



NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

NEWSLETTER | ISSUE -II | APRIL - JUNE, 2025



At
Tent City II
Ekta Nagar
Dist. Narmada
On
26th April, 2025

National Legal Services Authority
In association with
Gujarat State Legal Services Authority

COMMENCEMENT OF CELEBRATIONS OF THREE DECADES OF NALSA & WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE



Highlights

- *Stories of Impact*
- *Three decades of NALSA*
- *2nd National Lok Adalat*
- *Western Regional Conference - Narmada District*
- *State Conference - Andaman and Nicobar Islands*

Patron-in-Chief

Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R Gavai

Executive Chairman

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant

OFFICERS AT NALSA

Member Secretary

Mr. Bharat Parashar

Director

Dr. Ajit Atri

Officer on Special Duty

Ms. Aarti Singh

Officer on Special Duty

Ms. Amandeep Sibia

Officer on Special Duty

Ms. Shreya AroraMehta

Officer on Special Duty

Ms. Aavritee Naithani

Officer on Special Duty (Research)

Ms. Saavni Kamath

EDITORIAL TEAM

Officer on Special Duty

Ms. Amandeep Sibia

Law Researchers

Mr. Arvinth Subramoniam

Ms. Khushi Kochar

Designed By

Mr. Chander Bhushan

| | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Message from the Executive Chairman, NALSA |
| 2 | Message from the Member Secretary, NALSA |
| 3 | State outreach visit – Rajasthan |
| 4 | State outreach visit – Nagaland |
| 5 | Celebration of Three Decades of NALSA and Western Regional Conference |
| 6 | Mega Legal Awareness & Empowerment Camp Gujarat – Narmada District |
| 7 | Connecting with the Cause |
| 8 | State Conference – Andaman & Nicobar Islands |
| 9 | NALSA's New Publications |
| 10 | SAATHI: National Initiative for Legal Identity and Inclusion of Destitute Children |
| 11 | Celebrations |
| 12 | Legal Awareness & Outreach Programmes |
| 13 | 2 nd National Lok Adalat – 2025 |
| 14 | Stories of Impact |
| 15 | Interns at NALSA |
| 16 | NALSA's Impact – A Statistical Overview (April to June) |



HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SURYA KANT

Executive Chairman, NALSA

&

Judge, Supreme Court of India

Dear Readers,

It is with great joy that I present the April-June 2025 edition of the *NALSA Quarterly Newsletter*. This quarter has been a period of both reflection and renewal for the legal services movement, reminding us that true access to justice transcends courtrooms and must resonate within homes, schools and communities across the nation.

In Kohima, Nagaland, the State Mega Legal Services Camp extended not only legal support but also vital welfare and healthcare assistance to over 3,500 individuals. The initiative reaffirmed that institutions of legal aid are most impactful when they engage directly with people and address their needs at the grassroots.

The Western Regional Conference in Narmada District, Gujarat, convened to commemorate three decades of NALSA, became a moment to introspect upon our collective journey while charting the course ahead. The unveiling of three new initiatives: the NALSA JAGRITI Scheme 2025, the NALSA DAWN Scheme 2025 and the NALSA SAMVAD Scheme 2025; alongside the bilingual POSH Handbook and the commemorative volume *NALSA@30*, embodied our shared determination to meet emerging legal challenges with clarity and compassion. The launch of innovative digital platforms such as LESA, the migration of SLISA websites to the S3WaaS framework and NALSA Connect, a WhatsApp-based outreach channel, signified our step towards a forward-looking and inclusive legal aid ecosystem.

Innovation in outreach also found expression in the Nationwide Reel & Short Film Competition for law students, where the creativity of young voices demonstrated how legal awareness can be powerfully conveyed through the language of the digital age.

In the Andaman & Nicobar Islands, we confronted grave realities such as child marriage, child sexual abuse and the alarming rise of child suicides. The introduction of the NALSA ASHA (Awareness, Support, Help and Action) SOP 2025 - Towards Eliminating Child Marriage marks a significant stride in addressing these pressing issues with both sensitivity and urgency.

This edition encapsulates the dedication of legal services institutions nationwide- through awareness campaigns, prison initiatives, youth engagement and the successful conduct of the Second National Lok Adalat of 2025. I trust that the pages that follow will inspire renewed commitment to our enduring ideal: justice accessible to all.

Warm regards,
Surya Kant



Message from the Member Secretary, NALSA

Dear Readers,

It gives me great pride to present the April-June 2025 edition of NALSA's Quarterly Newsletter, which brings to the fore a tapestry of impactful legal aid initiatives from across the country. This edition captures not only the breadth of outreach programmes undertaken by Legal Services Institutions but also the profound human stories that reflect the heart of our mission - access to justice is not a privilege but a right for all.

The focus on institutional capacity-building, seen through mediation training programmes, orientation sessions on child and disability law and jail inspection visits, strengthens our service delivery systems. These efforts reflect the core functions of Legal Services Institutions which is spreading legal literacy, strengthening preventive legal aid and fostering early dispute resolution to reduce unnecessary litigation. Each effort, whether it be legal empowerment of transgender persons, rescue operations for child labourers or securing entitlements for persons with disabilities, adds a vital stitch in our collective fabric of justice.

Importantly, this quarter's newsletter highlights the voices of those we serve and the dedication of our para-legal volunteers, panel advocates and legal aid counsels who stand as the bedrock of our work. I also take this opportunity to recognize the vibrant contribution of our interns, whose enthusiasm and commitment re-energize our purpose.

As we continue this shared journey, may these stories inspire deeper engagement, stronger partnerships and an unwavering pursuit of equity. Let us carry forward the conviction that justice, when made accessible, transforms lives and let that conviction guide us in every initiative we undertake.

Bharat Parashar

STATE OUTREACH VISIT - RAJASTHAN



On 5th April 2025, Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, the then Executive Chairman, NALSA & Judge, Supreme Court of India, and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sandeep Mehta, Judge, Supreme Court of India, attended the Rajasthan SLSA Conference on “**Green Justice**”. The event highlighted ecological protection, sustainable development and women's empowerment. At Piplantri village, they lauded Shri Shyam Sundar Paliwal's initiative of planting 111 trees per girl child. Key launches included NALSA's ASHA SOP 2025 on eliminating child marriage, नारी की उड़ान, Green Verdicts and Srijan ki Suraksha Yojana 2025, under which DLSAs will plant 11 saplings per girl child. Green Girl Cards, legal awareness camps and welfare distributions reinforced the integration of environmental protection with legal empowerment and social equity.

STATE OUTREACH VISIT - NAGALAND



On 12th April 2025, Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, the then Executive Chairman of NALSA & Judge, Supreme Court of India, attended the State Mega Legal Services Camp in Kohima, Nagaland, organized by the SLSA with the State Government and Kohima DLSA. He reaffirmed NALSA's commitment to access to justice, citing 138 Legal Aid Clinics and 11 DLSAs in Nagaland, and highlighted the constitutional significance of Article 371(A). Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant termed NALSA as a mission-driven entity reaching the last person in society, while Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Kotiswar Singh emphasized on community mediation under the Mediation Act, 2023. Over 3,500 people benefitted, with 18 departments extending services. The camp showcased collective efforts to advance legal awareness and welfare delivery.

CELEBRATION OF THREE DECADES OF NALSA AND WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE



On 26th April 2025, the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), in collaboration with the Gujarat State Legal Services Authority (GSLSA), hosted a landmark event at Kevadia, District Narmada, Gujarat, to commemorate “Three Decades of NALSA” alongside the Western Regional Conference. The gathering brought together distinguished dignitaries including Hon’ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, the then Executive Chairman, NALSA & Judge, Supreme Court of India; Hon’ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, the then Chairman, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC) & Judge, Supreme Court of India; alongwith Hon’ble Mrs. Justice Sunita Agarwal, Chief Justice of Gujarat High Court & senior Judges from High Court, Gujarat and Shri. S.C. Munghate, the then Member Secretary, NALSA.

The event was a celebration of NALSA’s legacy and its evolving role as a catalyst for legal empowerment and systemic inclusion. A three-part documentary film tracing the journey of NALSA from its inception to its present-day reach was screened to mark the occasion. The narrative underscored how Legal Services Institutions have expanded their outreach across diverse geographies, bridging legal gaps for the most marginalized.

The Conference served as a launchpad for several national schemes which were introduced through dissemination videos, awareness jingles, digital releases and printed compendiums. Notably, the outreach videos featured pro bono contributions by leading public figures including actors Pankaj Tripathi, Shivaji Satam and Rajkummar Rao; sportspersons Bhaichung Bhutia, M.C. Mary Kom and grassroots activists such as Dr. Prakash Amte and Shyam Sunder Paliwal.

Reflecting NALSA’s digital-forward vision, the event also witnessed the unveiling of “NALSA@Connect”, a new platform to streamline communication, coordination and service delivery within the legal aid network. In addition, the redesigned NALSA website was launched, along with the migration of SLSA websites to the S3WaaS platform for enhanced digital accessibility. Another milestone was the introduction of “LESA”, an AI-powered Legal Services Assistant aimed at guiding users through available legal aid options with clarity and simplicity.

Hon’ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai lauded NALSA’s transformation from a modest statutory body into a people’s movement. Recalling his visits to Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland, he emphasized the importance of tailoring justice delivery to India’s socio-legal diversity and reiterated the constitutional imperative to extend legal aid to all.

In his stirring address, Hon’ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant stated, “The true measure of justice in a nation lies not in court buildings or statutory tomes, but in the felt sense of fairness by the poorest and the most voiceless among us.” His Lordship called for legal institutions to remain grounded in empathy, dignity and community outreach.

During the working session, the Executive Chairpersons of SLSAs from the Western Zone reflected on the theme “*Three Decades of Legal Services Institutions under the aegis of NALSA*” and deliberated on India’s growing stature as a global leader in free legal aid. This historic occasion reaffirmed NALSA’s unwavering commitment towards access to justice for all, blending tradition with innovation and law with service.

MEGA LEGAL AWARENESS & EMPOWERMENT CAMP GUJARAT - NARMADA DISTRICT



In a significant initiative to promote legal empowerment in tribal regions, the Gujarat State Legal Services Authority (GSLSA) and the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Narmada, jointly organized a Mega Legal Awareness and Empowerment Camp on 27th April, 2025, under the aegis of the National Legal Services Authority and its NALSA (SAMVAD – *Strengthening Access to Justice for Marginalised, Vulnerable Adivasis and Denotified/ Nomadic Tribes*) Scheme 2025.

In his keynote address, Hon'ble Justice Mr. B.R. Gavai, the then Executive Chairman of NALSA & Judge, Supreme Court of India, emphasized the transformative power of legal awareness in enabling citizens, especially marginalized communities, to assert their constitutional rights. Paying homage to Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Justice Gavai reiterated the foundational principles of social and economic equality.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India, recalling India's freedom movement, spoke about the judiciary's enduring commitment to constitutional safeguards and the protection of individual rights. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikram Nath, Judge, Supreme Court of India, commended Gujarat's cultural richness and stressed the importance of Para-Legal Volunteers (PLVs), use of vernacular languages, digital outreach and National Helplines to extend legal services to tribal populations.

A cultural highlight of the event was a performance of the traditional Mewasi Tribal Dance by a local youth group, celebrating the vibrant heritage of the Narmada district. A special recognition and cash prize of ₹51,000 was awarded to the Adiwas Mewasi Vikas Mandal by GSLSA for their contribution. The camp served as a dynamic platform to disseminate detailed information on various welfare schemes, including NALSA SAMVAD Scheme 2025, especially tailored for the tribal communities. It also served as a platform to reinforce NALSA's commitment towards legal empowerment.



“CONNECTING WITH THE CAUSE”: A NATIONWIDE CELEBRATION OF LEGAL AWARENESS THROUGH CREATIVE EXPRESSION



On 30th April 2025, the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) hosted a felicitation ceremony at the Supreme Court of India, to felicitate the winners and runner-ups of its Nationwide Reel and Short Film Making Competition for Law Students, titled “Connecting with the Cause.”

The ceremony was graced by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjiv Khanna, the then Chief Justice of India and Patron-in-Chief, NALSA; Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, the then Executive Chairman, NALSA & Judge, Supreme Court of India; Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, the then Chairman, Supreme Court Legal Services Committee & Judge, Supreme Court of India; and Shri S.C. Munghate, the then Member Secretary, NALSA. The competition was launched on 3rd January, 2025, to commemorate the birth anniversary of Krantijyoti Savitribai Phule, the first female educator and pioneering social reformer of India. Students from four zones — North, South, East and West — were invited to produce reels and short films on NALSA's Schemes, Lok Adalats and Mediation. More than 100 entries were received from across the country, reflecting both creativity and a deep commitment to spreading legal awareness. A total of 16 teams were felicitated — one winner and one runner-up from each zone in both categories. In their addresses, Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna emphasized that access to justice today includes spreading awareness, empowering citizens and bridging gaps in welfare outreach; Justice B.R. Gavai praised the students for their creativity and insight and encouraged them to stay engaged with institutions and assist the vulnerable communities; Justice Surya Kant highlighted the need to enrich the black-and-white text of law with modern communication formats such as reels and short films.



STATE CONFERENCE ON PREVENTION OF CHILD MARRIAGE CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE & SUICIDE - ANDAMAN & NICOBAR



On 21st June, 2025, the Andaman & Nicobar Islands SLSA hosted a significant State-Level Conference at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Institute of Technology, Sri Vijaya Puram, on critical issues surrounding child marriage, child sexual abuse and child suicides. The event was graced by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Executive Chairman of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) & Judge, Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dipankar Datta, Judge, Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble Mr. Justice T.S. Sivagnanam, Chief Justice, Calcutta High Court and other senior judges from Calcutta High Court. In his inspiring address, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant acknowledged the strides India has made in advancing child rights but underscored the vast challenges that still lie ahead, particularly in remote and vulnerable communities like those in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. He highlighted that child marriage, child sexual abuse and suicides are not just legal concerns but moral imperatives, deeply rooted in social and cultural norms that must be addressed with empathy and innovation.

His Lordship condemned child marriage as a grave violation of a child's innocence and called for stronger legal and social measures, such as the NALSA (ASHA – Awareness, Support, Help and Action) Standard Operating Procedure – Towards Eliminating Child Marriage, 2025. He also addressed the silent epidemic of child sexual abuse, advocating for trauma-informed legal systems and culturally sensitive approaches. Furthermore, he highlighted the alarming rise in child suicides in the islands, stressing the need for collective action to build effective support systems to prevent such tragedies.

The inauguration of Legal Services Clinic at Andaman Law College marked a critical step towards making legal aid more accessible to marginalized communities, embodying the spirit of justice and equality for all.



NALSA'S NEW PUBLICATIONS



Green Verdicts –
*A Comprehensive Digest
of Recent Environmental
Law Cases*



NALSA (ASHA) SOP, 2025 –
*for elimination of child
marriage*



“नारी की उड़ान: जीवन में अवसर का” a
*picture booklet –
showcasing women’s
journey towards
empowerment*



“SPEAK UP” –Handbook on POSH
*Act – Ensuring protection from
workplace harassment*



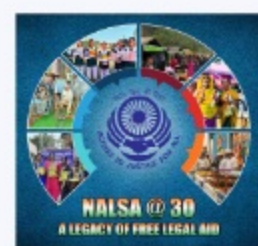
NALSA (DAWN) Scheme,
*2025 – for providing support
for drug abuse victims and
their rehabilitation*



NALSA (JAGRITI) Scheme, 2025 –
*for spreading legal awareness
at Grassroots level*



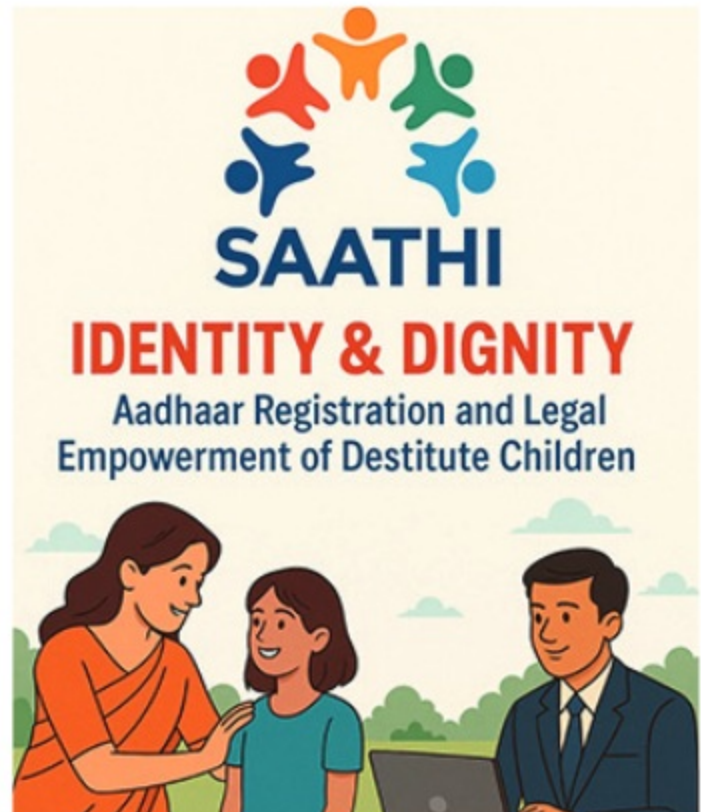
NALSA (SAMVAD) Scheme, 2025 –
*for providing justice and awareness
to Tribal communities*



NALSA@30: Coffee-table Book –
Celebrating 30 years of NALSA

SAATHI: A NATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR LEGAL IDENTITY AND INCLUSION OF DESTITUTE CHILDREN

On 13th May 2025, the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) launched the SAATHI Campaign in New Delhi. SAATHI — Survey for Aadhaar and Access to Tracking & Holistic Inclusion — is a national mission to identify destitute and vulnerable children and help them obtain Aadhaar and other identity documents, ensuring access to education, healthcare and welfare schemes. The launch was graced by Hon’ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, then Chief Justice of India Designate and Executive Chairman, NALSA; Hon’ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India and incoming Executive Chairman, NALSA; and Hon’ble Mr. Justice Vikram Nath, Judge, Supreme Court of India. Justice B.R. Gavai emphasized the need for focused outreach and institutional commitment, while Justice Surya Kant highlighted convergence between legal services institutions, UIDAI and child protection agencies. Running in mission mode from 15 May to 15 August 2025 through District Legal Services Authorities, SAATHI reaffirms NALSA’s resolve that no child should be left behind for want of identity.





Observation of World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

On 21st June, **International Day of Yoga** was observed under the theme “Yoga for One Earth, One Health.” NALSA encouraged State and District Legal Services Authorities to organize yoga sessions in legal aid clinics, prisons, observation homes and community centers, linking them with legal awareness activities. IEC materials combining yoga practices with legal rights information were developed to maximize outreach. Authorities also promoted the campaign on social media platforms. The day reinforced the importance of blending wellness with legal empowerment & creating opportunities for communities to learn about legal rights while engaging in practices that promote holistic health and well-being.



Celebration of International Day of Yoga



Awareness Programme on International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

On 26th June 2025, NALSA marked the **International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking** by emphasizing the role of DAWN Units and Legal Services Institutions in raising awareness. The focus was on building a drug-free India through outreach programmes, short film screenings on de-addiction, rehabilitation drives, and digital campaigns across social media platforms. State Legal Services Authorities organized awareness events, educational film shows and community-level programmes to highlight prevention, rehabilitation and support for those affected by substance abuse. This day brought together communities, institutions and individuals to reaffirm collective responsibility towards a healthier, drug-free nation.



Legal Literacy Drive on Women's Rights in Doddarayapete Village (Karnataka)

On 28th April, 2025, the New Delhi District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) organized an Awareness-cum-Sensitization Programme for members of the transgender community, with a focus on the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019. The session aimed to enhance understanding of legal entitlements related to healthcare, mobility, access to public spaces and protection from discrimination under Article 15 of the Constitution. Participants were familiarized with the support mechanisms of NALSA and Delhi SLA, including toll-free helplines (1516 and 15100) and guided on the use of the NALSA Legal Aid and Vidhik Sewa mobile applications. Legal Aid Counsel shared vital information and practical tools, equipping attendees with the knowledge necessary to assert their rights and seek timely legal assistance.

On 13th April 2025, to commemorate International Women's Day, the Chamarajanagara District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Karnataka, in collaboration with ARS Trust and Government High School, Doddarayapete Village, organized a comprehensive Legal Awareness Programme. The session focused on strengthening participants' understanding of key legal rights and protections available to women, with a particular emphasis on gender equality, community engagement and the role of law in safeguarding women's dignity. A total of 150 participants attended the programme, which aimed to empower women, especially from rural backgrounds, through legal education and awareness, reinforcing the critical role of informed communities in advancing gender justice and ensuring lasting social impact.



Awareness-cum-Sensitization Session for Transgender Persons on Legal Rights (Delhi)



Observance of Workers' Day and Awareness Programme on NALSA Legal Services to the Workers in the Unorganized Sector Scheme, 2015 (Assam)

On 1st May 2025, in observance of Workers' Day / International Labour Day, District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) across the country organized a series of legal awareness programmes, interactive sessions and community meetings to promote legal literacy among workers. The South Salmara Mankachar DLSA, Assam, marked the occasion with a focused awareness drive, aimed particularly at labourers in the unorganized sector. The programme highlighted key legal rights and protections available to workers, with special emphasis on the NALSA (Legal Services to Workers in the Unorganized Sector) Scheme, 2015. Participants were informed about provisions for free legal aid, workplace safety and access to justice, reinforcing the role of legal services in safeguarding the rights of vulnerable labour communities and building confidence among workers to approach legal systems when needed.

On 3rd May, 2025, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) of Andaman & Nicobar Islands organized a Legal Awareness Camp in Wandoor Village, South Andaman, with active participation from the local community. The camp focused on the critical issue of Suicide – Prevention, Awareness & Legal Implications, aiming to educate people on its psychological, social and legal dimensions. The Chairman of DLSA emphasized that suicide is preventable and highlighted the importance of community support and timely professional intervention, also underlining the role of Legal Services Authorities in providing free legal aid and welfare schemes for mental well-being. Local leaders urged villagers to stay informed and seek help when needed.



*Legal Awareness Camp at Wandoor Village
(Andaman & Nicobar Islands)*



*Cybercrime Awareness Programme by DLSA Leh at
Chuchot Yokma (Ladakh)*

On 19th June 2025, the Leh District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Ladakh, conducted a Cybercrime Awareness Programme at Chuchot Yokma, Leh, to educate the public on digital safety and legal rights. The Assistant Legal Aid Defense Counsel, explained various forms of cybercrime and shared the national cyber helpline number—1930—for immediate assistance. He emphasized that victims often fall prey due to ignorance or greed and cautioned against sharing sensitive information like OTPs, ATM Pins or bank details. The session also highlighted the availability of free NALSA's Schemes for marginalized communities and informed attendees about key government welfare schemes, urging them to spread awareness within their communities.

On 3rd June, 2025, the Jhalawar District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) (Rajasthan) organized a focused awareness campaign to educate the public on critical legal and social concerns, including the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) Act, 2013, Child Marriage, the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017 and Domestic Violence. The session aimed to enhance understanding of the legal rights and protections available under these laws, while promoting mental well-being and gender-based safety. The session focused on spreading awareness on importance of reporting offences, seeking timely support and accessing free legal aid through Legal Services Authorities. Through such grassroots initiatives, DLSA Jhalawar continues to work towards building informed and resilient communities.



*Awareness Campaign on PoSH Act, Child Marriage,
Mental Health, and Domestic Violence by
DLSA Jhalawar (Rajasthan)*

LEGAL AWARENESS & OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

At Colleges & Schools : Empowering the Future Leaders through Knowledge

On 8th April, 2025, as part of a state-wide initiative in Assam, various District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) organized awareness programmes in schools and colleges addressing key issues such as Child Labour, Child Marriage, the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 and Drug Abuse. DLSA Bongaigaon conducted a focused session on Fundamental Rights and Prevention of Child Marriage at Sidolsati H.S. School, Bongaigaon. The programme, attended by students, highlighted constitutional protections and legal safeguards against early marriage and exploitation. Through engaging discussions, the session underscored the importance of early legal literacy in empowering children and fostering awareness of their rights under the law.



Awareness Drives Across Educational Institutions on Fundamental Rights and Child Protection (Assam)



Legal Awareness for NCC Cadets on POCSO, NDPS and IT Acts (Kerala)

On 25th April, 2025, DLSA Kottayam, Kerala, in partnership with TLSC Kottayam, organized a legal awareness session for NCC cadets of Don Bosco Higher Secondary School, Puthupally. The session covered vital legal frameworks including the POCSO Act, the NDPS Act, and the Information Technology Act. The panel lawyer simplified complex provisions for the benefit of over 500 students. At the conclusion of the session, the Commanding Officer of the NCC camp and an officer of the Indian Army, expressed their appreciation to DLSA Kottayam for the impactful initiative and presented a memento to the Panel Lawyer as a token of gratitude, noting that such initiatives build legal consciousness and strengthen students' ability to make safe choices.



Say No to Drugs: Awareness Programme at Shivalik Public School (Chandigarh)

On 1st May 2025, the Students Legal Club of Shivalik Public School, Chandigarh, organized a Poster Making Activity on the theme "Say No to Drugs" for students of Classes XI and XII. The event aimed to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of drug abuse and inspire students to take a firm stand against it. The participants showcased their creativity through powerful visuals and impactful slogans, reflecting their deep understanding of the physical, emotional and social consequences of substance abuse. Not only did the activity enhance the students' artistic abilities, but it also instilled a strong message of responsibility, self-care and the importance of living a drug-free life. The posters created by the students served as a reminder that building a drug-free future begins with each individual's commitment to staying away from drugs and promoting a healthier, safer community, fostering resilience, peer support and long-term awareness among young minds.

LEGAL AWARENESS & OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

At Colleges & Schools : Empowering the Future Leaders through Knowledge



Legal Awareness Session at Govt. Boys Sr. Sec. School, Jahangirpuri (Delhi)

On 3rd June 2025, an awareness camp under the state-wide “Nayi Roshni” campaign was organized at Rishikesh by Para Legal Volunteer Smt. Meenakshi Kapruwan, under the aegis of the Uttarakhand SLISA. The campaign focuses on identifying children with disabilities and ensuring their access to education, healthcare, rehabilitation and vocational training, while encouraging their active inclusion in society. The initiative also promotes the development of an inclusive educational system and special schools. Participants were informed about their rights and helpline numbers, including Tele-MANAS (14416) for mental health support, Child Helpline (1098), and the NALSA toll-free number (15100) for free legal aid.

On 21st May 2025, North District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Delhi, conducted an engaging Legal Awareness Session at Govt. Boys Senior Secondary School, Jahangirpuri. The Legal Aid Counsel (LAC) emphasized on the legal protections available for minors and provided valuable insights into the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012. The session was highly interactive, helping students understand the importance of recognizing safe and unsafe behaviours and equipping them with knowledge to protect themselves and others. A total of 246 students attended the programme, benefiting from the practical legal knowledge shared and the opportunity to ask questions about their rights and safety.



Awareness Camp on “Nayi Roshni” Campaign Organised at Rishikesh (Uttarakhand)



Legal Awareness Camp Conducted at Ramsagar Ward, Bhatapara (Chhattisgarh)

On 23rd June 2025, the Baloda Bazar District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Chhattisgarh, organized a legal awareness camp at Bhatapara, covering both urban and rural communities under Bhatapara Police Station. Facilitated by Para Legal Volunteers Narendra Devangan and Ashok Srivastava, the programme focused on key NALSA Schemes including eligibility for legal services, Lok Adalat, child protection topics such as “Good Touch and Bad Touch”, prevention of child abduction, self-defense, traffic regulations and other essential legal information. It aimed to empower the community by enhancing legal literacy and promoting equitable access to justice. The camp concluded with an interactive Q&A session allowing participants to clarify doubts, encouraging dialogue, strengthening awareness and inspiring confidence in legal remedies. Early exposure to legal knowledge is beneficial for children, helping them grow into informed and responsible citizens who are aware of their rights and duties.

LEGAL AWARENESS & OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

Orientation, Capacity Building & Training Programmes

On 22nd April 2025, the Delhi State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) conducted a Joint Orientation Programme for the Legal Services Unit for Children (LSUC) and Legal Services Unit Manonyay (LSUM). Organized under NALSA (Child-Friendly Legal Services for Children) Scheme, 2024 and NALSA (Legal Services to Persons with Mental Illness and Persons with Intellectual Disabilities) Scheme, 2024, the session brought together representatives from multiple DLSAs across Delhi, including North West, Central, Central-II, South West, South East, North, South, West and New Delhi. The orientation focused on capacity building to enhance the delivery of child-friendly and disability-sensitive legal services by strengthening these dedicated legal units.



Joint Orientation for Legal Services Units on Child and Disability Law (Delhi)



Five-Day Mediation Training Programme for Advocates (Telangana)

On 28th April 2025, the High Court Mediation Centre, Hyderabad, in collaboration with the Telangana State Judicial Academy, commenced a 40-hour Mediation Training Programme for selected advocates. Conducted in three batches from 28th April to 2nd May 2025, the training focused on honing practical mediation skills in line with the Mediation Act, 2023. The comprehensive sessions aimed to enhance participants' ability to facilitate amicable dispute resolution through Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanisms. By equipping advocates with structured mediation techniques, the programme sought to strengthen Telangana's pool of trained professionals, promoting faster and more effective conflict resolution across diverse legal fields.

On 20th May 2025, in compliance with the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India's directive in *Aureliano Fernandes Vs. State of Goa* (MA No. 22553/2023), the Karbi Anglong District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Assam, organized a Capacity Building Programme for Panel Lawyers and Para Legal Volunteers. The session was held at Karbi Anglong and aimed to equip legal professionals with the skills necessary to effectively assist women aggrieved under the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) Act, 2013. The session saw participation from panel lawyers and para-legal volunteers, who were trained in supporting women facing harassment in various workplaces. The resource person shared valuable insights to strengthen capacities in handling sexual harassment cases which are often highly sensitive in nature. The programme reinforced practical approaches to workplace harassment case management.



Capacity Building Programme for Panel Lawyers and Para Legal Volunteers by DLSA Karbi Anglong (Assam)

LEGAL AWARENESS & OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

Orientation, Capacity Building & Training Programmes



Capacity Building Programme cum Workshop by DLSA Jaipur (Rajasthan)

On 13th June 2025, the Senapati District Legal Services Authority, Manipur, organized a One-Day Capacity Building Programme for Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) of the Special Legal Aid and Services Camp at Relief Camps, Kangpokpi, at the Kangpokpi Court Complex. The Panel Advocates spoke on the role of PLVs in grassroots legal service delivery and discussed the right to free and competent legal aid under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, with focus on Section 12. The programme concluded with an interactive session. The participating Para Legal Volunteers enhanced their understanding of legal frameworks and their role in supporting marginalized communities.



Capacity Building Programme for PLVs Held at Kangpokpi (Manipur)



State-Level Orientation for PLVs held in Kohima (Nagaland)

On 20th June 2025, the Nagaland State Legal Services Authority (NSLSA) organized a State-Level Orientation Programme for Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) at Kohima. Registrar Ajongba Imchen emphasized PLVs' constitutional role under Article 39(A) in ensuring free legal aid and representing marginalized communities. He also highlighted their responsibilities during natural calamities. NSLSA Member Secretary urged PLVs to remain active, sincere and involved in Common Minimum Programmes. Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel and Retainer Lawyer led sessions on PLV duties, ethics and documentation. Para Legal Volunteers from various District Legal Services Authorities participated in the orientation. The session significantly enhanced the knowledge of PLVs by deepening their understanding of core concepts, equipping them with practical tools & methodologies and encouraging reflective discussions.

At Jails : Rekindling Hope Behind Bars

On 24th April, 2025, an inspection of the district jail in Nagaland was conducted by the Chairman of Mokokchung DLSA, Nagaland, accompanied by senior district officials. The inspection identified key concerns, including the urgent need for separate cells for male and female inmates (currently housing 23 inmates, including one female) and the provision of mental health support through the appointment of a psychiatrist. Additional issues addressed included repairs to the prison van, proposals for stipends to inmate cooks, the introduction of an Opioid Substitution Therapy programme and collaboration with the Agriculture and Horticulture Departments to explore cultivation activities within the jail. Recommendations also called for security upgrades, such as additional sentry posts, improved lighting, and basic computer training for PLVs.



Comprehensive Jail Inspection Highlights Reforms and Rehabilitation Needs (Nagaland)



Senior Judicial Officials Review Legal Aid Services at Jail No. 04, Tihar Jail Complex (Delhi)

On 9th May 2025, several District Legal Services Authorities (DLSAs) in Assam organized awareness programmes focusing on the rights of Undertrial Prisoners (UTPs) and convicts, while also conducting special drives for the screening of potential juveniles in jails across their respective districts. DLSA Tinsukia conducted a special drive at the District Jail, Tinsukia, which focused on monitoring jail reform issues. During the initiative, inmates were also educated about their legal rights, including the right to file appeals and access to legal assistance, ensuring that they were well-informed of their entitlements. Additionally, the screening drive for potential juveniles helped identify individuals who might qualify for special juvenile care and protection under the law.

On 28th April 2025, the Ld. Principal Judge, Family Courts and Officiating Principal District & Sessions Judge, New Delhi District, along with the Secretary, New Delhi District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), conducted a visit to Jail No. 04 at Tihar Jail Complex. During the visit, they interacted with approximately 155–200 Under Trial Prisoners (UTPs) to assess access to legal aid and overall jail conditions. UTPs were informed about the availability of free legal aid services, daily visits by legal counsels and the functioning of legal aid clinics within the jail premises. A strategic meeting with jail authorities was also held to strengthen coordination in processing UTP applications and to enhance communication between jail-visiting advocates and prison officials. The visit reaffirmed the DLSA's commitment to safeguarding prisoners' rights and ensuring the effective delivery of legal aid services.



Awareness Programme on Rights of UTPs and Convicts, and Juvenile Screening Drive by DLSAs (Assam)

On 19th May 2025, the Lohit District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Arunachal Pradesh, led by the Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel (LADC), visited the District Jail in Tezu. During the visit, the team interacted with inmates who had not yet filed appeals in their respective cases. The convicts were informed about their fundamental rights, including the right to appeal and entitlement to free legal aid. In addition, free counselling services were provided to address their legal concerns and guide them on available legal options. The DLSA assured the prisoners of continued support and assistance, reinforcing the commitment to ensuring that every individual has access to justice and legal services. This proactive engagement is a vital step toward empowering inmates with knowledge and helping reduce delays in the justice delivery system.



Legal Awareness and Support Programme at District Jail Tezu by DLSA Lohit (Arunachal Pradesh)



Legal Awareness Programme at Women Cell, District Prison Nadiad (Gujarat)

On 21st May 2025, a comprehensive Legal Awareness Programme was organized at the Women Cell, District Prison Nadiad, Gujarat, focusing on critical legal topics. The session aimed to educate incarcerated women about their legal rights and the various protective laws designed to safeguard them, especially in cases of sexual offenses and juvenile justice matters. In addition, the participants were informed about the availability of free legal aid and the support offered by legal institutions to ensure access to justice. The event was conducted with the goal of empowering the women inmates with knowledge about their legal entitlements and providing them with the resources needed to navigate the justice system effectively.

On 26th May, 2025, as part of the ongoing campaign by the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee (SCLSC) for filing Special Leave Petitions (SLPs) across jails in India, the Srinagar District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Jammu & Kashmir, conducted a legal awareness session at District Jail Pulwama. The session aimed to educate inmates about their right to file SLPs before the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the provision of free legal aid services to support them in doing so. In a parallel initiative, officials from DLSA Jammu visited District Jail Amphalla to assess the conditions within the facility and safeguard the legal rights of inmates. The Legal Aid Defence Counsel (LADC) team engaged with prisoners, highlighting their constitutional entitlements and providing guidance on accessing legal assistance. These efforts are part of a broader mission to empower undertrial and convicted prisoners through legal awareness and ensure equitable access to justice for all.



Awareness Programme on SCLSC Campaign and Jail Visit by DLSA Srinagar and DLSA Jammu (Jammu & Kashmir)

NATIONAL LOK ADALATS

Resolving Disputes, Restoring Harmony

GLIMPSE OF 2nd NATIONAL LOK ADALAT – 2025

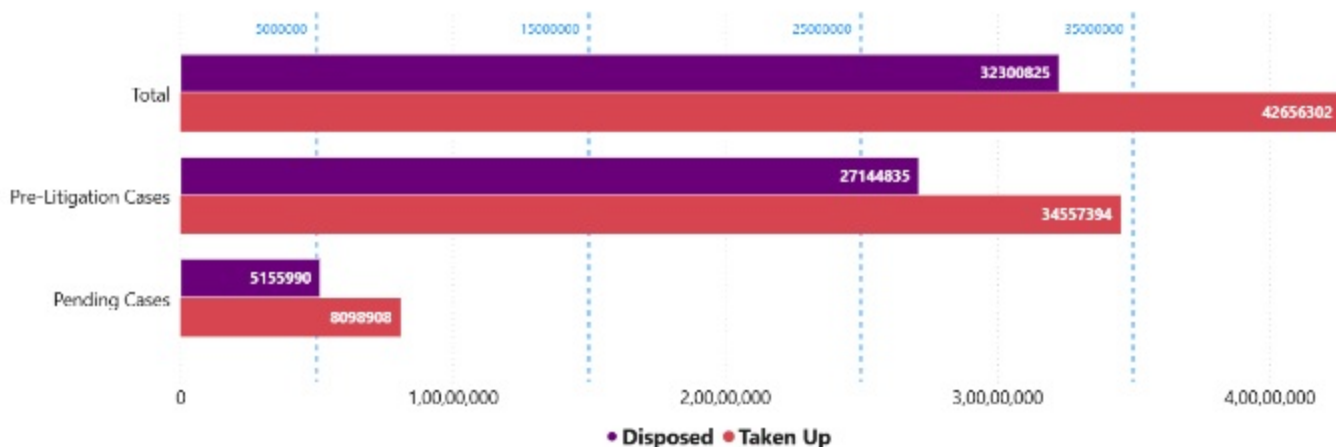


The 2nd National Lok Adalat, held on 10th May, 2025, marked a significant milestone in this ongoing effort. This was the second of the four scheduled National Lok Adalats for the year 2025, continuing the momentum of NALSA's vision to decongest the judicial system and ensure greater access to justice for all.

The 2nd National Lok Adalat achieved impressive statistics, underscoring the growing success of the initiative: A total of 3.23 crore cases were resolved nationwide, spanning multiple categories, including civil, criminal compoundable cases, matrimonial, consumer, traffic-related disputes and others including 2.71 Crore pre-litigation and 51.5 lakh pending cases.

The total amount of settlements reached an estimated ₹14,914 Crore, reflecting the significant financial relief provided to individuals and institutions alike. The state of Uttar Pradesh saw the highest number of cases disposed of in this Lok Adalat, with over 1.04 Crores cases settled while Jharkhand achieve a remarkable disposal rate of 99.95%. The Lok Adalat saw an average case disposal rate of 75.72%, underlining the effectiveness of the Lok Adalat system in resolving disputes quickly and amicably.

2nd National Lok Adalat 2025



STORIES OF IMPACT

Success Story 1 : Restoring Dignity: Social Security Benefits Secured for Disabled Child - Cuttack DLSA (Odisha)

While reviewing a news report published in the Odia daily "The Samaj", the Secretary, DLSA Cuttack identified a case of social security neglect involving Sri Pramod Khillar and his disabled son. Acting swiftly, a PLV was deputed to gather facts and file an application on their behalf. DLSA Cuttack then intervened by writing to the District Magistrate-cum-Collector, which resulted in the sanctioning of a disability pension of ₹1200/month and the provision of a tri-cycle for the child. The case highlights the proactive role of DLSAs in responding to the needs of vulnerable families.

Success Story 2 : Justice with Compassion: PLV Helps Couple Rebuild Harmony - Dehradun DLSA (Uttarakhand)

On 6th May, 2025, PLV Leela Verma, stationed at Sahaspur Police Station, assisted Shahjadi in filing a complaint against her husband. As tensions escalated, Shahjadi's husband and in-laws also arrived, prompting PLV Leela to facilitate a constructive dialogue between both parties. With the support of Para-Legal Volunteer and mediation efforts, the couple reached a mutual decision to reconcile and live together. Shahjadi expressed deep gratitude to DLSA Dehradun for the timely legal aid, showcasing the power of peaceful conflict resolution and the role of PLVs in restoring family harmony.

Success Story 3 : Turning Struggles into Strength: PLV Assistance Revives Livelihood - DLSA Dhanbad (Jharkhand)

During a door-to-door campaign at Jharia Anchal, PLV Dipenty Kumari Gupta identified Rupesh Kumar, a 65-year-old man who had lost a leg to gangrene at the age of 40. Despite living with disability for 25 years, he had not received any government benefits. Acting swiftly, the PLV contacted the Secretary, DLSA Dhanbad, and coordinated with the Civil Surgeon's office to secure a disability certificate and enrolment under the Divyang Pension Scheme. Through further efforts, a tricycle was also arranged via the CDPO, Jharia. Empowered with mobility and support, Rupesh has now begun selling vegetables in the local market, regaining both livelihood and dignity.

Success Story 4 : Rescuing Childhood: A Joint Operation Against Child Labour - South Salmara Mankachar (Assam)

On 28th May, 2025, in a major coordinated effort, DLSA South Salmara Mankachar, along with the District Administration, District Police, Child Help Line (CHL) and Child Care Institution (CCI), conducted a successful rescue operation against child labour. Fourteen children were rescued from various locations and placed in the care of Reza Children Home in Hatsingimari for protection and rehabilitation. This impactful initiative highlights the unwavering commitment of legal services institutions and its partners to uphold child rights and combat exploitation through timely and effective action.

Success Story 5 : Lighting the Path: Supporting a Visually Impaired Girl Toward Empowerment - Dhanbad DLSA (Jharkhand)

During a door-to-door awareness campaign, PLV Dipenty Kumari Gupta of Jharia Anchal came across Foujia Diwa, an 18-year-old visually impaired girl from an extremely underprivileged family who had not received any government support. Acting swiftly and under the guidance of the Secretary, DLSA Dhanbad, PLV Gupta ensured Foujia's enrollment in multiple welfare schemes, including issuance of a disability certificate, pension, ration card, Ayushman Bharat card and provision of a Braille Kit. She also facilitated Foujia's admission to the Jharia BRC Bhawan Training Centre to continue her education. This intervention reflects the vital role of legal aid in creating opportunities for a life of dignity.

INTERNS AT NALSA

The NALSA Internship Programme invites the law students to be a part of a profound journey, where theory meets action and the law becomes a powerful force for ensuring legal aid and justice delivery for those who need it the most. During the April-June 2025 cohort, interns were granted the rare privilege of observing how NALSA facilitates access to free legal services for marginalized groups, such as women, children, prisoners, trafficking victims and individuals with disabilities, offering them a first-hand perspective of how the legal system intersects with social justice.



National Legal Services Authority April Internship Batch - 2025



ROW - I (Left to Right) : Mr. Samarendra P. Nair-Nimbalkar, Director in NALSA; Mr. S. C. Khushale, Member Secretary in-Charge in NALSA; Ms. Amandeep Singh, Officer on Special Duty in NALSA; Ms. Shreya AnandMehta, Officer on Special Duty in NALSA; Ms. Anvita Nalhari, Officer on Special Duty in NALSA.
ROW - II (Left to Right) : Sachin Thakur; Tanu; Khushi Gupta; Masoom Upadhyay; Aditi Jangid; Diya Tyagi; Ashish Chouksey; Anand Kumar.
ROW - III (Left to Right) : Tushar Gahlot; Karan Dave; Rushikesh Suresh Belagali; Mohd. Akad; Mangal Singh Bhatti; Raj Maurya.



National Legal Services Authority May Internship Batch - 2025



ROW - I (Left to Right) : Shri. Anand P. Nair-Nimbalkar, Director in NALSA; Mr. Aarti Singh, Officer on Special Duty in NALSA; Dr. Aji Aji, Director in NALSA; Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Executive Chairman in NALSA and Judge, Supreme Court of India; Shri. Bharat Parashar, Member Secretary in-Charge in NALSA; Ms. Anvita Nalhari, Officer on Special Duty in NALSA.
ROW - II (Left to Right) : Anand P. Nair-Nimbalkar; Shri. Anand P. Nair-Nimbalkar; Shri. Anand P. Nair-Nimbalkar; Shri. Anand P. Nair-Nimbalkar; Shri. Anand P. Nair-Nimbalkar; Shri. Anand P. Nair-Nimbalkar; Shri. Anand P. Nair-Nimbalkar; Shri. Anand P. Nair-Nimbalkar; Shri. Anand P. Nair-Nimbalkar; Shri. Anand P. Nair-Nimbalkar.
ROW - III (Left to Right) : Karan Dave; Karan Dave; Karan Dave; Karan Dave; Karan Dave; Karan Dave; Karan Dave; Karan Dave; Karan Dave; Karan Dave.

Additionally, building on these diverse institutional experiences, in June, a special 40-hour Mediation Training was offered to the interns. This intensive training not only broadened their understanding of mediation as a critical tool in conflict resolution but also provided them with structured, hands-on experience that will be invaluable as they navigate complex legal challenges in their careers. The ability to mediate and resolve conflicts amicably will help the interns build a more compassionate, empathetic and socially responsive approach to legal practice, especially when working with marginalized communities.

The NALSA Internship Programme is not just an academic exercise, but a professional development opportunity, which nurtures a deep commitment to social justice, encouraging interns to become advocates for change. By the end of the programme, the interns develop a deeper understanding of India's legal system and gain the tools to effectively support vulnerable communities.



National Legal Services Authority June Internship Batch - 2025



ROW - I (Left to Right) : Ms. Shreya AnandMehta, Officer on Special Duty NALSA; Dr. Aji Aji, Director NALSA; Shri. Bharat Parashar, Member Secretary NALSA; Ms. Aarti Singh, Officer on Special Duty NALSA; Ms. Anvita Nalhari, Officer on Special Duty NALSA.
ROW - II (Left to Right) : Devyani Samra; Pragya; Varsh Arora; Gargi; Ansa Nalhari; Sakshi; Manya; Debanshi; Jyoti; Sneha; Prashansa; Anjana; Rupak; Annu.
ROW - III (Left to Right) : Ganesha; Anish; Ansh; Shiv; Khushi; Devang; Jeevi; Harsh; Ananya; Siddhanti; Dipa; Abhishek Raj; Urmila; Govind.

NALSA'S IMPACT - A STATISTICAL OVERVIEW OF APRIL TO JUNE 2025

A. LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITIES IN INDIA : NATIONWIDE PRESENCE

| At High Court Level | At District Level | At Taluka Level |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 38 | 708 | 2,440 |

VICTIM COMPENSATION SCHEME : IMPLEMENTATION AND IMPACT

| Total Applications Received in April to June 2025 | Total Applications Decided (including pending applications) |
|--|--|
| 5,699 | 5,007 |

| Compensation Disbursed in April to June 2025 |
|---|
| 1,131,308,498 |

LEGAL AWARENESS PROGRAMMES : OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

| Total Awareness Programmes Organized | Total Number of Attendees |
|---|------------------------------|
| ↓ | ↓ |
| 1,26,593 | 71,45,325 |



NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

**B- Block, Ground Floor, Additional Building Complex, Supreme
Court of India, New Delhi – 110001**

**Ground Floor, Jaisalmer House, 26, Mansingh Road
New Delhi – 110001**



15100



nalsa-dla@nic.in

Follow us on



nalsa.india.1



nalsalegalaid



NALSALegalAid



@NALSA