

## One-Day Community Mediation Orientation Programme and Expansion of Community Mediation Centers

As part of its sustained efforts to institutionalize community mediation as an accessible and participatory mechanism for dispute resolution, the Madhya Pradesh State Legal Services Authority organized a One-Day Community Mediation Orientation Programme on 12 February 2026 at its Auditorium in Jabalpur. The programme was held under the esteemed stewardship of Hon'ble Shri Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva, Chief Justice, High Court of Madhya Pradesh & Patron-in-Chief, MPSLSA, and under the



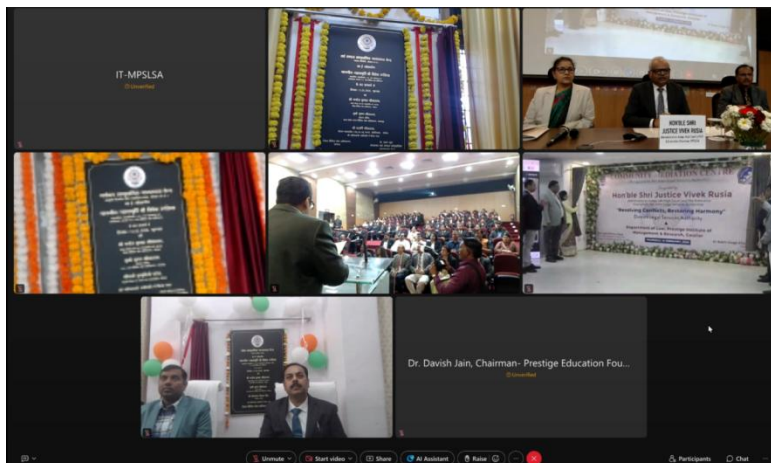
able guidance and in the gracious presence of Hon'ble Shri Justice Vivek Rusia, Administrative Judge, High Court of Madhya Pradesh & Executive Chairman, MPSLSA.

A significant highlight of the programme was the e-inauguration of four new Community Mediation Centers at Bhopal and Gwalior, marking another important milestone in the expansion of the Community Mediation initiative across the State. The newly established centers include the Collectorate Community Mediation



Centre, Sarv Samaj Community Mediation Centre, and Global Community Mediation Centre at Bhopal, besides a Community Mediation Centre at the Department of Law, Prestige Institute of Management and Research, Gwalior. These centers are expected to strengthen community-level dispute resolution by promoting dialogue, consensus, and timely intervention before disputes escalate into litigation.

The orientation programme brought together Principal District & Sessions Judges, judicial officers, representatives of the district administration, members of the Bar, Para Legal Volunteers, Community Mediation Volunteers, District Legal Aid Officers, and law students from various institutions. The participation of diverse stakeholders reflected the collaborative approach adopted by MPSLSA in strengthening community-based justice delivery.



One of the most notable features of the programme was the formal induction of law students into the Community Mediation movement. For the first time, structured orientation was imparted to law students with the objective of developing their understanding of mediation as a socially responsive and participatory model of justice. The initiative seeks to encourage young legal professionals to facilitate amicable resolution of student-related disputes, neighborhood conflicts, and other community issues through dialogue and consensus at the pre-litigation stage.

While addressing the participants, Hon'ble Shri Justice Vivek Rusia emphasized that community mediation is not merely an alternative dispute resolution mechanism but a humane process that preserves relationships, strengthens social harmony, and reduces avoidable litigation. His Lordship highlighted the importance of coordinated

efforts among the district administration, police authorities, legal services institutions, educational institutions, and civil society organizations for ensuring the success and sustainability of community mediation at the grassroots level.

During the programme, a documentary film depicting the evolution and achievements of the Indore Community Mediation Model was screened. The documentary highlighted the remarkable success of the model in resolving community disputes through institutional collaboration and public participation. The programme also featured an interactive technical session conducted by Shri Shahid Mohammad, Senior Trainer, Mediation and Conciliation Project Committee (MCPC),



Supreme Court of India, who acquainted participants with the philosophy, ethics, communication techniques, and practical framework of mediation.

The expansion of Community Mediation Centres at Bhopal and Gwalior represents another significant step towards replicating the successful Indore Community Mediation Model across Madhya Pradesh. Through this initiative, MPSLSA continues to strengthen a people-centric justice delivery system that promotes consensus, social harmony, and accessible dispute resolution at the community level.