

**Government of India
Ministry of Law & Justice
Department of Justice**

Subject: Monthly Summary for the month of December, 2021 in respect of Department of Justice

The following are the important activities of the Department of Justice for the month of December, 2021.

1. Amendment in Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958 and High Courts (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1954.

Amendment in Supreme Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1958 and High Court Judges (Salaries and Conditions of Service) Act, 1954 was passed by both Houses of the Parliament. The Amendment Act was notified on 20.12.2021.

2. National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)

- The Legal Services Authorities across the country, under the aegis of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) organised National Lok Adalat in 35 States/UTs on 11th December, 2021 wherein 46.95 lakh cases worth settlement value of Rs.6,938 crore were disposed of.
- A Mega Legal Aid Camp was organized on 5.12.2021 at Pithoragarh under the aegis of NALSA by the Uttarakhand SLSA. Shri Kiran Rijiju, Hon'ble Minister of Law and Justice and Shri Justice Uday Umesh Lalit, Hon'ble Judge Supreme Court of India/Executive Chairman, NALSA attended the event. In the Mega Legal Aid Camp, the villagers of Kuta, Chaurani, Madanpuri, Jamdari and Bhagichaura villages were covered. The villagers besides receiving legal aid were also given free medicines blankets, shawls, clothes and utensils of daily need. In addition, 50 wheel chairs, 50 crutches, 600 spectacles, 500 ear machines, masks and sanitizers were also distributed to the disabled persons who came from different locations of District-Pithoragarh. DLSA Pithoragarh also adopted nine villages i.e. Madanpuri, Jamtari, Kutachaurani, Kimkhaula, Bhaktirawan, Ganagaon, Aulatadi, Kulaikh and Chiflatara for the rehabilitation of the inhabitants living there.

3. eCourts Mission Mode Project Phase-II:

- As on 30th November 2021, 447 eSewa Kendra's have been made functional in 22 District Courts. These have been funded both by the eCourts project as well out of state funds.
- ESewa Kendras and other new projects started: As per information from eCommittee of the Supreme Court during the last two months some new projects were inaugurated. The High Court of Orissa recently inaugurated:
 - a) E-Filing Station in the High Court and 6 District Courts complexes to assist and facilitate e-filing;
 - b) Record Room Digitization Centre in High Court for record preservation, digitisation, archival and retrieval all under one roof; and
 - c) First Paperless Courts in the Court of the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Orissa and another Hon'ble Judge.
 - d) A Virtual Court room designed with hybrid audio and video technology along with Vulnerable Witness Deposition Centre was started in Malkangiri District Court.
 - e) Virtual Courtrooms along with eCustody Certificate System was started in Angul and Nayagarh District Court complexes.
- Similarly, eSewa Kendras and Video Conferencing cabin was inaugurated recently in 3 judicial districts of Tripura.
- The first-ever eSewa Kendra in the State of Uttarakhand was also started in the High Court of Uttarakhand.
- 7 eSewa Kendras in Sikkim, and one each at Delhi, Allahabad was also inaugurated.
- Live Streaming: Two more High Courts have started Live Streaming of court proceedings namely Jharkhand and Patna High Court.
- Virtual Courts: one more Virtual Court was opened in Himachal Pradesh making a total 17 Virtual Courts in 13 States/UTs. Over 1.07 crore cases have been handled by these virtual courts and for the first time the milestone of online fine collection of Rs.200 crore was crossed.
- The eCommittee of the Supreme Court of India, from May 2020 to November 2021, has conducted training and awareness programmes on the ICT services provided under the eCourts project. These programmes have covered nearly 3,02,614 persons, including High Court Judges, District level Judges, Court Staff, Master Trainers and Advocates etc.
- *EmailMyCaseStatus* Service by High Court of Gujarat: In view of Covid-19 pandemic and the challenges associated with physical access of advocates

and litigants, Gujarat High court is developing a facility whereby any one can get the status of the High Court cases automatically in the email address of their choice after necessary online registration of their request along with all future updates in the particular case. *EmailMyCaseStatus* Service by High Court of Gujarat will effectively serve as a virtual Case Status Inquiry Counter or a Case Status eCounter; with added functionality of getting even the future updates of the cases of interest to everyone and anyone.

- Video Conferencing and NSTEP-Since Covid lockdown started, the District Courts heard 1,08,36,087 cases while the High Court heard 57,39,966 cases, thus crossing the 1.65 crore mark till 30.11.2021 using Video Conferencing only. National Service and Tracking of Electronic Processes for process serving and issue of summons has become functional in 26 States.

4. Tele-Law

- Legal advice was provided to 30,680 persons. Total advice enabled till 31stDecember, 2021 was 12,81,591 cases.
- Trainings were conducted across 3 States/UTs, in which 139 State Level Coordinators/ District Managers/ Village Level Entrepreneurs/ Para Legal Volunteers participated.

5. Legal Literacy Programme

- Sikkim State Commission for Women organised a training programme on laws related to Domestic Violence, Sexual Harassment of Women at Work place and Child Sexual Abuse at Burtuk, East Sikkim for 210 college students and 34 teachers.
- Arunachal Pradesh State Legal Services Authority organised a training programme on Synergy between Customary Practices and Formal Laws for 51 Gaon Burahs and Gaon Burihs of Papum Pare district of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Sciences, Manipur organised day long training programme on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act for 69 Doctors and medical professionals.

6. Nyaya Bandhu(Pro Bono Legal Services)

- 107 new lawyers registered through Nyaya Bandhu mobile application/web portal during this month. Total 3710 lawyers (M- 3254, F- 454, Transgender-02) have registered under Nyaya Bandhu.
- 502 Pro Bono Lawyers have been enrolled by 14 High Courts under Nyaya Bandhu Panel so far.

7. Centrally Sponsored Scheme for Infrastructure Development of Judiciary and Fast Track Special Counts(FTSCs):

Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee had convened a meeting on 20.12.2021 on the subject of Review of Judicial Infrastructure.
