



D.O. No. 15011/35/2021-Jus(AU)

Dated the 10th May, 2021

I would like to apprise you of the significant events relating to the Department of Justice for the month of April, 2021.

1. Appointment of Chief Justice in the Supreme Court:

Shri Justice Nuthalapati Venkata Ramana was appointed as Chief Justice of India in the Supreme Court w.e.f. 24.04.2021 vide notification dated 06.04.2021.

2. Appointment of Acting Chief Justice in High Court:

Two Acting Chief Justices were appointed in High Courts of Allahabad and Calcutta vide notifications dated 09.04.2021 and 27.04.2021 respectively.

3. Appointment of Permanent Judges in High Court:

One Additional Judge was appointed as Permanent Judge in Chhattisgarh High Court vide notification dated 28.04.2021.

4. Resignation from office of Judge, Chhattisgarh High Court:

Shri Justice Sharad Kumar Gupta, Judge, Chhattisgarh High Court has resigned w.e.f. 31.03.2021. This was notified on 28.04.2021.

5. Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Infrastructure Development:

The meeting of Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) was held on 12.04.2021 on the CSS on Development of Infrastructure for Judicial Officers for further continuance of the scheme.

6. Fast Track Special Courts(FTSCs):

The extension proposal of Fast Track Special Courts (FTSCs) for expeditious disposal of Rape and POCSO Act cases for two more financial years (FY 2021-22 and 2022-23) was deliberated in EFC meeting held on 12.04.2021.

7. Phase II of the eCourts Mission Mode Project:

- New Virtual Courts were inaugurated in the States of Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh for petty traffic offences.
- A Judgments and Orders Search Portal for searching past judgments and orders was inaugurated. This portal helps to search judgements / orders based on several search criteria like case number, Act, Section, name of judge / party, date of decision etc.
- Efiling version 3.0 with robust, upgraded and user-friendly features have been started including online submission of Vakalatnama, E-Signing, online video recording of oath, online payment, filing of multiple IAs / application, Portfolio Management and bilingual mode.
- A Draft Vision Document has been formulated by an Expert Sub-Committee, constituted by the eCommittee, Supreme Court of India, to prepare road map for eCourts Phase III. This document has now been put on the public domain to seek comments from all stakeholders and interested parties.
- The website of e-Committee, Supreme Court of India is now available in regional languages including Hindi, Odia, Tamil, Marathi and Khasi. Moreover, the e-Committee, Supreme Court of India has issued User Manual for e-Courts Services Mobile Application in eight languages including English, Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Odia, Tamil, Punjabi and Telugu and uploaded on the Website.

8. Tele-Law:

Legal advice was provided to 66,536 persons which included 22784 Women, 20445 Scheduled Castes, 14939 Scheduled Tribes and 18816 OBC beneficiaries. In addition, advice related to Covid-19 pandemic was also rendered to 247 beneficiaries. Total 7,88,816 advice have been enabled till 30th April, 2021. 19 training and awareness sessions were conducted in 08 states in which 560 VLEs/PLVs participated. Tele-Law programme completed 4 years on 20th April 2021, serving and enabling the poor and marginalized for seeking justice.

9. Nyaya Bandhu (ProBono Legal Services):

44 new lawyers registered on the Nyaya Bandhu mobile application/web portal. Till date, a total of 2579 lawyers have registered under this programme. Law students of NALSAR, Hyderabad joined the Pro Bono Club Scheme.

10. Access to Justice in North East and UT of J&K and Ladakh:

Jammu & Kashmir State Legal Services Authority organised 71 legal awareness programmes on 08 selected laws benefitting 6,840 persons. Additionally, Covid-19 relief services were rendered to 1675 persons.

11. National Legal Services Authority (NALSA):

- More than 4.58 lakh cases were settled through National Lok Adalats held in 22 states during the month. Further, e-Lok Adalat was also organized by Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority disposing of 193 cases.
- Arunachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority (APSLSA) organized a Legal Awareness camp on 5th & 6th April, 2021 to apprise about the availability of free legal services, government schemes and benefits available to the public of Arunachal Pradesh.

12. Non-compliance of ACC directions:

NIL

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-

(Barun Mitra)

PS 7/1/2021
dt 12/5/2021
Shri Rajiv Gauba,
Cabinet Secretary,
Cabinet Secretariat,
Rashtrapati Bhavan,
New Delhi

✓ Copy to PS to Hon'ble Minister of Law & Justice, Communications and Electronics & Information Technology, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi

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