

File No. N – 9 / 33 / 2018 - NM  
Government of India  
Ministry of Law and Justice  
Department of Justice  
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Jaisalmer House,  
26 - Mansingh Road, New Delhi – 110 011.  
Dated: 02.11.2018.

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

Subject: **Minutes of Tenth Meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) to consider Research / Project Proposals received under 'Plan Scheme for Action Research and Studies on Judicial Reforms'- Regarding.**

Please find enclosed herewith minutes of tenth meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) chaired by Secretary, Department of Justice, held on 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2018 to consider Research / Project Proposals received under 'Plan Scheme for Action Research and Studies on Judicial Reforms' for your kind information and record.

  
(C. K. Reejonia)

Director

Tel. / Fax : 2307 2146

email: [ckreejonia@nic.in](mailto:ckreejonia@nic.in)

Enclosure: As Above.



**Member of the Project Sanctioning Committee:**

1. Additional Secretary and Financial Advisor (Law and Justice), Ministry of Law and Justice, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Secretary General, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.
3. Joint Secretary and Mission Director, Department of Justice, Jaisalmer House, 26-Mansingh Road, New Delhi.
4. Joint Secretary, Law Commission of India, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, B-Wing, Lok Nayak Bhawan, Khan Market, New Delhi – 110003. (Kind Attention : Shri Rajiv Mani, Joint Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs)
5. Director, Indian Law Institute, Opposite Supreme Court of India, Bhagwan Das Road, New Delhi.
6. Director, National Judicial Academy, Bhadbhadha Road, Suraj Nagar P.O. Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

Copy to:-

- ✓ 1. Joint Secretary (ST), Department of Justice
2. Director (Justice – I), Department of Justice
3. PSO to Secretary (Justice)



**Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) of the "Scheme of Action Research and Studies on Judicial Reforms" held on October 29, 2018 in Jaisalmer House, New Delhi.**

The Tenth meeting of the 'Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC)' to consider research / project proposals received under 'Scheme for Action Research and Studies on Judicial Reforms' was held on October 29, 2018 at Jaisalmer House, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Dr. Alok Srivastava, Secretary (Justice). The list of participants is attached at Annexure – I.

Secretary (Justice) welcomed all the members of the Committee present at the meeting and requested Joint Secretary & Mission Director of National Mission for Justice Delivery and Legal Reforms to initiate discussion on the proposals that were short-listed for the consideration of the Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC).

A list of 12 proposals for consideration in the meeting was shared beforehand. The proposals were gone through by the members one by one and the following decisions were taken:-

Sl. No.	Title of Research Proposal and name of the implementing agency.	Decision Taken
1.	"Analysis of Case Pendency using Data Analytics"  National Institute of Technology Rourkela.	The Committee after detailed deliberations observed that in the first instance the proposal may be shared with eCommittee for their views / comments.
2.	"Variation in Disposal rates of cases in the District Courts amongst the States"  National Judicial Academy, Bhopal.	After detailed deliberations on the issue, the Committee did not agree to approve the proposal for carrying out research on the subject.
3.	"An analysis of Pendency of cases in Family Courts of Madhya Pradesh and methods to reduce pendency"  National Judicial Academy, Bhopal.	The Committee after deliberations approved the proposal, with the stipulation that National Judicial Academy (NJA) will expedite signing the Agreement, and will not delay the process as it did with the earlier proposal approved by the Project Sanctioning Committee.
4.	"An Empirical research to explore the impact of dearth of quality infrastructure at District & Session Courts including Taluka / Sub-division Courts on reducing pendency and backlog of cases and effectiveness of access to justice to downtrodden strata of the society in India".  National Law University, Delhi.	The Committee after deliberations approved the proposal, subject to condition that the Terms of Reference should be more specific and project must assess the improvement in the quality of delivery of justice through improvement of infrastructure by quantitatively analysis data i.e. number of cases disposed compared to when infrastructure was not available. The agency should include a statistician and develop a methodology to conduct this quantitative analysis.
5.	"An empirical research to elucidate the impact of lack of quality infrastructure at District Legal	The Committee approved the two proposals subject to the condition that two proposals will be combined



	Services Authorities (DLSAs) on the effectiveness of Access to Justice to downtrodden strata of the society in India". National Law University, Delhi.	together to include facets of evaluations of National Legal Aid Services Authority (NALSA) schemes and directed that meetings be held with NALSA to develop detailed Terms of Reference and then invite agencies to take up the project who will ensure assessment of quality of Para Legal Volunteers (PLVs) and Panel Lawyers (PLs) and to also cover the Commercial Courts in the study.
6.	"A field study to examine the impact of competency and commitment of the empanelled Legal Aid Counsellors (LACs) on the quality of the Legal Aid Services in providing access to justice at High Courts and Supreme Court in India". National Law University, Delhi.	
7.	"Conflict Resolution in Rural India". National Law University, Delhi	The proposal was not taken up as the revised proposal is awaited from the implementing agency.
8.	"Evaluation Scheme for Court-annexed mediation in India". National Law University, Delhi	The proposal was not taken up as the revised proposal is awaited from implementing agency.
9.	"Strengthening Legal provisions for the enforcement of contracts: Reassessing the quality and efficiency of dispute resolution of commercial matters in India" National Law School of India University, Bengaluru.	The Committee after deliberations approved the proposal subject to the condition that timeline shall be strictly adhered to for completion of the project as in the past there have been delays in submission of reports by the agency viz. National Law School of India University, Bengaluru.
10.	"A study of the process of execution of cases under Section 138 of Negotiable Instruments (NI) Act, 1881". National Institute of Technology Rourkela.	The Committee after deliberations approved the proposal subject to the condition that the Terms of Reference should be comprehensive and should cover all stages of cases under the NI Act starting from institution to execution.
11.	"National Conference on Backlog of Cases & Court Management" Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar.	The Committee after deliberations approved the proposal and directed that the agency should submit analyses and conclusions / recommendations and record document following the conference.
12.	"Role of Clinical Legal Education in improving the quality of Legal Education and increasing Access to Justice to the marginalized in the State of Gujarat". Gujarat National Law University, Gandhinagar.	The Committee after deliberations approved the proposal and directed that the agency should look at content of work in legal aid clinics and its impact.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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**List of Participants of Tenth Meeting of Project Sanctioning Committee (PSC) held on 29.10.2018**

**I. Department of Justice**

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|----|---|--------------------|
| 1. | Dr. Alok Srivastava, Secretary          | Chairman           |
| 2. | Shri G. R. Raghavender, Joint Secretary | Member             |
| 3. | Smt. Sushma Taishete, Joint Secretary   | Special Invitee    |
| 4. | Shri C. K. Reejonia, Director           | Member – Secretary |
| 5. | Shri Shailesh Shrivastava, Director     | ---                |

**II. Department of Legal Affairs**

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|----|----------------------------------|---------------------|-------|
| 1. | Shri Rajiv Mani, Joint Secretary | Representing        | Joint |
|    |                                  | Secretary,          | Law   |
|    |                                  | Commission of India |       |

**III. Indian Law Institute**

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|----|---|--------|
| 1. | Professor (Dr.) Manoj Kumar Sinha, Director | Member |
|----|---|--------|

**IV. Integrated Finance Division**

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| 1. | Shri S. S. Sagar, Chief Controller of Accounts. | Representing Additional Secretary and Financial Advisor (Law). |
| 2. | Shri K. Sundaram, Section Officer               |  |

**V. National Judicial Academy, Bhopal**

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|----|--|------------------|-----------|
| 1. | Prof. D. P. Verma, Additional Director | Representing     | Director, |
|    |  | National         | Judicial  |
|    |  | Academy, Bhopal. |           |

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