



Dated, the 10<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2021

**MESSAGE**

Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav is an initiative of the Government of India under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. I am pleased to note that the Department of Justice is celebrating Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav from 8<sup>th</sup> till 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2021.

The Preamble to our Constitution recognizes "Justice" as one of the foremost deliverables to be secured for the people of India. Department of Justice, is committed to fulfil its mandate of ensuring access to justice for all and free legal aid as envisaged in our Constitution. In order to ensure citizen-centric justice delivery and legal empowerment of all citizens, pro-active steps are being undertaken by the Department to harness digital platforms to widen the outreach of justice and ensure mainstreaming of legal aid in society.

The Tele-Law programme of Department of Justice is an effective and reliable e-interface medium which strengthens pre-litigation mechanisms. It aims to connect needy and marginalized persons, in need of legal advice, with Para Legal Volunteers and empanelled Lawyers at Common Service Centres. The launch of Citizens' Tele-Law Mobile App intends to herald new horizons which will facilitate an easy and seamless connectivity between the beneficiary and Panel Lawyer. During the week, Department of Justice has rolled out people centric campaign across the country and launched Login Week in 633 districts in partnership with CSC e-Gov.

Celebrating 75 years of Independence of our Country, National Legal Services Authorities (NALSA) has also started a six-week long Pan India Legal Awareness and Outreach Campaign as part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' with the aim to cover every person in the society. This first of its kind programme was flagged off on 2nd October, 2021 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi by Hon'ble the President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind where I was present along with Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.V. Ramana, Chief Justice of India and other Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court. As a part of this campaign, Door-to-Door visits were organised in 9.70 lakh villages which reached out to 48.91 cr citizens. In addition, 3.40 lakh Legal Awareness Programmes were organised benefitting 13.53 cr citizens. 25,464 Legal Aid Clinics were held which assisted 97.8 lakh citizens. 13500 Mobile Vans were deployed in 1.33 lakh villages which sensitized 7.93 cr citizens. NALSA launched iOS version of its Mobile App on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 being the Legal Services Day, where I was present along with Hon'ble Mr. Justice N.V. Ramana, Chief Justice of India and other Hon'ble Judges.

Department of Justice is committed to establish an efficient legal and judicial system which delivers quick and quality justice, reinforces the confidence of people in the Rule of Law, enables better distributive justice, promotes basic human rights and enhances accountability, democratic governance and citizen centric justice delivery for all.

I urge everyone to come together to innovatively and continuously invest in making Access to Justice a people's movement and fulfill the ethos of "Sabka Prayas Sabko Nyaya" to facilitate last mile delivery of justice and legal aid services.

(Kiren Rijju)