



NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

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- *Northern Regional Conference – 2025 (Jammu & Kashmir)*
- *State Outreach Visit – Hyderabad (Inauguration of De-Addiction Centre)*
- *State Outreach Visit – Kerala (Launch of Nasha Mukta Nyaya Abhiyaan)*

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HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SURYA KANT

Executive Chairman, NALSA

&

Judge, Supreme Court of India

Dear Readers,

I believe that justice is most meaningful when it is experienced in daily life, and not merely celebrated as an abstract ideal. The activities undertaken by NALSA from July to September 2025 reflect precisely this journey - a conscious movement from policy to people, and from intent to impact. This has been a quarter of purposeful action, collaborative reform, and visible progress that brings the Justice Delivery System closer to those who need it most.

The quarter opened with the nationwide **"For the Nation: Mediation Campaign"**, organised in partnership with the Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee. By promoting amicable settlements and nurturing a culture of dialogue, the campaign reaffirmed our belief that justice thrives in communities where mutual understanding can replace conflict.

From this foundation of dialogue and reconciliation, the momentum of reform carried forward into the inauguration of the **De-Addiction Centre at Chanchalguda Central Prison, Hyderabad**. This initiative reinforced our commitment to a rehabilitative and humane system of law. It reminded us that justice is not only about adjudicating wrongs but also about enabling transformation to ensure that every individual has the chance to reintegrate meaningfully into society.

This shared commitment to inclusive justice was further advanced through **Regional Conferences in Srinagar and Kerala**, which became vibrant spaces for collective deliberation and strategic thinking. From the launch of the **Veer Parivaar Sahayta Yojana, 2025** to the unveiling of schemes addressing **human-wildlife conflict and supporting vulnerable communities in Kerala**, each initiative reinforced NALSA's resolve to extend the protective arm of the law to each corner in the country.

Finally, this quarter of action culminated in the successful organisation of the **National Lok Adalat** and the rollout of the **Dashboard for Claimant Reimbursement & Deposit System for MACT** by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh. Such advancements enhance accessibility, efficiency, and transparency in the dispensation of justice - essential pillars for ensuring that justice is not delayed, denied, or diluted, but delivered with clarity and care.

As we move forward, the true measure of our efforts will lie in whether justice is felt in the everyday lives of people as something accessible, compassionate, and inclusive. I hope the initiatives chronicled in this edition not only inform but also inspire each reader to contribute, in their own way, to strengthening this enduring ideal of justice for all.

Warm regards,
Surya Kant



Message from the Member Secretary, NALSA

Dear Readers,

It gives me great pleasure to present the July–September 2025 edition of NALSA’s Quarterly Newsletter, which highlights a period of meaningful action and innovation across the country and reflects the unyielding dedication of our team. This edition captures not only the breadth of outreach programmes undertaken by Legal Services Institutions but also the impact of initiatives that bring justice closer to those who need it most.

This quarter witnessed the launch of the 90-day “For the Nation: Mediation Campaign” in collaboration with MCPC — a nationwide effort to promote mediation as a preferred mode of dispute resolution. The active participation of litigants, mediators and legal aid functionaries reflects the growing trust in consensual settlement mechanisms and underscores the value of dialogue in strengthening our justice system.

Significant interventions during this quarter included the inauguration of the De-Addiction Centre at Chanchalguda Central Prison, advancing our mission of reformatory justice, and the Northern and Southern Regional Conferences in Srinagar and Kerala. These conferences provided platforms for dialogue, innovation and the launch of flagship initiatives such as the Veer Parivaar Sahayta Yojana, 2025, the NALSA Scheme on Access to Justice for Victims of Human–Wildlife Conflict, 2025, and NALSA SPRUHA, 2025, each aimed at empowering vulnerable communities and addressing emerging societal challenges.

The quarter also witnessed the successful organisation of the 3rd National Lok Adalat and the Dashboard for MACT Claimant Reimbursement & Deposit System launched by the High Court of Madhya Pradesh, enhancing transparency, efficiency, and ease of access in justice delivery.

I extend heartfelt appreciation to the Executive Chairpersons and Secretaries of the State and District Legal Services Authorities, judicial officers, panel lawyers, mediators, para-legal volunteers and administrative staff whose dedication animates NALSA’s mission on the ground and whose dedicated service continues to strengthen the foundation of accessible and equitable justice. Their efforts remind us that every outreach, every settlement and every act of awareness brings us closer to a justice system that truly serves all.

Bharat Parashar

INAUGURATION OF DE-ADDICTION CENTRE FOR A DRUG - FREE FUTURE AND REFORMATIVE JUSTICE

On 4th July 2025, the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), in collaboration with the Telangana State Legal Services Authority and the Telangana Prisons Department, inaugurated a dedicated De-Addiction Centre at Chanchalguda Central Prison, Hyderabad. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, NALSA, graced the

event, highlighting the vital role of compassion and institutional support in transforming lives affected by addiction. Justice Surya Kant also highlighted that every individual battling addiction deserves a fair chance at renewal, urging institutions to adopt a humane, science-based and community-supported approach for their lasting recovery.

“

This centre is not just a facility, it is a symbol of second chances. Reformatory justice is not just an ideal — it is a responsibility.”

**- Hon'ble Mr. Justice
Surya Kant**



This pioneering initiative seeks to provide comprehensive medical care, psychological counselling, vocational training and community reintegration support to inmates, enabling them to rebuild their lives with dignity and purpose. By addressing addiction as a condition requiring empathy and sustained intervention, the Centre reflects a paradigm shift towards a more humane and reformatory justice system. It embodies NALSA's broader vision of integrating rehabilitation within access-to-justice frameworks, ensuring that reform is not punitive but restorative.

The event was also addressed by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sujoy Paul, Acting Chief Justice of Telangana High Court & Patron-in-Chief, Telangana SLISA and Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. Sam Koshy, Executive Chairman, Telangana SLISA, who commended NALSA's commitment to restorative justice and emphasized coordinated efforts between prisons and legal services institutions. The programme concluded with dignitary felicitations and a tour of prison-made articles, reflecting the inmates' creativity, skill development and determination to reintegrate into society as responsible citizens.



VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS : CHILD RIGHT CONSULTATION IN HYDERABAD

On 5th July 2025, NALSA partnered with the Telangana Women Safety Wing, State Police, Women Development & Child Welfare Department, Telangana SLSA, and UNICEF to organize a **State-Level Stakeholders Consultation Meet** in Hyderabad on the theme **"Voice for the Voiceless: Rights and Protection of Children of Sexual Abuse"**. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, NALSA, highlighted that India's 345 million

children deserve not just legal remedies but also safe, trauma-informed systems. Calling child sexual abuse a "silent epidemic," he stressed the need for child-sensitive courts, trauma-informed investigations and integrated legal, medical and psychological support for survivors. He lauded Telangana's Bharosa Centres and spotlighted **NALSA's Child-Friendly Legal Services Scheme (2024)** as vital steps toward institutional reform.

"True Justice for a child begins not in the court room, but in the moment they feel safe and secure."

- Hon'ble Mr. Justice
Surya Kant



Justice Surya Kant reaffirmed NALSA's commitment to expanding child-sensitive legal aid across India and called upon all State Legal Services Authorities to adopt integrated, victim-centric models reflecting constitutional values and global best practices.



NORTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE - 2025

On 26th July 2025, the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), in collaboration with the High Court of Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh and the Jammu & Kashmir State Legal Services Authority, launched the *Veer Parivaar Sahayata Yojana 2025* at the **North Zone Regional Conference** on “*Reaffirming the Constitutional Vision of Justice for Defence Personnel and Tribals*” held at the Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC), Srinagar. Presiding over

the event, Hon’ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, NALSA, invoked the verses of Kashmiri poet Mahjoor, calling for unity, compassion and justice. Justice Surya Kant described the Yojana as a solemn pledge to stand beside those who safeguard India’s borders, ensuring that defence personnel and their families are not left without legal support in matters ranging from service entitlements to matrimonial disputes.

“
*Just as they
safeguard our
freedom, we
safeguard their
dignity and
right.*”

- Hon’ble Mr. Justice
Surya Kant



Stressing that Article 39-A of the Constitution mandates equal access to justice, the Executive Chairman emphasized that providing legal aid to soldiers and their families is not only a constitutional duty but also a moral responsibility. In his address, His Lordship explained that the scheme rests on three central

pillars: dedicated Legal Services Clinics at Zilla, Rajya and Kendriya Sainik Boards; trained Nodal Officers, legal aid counsels and PLVs, including ex-servicemen, to provide compassionate and timely assistance; and digital access through e-Lok Adalats and online mediation to ensure speed and convenience.

The event was graced by the presence of Hon’ble Mr. Justice P.S. Narasimha, Hon’ble Mr. Justice Rajesh Bindal, and Hon’ble Mr. Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, Judges of the Supreme Court of India; Hon’ble Mr. Justice Arun Palli, Chief Justice of the High Court of J&K and Ladakh; Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Minister of State for Law and Justice; the Hon’ble Lieutenant Governor of J&K, Shri Manoj Sinha; and the Hon’ble Chief Minister of J&K, Shri Omar Abdullah.



Their participation underscored a shared resolve to ensure that the nation’s defenders and their families receive timely, dignified and effective access to justice.

SOUTHERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE 2025

On 30th August 2025, the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), in collaboration with the Kerala State Legal Services Authority (KeLSA), inaugurated the **Southern Regional Conference on “Human-Wildlife Conflict & Co-existence: Legal and Policy Perspectives”** at the Kerala Legislative Assembly Hall, Thiruvananthapuram.

The two-day conference brought together Hon’ble Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts, senior officials, forest and disaster management experts and legal services institutions for a comprehensive dialogue on safeguarding both communities and ecosystems.



Presiding over the inaugural session, Hon’ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, NALSA, emphasised that human-wildlife conflict is as much a question of justice as it is of conservation - calling for legal aid to reach vulnerable forest-fringe communities. Hon’ble Mr. Justice Vikram Nath, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Chairman, SCLSC, in his keynote Address, highlighted the need for coordinated governance and regional collaboration. Addresses were also delivered by Hon’ble Mr. Justice M.M. Sundresh, Hon’ble Mrs. Justice B.V. Nagarathna, Hon’ble Mr. Justice P.S. Narasimha, Hon’ble Mr. Justice Aravind Kumar and Hon’ble Mr. Justice S.V.N. Bhatti, Judges of the Supreme Court of India. The inaugural programme witnessed the launch of three major initiatives: the **NALSA Scheme on Access to Justice for Victims of Human-Wildlife Conflict (HWC), 2025**, the Compendium on Human-Wildlife Conflict and **NALSA SPRUHA (Supporting Potential and Resilience of the Unseen, Held-back and Affected) Scheme, 2025** for victims of crime and the dependents of prisoners. These launches marked a significant step towards embedding empathy and accountability within conservation-linked justice systems.



Kerala SLSA also introduced “Samanvaya” Healing Centres, district-wise DLSA websites, and e-filing for Permanent Lok Adalats—significantly strengthening access to justice in the region. These interventions reflect NALSA’s broader vision of a modern, technology-enabled and community-sensitive legal aid ecosystem.

“
Ecological
justice requires
us to balance
human right with
conservation
imperative,
ensuring harmony
between people
and nature.
”

- Hon’ble Mr. Justice
Surya Kant



The two-day programme closed with detailed deliberations across six thematic sessions such as habitat loss, compensation frameworks, disaster linkages and tribal rights, providing actionable insights for States and reaffirming NALSA’s commitment to coordinated and community-oriented justice delivery.

NALSA LAUNCHES NASHA MukT NYAYA ABHIYAN AT THIRUVANANTHAPURAM – JUSTICE-LED CAMPAIGN AGAINST DRUG ABUSE

On 30th August 2025, the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), in collaboration with the Excise Department, Government of Kerala, and the Kerala State Legal Services Authority (KeLSA), launched the Nasha MukT Nyaya Abhiyan at Tagore Theatre, Thiruvananthapuram. The campaign marks a significant step towards addressing drug abuse as not merely a law-and-order or health concern, but as a deeper issue

of justice, dignity, rehabilitation and social responsibility. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, NALSA, delivered the Inaugural Address, emphasizing that India's anti-drug framework is designed not only to punish traffickers but to offer reform, compassion and a renewed future for young users.

“
Justice must punish where necessary, but also heal where possible
”

- Hon'ble Mr. Justice
Surya Kant



The event was graced by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikram Nath, Judge, Supreme Court of India; Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nitin Jamdar, Chief Justice of the High Court of Kerala; and Hon'ble Mr. Justice A. Muhamed Mustaque, Executive Chairman, KeLSA. Shri M.B. Rajesh, Hon'ble Minister for Local Self Government, Excise and Parliamentary Affairs, delivered the Keynote Address, while senior officers of the State Government



addressed the gathering. The conference highlighted Kerala's pioneering Vimukthi Mission and reinforced NALSA's broader vision of strengthening access to justice through awareness, rehabilitation and community engagement.

NATIONAL VIRTUAL CONSULTATIVE MEETING

On 23rd July 2025, the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) convened the National Virtual Consultative Meeting under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Executive Chairman, NALSA. The meeting was attended by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikram Nath, Hon'ble Ms. Justice B.V. Nagarathna, Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.S. Narasimha (virtually), Hon'ble Mr. Justice J.B. Pardiwala, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Dipankar Datta, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manoj Misra (virtually), Hon'ble Mr.

Justice K.V. Viswanathan and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Joymalya Bagchi, along with Hon'ble Chief Justices, Executive Chairpersons of SLSAs, Chairpersons of HCLSCs and Mediation Monitoring Committees.

The meeting undertook detailed discussions on strengthening the Mediation "For the Nation" campaign, emphasising institutional capacity-building, structured case identification, hybrid modalities and the adoption of regional languages to enhance participation.

"Mediation is no longer an alternative to adjudication, but a parallel and equally efficacious mode of dispute resolution."

**- Hon'ble Mr. Justice
Surya Kant**



23rd July 2025: Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India and Executive Chairman, National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), along with Justice Vikram Nath, Justice BV Nagarathna, Justice JB Pardiwala, Justice Dipankar Datta, Justice KV Viswanathan and Justice Joymalya Bagchi, Judges, Supreme Court of India, at the National Virtual Consultative Meeting convened by NALSA

Suggestions included expanding mediation to labour disputes, arbitration-related matters and execution-stage cases, and encouraging greater involvement of Judicial Officers in referrals. A proposal for a Special National Lok Adalat for Contentious Cases was also examined, focusing on complex matters that meaningfully impact pendency on the NJDG. The importance of qualitative assessment, such as judicial time saved—was underscored.

Reviewing financial management, the Hon'ble Executive Chairman reiterated adherence to NALSA's revised expenditure framework, timely utilisation certificates and prudent infrastructure development. The meeting concluded with a call for stronger judicial leadership, particularly through the active participation of Portfolio and Inspecting Judges, reinforcing the collective commitment to enhancing access to justice nationwide.

INAGURATION OF LEGAL SERVICES CLINICS IN TAMILNADU AND PUDUCHERRY



On 23rd August 2025, Legal Services Clinics at Tiruchirappalli and Yercaud in Tamil Nadu, and Embalam village in Puducherry, were inaugurated at the Tamil Nadu National Law University, Tiruchirappalli. The event saw participation from about 1200 attendees, including Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court and Madras High Court, judicial officers, DLSA Secretaries, Government

officials, NGOs, women's groups, unorganised workers, anganwadi staff and law students. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, NALSA, urged young lawyers to embrace modern tools such as e-libraries, noting that real-time legal updates have become indispensable. His Lordship highlighted that 24x7 Legal Services Clinics serve as critical support

systems for victims of domestic violence, senior citizens and vulnerable communities. Hon'ble Mr. Justice R. Mahadevan, Hon'ble Mr. Justice K.V. Viswanathan and Hon'ble Mr. Justice M.M. Sundresh, Judges, Supreme Court of India, emphasised dignified treatment of legal aid seekers, the role of permanent clinics in democratising legal resources and the imperative of equal access to justice for all.

IN CONVERSATION WITH THE BAR : A SHARED VISION FOR LEGAL TRANSFORMATION

On 27th July 2025, the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) hosted an interactive programme titled **"In Conversation with the Bar – A Shared Vision for Legal Transformation"** during the Northern Regional Conference held at the SKICC, Srinagar.

Hon'ble Mr. Justice B.R. Gavai, Chief Justice of India and Patron-in-Chief, NALSA, presided over the session, reaffirming the constitutional mandate of ensuring last-mile access to justice and underscoring that *"women empowerment remains a cornerstone of a stronger, more inclusive justice delivery system."*

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court and Executive Chairman, NALSA, observed that *"the future of the justice delivery system in this region will largely be led by women members of the legal fraternity, whether on the Bench or the Bar."*

The programme was graced by the august presence of Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Court, namely Hon'ble Mr. Justice Vikram Nath, Hon'ble Mr. Justice P.S. Narasimha, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Rajesh Bindal and Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. Kotiswar Singh, who, in their insightful interventions, emphasized the significance of Bar-



Bench harmony, gender inclusivity and the integration of technology in justice administration.

LEGAL AWARENESS & OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

At Community Level : Empowering Communities through Knowledge



Tripura – ‘Mediation for Nation’ Rally

On 25th July 2025, under the guidance of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), a dedicated Legal Services Clinic was inaugurated at the Zila Sainik Welfare Office, Sector 21D, Chandigarh. Established by the CJM-cum-Secretary, DLSA, U.T. Chandigarh, the clinic operates under the NALSA Veer Parivar Sahayata Yojana, 2025, to provide focused support to ex-servicemen and their families. One Panel Lawyer and one Para Legal Volunteer have been deputed to assist beneficiaries with legal aid, pension and welfare entitlements, documentation and grievance redressal. The clinic serves as a single-window facilitation point ensuring timely legal support to defence families. This initiative strengthens NALSA’s commitment to honouring the sacrifices of armed forces personnel by ensuring accessible and continuous legal assistance at the district level.

On 31st July 2025, the Unakoti Kailashahar District Legal Services Authority, organized a large community rally under the nationwide “Mediation for Nation” campaign to promote mediation as a people-friendly alternative to litigation. The rally aimed to create awareness about early dispute resolution, encouraging citizens to choose dialogue and compromise instead of conflict. PLVs and volunteers engaged with local residents, highlighting how mediation reduces delays, restores relationships and promotes social harmony. The outreach initiative strengthened public understanding of mediation as a cost-effective and accessible remedy, aligning with NALSA’s broader goal of reducing case pendency and fostering peaceful dispute settlement in everyday life.



Chandigarh – Legal Services Clinic under NALSA Veer Parivar Sahayata Yojana



Delhi – Aadhaar Registration & Legal Aid Camp under SAATHI Campaign

On 10th August 2025, the District Legal Services Authority, South-East Delhi, conducted an Aadhaar Registration and Legal Aid Camp at Hari Nagar, Ashram, under the national SAATHI campaign aimed at ensuring identity documentation for vulnerable children. The initiative targeted children living on the streets, in shelter homes, child care institutions and other marginalized individuals without Aadhaar. A Panel Lawyer from SEDLSA provided on-site legal guidance, helping participants understand documentation requirements and available entitlements. During the camp, Aadhaar registration was completed for numerous children and adults, enabling them to access education, healthcare, government welfare schemes and legal support mechanisms. The programme reinforced NALSA’s objective of ensuring identity, inclusion and dignity for every individual through coordinated outreach and doorstep legal assistance.

LEGAL AWARENESS & OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

At Community Level : Empowering Communities through Knowledge

On 5th August 2025, the District Legal Services Authority, Botad, organized a focused Legal Awareness Programme for senior citizens at Chokdi Village, Barwala Taluka. Led by a Para Legal Volunteer (PLV), the session sensitized elderly participants about their rights under the **NALSA (Legal Services to Senior Citizens) Scheme, 2016**, including maintenance rights, protection from neglect and access to free legal aid. Information was also provided on government welfare schemes, old-age pensions and support services available at the district level. The initiative strengthened legal empowerment among elderly residents, promoting dignity, security and informed decision-making within the community.



Gujarat – Legal Awareness Programme for Senior Citizens, Botad



Nagaland – SAMVAD Outreach for Tribal & Nomadic Communities

On 24th September 2025, the District Legal Services Authority, Jaisalmer, in collaboration with the local administration, conducted a Legal Literacy Camp at Bada Bag focusing on women's rights and legal protections. A PLV/Adhikar Mitra served as the main resource person and guided participants on key laws including the POSH Act, Domestic Violence Act, provisions relating to mediation, Lok Adalats and free legal services. Women were informed about accessible remedies, complaint mechanisms and available institutional support. The programme encouraged participants to confidently report grievances and seek assistance through DLSA platforms. The interactive session witnessed active community participation and strengthened awareness on gender-based protections, contributing to safer, informed and more empowered communities in Jaisalmer district.

Throughout July and August, extensive community-level outreach was conducted under the aegis of NALSA and the Nagaland State Legal Services Authority (NSLSA) as part of the **NALSA SAMVAD Scheme, 2025**. Across Kohima, Dimapur, Longleng, Mokokchung and Peren, District Legal Services Authorities organized village meetings, interactive discussions and door-to-door legal awareness drives on issues such as child marriage, drug abuse, education rights, welfare entitlements, domestic violence and access to free legal aid. Special emphasis was placed on reaching marginalized Adivasi, Denotified and Nomadic Tribes to ensure their meaningful inclusion within legal and welfare systems. The coordinated outreach strengthened legal literacy, promoted social protection and deepened access to justice for communities that have historically remained underserved.



Rajasthan – Legal Literacy Camp on Women's Rights, Jaisalmer

LEGAL AWARENESS & OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

At Colleges & Schools : Empowering the Future Leaders through Knowledge

On 15th July 2025, the District Legal Services Authority, Central, Rouse Avenue, in collaboration with Railway Children India, organized an Awareness Session and Drawing Competition at Nava Hind Girls Senior Secondary School near Sarai Rohilla Railway Station area to mark World Youth Skills Day. The initiative engaged slum children in discussions on youth empowerment, the importance of education and opportunities for skill development. The resource team sensitized children about their legal rights, protections and the role of legal aid institutions in supporting vulnerable youth. Participants created artwork reflecting themes of aspiration, resilience and social responsibility. The programme strengthened awareness among children living in vulnerable circumstances, promoting positive choices and self-reliance through information and legal guidance.



World Youth Skills Day: Awareness Session & Drawing Competition



Delhi – Awareness Session on 'Maha-Swachhata Abhiyan'

In August 2025, the District Legal Services Authority, Udhampur, conducted a series of awareness programmes across Government Higher Secondary Schools focusing on child protection and gender empowerment. World Tribal Day was observed on 9th August at Government Middle School, Panchgam Nard Kund, Qazigund, highlighting constitutional protections and welfare schemes for tribal communities. On 13th August, an awareness session was held on the NALSA (ASHA – Awareness, Support, Help and Action) SOP 2025 aimed at eliminating child marriage. Additionally, on 21st August, another session addressed drug addiction, accompanied by an essay competition under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao initiative. These initiatives fostered awareness among students on key social, legal and gender-based issues while promoting sensitivity, responsibility and informed citizenship.

On 13th August 2025, the District Legal Services Authority, Shahdara, conducted an Awareness Session on the “Maha-Swachhata Abhiyan” at the Legal Literacy Club ‘Samanvay,’ Amar Jyoti Charitable Trust, Karkardooma. A Legal Aid Counsel, served as the resource person and spoke on the importance of cleanliness, waste segregation and sustainable waste management. The session emphasized individual responsibility in maintaining hygiene, reducing waste and contributing to a healthier environment. The programme strengthened environmental awareness among young learners and encouraged them to adopt responsible habits at school, home and within the broader community fostering a culture of collective action and sustained environmental stewardship among all participants involved.



Jammu & Kashmir – Awareness Programmes by DLSA Udhampur & World Tribal Day

LEGAL AWARENESS & OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

At Colleges & Schools : Empowering the Future Leaders through Knowledge



Karnataka – Orientation Programme on Legal Aid & Lawyering

On 5th September 2025, a sensitization session on “Human Rights and Mental Health Concerns of Acid Attack Survivors” was organized at Panjab University, Chandigarh, by the Brave and Soul Foundation. PLVs from the District Legal Services Authority, UT Chandigarh, addressed students of various departments on legal rights, compensation schemes and rehabilitation support available to survivors. The PLVs explained provisions of the Victim Compensation Scheme, availability of free legal aid and how survivors can directly approach PLVs for assistance. The session emphasized trauma-sensitive care and the importance of mental health support. Participants gained deeper awareness of both legal safeguards and the institutional mechanisms available to survivors of acid violence.

On 4th August 2025, Kristu Jayanti College of Law, Bengaluru, in collaboration with the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA), organized an Orientation Programme on “Legal Aid and Lawyering” at the SKE Auditorium. The Ld. Member Secretary, KSLSA, inaugurated the programme and addressed over 500 faculty members, staff and students. The session covered the **Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987**, functions of DLSAs, the role of student Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) and essential laws relating to women and children. Participants were briefed on the importance of legal services clinics and community outreach. The programme aimed to inculcate a culture of legal awareness, responsibility and service among law students, encouraging them to contribute meaningfully to access-to-justice initiatives.



Chandigarh – Sensitization on Human Rights & Mental Health of Acid Attack Survivors



**Taluk Legal Services Committee
Udumbanchola - Nedumkandam**

Kerala – Legal Awareness on Child Protection & Legal Aid

On 24th September 2025, the Taluk Legal Services Committee (TLSC), Udumbanchola, conducted a legal awareness class at Auxilium Higher Secondary School, Kattappana, focusing on child safety and access to justice. The session was led by a Ld. Nyayadhikari and covered key provisions of the POCSO Act, responsibilities of mandatory reporting and the importance of early intervention in cases of child abuse. Students were also introduced to the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 and the availability of free legal aid through DLSAs and TLSCs. With over 480 students participating, the programme promoted vigilance, responsible behaviour and awareness of child protection mechanisms. The session strengthened legal consciousness among adolescents and encouraged them to seek help or report concerns through established institutional channels. The initiative also reinforced the role of schools as crucial spaces for early legal awareness and protection.

LEGAL AWARENESS & OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

Orientation, Capacity Building & Training Programmes

On 4th August 2025, an Awareness-cum-Training Programme was conducted at the Office of the DCP, Seelampur, focusing on the role of police officials under the POCSO Act and procedures relating to victim compensation. The session was organized by the NE DLSA and the same was attended by ACPs, SHOs, JWOs, Child Welfare Police Officers and members of SJPU. The resource person delivered an extensive lecture on child-sensitive investigation, mandatory reporting, evidence handling, responsibilities of police officers, timelines under the POCSO Act and on State and Central victim compensation schemes. The session strengthened procedural capacity within the police force and improved institutional convergence for faster, survivor-centric justice delivery.



Delhi – Training on Role of Police Officials under POCSO Act & Victim Compensation



Mizoram – Launch of SOP & Flowchart under NDPS Act and Training of Trainers

On 3rd July 2025, the Mizoram State Legal Services Authority (MSLSA) organized the launch of a bilingual Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) and Flowchart for handling cases under the NDPS Act, 1985, followed by a Training of Trainers at Aijal Club, Aizawl. The programme was graced by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Michael Zothankhuma, Executive Chairman, MSLSA; Hon'ble Mr. Justice Nelson Sailo; and Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Marli Vankung. Judicial officers, excise, narcotics and police personnel were sensitized on the SOP's procedural requirements relating to seizure, arrest, documentation, custody and compliance with statutory safeguards. The programme strengthened uniformity, precision and accountability in NDPS investigations across the State.

From 17th to 21st August 2025, the District Legal Services Authority, Warangal, conducted a Training Programme on "Concept and Techniques of Mediation." The Hon'ble Executive Chairman and the Member Secretary, Telangana State Legal Services Authority (TSLSA), participated in the programme, highlighting the importance of mediation in reducing pendency and strengthening community-based dispute resolution. The training covered communication techniques, neutrality, identifying interests, drafting settlement agreements and ethical duties of mediators. Participants engaged in role-play exercises to build practical mediation skills. The programme aimed to expand Telangana's trained mediator pool and promote structured, legally compliant and empathetic conflict resolution practices at the district and grassroots level.



Assam - Capacity Building Programme for Panel Lawyers and PLVs by DLSA Karbi Anglong



Uttarakhand – Training on NALSA Portal (LSMS & LAIS) and NALSA Schemes, DLSA Chamoli

The District Legal Services Authority, Jind, organized a two-day training programme for Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) focusing on the NALSA (Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation) Scheme, 2015; the NALSA (Effective Implementation of Poverty Alleviation) Scheme, 2015; voting rights under the “Haq Hamara Bhi Hai” campaign; rights and rehabilitation of persons affected by leprosy; and the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015. The sessions enhanced their understanding of vulnerable groups’ entitlements, field-level identification, referral mechanisms and documentation. The training strengthened PLVs’ capacity to serve as first responders at the grassroots, improving outreach and early intervention for marginalized individuals.



Haryana – Two-Day Training for PLVs on Multiple NALSA Schemes, DLSA Jind



Chandigarh – Sensitization Session on Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act

On 11th September 2025, a sensitization session on the Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Act, 2019, was held at the District Legal Services Authority, UT Chandigarh, in collaboration with the Humsafar Trust, Mumbai. The session aimed to raise awareness on legal protections, non-discrimination provisions, welfare measures and grievance redressal mechanisms available to transgender persons. The President of Saksham Prakriti Welfare Society, delivered an insightful lecture addressing stigma, identity documentation challenges and access to healthcare. Participants engaged in interactive discussions on ensuring respectful, inclusive and rights-based support. The programme enhanced participants’ sensitivity and strengthened the understanding of institutional stakeholders and community volunteers in promoting genuine social inclusion and dignity.

On 14th July 2025, the District Legal Services Authority, Kota, in collaboration with the jail administration, organized a Legal Awareness Camp at Central Jail, Kota. The Secretary, DLSA Kota, served as the main speaker and sensitized inmates about their legal rights, access to free legal aid, plea bargaining and procedures for approaching Legal Services Institutions. Inmates were also informed about the Rajasthan State Legal Services Authority's *Scheme for the Welfare of Prisoners and Teenagers in Conflict with Law, 2015*. The session aimed to strengthen inmate awareness of safeguards available under the law and promote rehabilitation-oriented decision-making. Around 200 inmates participated, engaging actively with the resource team and seeking clarifications on pending matters and appeal procedures.



Rajasthan – Legal Awareness Camp at Central Jail, Kota

On 22nd August 2025, the District Legal Services Authority, Lohit, conducted its weekly visit to District Jail, Tezu, where grievance boxes were installed in both male and female wards and inmates were counselled on how to use them effectively to raise concerns confidentially. The team interacted with the undertrial prisoners (UTPs) and convicts who expressed interest in filing appeals before the High Court. They were provided guidance on documentation and timelines for legal processes. The same day, the DLSA Upper Subansiri team, led by the Assistant Legal Aid Defence Counsel (LADC), visited Sub-Jail Daporijo and held discussions with inmates regarding their legal rights, access to free legal aid and grievance redressal. These coordinated visits ensured continuous monitoring, timely intervention and strengthened access to justice for incarcerated individuals across both districts.



Arunachal Pradesh – Jail Visits & Legal Awareness for Inmates

Throughout August 2025, District Legal Services Authorities across Assam conducted jail-based legal literacy sessions focusing on the rights of prisoners and reintegration support. The DLSA Majuli organized multiple sessions at District Jail, Majuli, on 7th, 12th, 14th, 20th, 26th, 28th and 29th August, covering constitutional rights, the POCSO Act, rights of rape victims, health and hygiene, and life after release. Jail Visiting Lawyers and LADCs served as resource persons, guiding inmates on filing appeals, accessing legal aid and seeking counselling support. These sustained awareness programmes aimed to reduce legal illiteracy among inmates and strengthen their understanding of available remedies. The initiative reaffirmed DLSAs' commitment to ensuring timely legal assistance and supporting rehabilitation within correctional settings.



Assam – Legal Literacy & Awareness Programmes Across Jails

LEGAL AWARENESS & OUTREACH PROGRAMMES

At Jails : Rekindling Hope Behind Bars

On 30th August 2025, the Ld. District & Sessions Judge-cum-Chairman, District Legal Services Authority, U.T. Chandigarh, accompanied by judicial officers, conducted a detailed inspection of Model Jail, Chandigarh. During the visit, officials interacted directly with undertrial prisoners (UTPs) and convicts to understand their concerns relating to pending cases, medical facilities and access to legal aid. Directions were issued to jail authorities for prompt action on grievances raised during the interaction. The inspection also included a review of the kitchen, canteen and stock-keeping procedures to ensure compliance with the Jail Manual and maintenance of food quality. The visit reaffirmed DLSA's commitment to monitoring jail conditions and ensuring that all prisoners receive fair treatment, dignity and timely legal assistance.



Chandigarh – Jail Visit & Inspection at Model Jail

On 22nd August 2025, the Central District Legal Services Authority conducted an interactive legal awareness session at Central Jail No. 6, Tihar Jail, focused on “Help and Rights for Women with Mental Health Challenges in Jail.” Led by a Legal Aid Counsel, the session explained key protections under the Mental Healthcare Act, provisions for treatment and rehabilitation, grievance-redress mechanisms and entitlements to free legal aid. Women inmates were encouraged to seek support through jail legal services clinics for issues concerning case follow-ups, appeals and mental health services. The programme reassured inmates that their rights and dignity remain safeguarded under the law. The participating women gained practical awareness on legal protections and available support systems.



Delhi – Legal Rights & Mental Health Support for Women Inmates

On 16th September 2025, a Legal Awareness Camp was organized at the Special Prison for Women, Chanchalguda, Hyderabad, with a focused session on prisoners' rights, mental health safeguards and free legal aid provisions. The resource team highlighted key protections under the **NALSA (Legal Services to Persons with Mental Illness and Persons with Intellectual Disabilities) Scheme, 2024**, emphasizing access to treatment, rehabilitation and fair legal representation. Women inmates were guided on procedures for raising grievances, accessing counselling and seeking assistance for pending cases. The session aimed to build confidence among inmates by ensuring they were aware of their entitlements and available institutional support. The programme reinforced NALSA's commitment to humane, inclusive and rights-based legal services within correctional environments.



Telangana – Legal Awareness Camp at Special Prison for Women, Chanchalguda

NATIONAL LOK ADALATS

Resolving Disputes, Restoring Harmony

GLIMPSE OF 3rd NATIONAL LOK ADALAT - 2025



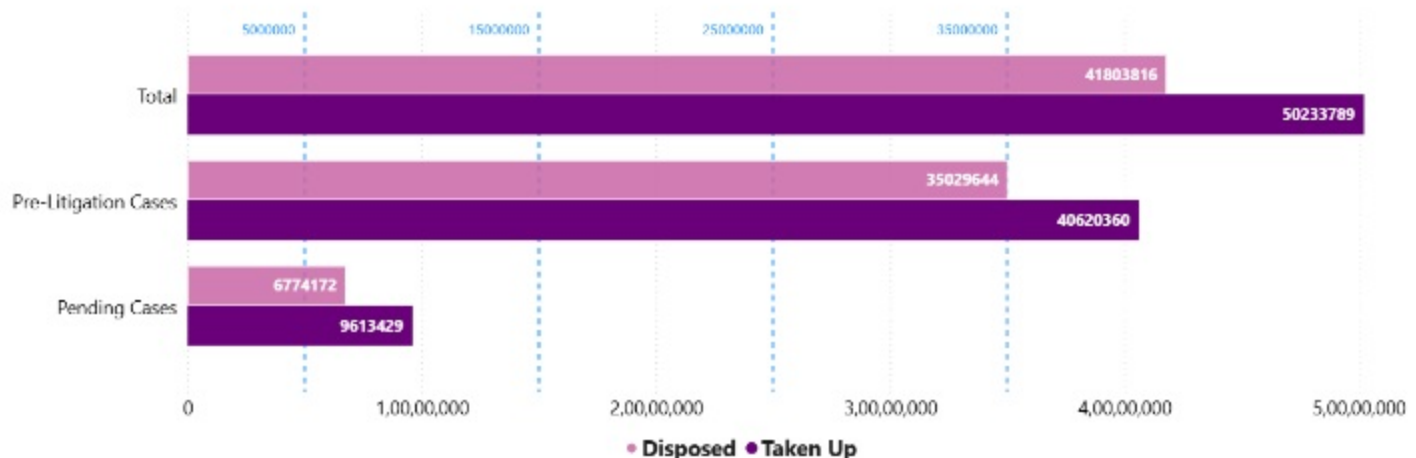
Lok Adalats continue to stand as a cornerstone of India's justice delivery system providing an accessible, cost-effective and people-friendly platform for amicable dispute resolution. Organised under the aegis of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), these nationwide efforts help reduce the burden on courts while ensuring that justice reaches citizens swiftly and equitably.

The 3rd National Lok Adalat of 2025, held on 13th September 2025, was convened under the distinguished leadership of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Bhushan Ramkrishna Gavai, Chief Justice of India & Patron-in-Chief, NALSA and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Surya Kant, Judge, Supreme Court of India & Executive Chairman, NALSA. Conducted across Taluks, Districts and High Courts in 29 States and 8 Union Territories, the Lok Adalat took up a diverse range of disputes spanning both pre-litigation and pending matters including criminal compoundable offences, bank recovery cases, motor accident claims, cheque dishonour matters, labour and employment disputes, matrimonial cases (excluding divorce) and various civil and consumer matters.

As per preliminary reports, an extraordinary 2.42 crore cases were resolved nationwide, comprising 2.10 crore pre-litigation and 32.10 lakh pending cases, with total settlement values exceeding ₹7,817 crore. Beyond these figures lies the true achievement of the Lok Adalat its capacity to deliver swift, affordable and amicable relief to citizens, reaffirming faith in alternative dispute resolution.

Through these sustained efforts, NALSA continues to bridge the gap between justice and the people, transforming the ideal of "Access to Justice for All" into a lived reality for millions across the nation.

3rd National Lok Adalat 2025



INTERNS AT NALSA

The NALSA Internship Programme continues to serve as an immersive learning platform for law students across the country, fostering in them a deeper understanding of legal aid, access to justice and the social responsibility of the legal profession. During the July-September 2025 cohort, interns witnessed the dynamic functioning of NALSA and its network of Legal Services Institutions, gaining invaluable exposure to initiatives aimed at empowering the marginalized and ensuring equitable access to justice. Throughout the internship, participants engaged in research and field activities, observing how legal aid transforms lives at the grassroots level.



National Legal Services Authority July Internship Batch - 2025



ROW - I (Left to Right) : Ms. Shreya AroraMehta, Officer on Special Duty NALSA; Ms. Aarti Singh, Officer on Special Duty NALSA; Dr. Ajit Abri, District Judge, Delhi/OSD NALSA; Ms. Amandeep Sibia, Officer on Special Duty NALSA; Ms. Aarvika Nathani, Officer on Special Duty NALSA.

ROW - II (Left to Right) : Somesh Nandor; Mehak Sharma; Anushka Goyal; Divya Divyesh Mishra; Mantasha Chaudhary; Diya Jain; Dipsi Jain; Samik Jaiswal; Prakriti Kumar; Palak Jain; Neetu Saxena; Harsh; Mahesh Bhardwaj; Mayank Mahimna.

ROW - III (Left to Right) : Navya Deswal; Priya Singh; Satyam Kumar Jha; Vishesh Singh; Misba Hamid; Yuraj Rai Gang; Ayush Anand; Vikram Singh; Bhargh; Abhay Chaudhary.



National Legal Services Authority August Internship Batch - 2025



ROW - I (Left to Right) : Tanvi; Meena Pandey; Varsha Mukherjee; Ms. Amandeep Sibia, Officer on Special Duty NALSA; Ms. Shreya AroraMehta, Officer on Special Duty NALSA; Sakshi Roy.

ROW - II (Left to Right) : Ayush Singh; Oinash Prapatti; Ayush Kumar; Abhijeet Sharma; Anuj Ghode; Mohd. Fuzail Siddiqui; Tripti Singh; Vertika Tripathi; Shrut Singh; Parisha Shrivastava; Rishu Kashyap.

They visited District and Taluk Legal Services Authorities, Legal Aid Clinics, Prisons and Lok Adalats, where they interacted directly with the frontline legal aid functionaries and the beneficiaries. These experiences allowed them to appreciate how the law operates beyond textbooks, as an instrument of inclusion and service. The internship also featured interactive sessions with officers of NALSA and legal experts, introducing interns to Schemes and Regulations under NALSA and also the working of diverse themes mediation, gender justice and legal empowerment.

Through hands-on learning and mentorship, the programme cultivated not only legal competence but also compassion, preparing the interns to become agents of change in the justice delivery system. Their journey at NALSA stands as a testament to the vibrancy, curiosity and commitment that young legal minds bring to the cause of justice. Their time at NALSA reaffirmed that the pursuit of justice is not confined to courtrooms, but it lives in every effort to uplift and empower those in need. In many ways, their collective spirit embodies NALSA's enduring mission of "Access to Justice for All."



National Legal Services Authority September Internship Batch - 2025



ROW - I (Left to Right) : Vikram Verma; Deesha Dhanu; Ayushi Sharma; Tanya Gupta; Divya Patel; Ms. Shreya AroraMehta, District Judge, Delhi/OSD NALSA; Ms. Amandeep Sibia, District Judge, Gujarat/OSD NALSA; Kumari Kajal Sharma; Sneha Sankha; Mahesh Chaudhary; Sukhvinder Singh.

ROW - II (Left to Right) : Aditya Vikram; Kuldeep Tiwari; Hemant Kumar; Urvasi Singh; Tapanshi Nayak; Gunsmar Kour Sudan; Nishant Singh; Abhinav Shukla; Arman Choudhary; Samrat Thakur; Sriyansh Kumar.

STORIES OF IMPACT

Success Story 1 : Delhi – From Despair to Dignity: Ensuring Urgent Medical Care, Legal Aid & Compensation

In early July 2025, the New Delhi DLSA acted urgently to support a 19-year-old female survivor who attempted suicide after deception and emotional abuse. On directions from DSLSA, a Legal Aid Counsel, PLV and Counsellor immediately visited Safdarjung Hospital, where she was admitted in critical condition. The team discovered that the family was struggling to procure essential medicines due to financial constraints. NDDLDA promptly issued a formal letter invoking the Delhi High Court judgment in S. vs. State (Crl. A 728/2024), ensuring the hospital provided free medical treatment without delay. The survivor's mother was counselled on legal rights and compensation. A victim compensation application was filed the same day, resulting in ₹2,00,000 interim relief being swiftly disbursed after verification. All documentation was completed directly at the hospital to ease the family's burden. The intervention restored dignity, ensured lawful medical care and provided crucial support during crisis.

Success Story 2 : Odisha – Matrimonial Conciliation Restores Family Harmony (DLSA Bhadrak)

On 5th August 2025, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Bhadrak, received an application seeking assistance in a matrimonial dispute. Notices were promptly issued to the involved parties, who appeared before the Secretary, DLSA Bhadrak, on 19th August. The session, supported by the Front Office Retainer and PLVs, created a neutral and respectful environment for dialogue. Through structured conciliation, the couple discussed their misunderstandings and agreed to resume cohabitation peacefully. The settlement was voluntary, free of coercion and recorded in the presence of the Secretary. The successful reconciliation demonstrated the effectiveness of DLSA-led non-adversarial dispute resolution, helping families find balanced, dignified solutions without litigation. The conciliation not only resolved the dispute but also renewed mutual trust, ensuring that their familial ties emerged stronger than before.

Success Story 3 : Uttarakhand – Disability Support for a 12-Year-Old Child (DLSA Almora)

On 13th August 2025, under guidance from the Secretary, DLSA Almora, PLV Hema Pandey assisted a 12-year-old boy, who has 70% disability in both legs. The family lacked awareness and resources to obtain essential documents. The PLV escorted the child and his father from Bhikiyasain to Ranikhet Hospital, facilitated medical assessment, secured issuance of the disability certificate and initiated the UDID card registration. She also explained disability pension benefits and helped begin the application process. After completing all formalities, the PLV ensured the child returned home safely. The father expressed deep gratitude as the intervention removed procedural hurdles and enabled long-term social security access. The case highlights the critical role of PLVs in bridging vulnerable families with welfare systems.

Success Story 4 : Odisha – Social Security Intervention for Disabled Beneficiaries (Cuttack & Nuapada)

In August 2025, the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA), Nuapada, intervened in two critical cases involving intellectually disabled women found without care and exposed to significant risk. On 16th August, local authorities rescued an intellectually disabled and speech-impaired woman from Sinapali and, with DLSA support, provided temporary shelter at the One Stop Centre, District Hospital, Nuapada. The following day, another intellectually disabled woman was found at Khariar NAC (Notified Area Council) and admitted to the District Hospital, Nuapada for urgent medical treatment. The Secretary, DLSA Nuapada, personally visited both beneficiaries to ensure coordinated assistance. After assessment, one woman was rehabilitated at the Biju Pattnaik Special School for Mentally Challenged, Tanwat, ensuring long-term care and protection. Medical treatment for the second woman continues under close monitoring. This intervention reflects DLSA Nuapada's commitment to safeguarding vulnerable individuals through timely rescue, rehabilitation and coordinated institutional support.



NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

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New Delhi – 110001**



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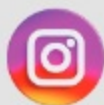


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