	b) Out of Own Funds(Investment others)	2,899,780.00	2,803,889.00
(Grants for Capital & Revenue expenditure to be shown separately)			5. Expenditure on Fixed Assets and Capital Work in Progress		
3. Income on Investments from			a) Purchase of Fixed Assets.	-	-
a) Earmarked/Endowment Funds	-	-	b) Expenditure on Capital Work-in-Progress.	-	-
b) Own Funds (Other Investment)			6. Refund of surplus money/Loans		
4. Interest Received			a) To the Government of India	-	-
a) On Bank deposits	17,361,757.00	27,316,922.00	b) To the State Government	-	-
b) Loans, Advances, etc.,	-	-	c) To other providers of funds	273,600.00	-
c) On Unspent Grant	-	4,641.00	7. Other Payment(Multy Purpose Vechicles Advance)	-	888,995.00
d) Interest on FDR	95,891.00	196,510.00	8. Staff Loans	-	-
5. Other Income(Cost /RTI)	5,150,200.00	652,394.00	9. Closing Balances	-	-
6. Advance Grant	-	-	a) Cash in hand (Tsfid to PAO)	-	-
7. TDS Refund Received	-	-	b) Bank Balances	-	-
8. Other Receipts	-	-	i) In current accounts	-	-
9. Intrest Accrued	-	565.00	ii) In deposit accounts	-	-
			iii) Savings accounts	204,286,498.00	621,883,279.00
Total	1,337,685,618.00	1,231,248,647.00	Total	1,337,685,618.00	1,231,248,647.00

Sheela Agarwal

Member Secretary

UTILISATION CERTIFICATE

Financial Year 2016-2017

(in rupees)

Sl.No.	Particulars (File No. & Date)	Amount in (Rs.)	
1.	Letters F. No. 60011/41/2016-LAP(JUS) Date 18/08/2016 Letters F. No. 60011/41/2016-LAP(JUS) Date 20/03/2017	42,67,00,000 21,00,00,000	Certified that unspent balance of previous year amounting to Rs. 62,32,57,737/- was added by grant received during the year of Rs. 63,67,00,000/- as per details given in the margin, unspent grant received back Rs. 5,36,90,602/- , cost collection Rs. 51,50,200 /- and interest income of Rs. 1,74,57,648/- making a total of Rs. 1,33,62,56,187/- . Out of this amount Rs 1,10,09,96,000/- were distributed as grants to different State Legal Service Authorities and Rs. 2,92,29,740 were spent as expenses on legal aid activities by NALSA, leaving an unspent balance of Rs. 20,60,30,447/- which was lying in National Legal Aid Fund has been carried over to the next financial year 2017-18.
	Total	63,67,00,000	

Certified that we have satisfied ourselves that the conditions on which the grant-in-aid was sanctioned have been duly fulfilled and that the money was actually utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned.

Kind of checks exercised:-

1. Audited Accounts.
2. Original Vouchers
3. Original Utilization Certificates



Member Secretary

NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

(As on 31.03.2017)

GRANT ALLOCATED TO VARIOUS STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES DURING THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2016-17

S.No	Name of the State Authority	Grant Allotted (Rs.)
1	Andhra Pradesh State Legal Services Authority	40000000
2	Assam State Legal Services Authority	20000000
3	Chhattisgarh State Legal Services Authority	30000000
4	Delhi State Legal Services Authority	77500000
5	Goa State Legal Services Authority	10000000
6	Gujarat State Legal Services Authority	10000000
7	H.P. State Legal Services Authority	40000000
8	Haryana State Legal Services Authority	73296000
9	Jammu & Kashmir State Legal Services Authority	20000000
10	Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority	80000000
11	Karnataka State Legal Services Authority	72200000
12	Kerala State Legal Services Authority	80000000
13	Maharashtra State Legal Services Authority	70000000
14	Manipur State Legal Services Authority	10000000
15	Mizoram State Legal Services Authority	25000000
16	Nagaland State Legal Services Authority	45000000
17	Odisha State Legal Services Authority	53000000
18	Punjab State Legal Services Authority	60000000
19	Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority	75000000
20	Sikkim State Legal Services Authority	10000000
21	Tamil Nadu State Legal Services Authority	60000000
22	Tripura State Legal Services Authority	25000000
23	U.T. Chandigarh State Legal Services Authority	10000000
24	U.P. State Legal Services Authority	30000000
25	Uttarakhand State Legal Services Authority	20000000
26	West Bengal State Legal Services Authority	30000000
27	Telangana State Legal Services Authority	25000000
TOTAL		1100996000



Member Secretary