

# National Legal Services Authority राष्ट्रीय विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण

# Commendation Ceremony of Best PLVs, Panel Lawyers, DLSAs & SLSAs

15<sup>th</sup> December 2018 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi

COMPILATION BEST PANEL LAWYERS 2018



## PANEL LAWYERS

Panel Lawyers play a key role in ensuring access to justice to all the weaker and the marginalized sections of the society by placing the grievances of the said before the court of law. The lawyers also play a pivotal role in spreading awareness and bringing about the much needed changes in the society. The lawyers empanelled are the faces of the Legal Services Institutions through which the aim of promoting an inclusive legal system in order to ensure fair and meaningful justice can be achieved.

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## 1. EAST ZONE BEST PANEL LAWYERS

(Jharkhand, Odisha, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar)

## **1.1 JHARKHAND STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

## Best PANEL LAWYER: Sri Kirti Narayan Singh, DLSA Ranchi

## **Activities/Work Done:**

- He is working as a Panel lawyer since 2016. He has rendered legal services as Remand Advocate, Court Annexed Legal Service Panel Lawyer, Retainer Advocate, Visiting Lawyer of Legal Services Clinics. He rendered services in outreach programmes.
- He is actively participating in Legal Awareness Programs, Literacy Classes, Training Sessions and Empowerment Camp etc.
- He was appointed as legal aid counsel in 17 Criminal Cases out of which 4 cases have been disposed off .
- Being a Retainer Lawyer, he has rendered services to the litigants in Pre-Litigation matters received at the Front office of DLSA. In the current year ,he settled 07 Pre-litigation matters out of 22 allocated to him.
- He was appointed as a Resource Person for "Legal Literacy Clubs". He conducted 08 Legal Literacy Classes . Around 1000 students participated.
- He is a regular resource person of DLSA, Ranchi to impart training to the newly selected PLVs and empanelled Panel Lawyers. Being a resource person, he has participated in 07 Training Programmes organised by DLSA, Ranchi for PLVs, Panel Lawyers, Teams of Sponsorship and Foster Care etc.

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- He participated in Lok Adalats/National Lok Adalat/Mobile Lok Adalat, and remained quite instrumental in disposing of about 300 cases.
- He participated in various Trainings/Seminars/Workshops/Colloquiums organized by JHALSA.
- He participated as a Panel expert of DLSA in 03 Programmes of Doordarshan and 02 Programmes in All India Radio.
- He remained instrumental in early disbursement of Victim Compensation to victims of crime. He rendered legal assistance to a acid attack victim ,a child victim and also to dependents of a deceased.

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## **1.2 ODISHA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

## Best PANEL LAWYER:

## Shri Bipin Kumar Choudhury, DLSA Cuttack

## Activities/Work Done:

- He is working with DLSA, Cuttack since 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. He actively participated in various legal services activities starting from Legal Literacy/Awareness Campaign to rescuing the people in distress, helping the hapless and needy and rehabilitating the deserted and destitute.
- As Remand Advocate, he competently represented the accused persons in 8 cases, and helped them to get bail.
- As Panel Advocate, he conducted 7 cases relating to PWDV Act.
- He actively participated in organization of Legal Awareness Camps on NALSA Schemes as well as on Socio-legal issues at various places in Cuttack.
- He rehabilitated seven destitute persons in implementation of NALSA Legal Services to Mentally ill and Mentally Disabled Persons, Scheme, 2015.
- He helped two physically disabled persons get physical disability certificates, pension and a free bus travel pass. He even helped one of them to get admission in a school.
- He saved three girls from being sold.
- He participated in conciliation process in several civil and matrimonial disputes, and succeeded in resolving the same.
- Helped many victims in filing application for compensation before the DLSA.

- Rescued a 24 years old girl with 100 % disability, and got her rehabilitated at Sebak Ashmrram, a Shelter Home for women.
- Rescued 80 years man who was lying on the road side and got him rehabilitated.
- Helped a poor family in getting benefits of Ration Card, Aadhar Card and Pension.
- Actively participated in organisation of a rally involving transgenders to make the society aware about the Rights of transgenders.
- Rescued one lady who was confined in a room for 18 years.

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## **1.3 WEST BENGAL STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

## Best PANEL LAWYER: Mr. Jayanta Narayan Chatterjee Associated with SLSA and HCLSC

#### **Activities/Work Done:**

- Actively participated in various welfare programs in and around West Bengal. He has been empanelled and actively associated with the State Legal Services Authority and High Court Legal Services Committee for the last 18 years.
- Practicing as an empanelled Advocate at Calcutta High Court, he has successfully appeared mostly in criminal cases including Criminal Appeals and Death Reference cases as well as in various Constitutional matters thereby extending his time and expertise with utmost dedication and honesty.
- He has been entrusted with the responsibility of representing accused persons in various appeals. Furthermore, he has also rendered hours of his time to hold conferences and give legal opinions to needy.
- He continuously rendered voluntary services to the poor and distressed without expecting any monetary consideration. In the short span of time during which he has been empanelled, Shri Chatterjee has decided against claiming or accepting any fees for his satisfactory and effective

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services rendered towards the indigent litigants of the State Legal Services Authority.

- Mr. Chatterjee, apart from being a role model for many freshly empanelled advocates, has also acted as a guide to his junior colleagues associated with the Legal Services Authorities.
- He had been regularly appearing in different Legal Awareness Camps, seminars organized by the Legal Services Authority.
- Since 2016 he has also been hosting episode 'Aaini Kotha' a Legal awareness programme telecasted on a fortnightly basis on Doordarshan Bangla. The show aims to provide basic and essential knowledge to the vulnerable groups so that they can understand the law and know the scope of their rights under the law and eventually assert their rights. It also encourages them to settle their disputes through Alternate Dispute Mechanism. The people are educated of their rights, benefits and privileges guaranteed by social welfare legislations, administrative programmes and measures etc, through this television programme which has covered multiple topics ranging from the women's rights to the right to free legal aid. The television show has gained immense popularity.

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## 1.4 CHHATTISGARH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY Best PANEL LAWYER: Shri Motilal Verma, District Legal Services Authority, Bemetara

## **Activities/Word Done**

- He is working as a Panel lawyer since 2011. He was primarily assigned criminal cases. He also dealt criminal cases involving serious offences. His performance remained quite satisfactory. In many cases , dealt by him, acquittals took place.
- He worked in aFront Office for six months, and rendered legal services in the form of legal advice and drafting of applications etc. of needy.
- He also drafted applications of victims of crime, and guided them. He helped victims of crimes get Victim Compensation Scheme in 6 cases. A total sum of 4, 40,000/- Rupees was awarded to victims.
- He also worked at Jail Legal Services Clinics, and provided free legal aid and advice to under trial prisoners. He also drafted appeals of the convicts.
- He observed punctuality and performed his duties with dedication.
- He initiated proceedings to get undertrials released, who were unable to furnish bonds, by applying in court to release them on personal bond.
- He assisted DLSA in organising awareness camps.

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# **1.5 UTTAR PRADESH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY Best PANEL LAWYER:** Ms Shabnam Khan ,Ghaziabad DLSA

## Activities/Work Done:

- She rendered free legal services to under trial in 26 criminal matters and out of which about 10 cases have been disposed off.
- She provided legal services in 21 cases relating to juvenile offenders .Due to her efforts 6 juveniles got bail.
- She has been providing free legal services to women who are victim of crime. She has provided guidance and assistance to the them for getting compensation under Victim Compensation Scheme. A minor girl of tender age could get compensation of Rs.4,00,000/- in a criminal case under POSCO Act, because of her sincere efforts.
- She has been regularly rendering her services towards providing legal aid and legal awareness especially to the under trials detained in District Jail. She participates and contributes actively in camps being organised by DLSA, Ghaziabad.
- She is working for, weaker and marginalized sections of society she is discharging her duties with dedication and sincerity.

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## **1.6 BIHAR STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

## Best PANEL LAWYER:

Shri Sanjay Kumar Sinha, DLSA, Jehanabad, Bihar

## Activities/Work Done:

- He was deputed to render legal services to unrepresented accused at remand stage. He performed the assigned duties diligently.
- He not only rendered legal services at legal service clinics, Manrega Bhawan, Lakhawar, Ghosi but also remained actively involved in various awareness programmes conducted by DLSA, Jehanabad.
- He participated in 'Connecting to Serve' campaign from 9 to 18th Nov. 2017. During the camping, he made prisoners of District Prison, Jehanabad aware of their right to free legal services.
- In Door to Door Campaign activity, he made 248 families aware of the availability of free legal services and various other functions of free legal services.
- He conducted awareness programme in Jail as well as DAV Public School, Jehanabad on the topic 'Plea Bargaining'.
- He worked as Jail visiting lawyer at Legal Service Clinic at District Prison, Kako, Jehanabad.
- He was engaged as a resource person in many Legal Awareness Programme organised by DLSA, Jehanabad.
- He was instrumental in disposal of cases in two National Lok Adalats. He functioned as one of the members of the Bench.
- He participated in the campaign 'enhancing legal services to women prisoners and children accompanying them'. He created awareness about the rights of women prisoners during the campaign at Kako Jail.

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#### 2. North-East Zone Best PANEL LAWYERS

(Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura)

## 2.1 ARUNACHAL PRADESH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

#### Best PANEL LAWYER: MR. GULLEY SUMNYAN, DLSA Tirap

#### Activities/Work Done:

- He has also actively participated in community education as a resource person on the occasion of various Legal Awareness Camps and programs. He is always empathetic towards his legal aid clients, and has always found ways to provide services to the needy whose lives are in crisis.
- He has also provided counseling to various people on numerous occasions so that people are not victimized, exploited and that justice is indeed provided. He has also visited the jail frequently, He interacts with the UTPs and convicts who are in need of legal aid.
- In Tirap District of Arunachal Pradesh, public were not aware of their legal rights. People were hesitant to approach the Court of Law due to the lack of legal awareness. Compared to past few years, the public there in his District have now become more responsive and have started recognizing their legal rights and are approaching the Court of Law, and it has been possible because of Mr Gulley Sumnyan's active participation in various Legal Awareness Camps at schools and villages, Door-to-Door campaigns at various colonies, market areas and in remote villages, awareness Camp at hospitals, Legal Services Mela, Awareness Camp in jail, Jail visits etc.
- He has also never failed to attend all the Training Programs conducted by APSLSA as and when it is conducted by the Authority.

- Mr. Sumnyan has regularly attended the legal aid clinic, and provided legal assistance to the needy and the UTPS.
- While attending Legal Aid Clinic , he provided legal counselling d around 22 people, which included counseling on Victim Compensation Scheme.
- Counseling on Maintenance cases was provided to two people. Both of them benefitted from it. Their cases were taken up by Mr. Gulley Sumnyan himself. Both the cases have been settled.
- Counseling on Bank Recovery Cases was also given to 5 people wherein out of Court settlement was done.
- He has actively participated in various Lok Adalat conducted by the District Legal Services Authority, wherein he mostly has participated to counsel both the parties to settle the matters amicably.
- Nationwide Outreach Campaign was headed by him from 11th September 2017 to 17th September 2017 at various villages like Old Tupi, Luthong, Senliam, Thinsa, Borduria, District Hospital Khonsa, Khonsa Medical Colony, Khonsa Market area.
- Since his appointment as Legal Aid Counsel / he has been regularly visiting Sub Jail, Khonsa and has been helping the UTPs who have been abandoned / disown by the relatives, and the UTP who are from different part of the India and has no relatives here in Arunachal Pradesh by contacting them through phone and personal counseling and he filed applications for bail on behalf of the UTPs and helped to release them on bail. Jail inspection and counseling of Under Trial Prisoners (UTPs) was conducted, headed by him at Changlang and Bordumsa on 13th December 2017 and 14th December 2017 respectively.
- Participated as resource person during 15 legal Awareness campaign in different venues throughout the District.

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- Appeared as Legal Aid Counsel in 28 cases out of which 5 cases have been disposed off and the rest are still pending trial in the Court of Law. Three (3) Legal Services Camp/Mela under the new module was organised at Khonsa and Longding on 20th February 2018, 14th March 2018 and 17th March 2018, which was supervised by him.
- Participated in Sarkar Aapke Dwar Campaign .
- In one case, one lady aged about 48 years and her 8 children depending on her were not having any source of income. They did not have any knowledge about their legal rights. Her husband abandoned her and their children and married some other lady. After hearing about the case from a friend, Mr. Gulley Sumnyan immediately approached the aggrieved party and helped her in filing a maintenance case against her husband before the court. And because of his timely Legal Aid Service, now the lady is receiving maintenance of Rs. 9000/- per month and because of this maintenance money she is able to run her family and also provide education to her children.
- In one of the cases under Juvenile Act, two persons namely Wangha Wangsa and Wangsun wangsa were arrested under Section 457/380 IPC. Mr. Gulley Sumnyan was their Legal Aid Counsel. He provided legal services to them. He made sure that they do not get into unlawful activities anymore by providing them some financial help from his own pocket and also by engaging them in some minimal work so that they can earn their livelihood. The case has been disposed off.

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## 2.2 ASSAM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

## Best PANEL LAWYER: Ms. Rupali Goswami, Legal Services Panel Lawyer, DLSA, Nagaon.

## <u>Activities/Work Done :</u>

- Appointed as Legal Aid Counsel in the year 2012. Since then she has been rendering services in the District Legal Services Authority, Nagaon for the vulnerable and marginalisedpeople.
- Instituted D.V. Cases, M.R. Cases, C.R. Cases as assigned by the District Legal Services Authority, Nagaon. In all these cases legal aid seekers got relief from the court of law.
- Conducted a number of Sessions Cases, G.R. Cases and P.R.C. Cases
- She has been rendering legal services in Front Office.
- ASLSA appointed her as a resource person in 24 awareness programmes, Legal Literacy Classes etc. wherein she spread awareness amongst the masses about the NALSA Schemes and Socio- legal topics. She also made people aware about the different Welfare Schemes of the government.
- Attended seven Refresher Training programmes .
- She identified UTPs in need of free legal services. She submitted a detailed report on every visit to jail.
- She is rendering her services as a Legal Aid Counsel in the Legal Aid Clinic at B.P. Civil Hospital, Nagaon . She has also assisted in the rescue of mentally disabled lady on 29/09/2018 at Raha, Nagaon.
- She is also rendering legal services as a remand advocate.
- She has also extended her services as a conciliator in National Lok Adalat and State Lok Adalat organized by the District Legal Services Authority, Nagaon.

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• Assisted in organizing special camps in jails for disposal of cases through Plea-Bargaining.

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## 2.3 MANIPUR STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

## Best PANEL LAWYER: Shri Nongmaithem Modhu Singh, Thoubal DLSA

## Activities/Work done:- .

- Participated as a resource person in various legal awareness programmes organised by Thoubal DLSA. Such programmes were held even in including interior areas of Thoubal District .
- Participated in various legal services programmes organised by Thoubal Dlsa such as :
  - i. Spot Painting Competition in connection with "Connecting to Serve" campaign at Library & Information Centre, Kakching.
  - ii. Legal Awareness Campaign in connection with "Connecting To Serve" at Kakching Police Station.
  - iii. Sensitization Programme with S.P. Kakching and other Officials at Kakching Sumak Leikai.
  - iv. Putting up of Legal Services Hoardings at Kakching Super Market and Kakching Police Station.
  - v. Fixing of Legal Services Poster at Transport Vehicles at Kakching Bazar.
  - vi. Participated in all the important Meetings of Thoubal DLSA Participated in Walkhathon Rally organised by Thoubal DLSA.
  - vii. Participated in "Legal Services Camp" at Lamboi Khongnangkhong, Imphal, and actively assisted in mobilising targeted beneficiaries from Thoubal District to attend the Camp.
- He is rendering services at Legal Aid Clinic, Kakhcing. He has conducted counselling between the parties on various matters including domestic issues, land disputes, money matters etc. During this year, he conducted 69 counselling in the said Clinic for amicable settlement of the disputes.
- Conducted spot enquiry at many places of Thoubal District for resolving disputes between villagers.
- He played an important role in implementation of various NALSA Schemes and directions of NALSA/SLSA.

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## 2.4 MEGHALAYA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY Best PANEL LAWYER:

The name of best PANEL LAWYER not recommended by the State Legal Services Authority for the Commendation Ceremony .

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## 2.5 MIZORAM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

## Best PANEL LAWYER: Ms. Rosalynn L. Hmar, Aizawal DLSA.

## Activities/Work Done:

- She is working as a Retainer lawyer since 16.10.2017. She sits in the Front Office of Aizawl District legal Services Authority, rendering legal services to litigants who need solution of their problems, giving them advice, sending Legal notices on their behalf. She filed cases in court. She was assigned 87 legal aid application out of which she had disposed off 37 applications.
- Being a Retainer Lawyer, she helped accused person to get produced before the Court. Apart that, rendered legal services in the Legal Aid Clinic at St. Paul's Higher Secondary School, Tlangnuam, twice a week, which is funded by the Department of Justice.
- She participated as a Resource Person in Legal Awareness Camps. Human trafficking cases were been taken up by her. She also presented paper regarding human trafficking in Guwahati.
- <u>Success story</u>

In the month of June, 2018, she received information over mobile phone from a reliable person that one girl, aged 20 years, who was working as a housemaid in Hyderabad had not been paid her monthly salary by her employer. The employer did not pay money to the girl . Further, the girl was not allowed to leave for her home state i.e. Mizoram. The Panel Lawyer contacted the girl over mobile phone. Thereafter, the Panel Lawyer passed this information to Delhi Human Rights Activists. With the help of Dr. Alana Golmei, the Human Activists, rescued the girl and sent her to Mizoram.

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## 2.6 NAGALAND STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY Best PANEL LAWYER: Mr. Sunjib Rana, District Legal Services Authority Kohima

## **Activities/Work Done:**

- Mr. Sunjib Rana was empanelled as a Panel Lawyer at Kohima DLSA in the year, 2013 .
- Mr. Sunjib Rana was given charge of Legal Literacy Club (LLC) of Kohima College, the first LLC established in the State set up through his initiative in the year 2017.
- Under his mentorship, Legal Literacy Club members of Kohima College performed a play on Domestic Violence on 03.12.2017 at the Legal Awareness Stall at Kisama Village, Kohima which was witnessed by a good number of visitors and tourists who visited Kisama during the Hornbill Festival. Besides their performance, the members of the Literacy Club also fashioned a purple ribbon as a mark to promote awareness on Domestic Violence.
- Mr. Sunjib Rana also initiated "Marathon Lecture Class" imparting legal awareness to 484 students from 3 (three) semesters of Kohima College He also conducted a cleanliness drive at Kohima College through Legal Literacy Club under the theme " Cleanliness for Growth".
- He also participated in "Door-to-Door Campaign" in the month of September, 2017 at Kohima Village under the theme "Reach Out, someone out there needs you" which has been a success. Mention may be made that during the campaign, with the assistance of 2 (two) PLVs and the LLC members he could cover 1027 households and 3599 beneficiaries.

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- Participated as a Resource Person in various Legal Awareness Programmes. He apprised gathering about NALSA Schemes, Various Welfare Schemes of Government, laws relating to women and children.
- On 01.05.18, he played an active role in an Awareness Programme on "Rights & Entitlements of Unorganised Workers" on the occasion of International Labour Day organized by North East Network (NEN) in collaboration with Kohima District Legal Services Authority.
- Participated as one of the conciliators in the National Lok Adalats as and when directed by the Kohima District Legal Services Authority.
- He played in active role in organising programme with the Village Functionaries on "Basic Procedure of Law" on 17.02.18 at Khonoma Village, Kohima
- A talk on etiquette-cum-review meeting on NALSA Schemes in collaboration with Department of Land Resources Department, Kohima, Nagaland was organized through his initiation on 19.02.18 at District Court Premises, Kohima.
- He participated at the Legal Literacy Stall, set up by the Kohima District Legal Services Authority on the occasion of Republic Day on 26.01.18 at New Secretariat Complex, Kohima.
- He also participated in the 3 days Special Camp for workers in Unorganized Sector organized by Nagaland State Legal Services Authority in collaboration with NBOCW Welfare Board, Nagaland, Kohima which was held from 29th – 31st Jan, 2018 at Kohima.
- He gives his best in Legal Aid cases. He also assistance to the junior colleagues, ever willing to guide and help them.
- In one of a case related to Domestic Violence, he assisted in delivering justice to the victim who was abused for more than 15 years by her husband, Through his initiatives, the perpetrator's life could be changed.
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He assisted in rehabilitation of two accused after their release. With his assistane, they are working as taxi drivers.

- In another case, an accused was arrested for attempt to murder. While pursuing the matter Mr. Sunjib Rana gave counselling to him which ultimately changed him to a better person. After the case was disposed off, he reconciled with his family and bought back his wife and son. Now he is a changed person. He has left taking alcohol and works as a daily wage earner. He dedicates his free time for society.
- So far, he has given counselling to over 1000 people.

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## 2.7 SIKKIM STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY Best PANEL LAWYER: Shri N.Rai, DLSA Sikkim

## <u>Activities/Work Done:-</u>

- Shri N.Rai Sr. Advocate, High Court of Sikkim & Senior Panel Advocate, Sikkim SLSA is a Panel Advocate since 1999.
- Appointed Amicus Curiae in various cases by the High Court of Sikkim.
- Was appointed as Legal Aid Counsel in many cases.
- Gave Legal opinion to the several beneficiaries of the State Legal Services Authority of Sikkim.
- He had undergone 40 Hours Mediation training.
- Recently, he underwent 20 hours (03 days) Refresher Course on Mediation which was organized by Sikkim SLSA under the aegis of MCPC on 5th July.
- 29 camps for Mediation were assigned to him. 26 cases have been disposed off.
- Participated as a Resource Person in 2 Training Programme for Panel Advocates as per Training Module of NALSA in the state of Sikkim.
- Participated as a Resource Person for Training programme of Student PLVs of Sikkim Government Law College.
- Participated as a Resource Person for Sensitization Programme for Nodal Teachers of the School of East and North Districts of Sikkim teaching "Lesson in Law".
- Participated as a Resource person for two Sensitization Programmes on Registration of Marriages for different Religious Committees in Sikkim.

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- Resource Person for Training and Sensitization Programme for the Panel Advocate below 8 years of Practice on 31st March, 2018 in the Auditorium of High Court of Sikkim.
- Resource Person for Sensitization-cum-Refreshers Training Programme for the PLVs on 2nd June 2018 at Chintan Bhawan, Gangtok.
- Resource Person for Short Term Training Programme for new Lawyers and Final Year Students on 9th & 10th June, 2018 in the Auditorium of High Court of Sikkim.
- Judge for the Debate Competition of students of Law College/Universities on 29th September, 2018 in the Auditorium, High Court of Sikkim .

## 2.8 TRIPURA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER:

Smt. Mithu Das, DLSA, West Tripura District, Agartala

## Activities/Work done:-

- Smt. Mithu Das started working as a Panel Lawyer of District Legal Services Authority, West Tripura District, Agartala from the Year, 2016. She has been rendering legal aid and legal services to the poor and marginalized people.
- She has attended so many programmes as a resource person. She has also conduced different types of survey. She is known for her counselling skills. She has performed duty in the legal aid clinic situated at Ishan Chandra Gram panchayat. She also visited jail also whenever required.
- During door to door campaign survey, she found that most of the villagers do not know about the concept of free legal aid service. Most of the villagers even do not have any voter identity card, Adhar Card, Ration Card. A program was held after the survey in the month of January 2018 to address the said issues.
- Was appointed as conciliator in Lok Adalats.
- Was appointed as Resource person in three Legal Awareness programmes organized by DLSA.
- During her visit to Legal Aid Clinic at kendriya Sangsodhanagar, Bishalgarh, Jail personally interacted with the UTPS and informed them about free legal serviced.

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- Smt. Mithu Das was appointed as a Resource person on different occasions for spreading Legal awareness among Students of Legal Literacy Clubs.
- Visited a Old Age Home namely ABALAMBAN at Barjala, as a Legal Aid Panel Lawyer. She conducted a survey and collected data regarding the problems of the widows and other Elderly residents of that old age Home. She was also appointed as a resource person in a legal awareness programme held in the old age home Abalamban for making the residents aware about the rights of Senior Citizens.
- Smt. Mithu Das has been appointed as a clinic in charge at Ishan Chandranagar Gram Panchayat to render legal service in the clinics on Sunday. In the said clinic, she counselled many villagers which resulted in resolving the disputes between the parties.
- During the period from 1.01.2018 to 30.09.2018, Smt. Mithu Das was appointed by DLSA, West to conduct six criminal cases and out of which 3 cases had already been disposed of between the parties.

## 3. NORTH ZONE BEST PANEL LAWYERS

(Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Uttarakhand )

## **3.1 HARYANA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

#### Best PANEL LAWYER: Mrs. Harmeet Kumari, DLSA Palwal

## <u>Activities/Work Done :-</u>

• Mrs. Harmeet Kaur, Panel Lawyer participated actively in implementation of legal services programmes and projects. Some of them are as follows:

## Svavlamban

• During the execution of the project, she facilitated the formation of multiple self-help groups in different villages, enabling more than 380 women to become self-reliant.

## <u>Prajjavala</u>

The campaign was organised by Panel Advocate under the supervision of Secretary, DLSA Palwal. As a result of the campaign, 25 children were re-united with their parents. An interim compensation to the tune of Rs. 1,65,000/- was arranged for different victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Child labourers were freed and their parents were counselled against allowing to work their kids as child labourers.

## <u>Udaan</u>

• She facilitated the formation of antichild-marriage committees consisting of village sarpanches, panchayat

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members and villages. The committee members were provided sufficient training and orientation by Mrs. Harmeet Kumari. She also organised and awareness program in a senior secondary school.

Providing Legal Services to Women Jail Inmates

- She coordinated between the women jail inmates who needed help, the Legal Aid cell and DLSA Palwal. Through many initiatives, she arranged free legal attorneys for many jail inmates through Legal Aid, took initiative to arrange a lady guard in the Palwal jail and delegated to Paralegal Volunteers to continue the assistance on an ongoing basis.
- She participated in various other campaigns such as Yuva Pratinidhi, Ayushman Scheme, Bachpan Mera Haq, Acid Attack, Adhikaro Ka Mela etc.
- Facilitated victims of crimes to get interim compensation to the tune of Rs. 2,75,000/- .
- She is providing legal help in about 15 cases including civil cases, 125CrPC and civil cases.
- Panel Lawyer worked at the Village Legal Care and Support Centre from October 2017 till December 2017. Aside from organising Lok Adalat awareness campaign every Sunday she also provided legal assistance to many people.
- Actively participated in a campaign "Freedom with Responsibilities – A Campaign on Cyber Crimes" in which 400 children were sensitized.
- She worked in the JJB court for more than a year.

- Participated in a training camp on the topic of "Domestic Violence Act" in Law College benefiting professors and students.
- Participated in a Camp organized on Constitution Day.
  Around 200 students and teachers were made aware of their fundamental rights and duties.
- Know your judges: She took upon the management of a program' Know your judges' that was organised at the Panchayat Bhavan, Palwal.

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## **3.2HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

**Best PANEL LAWYER:** 

Sh Balwant Singh Thakur, Legal Aid Counsel HCLSC

## <u> Activities/Work Done : -</u>

- Several cases of Legal Aid have been assigned to Shri Balwant Singh Thakur, Legal Aid Counsel in the High Court. He made sincere efforts to watch the best interest of the party represented by him in the High Court assigned to him in an effective manner.
- He has been enthusiastic in dealing with the case assigned to him in Free Legal Aid. No Complaints what so ever, was received against him. He was quite prompt in filing appeals before the High Court. This shows the concern of the legal aid counsel towards expeditious disposal of the cases of the convicts and the respect for their human rights.

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## 3.3 JAMMU & KASHMIR STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER: Not recommended by SLSA

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# 3.4 PUNJAB STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY Best PANEL LAWYER: Sh RAJESH KUMAR,

## **Activities/Work Done:**

- Sh. Rajesh Kumar is Master Trainer. He has imparted training to Legal Aid Advocates in 14 training programmes organized at District level wherein 1130 legal aid advocates were trained.
- Delivered lectures in number of Colleges and Schools. During his lectures he encouraged the School Principals to form 'Legal Literacy Clubs' in schools and 'Anti Drug Clubs' in colleges. With his efforts, 30 Legal Literacy Clubs in Schools and 20 Anti Drug Clubs in colleges were formed. He also motivates and makes the students aware about various NALSA Schemes and Government Beneficiaries Schemes.
- He has conducted seminars in Jails, especially on 'Plea Bargaining'. He has made 46 jail Visits. The jail inmates were made aware about their rights, benefits of Plea-Bargaining, Sponsorship and Foster Care Scheme, Free Legal Aid etc. Three inmates who were lodged in Sub Jail Moga under section 107/151 Cr.PC were got released with the efforts of Mr. Rajesh Kumar. One inmate lodged under section 109 Cr.PC in Sub Jail, Moga was also got released on his personal bonds with the efforts of Sh. Rajesh Kumar.
- He participated in programs like Connecting to Serve, Help Desk, Awareness through SML VAN and JAAGO Project . 500 persons were made aware in Jaago Project. He was part of the team constituted to spread the message of NALSA, its schemes, other activities of Legal Services Institutions, to identify the poor and deprived section of the society residing in far flung areas, in villages and in slum areas and to conduct survey and "Door to Door Campaign" in 34 villages. 15822 persons were informed

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about the benefits of Lok Adalats, Free Legal Services, Mediation, Victim Compensation Scheme and Permanent Lok Adalat (PUS) during Door to Door Campaign conducted by DLSA, Moga in November, 2017

- A disabled woman was dismissed by the Private College Committee and the matter was got settled with efforts of Sh. Rajesh Kumar, Advocate.
- He also actively participated in celebrating the National/International days, Republic Day, Women Day, National Sports Day, Literacy. During these events, students were made aware about the NALSA Schemes, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, Anti Dowry Laws, Fundamental Rights and Duties, Free legal aid, Save the Girl Child, Beti Bachao Beti Padao and Rights of Women and Children.
- He has also been rendering his services in different clinics like Legal Aid Clinic Machhike, Legal Aid Clinic Sub Jail Moga and Front Office Moga to provide legal advice to the visitors.
- During his visit in Legal Aid Clinic Machhike, he identified the number of children who left the school, from the village Machhike and got admitted them in School.
- He assisted in organizing seminars in 22 Colleges & 20 Schools wherein 5300 students were made aware about the functioning of LSIs.
- Legal advice to 300 persons were given through SML Van Programme.

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## 3.5 UTTARAKHAND STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY Name of Best PANEL LAWYER: Mr. Manoj Singh Brijwal, DLSA Almora

#### Activities/Work Done:

- Mr. Manoj Singh Brijwal effectively provided legal aid and assistance to the needy and eligible persons before the courts of law through DLSA, Almora in 10 cases.
- He provided legal aid and advice to the needy people. The litigants were satisfied by the advice given to them by him.
- He provided legal aid and assistance to the prisoners in 12 Cases, assigned to him by the DLSA, Almora. He gave legal advice and counselling in 09 Cases to the Under Trial Prisoners in the Legal Aid Clinic established in the District Jail Almora.
- He visited 07 Legal Aid Clinics established throughout the District, Almora. Eleven (11) visits were also made by him to the Legal Aid Clinic established in District Jail Almora. He actively participated in Legal Awareness Camps organized by the DLSA Almora in the District Jail Almora.
- Three (03) visits to JJB/NariNiketan/Observation Home were also made by the said Panel Lawyer. During his visit a total of 06 inmates were benefited through legal advice and counselling.
- He attended Front Office on 120 days, and during the period provided legal assistance and advice to 50 persons as a panel lawyer.
- Total 06 Legal Awareness and Multi-Purpose Camps were attended by him. He interacted with 40 persons and enlightened them about their legal

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rights & duties including NALSA's Schemes and welfare schemes of Central/State Govt.

- Two (02) cases of Victims Compensation Scheme were also dealt by him.
- Facilitated Six (6) Disaster Victims to get compensation.
- Actively attending monthly meetings regularly.
- Till date no adjournment was filed by him in any case assigned to him by the DLSA, Almora. His behaviour is humble and polite as a panel lawyer with litigants, staff and officers.
- In most of the cases assigned to him by DLSA Almora, he rendered his Pro-bono services.
- He actively participated in Lok Adalats also.

## 4. <u>SOUTH ZONE BEST PANEL LAWYERS</u>

(Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Telangana)

#### 4.1 ANDHRA PRADESH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER:

Sri Cheeli Musalaiah, District Legal Services Authority, Krishna at Machilipatnam

#### Activities/Work Done :

- Sri Cheeli Musalaiah is in the panel of District Legal Services Authority, Krishna at Machilipatnam since the year 2012. He is rendering assistance to the public as panel lawyer and manning the legal aid Clinic in Jail and taking part as Lok Adalat Bench Member. He also accompanies the Para Legal Volunteers to the Clinics in the district and renders necessary assistance to the needy persons.
- Responding to a news item, as to the death of a Municipal Contract Worker by falling in a manhole, he moved the DLSA, Krishna, by filing PLC No.78 of 2017. Due to his intervention and negotiations with the Department, the said PLC was settled for payment of compensation to the family members of the deceased.
- He has been taking active part as resource person in imparting training to the PLVs. He also took part in imparting training to the Project Resource persons of ICDS in connection with Kishori Viikas Phase-II Project as ICDS. He also participated in the Live Programmes in Doordarshan Saptagiri regional Channel, on NALSA Schemes and enlightening the public about the advantages and procedures to avail the schemes and creating awareness to the public as to the availability of legal services.
- He was entrusted 17 cases from January to September, 2018.

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# 4.2 KARNATAKA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY Best PANEL LAWYER: Smt K.H.M Shailaja, TLSC Kudligi

## Activities/Work Done: -

- 22 sitting were held in Legal Services Clinics and advices given in 23 matters.
- Actively participated in Legal Literacy Programmes and camps conducted by TLSC Kudligi.
- Maintains punctuality and promptness in maintaining registrars, quality advice, having special knowledge in settling the Matrimonial disputes outside the court and before the court.
- Actively participated in educating people, especially belonging to weaker sections and giving awareness about their rights guaranteed under constitution, nature of their disputes, problems and inform them to approach legal services committed so as to get legal aid by the TLSC.
- Assisted in organizing legal awareness programmes, reporting violations child and women rights.
- Created awareness amongst people about the benefits provided by the State and Central Government, Legal Services actives of TLSC, to enable them to utilize the free services rendered by the legal services authority to the eligible persons.
- Participated in Legal Awareness programmes and other events conducted on behalf of Legal Services Committee and also attending trainings, refresher courses whenever given by the District Authority with a direction of Hon'ble KSLSA.
- Putting sincere efforts to help poor litigants and persons who approaches TLSC and Legal aid camps.

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• Participated in conducting survey of Ex- Devadasis who were allegedly left out by the Government during the survey made by it. Further she also creates awareness amongst the Ex- Devadasis with regard to their health, education of their children.She has assisted them connecting to pensionary benefits, re-habilitation schemes etc., along with the NGO i.e., Senha Samshthe Kudligi.

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## 4.3 KERALA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYERs: Sreeja Sasidhara, DLSA, Thiruvananthapuram

## <u> Activities/Work Done :</u>

- Actively participating in all kind of activities of the District Legal Services Authority for many years. She was engaged to conduct criminal cases (both magistrate court and sessions court) for the under trial prisoners.
- In addition to the service as Panel Lawyer in court, she was also deputed as a legal aid counsel in the clinic attached to different care homes such as sre Chitra Home for Destitute and Rehabilitation Center for Beggars . She has traced out most of the relatives of the inmates by contacting their native police station as part of rehabilitation. Relatives from Maharashtra, Andhrapradesh, Tamilnadu, Karnataka and from other districts of Kerala state came to the institute, and as per order from DLSA they were released and rehabilitated along with their relatives. More than 20 persons were released and rehabilitated at their home town after tracing their relatives, and for that purpose an Adalat was also conducted at Rehabilitation centre.
- Helped in tracing out the Landed property details of one inmate namely Anil Kumar who also came within the parameters of National Trust Act. Due to the efforts of the panel lawyer, District Collector issued direction to Village Office and SRO concern for restraining alienation or encumbering the property to protect the right of the inmate.
- She was deputed as a resource person for providing legal literacy classes/ awareness classes for the people among marginalized sector, for the prisoners and for the college and school students

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- Rendering her services at a Legal Services Clinic at Central Prison and Correctional Home, Poojappura, Thiruvananthapuram, in the form of interacting with inmates, providing legal aid, drafting of application including bail application. Filed more than 40 appeals before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala.
- Worked as resource person in legal literacy classes to school students in and around Trivandrum City. For the general public legal literacy classes were taken for Women and people from socio economically backward area.
- Had filed PIL petition before the Adalath raising right of Transgenders and tried to bring those marginalized persons to the social lime light and through DLSA provided legal aid to them.
- Took active part in the campaign on Victim compensation Scheme. Visited Tribal areas at Kuttichal, and interacted with the tribals.

## 4.4 TAMIL NADU STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

## Best PANEL LAWYER: P.G.PERUMAL PANDIAN High Court Legal Services Committee, Chennai.

#### **Activities/Work Done:-**

- Rendered legal services to the poor litigants who are below poverty.
- Appointed as Legal Aid counsel in six criminal appeals and 8 Habeas Corpus Petitions before High Court.
- Besides above, he was also appointed as a legal aid lawyer in various
  Civil Miscellaneous Petition, insolvency petition etc.
- Filed a writ petition challenging the order passed under the Cooperative Societies Act.
- Got admitted one HIV patient in Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital. He also helped the patient in getting ration card from the Revenue Department.
- He actively contributed to legal services activities.

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## 4.5 TELANGANA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

### **Best PANEL LAWYER:**

Sh K.Vijaya Mohan, Mahabubnagar DLSA

## <u>Activities/Work Done</u> :-

- Sri K.Vijaya Mohan was empanelled as a Panel Lawyer in the year 2012.
- He was entrusted 68 Bail Applications and 6 Criminal Cases. The same were dealt by him efficiently and professionally.
- He was also attached to Legal Aid Clinic and during one year, he attended the Clinic for 192 days. So also the Legal Aid Clinic attached to the District Jail, Mahabubnagar.
- He regularly participated in the Legal Literacy Camps and acted as a resource person.
- He takes initiative steps in the matters of Under Trial Prisoners. He interacts with each of the prisoner in the District Jail as and when he visits the Jail.
- The sensational case of Smt M.Swathy was entrusted to him. The accused sought legal aid, case was assigned to Mr. Vijaya Mohan. He filed bail application, and efficiently put forth her case for bail. Bail was granted to accused.

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## 5. <u>SMALL STATES/UTS ZONE BEST PANEL LAWYERS</u>

(Andaman & Nicobar Islands, UT of Chandigarh, UT of Dadra & Nagar

Haveli, Daman & Diu, Delhi, Goa, Lakshadweep, Puducherry )

### 5.1 ANDAMAN & NICOBAR ISLANDS LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

#### Best PANEL LAWYER: Nil

The name of best PANEL LAWYER not recommended by the Andaman & Nicobar Islands Legal Services Authority for the Commendation Ceremony.

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## **5.2 UT OF CHANDIGARH LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**

## Best PANEL LAWYER:

Sh Gautam Bhardwaj DLSA Chandigarh

### Activities/Work done :-

- He performed his duties very diligently. His work infused confidence in the jail inmates in the legal services being rendered by Legal Services Authorities. Jail inmates started availing legal aid in more number.
- Provided legal services to Jail inmates . He interacted with convicts.
- Being on the Special Panel of Lawyers for Juvenile Justice Board, he is providing legal services to Juveniles in conflict with Law.
- Was deputed as Resource Person and visited various Legal Literacy Clubs in School to sensitize Students, Teachers, School Staff, NSS Volunteers about the basic Socio Legal Issues such as Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection) Act, Dowry Prohibition and Sexual Harassment, Domestic Violence Act, Good Touch Bad Touch, functioning of State Legal Services Authority, Alternate Dispute Redressal, Public Utility Service and Permanent Lok Adalat etc.
- Appointed as Coordinator/Mentor of Legal Aid Clinics situated in different parts of Chandigarh .
- Participated in Awareness Programs along with Para Legal Volunteers and Interns with targeted approach to apprise local residents about the functioning of State Legal Services Authority, NALSA Schemes, Welfare Schemes, Alternate Dispute Redressal, Public Utility Service and Permanent Lok Adalat etc.
- Assisted in organizing 3 Programmes namely "Saksham Balalak Balika, aur Saksham Ma" "Human Social Justice" with its project "Humari Pathshala" to create awareness among residents of slums.

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- He along with Law Officer, State Legal Services Authority, Chandigarh (U.T.) got rescued mentally unstable lady .
- He alongwith one PLV shifted one lady, who was living in a miserable condition, as her sons had isolated her because of property dispute, to a Govt. Medical College and Hospital, Sector 32, Chandigarh .
- He remained part of two Committees: (1). Child Protection Committee at village and block level in association with DCPU (District Child Protection Unit) and (2). Observation and Children home committee headed by Secretary, District Legal Services Authority. As a Member of the Committees he visited Snehalya, Ashiyana, Narinikatan. He interacted with Children who are in need of care and protection.
- Visited Senior Citizen Home/Old Age Home. Apprised inmates about their Rights .
- Participated in Celebrations of a Important Days such as International Labour Day, World Enviorment Day, International Day Against Child Labour, Anti Tobacco Campaign, World No Tobacco Day, International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking, World Population Day etc.
- Participated in Camps organized by Chandigarh Administration, Melas, Festivals etc. He has been spreding awareness amongst public about the functioning of State Legal Services Authority, NALSA Schemes, Alternate Dispute Redressal, Public Utility Service and Permanent Lok Adalat etc.
- Rendered services as a Member, Lok Adalat along with the Presiding Officer in various Lok Adalats. He remained instrumental in resolving disputes between the parties in Lok Adalats.
- Participated in various Talk Shows on Community Radio i.e. Jyotirgamya

# 5.3 UT OF DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

**Best PANEL LAWYER:** The name of best PANEL LAWYER not recommended by the Dadra & Nagar Haveli Legal Services Authority for the Commendation Ceremony

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## 5.4 DAMAN & DIU LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

## **Best PANEL LAWYER:**

The name of best PANEL LAWYER not recommended by the Daman & Diu State Legal Services Authority for the Commendation Ceremony

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## 5.5 DELHI LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

## Best PANEL LAWYER: Shri Umesh Gupta, DLSA East

## Activities/Work Done :

- 27 cases were marked to him during the period. Out of them, 9 cases stands disposed of.
- Facilitated settlement of 4 cases through ADR Mechanism.
- A Husband and wife were involved in multiple litigation since last 10 years, case was marked to him to represent wife. He interacted with both the parties and convinced them to settle their disputes amicably. All their matters between the parties were settled within 04 months.
- A child marriage was going to take place. Child's school principal called Mr. Umesh Gupta.. He took the matter before DLSA. He coordinated with Delhi Police as well as Mathura Police through mails, written complaints, whatsapp, etc. Marriage was stopped .
- Attended various training programs at Karkardooma Court and Patiala House Court .
- Conducted Special drive for the awareness of RTE and for the admission of children. He set up various camps at various places for the admission of children. More than 50 students were admitted in various schools under this drive.
- Conducted 02 days (Full day) camp in association with DM (East) for Aadhar Card. More than 225 people got benefitted from the same.
- Made 14 visits to DLSA Legal Camp at Mandoli Jail and rendered legal services to inmates.
- Visited and attended legal aid clinic at IBHAS hospital.

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- Conducted a full day camp in association with DM (East) on the occasion of "Beti Bachao Beti Padao" program at Sports Complex Trilokpuri .
- Interacted with women victims and their relatives under "Sampark" scheme. Informed them about Legal aid, etc.
- Conducted number of programs in school on "Water Conservation".

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### 5.6 GOA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

### Best Panel Lawyer: Ms. Vahida Yelgar, DLSA

### **Activities/Work Done**

- Ms. Vahida Yelgar is on Panel of Legal Aid Lawyer since 2012. She handled many cases under Free Legal Aid. She always volunteers to be a Resource Persons as and when called by District Legal Services Authority and Taluka Legal Services Committees. She was a Resource Persons for most of the Legal Awareness Camps organised by DLSA.
- She is also a member of the Committee constituted for "Observation and Children Home Committee" as per NALSA (Child friendly Legal Services to Children and their Protection) Scheme, 2015 to visit the children homes.
- She was also Retainer Lawyer of Tiswadi Taluka Legal Services Committee. She rendered legal services efficiently and effectively. She is also the member of Victim Assistance Unit. She helps the victims.

#### 5.7 LAKSHADWEEP LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

## Best PANEL LAWYER: Nil

The name of best PANEL LAWYER not recommended by the Lakshadweep State Legal Services Authority for the Commendation Ceremony.

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### 5.8 PUDUCHERRY LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

### Best PANEL LAWYER: Thiru A. Abdul Rachide, Pondicherry DLSA

#### Activities/Work done

- (i) Assisted in organizing Camps, Legal Literacy programs and Legal Awareness program for students at High Schools and colleges in Puducherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yanam. He also visited all the villages of the Union Territory of Puducherry and its adjoining regions.
- (ii) Served as a conciliator at Legal Aid and Advice Board.
- (iii) He also attended Legal Services Clinic at Govt. Law College as student.
- (iv) Regularly participated in the T.V. Live programmes at Puducherry.
- (v) Remained actively involved in the Legal Services activities.

## 6. <u>WEST ZONE BEST PANEL LAWYERS</u>

(Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan)

### 6.1 GUJARAT STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

## Best PANEL LAWYER: Mr. Pravir Dineshchandra Dholakiya. DLSA Kachchh – Bhuj

### Activities/Work Done .

- He is rendering his services in the programmes organized by the D.L.S.A
- He has been rendering his Services as a conciliator of the DLSA and TLSC under "Lok Adalat".
- He is a jail visiting advocate and during his visits to jails he sensitizes prison inmates about their right. He always remain present in person during the programmes organized by the DLSA in Jail.
- He participated in the Camps pertaining to legal literacy and law organized by DLSA and TLSC .
- He rendered services in Mega Camp in the year 2018. He made salt-Agariya aware of their rights. He has been rendering his services as panel and retainer advocate of DLSA in Kachchh district. He has conducted various cases like, POSCO, murder, civil appeals, Sessions Court's Cases, Negotiable Inst. cases, appeals etc, as panel advocate of DLSA.
- He provides guidance and awareness to students ab out Anti-Ragging Law, Cyber Crime, Narcotics and Psychotropic Drugs Act .

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# 6.2 MADHYA PRADESH STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY Best PANEL LAWYER: Shri Deepak Naik, Dewas, DLSA

#### **Activities/Work Done:**

- Participated in various activities of DLSA, Dewas such as providing of assistance in organizing awareness Camps, Mediation Camps, facilitation of Lok Adalat activities and providing legal aid to the villagers.
- Shri Naik prepared a team of Bike riders which includes professionals, Lawyers, Software Engineers, Businessman, Media persons and students with a view to incorporate persons of different segments of society. The objective of the concept, target people, beneficiaries, stake holders were conceptualized, and was explained to the members of the group by MPSLSA. The whole programme was given the name of "Nyaya Sankalp Yatra". The Yatra started its journey from High Court Legal Services Committee, Bench at Indore and covered 36 Districts and more than 100 Tehsils. The total ride covered 5436 k.m. of M.P.
- The Yatra covered 36 districts, and in these districts they have conducted at least one exclusive programme at District level, and other programmes such as Nukkad Natak (Street Show) literacy Camp, sensitization programmes on various issues such as Unorganized Labors, Woman Empowerment, Senior Citizens, Child rights, etc. under NALSA and MPSLSA scheme were also held. People were made aware of various socio-legal issues and important laws and schemes. Around 850 people were benefitted.

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## 6.3MAHARASHTRA STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY Best PANEL LAWYER: Shri Sagar Rane, panel lawyer in HCLSC, Mumbai.

#### **Activities/ Work Done:**

- Shri Sagar Rane is working as Panel Advocate on the Panel of the High Court Legal Services Committee, Mumbai. He is also a RETAINER LAWYER on the High Court Legal Services Committee, Mumbai.
- He is actively involved in legal aid activities on a regular day-to-day basis.
- He is assigned with numerous cases which are pending before the Bombay High Court. The cases are of diverse nature.
- Apart from the conducting cases in the Courts, he gives legal aid and advice to persons visiting the HCLSC office.
- He has given several legal opinions in respect of cases assigned to him by HCLSC in respect of cases arising under various statutes viz. - Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, Maharashtra Recognition of Trade Union and Prevention of Unfair, Labour Practices Act, 1971, Code of Civil Procedure,1908, Criminal Procedure Code, 1973, Indian Penal Code etc.
- He is also engaged in pre-litigation counselling with persons approaching the HCLSC for filing cases.
- In a case pending before the PENSION LOK ADALAT involving pension dues to the minor son of the deceased workman, the panel lawyer submitted a detailed report which was forwarded to the Sangli DLSA with a note to promptly file an application for obtaining Guardianship Certificate in favour of the grandmother of the minor son to facilitate speedy disposal of proceedings before the Pension Lok Adalat.
- The lawyer is actively promoting the advantages of empanelment as Panel Advocates on the panel of HCLSC, amongst his colleagues and Associate

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Lawyers. He has expressed his personal satisfaction of having used his skills for the benefit of poor, needy and vulnerable persons in the society and inspired by him several of them have joined HCLSC subsequently

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## 6.4 RAJASTHAN STATE LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

Best PANEL LAWYER:

Prem Kumar Sharma DLSA Bundi

### **Activities/Work Done**

- He assisted in organizing legal awareness camp at Maharishi Dhadhich Vikas Samiti Park, and imparted legal information about rights of senior citizens in the camp where about 60 senior citizens were present. Moreover, two legal services awareness camps were organized by the advocate under the RSLSA scheme 2016 – on the topic "YOU ARE NOT ALONE" where around 155 senior citizens were present.
- The Panel Advocate organised a camp for legal advice and legal aid to the JJ prisoners in Central Jail, Jodhpur.
- The advocate also organized three weekly Camps for legal awareness on the ill effects of plastic and to prevent illegal use of plastic carry bags In all above these camps, the public was motivated not to use plastic and plastic carry bags,.
- He also organised two legal awareness camps for restraining child marriage under the RSLSA scheme where 445 boys and girls were present.
- As per RSLSA programme 2015 regarding human trafficking and sexual exploitation at commercial places, two camps were organized by him . Many questions asked by public on such topics which were appropriately replied as per legal provisions by the legal advocates.

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- He spread information and awareness regarding the benefits of lok adalat and its various aspects among the general public. Two camps were organized by him
- A camp on the subject of human trafficking and women atrocities was organized where information regarding the latest laws and provision for rights of women and children was imparted by the him. The said camp was attended by 56 people.
- Under RSLSA action plan, a camp about the rights of the scheduled tribes was organized by him. He acted as a resource person in this camp. The said camp was attended by 275 participants.
- Under the action plan of RSLSA, a camp on victims of drug abuse and education of drug menace, 2015, was organized which saw the participation of around 150 people. He acted as resource person. Construction workers were motivated to give up use of drugs/intoxication. He also imparted awareness about the ill effects of drugs, the legal provisions and rights of labourers, provisions of lok adalat and legal service authority for redressal of grievances.
- He actively assisted senior citizens with regard to release and sanction of old age pension to them which was held up for want of Bhamashah and Aadhaar card.
- With his efforts , the grievances of the labourers from schedule caste, schedule tribes and other backward and economically backward communities with regard to non-issuance of labour card and labour diaries were redressed.

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